Board Works

OBSERVE THE YELLOW SLIP O PER—THE DATE ON IT INDICATES THE TIME TO THE SUBSCRIPTION IS PAID. PROMPT REMITT RE EXPECTED FROM THOSE WHO HAVE NOT AL DY MADE THEM.

MIRAMICHI ADVANCE.

VOL. 8—No. 27. CHATHAM, NEW BRUNSWICK, MAY 4, 1882.

D. G. SMITH, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

FOR TERMS—See Business Notice.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

SCALERS' CARDS—Lumber Surveyors' Scale Cards for all lengths up to fifty feet and all diameters up to twenty-four inches. There are two kinds—one printed on ordinary cardboard, at *five cents each* and the other, on heavy mounting board, at *ten cents each*.

SURVEY BILLS, giving no. of raft, block mark, no. of pieces, sup. ft. of spruce, pine and battens separately, totals, etc., at *twenty-five cents per dozen*.

MAGISTRATES' BLANKS.—Executions for Debt, for Road Taxes, for Poor and County Rates, School Rates; Summonses for Debt, for Witnesses in Summary Conviction cases, for Defendant do., Subpœnas, Capaises, Affidavit for do., Warrants for Arrest, Notices of Claim for Debt—*ten cents per dozen; fifty cents per hundred*.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Deeds with and without Warranty, and Mortgages, *five cents each*, School Secretaries' Bills, *fifty cents* per hundred or *ten cents* per doz.; Customs Blanks—"For Duty," "Free," "Warehouse" (all kinds.) Report Inward and Outward, Entry Outward, Ship Stores, etc., etc., *twenty cents* per dozen. Permits *fifteen cents* per dozen.

ANY OF THE ABOVE SENT FREE BY MAIL ON RECEIPT OF PRICES NAMED.

SHERIFFS' AND SUPREME AND COUNTY COURT BLANKS on hand or printed at shortest notice.

COMMERCIAL, AUCTIONEERS', SOCIETY, CLUB, BAZAAR AND OTHER PRINTING promptly executed.

Orders by Mail promptly attended to.

Address D. G SMITH, CHATHAM.

General Business.

1882 SPRING 1882

THE SUBSCRIBERS beg to intimate to their customers that they have completed their Spring Stock, and are receiving by steamers from London and Liverpool, and vessels from West Indias, almost daily, new importations—Comprising.

600 Puns Tierces and Brls. Choice Demerara Cienfuegos and British Island Molasses., Brls. Granulated sugar, ½ brls. Paris Lumps,
50 Hhds Bright Retailing Porto Rico Sugar. Brls. all Grades Refined do.
1000 Half Chests Superior and Ordinary Grades Congou Tea.
200 Boxes do. for Family use.
150 Boxes and Halves Tobacco, Mayflower, Lorne, Mariners, and other brands.
150 Boxes and Caddies Bright Tobacco, Napoleon and Mahogany and other brands,
20 Kegs Black Twist Tobacco.
100 Boxes do. do.
200 Boxes Blue and White Starch.
100 do. Preserved Corn.
100 Kegs Soda.
100 Bags Rice.
120 Boxes Soap various qualities and brands.
50 Cases Pickles.
50 do. Salt
120 Brls P. E. I. Mess Pork.
200 do. do. Thin do. do.
200 do. do. Prime do. do.
10 Cases Colemans Mustard in Tin foil and Tins.
100 Boxes Spices of all kinds
50 doz. Buckets.
50 doz Brooms.
Currants in Cases and Brls. Raisins in Boxes—Half and quarter—London Layers and Layers. Valencias in Boxes.
Pipes, ScotchT. D. and assorted.
Matches in Cases and Half Cases.

J. S. MACLEAN & CO.
Jerusalem Warehouse,
41 27 HALIFAX, N. S.

BANK OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

CAPITAL, ... $1,000,000.
RESERVE FUND, ... 275,000

DRAFTS GRANTED ON
MONTREAL
NEW YORK,
BOSTON,
and all points in the LOWER PROVINCES

Sterling Exchange Bought and Sold.
American Drafts Negotiated.
Collections made at all accessible points. Interest owed on special deposits.
OFFICE IN CHATHAM—Kerr Building, Water Street.
OFFICE IN NEWCASTLE. — Rooms formerly cupied by R. R. Call, Commercial Wharf.
HOURS.—10 a. m. to 3 p. m. SATURDAY, 10 a. m. to 2 p. m.

F. R. MORRISON, Agent.

RESTAURANT.

OYSTERS by the Pint, Quart, or Gallon.
OYSTERS served at short notice in all the ordinary styles.
—ALSO—
HOT COFFEE, BREAD, TARTS, PIES.
T. H. FOUNTAIN.
Next to Ullock's Livery Stable.

