

From our Fredericton Correspondent.

FREDERICTON, April 7, 1873.

DEAR STANDARD.—Absence from Fredericton prevented me writing you my weekly report of the Legislative sayings and doings. Doubtless you will be glad to hear again from me.

During the past week the work of the Session has been pressed forward as rapidly as possible, yet it is astonishing to see what long speeches are made by a few of the members on questions that admit of very little debate. The adoption of the rule to take up the bills in the order in which members' names appear on the roll at the clerk's table, has prevented to a certain extent, the delay often occasioned by questions as to who first caught the Speaker's eye. There is also the additional advantage that in this way members more certainly know when any bill is likely to come up for discussion.

The passage on Monday last of a Bill by which a consolidation of your Railway interests in Charlotte is effected, marks a period in the prosperity of your County, and will doubtless have the effect of making business for your railways, as now they certainly are to whom you are contracting with is determined. This Bill passed through without any discussion, except the explanation by the Surveyor General, and a few remarks from Mr. Lindsay.

Another 'Red Granite Company' for Saint George, has been incorporated. By the anxiety to secure incorporation of these, I judge St. George has discovered in this granite, a source of wealth, the development of which must add greatly to the trade of that place— which I regret to hear has not increased very rapidly, if at all, since Western Extension Railway cut off the head of the Maguadav River, and to a considerable extent diverted the large lumber trade of the upper Maguadav to St. Andrews and St. Stephen. The charter of these companies provide for exemption from taxation for three years.

This encouragement to these companies is a concession very creditable to the people of St. George, and one which other towns with manufacturing or other facilities attractive of capital, would do well to imitate.

The School Bill amendments were introduced on Thursday by the Attorney General, and on Friday afternoon the House went into Committee on Mr. Williams's Bill to repeal the School Law 1871. Mr. Williams is the quietest man in the House. He was called on to explain his Bill, but did not get on his feet, and the vote was taken on the motion to postpone the consideration for three months.

The Government vote was 25, against 15 for the opposition. The Chief Commissioner of Public Works was however at St. John, and Messrs. Oty, Palmer and Brown were not in their places when the vote was taken. Next morning these four names were added to the Government vote. Mr. Butler who was in the chair is also a Government supporter on this question; so that the School men in the House stood as 25 to 15, and Mr. Montgomery who is now at Ottawa, is a School man.

After the vote on the Bill to repeal the School Law, the House went into Committee on the School Law Amendment Bill, and the Attorney General in a speech occupying about 2 hours explained very fully every section down to the 25, when the House adjourned. He again took the floor on Saturday at 12, at 5 o'clock 19th sections were passed, when progress was reported and the House adjourned.

On Thursday a Bill relating to Water Lots and shore rights sent down from the Legislative Council, where it was introduced by Capt. Robinson Owen, was discussed in Committee. It seems it provides that the owner of the adjoining upland shall own the beach to low water mark, unless where low water mark is more than 100 yards from high water mark, and in that case he shall own to the extent of 100 yards from high water mark at ordinary tides, except that such ownership shall not interfere with the rights of navigation or the right to pass over when the beach is covered with water, a principle is also laid down by which the beaches shall be divided between the adjoining owners.

The Bill as sent down from the Council extends to all the Province except St. John County. I was not in the Council when it was discussed there, but I learn that Capt. Robinson Owen is urging its passing, submitted that this legislation was sought with a view of preventing quarrelling which sometimes occurs between the fishermen in the weeds about Campbell's, where I understand he is largely interested in weir privileges. The Bill was in the Assembly supported by the Provincial Secretary, Messrs. Hibbard and Donald and some others, who urged its passage on the ground that it was just that the beaches should belong to the owners of the upland adjoining, while admitting that grants extended to high water mark unless otherwise specially expressed.

Several members spoke against its passage, on the ground that there was no good reason why the general public should not enjoy all the privileges they heretofore had on the beaches.

To these it was replied that the Bill excepted the right to land at all times on the shore, the rights of navigation for all purposes, and the right to dig clams and other shell fish.

The Attorney General rather disliked the bill, because he saw so far as the County of St. John was concerned, by reason of its very indented shore and extensive flats, very considerable difficulty would be found in working the Bill, and doubtless that was why the Bill had exempted St. John County; but he had no doubt that other counties were similarly situated as St. John. He saw no reason why parties should be prevented from walking along the beaches, or as in many cases they should be prevented using them as roads. In some places also he knew the public claimed and had used the right to take sand and stones off

the beaches for building purposes, and the passage of the bill would have other effects, he feared, which were not now seen, or presented for the consideration of the committee.

