

THE ACADIAN

WOLFVILLE, N. S., MARCH 6, 1885.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The *Canada Gazette* of last week contains a notice to the effect that the out-port of Horton is hereafter to be known as the out-port of Wolfville. This is good news for Wolfville. Ever since we have been in the newspaper business we have been calling attention to the great trouble to business people caused by having the name of the port different from the name of the place. Goods intended for Wolfville were frequently bonded to Kentville or Port Williams and occasionally to Windsor and Halifax. Under the new name such mistakes need not occur and a great saving of time and inconvenience will be made.

While we are at the subject of Custom House we feel like calling attention to the big imposition carried on by the Express Companies bringing American goods by the I. C. R. These goods are entered by the Expressmen at Hx. without invoice. The appraisers in many cases greatly over value them and the customs brokers and a great number of other persons have a small fee to attach so that by the time the importer gets his goods he feels as if the Protective Tariff has grown and his goods have got very expensive on their way. What we want is an arrangement made at Halifax for bonding these articles directly to their port of destination so that importers can make their own entries with the invoice and can also see that their goods are properly opened and examined without loss or injury. We invite the attention of the authorities to these facts and they can easily ascertain the extent of the grounds for complaint by a little inquiry.

The first act in the great libel suit, G. W. Woodworth vs. L. W. Kimball, has ended and the curtain has fallen on a big farce, but sad to say the leading man did not come out with flying colors. The non-appearance of the prosecutor can only mean one thing, viz, he could not prove a libel. That leaves only one conclusion to be arrived at in reference to the statement. We feel sorry for the *Chronicle* man who was going to pursue it to the bitter end. It is always considered mean to twit a man after he has made a consummate ass of himself and so we will hold our desire and only say we are sorry he didn't know any better than to play in gun powder with a match. He should ever remember that those who live in glass houses should never throw stones.

ELI PERKINS.

Thursday morning he arose. He brought a clean shirt with him and a fur-lined coat, and when he got off the train he was seized by the lecture committee and run off to the "American." In the afternoon he was taken around town in a sleigh accompanied by Dr. Rand. Up to this time he had developed no very remarkable qualities and so far as we can learn he neither killed any of the boarders at the "American House" nor dined on raw meat. In fact he seemed to be comparatively civilized. Precisely at 8 o'clock or somewhere in that vicinity, he came on the platform, threw his coat on the floor and his hat on the table, for both of which actions we have been frequently reasoned with at the point of the slipper in our younger days, and then commenced. Two hours he talked and never did a speaker appear on the college platform with such a variety of speech, such a diversity of subject. Flashes of wit, bursts of humor, strains of pathos, and a lot of the worst old jokes we ever listened to. As a liar Eli was a great success; probably, but doubtless, he was not aware before coming here of the great competition he would have to work against. He little knew the amateur team of liars he would have to excel or the mighty strength and inexhaustible ability of that little band before whom all other liars have so far bowed their heads with reverence and awe as they paid over their forfeit—cigars for the crowd. As a humorist and wit he might possibly be better appreciated if his jokes had never been seen before. As a pathetic speaker he

was largely a failure. Still for all that there were many good points in his lecture. There were many capably told stories and some excellent reasoning on the Philosophy of Wit, and we certainly feel to congratulate the Acadia Athenaeum on the success of their lecture, both financially and in point of merit. We have compared notes with different persons on this matter with various results. We have been told that Eli answered Ingersoll well, but there is nothing remarkable in setting a liar to catch a liar. That was done years ago. We have been told that he only told us those antique jokes to illustrate the points of his lecture. That was all right if he hadn't buried most of the points out of sight with illustrations. We have been told that Eli Perkins is as good a lecturer as Bob Burdette; but the statement is fine wit, in fact it is a compound exaggerated lie. Even Eli himself don't dare say he is as good, but that he is a contemporary. So is the Kentville newspaper man and David P., but no one would dare say they were as great lecturers as either Perkins or Burdette (of course we can't discuss their other qualities). But with all his faults we believe Eli did his best, and we believe his audience had a good open smile and went home feeling happy there were liars in other parts of the world.

Poultry Hints.

(Continued.)