Hotels.

Metropolitan Hotel,
[Adjoining Bank of Montreal,]
WELLINGTON STREET, CHATHAM, N. B.
J. F. JARDINE, PROPRIETOR.
First Class Rooms and Table
It is the constant aim and practice of the Proprietor to meet the requirements of the travelling public, who may rely upon finding at the "Metropolitan"
a Man who Knows How to Keep a Hotel.
ANGLERS AND SPORTSMEN
are provided on the premises with ice and all other necessary facilities for the care and shipment of fish and game.
In addition to teams for carrying the
Mails and Express
matter between the Railway and town offices,
the "Metropolitan" Turnout
is always on hand on the arrival of trains for conveying passengers wherever they may desire to go.
A new
Sample Room Building,
practically designed after consultation with
LEADING COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS
is now in course of erection on the Hotel grounds It contains
FIVE SAMPLE ROOMS
calculated to meet the requirements of all classes of business.
The location, grounds, general appearance and style of management of the "Metropolitan" are such as to invite and retain the patronage of all travellers. J. F. JARDINE.

DOMINION HOUSE,
CHATHAM.
The Subscriber begs to inform his friends and the public, that he has leased the
DOMINION HOUSE,
Water Street, Chatham,
and carefully refitted and refurnished it, and is now prepared to accommodate both travellers and permanent boarders, on the most reasonable terms. Good STABLING on the Premises.
DAVID McINTOSH.

BARKER HOUSE,
Fredericton.
I BEG to announce to the travelling public that I have again assumed charge of the Barker House, so well and favorably known, and it will be my aim to give entire satisfaction to my patrons as hitherto.
TERMS, FROM $100 TO $1.50 PER DAY, ACCORDING TO LOCATION.
Coaches are in waiting on the Arrival, of all Steamboats and Trains.
I shall continue to run
THE LIVERY STABLES
in my usual first class style, and would respect fully solicit the continued patronage of the public
ROBERT ORR.

PARK HOTEL
KING SQUARE,
ST. JOHN - - - - N. B.
FRED. A. JONES, - - - Proprietor
(Of the late Barnes Hotel.)

WAVERLEY HOTEL.
NEWCASTLE,----------MIRAMICHI, N B
THIS HOUSE has lately been refurnished, and every possible arrangement made to ensure the comfort of travelers.
LIVERY STABLES, WITH GOOD OUTFIT ON THE PREMISES.
ALEX. STEWART.
ate of Waverly House, St. John.) Proprietor

Canada House,
CHATHAM, NEW BRUNSWICK.
WM. JOHNSTON, - - - PROPRIETOR.
CONSIDERABLE outlay has been made on this House to make it a first-class Hotel, and travelers will find it a desirable temporary residence, both as regards location and comfort. It is situated within two minutes walk of Steamboat Landing, and opposite Telegraph and Post Offices.
The Proprietor returns thanks to the Public for he encouragement given him in the past, and will endeavor, by courtesy and attention, to merit the same in the future.
GOOD STABLING ON THE PREMISES.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

1882. SPRING. 1882.
SUTHERLAND & CREAGHAN
—HAVE OPENED THIS WEEK—
37 Cases and Bales of Dry Goods,
Being First Consignment of Purchases by MR. CREAGHAN in the
BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL MARKETS.
—THESE GOODS HAVE BEEN—
Personally Selected from the Manufacturers for Cash,
Thereby Enabling us to Place on Our Counters GOODS AT PRICES SELDOM, IF EVER, HEARD OF IN MIRAMICHI.
WHOLESALE & RETAIL. ONE PRICE STORE.
SUTHERLAND & CREAGHAN.

1882 SEASON. 1882
We are now showing a nice assortment of
Fine Electro-Plated Goods,
—IN—
Cake Baskets, Butter Dishes, Sugar Bowls, Spoon Holders, Breakfast, Dinner and Pickle Casters, Napkin Rings, Mugs, Table Bells, Vases, Spoons, Forks, Watches, Clocks, Jewellry and Fancy Goods, Meerschaum and Briar Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Cases, Portemonies.
The leading brands of **CIGARS, CIGARETTES** and **TOBACCO** always on hand.
I. HARRIS & SON, WATER STREET.