Considerable progress was made in the Bill, when the Surveyor General began a vigorous speech in which he dealt with the whole of the questions involved, in a manner that showed an intimate acquaintance with the subject. He submitted that the object of the promoters as above stated would not be secured by the Bill. That in nearly all cases the wiers to which reference was made were so constructed that part of them was below low water mark. That it was the right of the public in general to fish in the sea, that no one had an exclusive right to the fish until they were reduced into actual possession by line or net, or otherwise. That notwithstanding the Bill the public would have a right to set their nets and fish between high and low water mark at any time while the water was over the beaches.

That notwithstanding this Bill, any one might fish any where, as the courts had over and over declared, and that the giving and granting the beaches as contemplated as the Bill would give no exclusive right of fishery any where to the owner of upland adjoining the beach. That such a right, if now grantable at all, could only be granted by the General Parliament under the British North American Act. That unless exclusive right of fishery were given, the quarrels to prevent which it was alleged the Bill was introduced, could not be prevented in any other way than by the fear of the criminal law of the country, which had heretofore generally been found sufficient. That as the Bill would fail to accomplish the object of the promoters, and he saw no paramount public necessity for the proprietors being advantaged at the expense of the general public convenience, he was inclined to oppose the Bill, but would ask the promoters to reply to the positions he had stated.

Some other members spoke urging other objections to the bill, and the vote was about to be taken, when the Surveyor General stood up and waited for some to reply to the case as he had presented it. That he had considered the subject with the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and given very considerable attention to the matter since it was before the Legislature last winter, and that while he would be very glad to oblige the mover of the Bill in any way he could, he regretted that in this matter he could not, for his judgment compelled him to vote against the measure. The motion to postpone consideration for three months was carried.

There is much business to be transacted before the session can close. The file of Bills yet to be passed is quite large, and the probability is that the House will not prorogue before Saturday, and so my next will close my legislative correspondence.

Yours, KAPPA.

The Standard.

SAINT ANDREWS, APRIL 9, 1873.

The Chief Superintendent's Report.

It is very gratifying to learn from the Report, that notwithstanding opposition and drawbacks, the Free School system is progressing very favorably. The number of pupils has largely increased, although the number of schools has decreased in many counties. The report contains a large amount of statistical information; reports of the County Inspectors, and Mr. Rand's very able and comprehensive statements on the organization of the Schools under the new law. Want of space forbids a lengthy notice of this valuable report, which is highly creditable to the industry and ability of Mr. Rand, who has proved himself "the right man in the right place."

Charlotte County had in 1871, 90 schools, in 1872, 86 schools, but the number in attendance of her scholars has increased. In 1871 there were 3,800, in 1872, 4,068. This increase shows the acceptability of the Free School system.

The Steamer "City of St. John," arrived here on her first trip of the season, on Saturday last, and is to ply twice a week, as formerly. She is commanded by Capt. Belmore, who by his care and attention is popular with the travelling public.

In order to give place to letters of correspondence, we are obliged to hold over several articles prepared for this day's issue.

DOMINION ESTIMATES.—The Hon. Mr. Tiley, Finance Minister's speech, in introducing the Budget to Parliament, is reported to have been a splendid effort, and is highly spoken of by Government and Opposition Journals. Indeed he received the congratulations of all parties after its delivery. We notice that it is proposed to vote \$25,000 for the improvement of the navigation of the St. Croix.

THE GENERAL SESSIONS were opened on Tuesday. His Worship Justice W. Whitlock, briefly addressed the Grand Jury, pointing out their duties, and stating that the County and Parish Accounts would be laid before them for examination. Mr. Henry Bell was elected foreman of the Grand Jury, which contains some excellent business talent.

SCHOOL EXHIBITION.—We are requested to say that the pupils of Mr. Meagher's school will hold an Exhibition on Tuesday Evening next. To avoid the overcrowding usually attending these Readings in Mr. M's School, an admission fee of 10 cents will be charged. Exercises to commence at 8 o'clock.

THE MARITIME MONTHLY for April has been received. We have only space to state that the

articles are all written in a finished style, and are the productions of the leading literati of the Dominion, and should be widely patronized.