Almost white in color, larger than the leghorns, more active than the Brahmas, combining size with precocity, they are fit for table purposes at an age when the Brahma chicks are like "animated stilts" or diminutive ostriches; bone and muscle, with precious little muscle. The hens from this cross are strong and active, and being well feathered make excellent winter layers, with fair care and feeding are affected by cold as little as any breed known. The reverse cross is also good, viz, a White Leghorn cock with Brahma hens, and by some preferred. The "Brown Leghorn" crosses well with the "Partridge Cochins," the colors being similar, making a very useful variety for all purposes. However, in the opinion of some breeders, the flesh of fowls thus produced is less white and delicate than the grade fowls first mentioned. In concluding this part of our subject, we would say, That Leghorns are handsome, robust fowls, the best layers, the highest flyers, the widest rangers, and the poorest sitters of any breed of hens in existence. Their eggs are large and white, their carcasses fine-flavored and small. It has been suggested that they be sold to hotels when three or four months old for "broilers." Proprietors of eating houses say, that the difficulty is "their customers don't seem to be quite sure whether they are eating chickens or robins," when broiled Leghorns are placed before them. Leghorns being "non-sitters," it is essential to have in addition some hens of a "broody nature," or to choose some fowl that will both lay and sit. "The Plymouth Rocks" seem to fill this bill completely. This variety came prominently into notice about 15 years ago, and has been ever since growing in favor with the "hen-raising public." These are undoubtedly "the farmers' fowls." They combine more good points and valuable qualities than any single breed of fowls. There is a little uncertainty about the actual origin of this breed; but it is generally supposed that they possess largely the "Dominique blood," "Dominiques" crossed with "White Cochins" or "Dorkings," both results modified slightly by Black Spanish blood, form the Plymouth Rocks of the present day. Although they figure largely in all "Exhibitions," amateurs consider them somewhat difficult to breed true to feather; and the most careful breeders are occasionally annoyed by yellow backs and white feathers showing conspicuously in their pet birds. In size Plymouth Rocks are midway between Leghorns and Asiatics. The cocks when fully matured should weigh 9½ lbs.—the cockerels 8 lbs.—fully grown hens should weigh 8½ lbs., and pullets 6½ lbs. In color they are grayish-white with blue bars crossing each feather. Both cocks and hens should have straight single combs of medium size. Combs falling to one side, or showing side sprigs are not to be tolerated. The beak and legs should be yellow, the latter smooth and free from feathers. For breeding purposes a cock considerably lighter than the females is generally selected but for exhibitions both males and females are supposed to match in color.

GENERAL NEWS.

—The Queen has returned to Windsor.
—The Prince of Wales has arrived in London.
—Counterfeit Canadian quarters are in circulation.
—Martial law has been proclaimed in Bechuanaland.
—Cyrus W. Field is suing the *New York Herald* for libel.
—The Poultry show in Moncton, Feb. 17th, was a decided success.
—Winnipeg wants the next Dominion Exhibition; so does Toronto.
—Revised version of the Old Testament published at Easter.
—Mrs. Sullivan, the wife of the Boston slagger, has applied for a divorce.
—O'Donovan Rossa has been discharged from the Hospital in New York.
—Steps are being taken to prevent the threatened influx of Normans into Mexico.
—The engagement of Miss Chamberlain, the American beauty, to an English baronet, is announced.
—New Zealand, with a population of only half a million, supports 100 newspapers, 30 of which are daily.
—St. Louis is to have a new rink by June 1, on which \$40,000 will be spent. It will have a floor 200x80 feet.
—Jim Keene is recovering himself financially and is 'up' for membership in the New York produce exchange.
—Two Buffalo women are reported to have been made crazy by the stories told them by an illiterate fortune-teller.
—Russia has ordered 2,000 Krupp guns of the largest pattern with which to strengthen her position in Central Asia.
—London *Truth* understands that the Queen will assume charge of the orphan child of Major Carmichael, killed at Abu Klea.
—The English army estimates for 1886 amount to £17,820,700, which includes the expenditures for the Soudan expedition.
—It is reported the British have hanged ten leading participants in the murders and riots at Winnebago, on the African Gold coast.
—The Shah of Persia will make another European tour the coming summer, visiting England, France, and the Antwerp exhibition.
—England has refused to recognize the French declaration making rice contraband of war, if found on vessels bound to or from China.
—The yearly consumption of meats in the United States per capita is 120 lbs., in England 104 lbs., France 74 lbs., and Germany 69 lbs.
—The marriage of the Princess Beatrice to Prince Henry of Battenburg takes place at Whippingham church, on the Isle of Wight, in July.
—A large Conservative meeting was held in Manchester last week, at which the Government's Egyptian policy was vigorously protested against.
—The Government has now 81 boarding schools, 76 day schools, and six manual labor schools for Indian education, and all are crowded beyond their capacity.
—There were 103 cattle lost out the Sackville shipment of 152 by the Steamer *Newcastle City* which recently sailed from and had to put back to Halifax. No insurance.
—An Indiana man has patented a model for a straw house. The walls are to be made of bales of straw or hay, and then plastered and bolted down. It is said to be preferable to brick and as endurable.
—The streets of Alexandria, Egypt are paved with stone blocks so neatly that horse-cars run upon them without rails. The cars are open and appear like an ordinary vehicle, except that the wheels are twice the usual size.
—Ostrich farming in South Africa has advanced with such strides that the number of tame birds has increased from 80 in 1865 to at least 70,000 in 1884, producing feathers for export to the value of about \$3,000,000 a year.
—Judge Johnson and a special jury in Montreal were recently occupied in the Criminal court-room in hearing the case of Oliver A. Barberie vs. Hugh Graham. This was an action for damages arising out of the publication in the *Montreal Daily Star* of an article entitled "Tragic New Year's Carousal," which contained an account of a woman's death in a brothel on Wolfe street. In the course of the article it was stated that the woman was the daughter of the station master at Campbellton, N. B. The latter denied this and instituted the action. A number of witnesses were examined and after the address of the counsel, Judge Johnson charged strongly against the defendant. The jury awarded \$15 damages and all costs against the defendant.

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