In Store,
50 CHESTS TEA, very good and cheap.
100 Bbls. and half bbls. HERRING.
100 Qtls. CODFISH.
20 Bbls. and half bbls. MACKEREL
Pork, Flour,
Meal, Molasses, etc.
Any of the above will be sold low.
ALSO, IN STOCK,
a full stock o
General Dry Goods,
At remarkable LOW PRICES.
ARGYLE HOUSE,
CHATHAM.
WM MURRAY

LONDON HOUSE,
CHATHAM, N. B.
THE Subscriber will sell off the Balance of his Stock of Fancy Goods at GREATLY REDUCED Prices—
Dressing Cases, Work Boxes, Writing Cases, Glove Boxes, Reticules, Albums, Games, Fancy Boxes, Opera Glasses, Cigar Cases, Meerschaum Pipes Pocket Books, Parian Ware, Bronze Goods, and numerous other articles suitable for Christmas and New Years' Presents. Also—Groceries, Pickles, Sauces, Canned Goods, Spices, Citron and Lemon Peel, Extracts, Cocoa, etc etc.
IN STORE—Flour, Corn Meal, Oat Meal, Tea, Sugar, Butter, Lard, Soap, Onions, Tobacco, at LOWEST WHOLESALE and RETAIL PRICES.
RICHARD HOCKEN.

T. McAvity & Sons,
DEALERS IN
Hardware & Mill Supplies,
ENGINEERS' AND MECHANICS' TOOLS.
AGENTS FOR
THE Boston Belting Co.'s Celebrated Rubber Belting,
J. B. HOYT & CO.'S Oak Tanned Leather Belting,
HENRY DISSTON & SON'S Gang and Circular Saws,
LUBRICATING OILS of all Kinds,
THE "BINGHAMPTON" CYLINDER OIL.
BABBITT METALS,
IRON STEAM TUBING AND FITTINGS,
BRASS VALVES AND FITTINGS,
THE "HANDCOCK" INSPIRATOR, unsurpassed as a Boiler Feeder,
THE "SPECIAL" STEAM PUMP,
BOLTS, NUTS, WASHERS, LAG SCREWS. ETC.
T. McAvity & Sons,
13 KING STREET,
ST. JOHN, N. B.

Salesmen Wanted.
To begin work at once on Sales for Fall 1882 for the
FONTHILL NURSERIES
THE LARGEST IN CANADA.
Head Office - Toronto Ont.
Branch Offices { Montreal P. Q. / St. Paul, Min.
We can employ in addition to our already large force
100 ADDITIONAL CANVESSERS
and want men who can give their full time to the business. Steady employment and good salaries to successful men. It does not matter what your previous occupation has been. If you are
WILLING TO WORK
your success is almost certain. The best of references required. Apply to
J. W. BEALL,
MANAGER.
STONE & WELLINGTON,
NURSERYMEN, MONTREAL, P. Q.
3e29

New Leather & Shoe Store.
The Subscriber has removed his
Leather, Boot, Shoe and Findings Store
ON WATER ST., CHATHAM,
(next to the W. J Fraser Stone Building,) where he hopes to receive a fair share of the public patronage hitherto given to him.
In stock
SOLE, UPPER KIPP, CALF INSOLE LEATHER, AND SHOEMAKERS' FINDINGS, BOOTS & SHOES MADE TO ORDER.
Parties having open accounts with the subscriber are requested to call and arrange the same immediately.
Agent for Wilson's Wool Carding Mill, Derby
DUNCAN DAVIDSON.
Chatham, Aug. 24th, 1881.

William Rae,
Upper Water Street, Chatham, N. B.,
IMPORTER AND DEALER IN
Italian, Sutherland Falls and Rutland Marbles.
—MANUFACTURER OF—
Grave Stones and Monumental Memorials, in Foreign or Native Stone.
A good selection on hand
SPIRITS AND RYE WHISKEY.—Arrived from Toronto: 15 barrels Goderham Worts' Pure Spirits, 65 per cent. o. p.; 35 barrels Goderham & Worts' finest Rye Whiskey.
JOHN W. NICHOLSON.
St. John.

G. A. BLAIR,
has on hand, a superior assortment of
READY - MADE CLOTHING,
—COMPRISING—
Men's, Youths' & Children's Suits,
IN CLOTH, TWEED & VELVET.
Which he is offering at prices suitable to the times.

JOHN HAVILAND,
HARNESS AND COLLAR MAKER,
would announce to his former customers and the public, that he may be found at his old stand, opposite the Masonic Hall, where he is prepared to manufacture Harness of every description.
Collar Making.
Having a practical experience of this branch of the Trade for THIRTY-THREE YEARS, he is prepared to turn out COLLARS which cannot be excelled in the Dominion.
The most difficult horse satisfactorily fitted.
CARRIAGE TRIMMING
executed in a tasteful and workman-like manner

FOR SALE.
The Subscriber offers for sale, from sixteen to twenty acres of wood land, about 2½ miles from the town of Chatham, the soil is good and well wooded. Apply to AMOS PERLEY
Chatham, Jan. 24th, 1882.