OUR SCHOOLS.

The education of our youth, should be a matter of paramount interest not alone to parents, but to all who desire to elevate the community, intellectually, morally and socially; for without education and intelligence, no community can attain these positions. To whom do we entrust our children, to qualify them to fill those places in the state now held by their seniors? to that faithful, painstaking and poorly remunerated professional class—the Teachers—persons who sacrifice the best years of their life in educating our boys and girls; and truly this community is favoured with industrious and successful teachers. Each visit we make to the schools, intensifies our esteem for the ladies and gentlemen engaged in instructing the youth. We feel it a pleasure, as well as a duty which we owe the teachers to publish these unbiased professions, and it affords us much satisfaction to know that the estimate we formed of their qualifications, has, in a recent instance, been borne out after a trying and searching examination of one of them, at the Training School.

In a recent notice of the progress which is being made by the pupils in the schools here, we referred among others, approvingly to the school taught by Mr. Meagher, stating that his ability as a successful teacher, required commendation from our pen, as it is already well established. It gives us much pleasure to add, that at a recent examination at the Training School, he obtained a First Class Certificate, with very high marks in all branches.

His education and experience eminently qualify him for the highly responsible office he has attained, and in common with his many friends, we congratulate him on his success.

The late Rev. R. Veriker.

The following notice was handed us for publication, and we lay over our own remarks to give it a place. It is contributed by a countryman of the lamented Father Veriker.

"That the human heart can feel impressions from events still in the future, no reasonable man will deny. How often it is bowed down by impending evil which the eye cannot see, and which the understanding cannot grasp. There seems to be an electric current flowing in from the unborn time, communicating to the soul these mysterious auguries."

Such has been the case with the inhabitants of this vicinity since the commencement of the illness of the rev. gentleman called from our midst by the will of divine providence to a happier kingdom. The Roman Catholics of this Parish and all other denominations therein, join in deep sorrow and grief for the death of one so beloved by all classes. Being a preacher and missionary of the word of God, he gained the reputation of his faith; in teaching the doctrines of his religion he was most zealous. His pious humility, and the great interest he took in the welfare and care of the poor, and the widows and orphans of his parish were at all times his constant care, and his good and judicious advice to those whose business it was to look after them, was a great guidance to them to do their duty faithfully. He was a man powerful in virtue, and full of divine love, vigilant and ardent in watching and keeping his Church. But of late, through disease, he had to withdraw from his labours to a sick couch, there to devote himself to the contemplations of heavenly avocations, that he might breathe forth his soul to God with attention, and with prayer pass unto Him who sits on the everlasting throne of Heaven, surrounded by the heavenly host, of which his spirit is one. May he rest in peace.

Loss of the "Atlantic."

The harrowing details of the loss of the Steamship "Atlantic," of the White Star Line, which left Liverpool on the 29th March, and was wrecked at Prospect Cape, near Halifax, on the 1st inst., and 500 out of 950 passengers met a watery grave—have been published. We give the following narrative of one of the passengers:—

A PASSENGER'S NARRATIVE.

William Hogan, of Waterford, tells the following story:—

I was on deck at 3 o'clock. I heard the sailor on duty call out, 'all's well—3 o'clock,' after hearing the sailor saying 'all's well' I went to the forward stateroom, and got into bed, when about 5 or 10 minutes afterwards, I heard the watchman cry out, 'breakers ahead,' and almost instantly, I heard a tremendous crash, and the air rushed in and blew out all the lights. It was my impression that the boiler had burst. I called up some of the boys that were sleeping near me and told them to rush on deck, that the boiler had exploded. Some of them refused to go, and said that it mattered little (thinking that the steamer was to sea), and said that it was just as well to meet death below as on deck; but I and Patrick Leahy, my chum, determined to save our lives, if possible, and as all was confusion below, I cannot tell how we got on deck. The orders were given, as is a common thing in steamships, with sailors, that the hatches should be closed, and no one permitted to ascend to the deck. As soon as we were on deck we rushed to the side of the vessel, and I saw the rock, as I supposed, about 300 yards distant. I thought at first it was an iceberg we had struck against, but

immediately afterwards we noticed that the ship commenced to heave or 'plunge' and after three or four plunges settled, and the water seemed to be rushing in. I surmised that our safety depended in our being on the side of the vessel nearest to the land, which was our best means of saving our lives. I rushed to that side and caught hold of the rigging, when the ship commenced to turn over gradually on her side. I got on the side of the ship, and caught hold of a rope. I then heard a dismal wail, which was fearful to listen to. It proceeded from the stateroom passengers below, who were then smothering. It did not last more than two minutes when all was still as death. The captain then shouted out that the last chance that the survivors had was to get on the rigging, and several of them did so. Afterwards, I heard the first officer shout out that the only chance to those who could swim was to jump overboard and endeavor to reach the rock. He also said 'I cannot swim myself,' and he ascended to the rigging. We kept our position on the side of the vessel, and several who had managed to procure life buoys jumped overboard and tried to swim to the rock, but I know that only one out of the lot that jumped overboard was saved. I saw the Asst. Boatswain of the ship get on a sort of a raft—the top or roof of the wheel house, which was afloat—and perceived several heavy waves coming in, and he and the raft were driven near the rock. He waved his hand, and we thought he would be saved; but immediately afterwards another wave came and dashed the raft and him to the foot of the rock; another came and drove him about six feet upon the rock, and when the waters receded they carried the raft off and he was left grappling on the rock. He must have been a very injured man, as he fell right back into the waves again. He struggled about five minutes, and we saw him rise no more. I may say that every wave that came on deck washed one or two men off the stern of the vessel.

For the Standard.

The Training School.

The Training School is kept in the building known as 'The Stone Barrack.' The room it is held in is perhaps forty feet long by twenty feet wide. At the lower end of the room is a raised platform—in front stretching to the upper end are tiers of single desks. At these the teachers up for re-examination—and the students in attendance at the school during the past term, labouring for their first licence to teach—are seated. Messrs. Rand and Crockett occupy the platform.

The first ordeal is Reading. I heard only a very few, not more than three or four. I was not pleased with their reading; indeed, I thought they listened appreciatively to the little children in the next room, day by day during the term, they would surely read more intelligently. Mr. Rand, who it is said is a very fine reader himself, was not pleased, but in one case the candidate was allowed to stand for first-class on an assurance from Mr. Crockett that the party was well up in other branches.

Mr. Rand's address is pleasing, and his reasoning, to my mind, thoroughly convincing. There is something of enthusiasm in his fine earnest countenance; he evidently feels he has a work to do apart from dollars and cents, and he'll do it or I mistake the man.

The next day comes examination proper. I shall try to give the teachers throughout the country as much information as I can, so that those who desire to obtain a Licence under the new order of things, may form some opinion as to whether they ought to TRY or not.

I will first describe the modus operandi of examination. Each teacher or candidate is seated as I have before described. Mr. Rand proceeds to NUMBER them. Now this numbering of the candidates is a very important thing, for from the moment you are so numbered, you cease to be John Jones or Thomas Styles. You become insofar as your relation to the examiners is concerned, a mere abstract number—they know you in no other way; they sit in judgement—not on John Jones or Thomas Styles, but perhaps, 20 or 5, or 40 as your number may be.

First then, an envelope is handed to each. They are told to put their number on it and also the class they aspire to; that being done the first envelope of EXAMINATION PAPERS is opened, and one is handed to each. They are now, or perhaps were previously informed, that for their answers they must depend entirely upon their own acquisitions. No book must be used with which to refresh the memory. No notes previously made.

Nothing in fact, but pen, ink, paper, slate and pencil. You are reminded that you will be required to make a STRONG affirmation at the close that you have faithfully complied with this regulation. Nor were any inclined to tamper with this affirmation, which I trust none would, could it avail, as either Mr. Rand or Mr. Crockett are seated on the platform and at one glance the whole is seen. Again, when we look at the regulation of the 'Board' which applies to such cases, we see the penalty on discovery is such that no sane person be ever so dishonest would attempt to tamper with it.

Now then you have your first paper; you have perhaps, half an hour to work at it. When the time is up the tinkle of a small bell is heard. Fold your paper on which the answers to the propositions are and put it into the envelope you have before marked with your number. All the branches kindred to that paper are taken up consecutively until the whole is completed in that department.

There are in all four of these general departments 1st, say School Management. 2nd, History and Geography, &c. 3rd, Mathematics. 4th, Language. When you have made up all your papers under these general headings, you seal your envelopes, which remember have not remained in

your hands all this time, to alter and amend from time to time, no, no; you will be permitted to seal them yourself, that's all. You must also bear in mind that you must not, under a penalty on any way endeavor to make known through your papers who you are. Your four envelopes being sealed, you can leave.

But where are our papers? I answer there are four examiners for the four different departments I have before named—these are as near as I remember:—

W. Bryden Jack, D.C.L., Examiner in School Management.
Thomas Harrison, L.L.B., " Mathematics.
Charles Spurgeon, D.D., " Hist'y & Geography.
George Roberts, Ph.D., " Language, &c.

The Chief Superintendent, under oath, will place each set of papers in the hands of the examiners of each of the four departments. They, you will see, go over them with no knowledge of the parties who made the papers, all they have is the 'number.' You will now see what I mean by your becoming in the examiner's hands a mere abstract number. They individually mark the percentage of correct answers given on each paper, and make return to the Education Office. Mr. Rand, or his deputy will make up the general average. If you work first class papers and make up an average of at least fifty per cent., you get your Licence or certificate in due time. The Superintendent can do no wrong, he merely makes up the average.

There is no chance for side influences,—there must be no begging the question on the part of the candidate. Read over the syllabus—you must come prepared—the day of pretence has gone by. If you have not an average knowledge of every subject named therein, stay at home. 50 per cent. is true will gain you 1st class, but you must make 50 per cent. Most men would like to make more, but you have done pretty well when you have done that. Don't fancy that influential friends or kind recommendations, will effect anything beyond making you more respected by those to whom they are addressed. Always remember, you have got to have at least 50 per cent. worth of the papers in your own head before you can possibly succeed. There is no 'honourkilling' about it, 'it means business.' I speak of the difficulty in getting 1st Class. The difficulties in the way of Second, are of course, far less, yet the 2nd Class Teachers turned out from the Training School now, are fit to take charge of a school in almost any district in the Province. It might be well for a young man who desires to adopt teaching as a profession to be content to start even with Third Class. After working up to First, he will more likely be thoroughly up in his profession, than the young man who by his early acquisitions can start with 1st Class.

Now, I have a few objections to the course pursued in making up the average. The 1st is—no account is made of Reading. You may possess first rate abilities as a reader, and yet you get no apparent credit for it. The 2nd is—all papers are reckoned as of equal value. Surely a knowledge of the School Law should not count for as much as a knowledge of Euclid. And last, Time enough is not given on some of those papers. This is especially the case in propositions derived from Euclid. It is only by repeated constructions and alterations, that in most cases, these propositions can be solved. The student is unable to give his whole attention to the subject, when distracted by the fear of that imperious little bell. Grammar Analysis and Parsing also require that the mind should be at rest or free from anxiety as to time. In general, time enough is allowed, but on some of the branches I humbly submit more time might be allowed, and the time taken off others.

Now, one word before I close concerning the Education Office. In a few days, or perhaps before this goes to press, you will have the Superintendent's Report in your hands. That report will scarcely show that there have been sent from the Office during the past year, in the matter of answers to enquiries from Trustees, Teachers and others, 4400 pages closely written large letter book size; making an average of about 34 pages per day. These were not mere filling in of forms, but actual mind work,—advice and instruction. Suppose a man had no more to do, would his office be a sinecure? But then during the past year three distributions have been made instead of two, and yet there has been no more assistance than formerly. Add this to the extra labour just mentioned,—the difficulty in getting the whole machinery of the law into working order. We must conclude the staff has been hard worked during the past year.

ALMS HOUSE.—We learn that the average number of inmates per week in the Alms House for the past year was 17.

Cost per week per head \$1.29
Total cost of maintenance for 1872 \$1112
Liabilities \$406.47
Taxes to be collected for Commons rents \$300
Thirteen of the inmates average 83 years.

Telegraphic News.

London, April 7.

Parliament will adjourn from to-night to the 21st inst.

Paris, April 7.

The Republicans have carried the Municipal elections in Nantes and Marcellles.

Rome, April 7.

Although the Pope is recovering from his illness he is still very feeble, and his physicians forbid him leaving his apartment.

New York, April 7.

News from Cuba is favorable to the insurgents. The report is confirmed that they have captured the fortified town of Maramilla, where they obtained a large quantity of munitions of war.

Fire reported at Pittsburg, Pa., loss \$50,000.

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