Teacher Wanted.
A SECOND CLASS Female Teacher, to take charge of School, 1st May, in District No. 2 Chatham, please state salary Apply to
WM. HAY,
Sec. to Trustees
Chatham, March 30th 1882. 4129

To Rent.
THE SUBSCRIBER will rent to a good tenant, on reasonable terms, a portion of his Dwelling on Wellington Street, Chatham—either four or eight Rooms. There is a good Cellar, Woodhouse, etc; and also
Excellent Water on the Premises
Apply to GEO. TRAER.

MIRAMICHI BOOKSTORE.
(OPPOSITE DR. PALLEN'S CORNER,)
Water St., - - - - Chatham.
WALL PAPERS,
BORDERS,
WRITING PAPERS AND ENVELOPES,
PENCILS in Wood and Gold.
SCHOOL SUPPLIES of all **KINDS.**
Fancy Goods. Childrens' Carts and Wheelbarrows. New Goods Daily Arriving.
Agency of the INTERCOLONIAL EXPRESS.
EDWARD JOHNSON.

BOAT FOR SALE.
A PAIR-OARED Racing and Practice Boat, built last season by Mr. John Hodd of Chatham, is offered for sale—is rigged also for four oars—Apply to R. McKENZIE, Esq., Newcastle or the Subscriber in Chatham.
D. G. SMITH.

Agents Wanted.
THE grandest scheme of a lifetime; profits larger than ever before made by agents at any business; adapted for any condition of life; old and young, married and single all make money faster than ever before. Business strictly honorable—no competition—no capital required—seize this GOLDEN CHANCE without delay. Address GEORGE DE LARA, 757 Broadway, New York.

JOHN W. NICHOLSON,
WHOLESALE IMPORTER AND
Commission Merchant,
OFFERS FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING GOODS IN BOND OR DUTY PAID:
Martell brandy in Hhds and Quarter casks—Pale and Dark.
Martell brandy in cases, XX—Pale and Dark.
Martell brandy in cases, X—in pints—doz. each.
Hennesey Brandy in cases X.
John De Kuper & Son's finest quality Gin Hhds and Quarter Casks.
John DeKuper & Son's Gin in Green Cases.
Wises' Finest Cork Malt Scotch Whiskey in Quarter Casks.
Old Dublin [b] Whiskey—12 years old—in cases.
Highland Malt Scotch Whiskey in Quarter Casks.
Finest blended Glenlivet Whiskey in Cases.
Port Wine, various grades.
Port Wine, Hunt's celebrated AV, AVA and AVAV.
Sherry, various grades.
Sherry, Richard Davis' celebrated Wines.
Champagne, in baskets.
Gooderham & Wort's finest quality Pure Spirits in bbls.
Rye Whiskey in bbls.
Bourbon Whiskey in bbls.
Bass' India Pale Ale, in hhds and bottles.
Guiness' Stout, in hhds and bottles.
And Sundry other goods.
VICTORIA WHARF,
SMYTH ST., ---------- ST. JOHN, N. B.

MONEY!
TO LEND, in Sums of $200 and upwards, for one or more years, on good Real Estate.
Apply to— R. CARMAN,
20th Feb., 1881. Attorney, Chatham.

Brokerage, etc.

W. & R. Brodie,
GENERAL
Commission Merchants
AND
DEALERS IN
FLOUR, PRODUCE AND PROVISIONS
No. 16, ARTHUR STREET,
Next the Bank of Montreal
QUEBEC.

WILLIAM J. FRASER,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
IMPORTER AND DEALER IN
TEAS, SUGARS, MOLASSES &c.
HEAD OF CENTRAL WHARF,
UPPER WATER STREET,
HALIFAX, N. S.
CONSIGNMENTS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

HARNESS!
Having commenced business in my NEW FACTORY, I am prepared to manufacture harness of all descriptions from the
Light Driving to the Heaviest Team Harness.
And as I work the best stock that can be obtained in the market. I warrant satisfaction
COLLARS A SPECIALTY which we warrant. A few of those
CELEBRATED VICTOR HUGO COLLARS,
always in Stock,
Carriage Trimming Neatly Executed
and carefully shipped.
Work from abroad punctually executed.
ALFRED H. PALLEN,
Opposite Ullock's Stables.
Chatham, N. B.

TIN SHOP.
I have now opened the well known establishment formerly occupied by the late James Gray, and with the kind patronage of former friends, am prepared to execute all work in
TIN, SHEET-IRON, GAS-FITTING.
Granite Ware, Japaned Stamped and Plain.
TINWARE
always on hand, which I will sell low for cash.
PLOUGHS,
Also, a nice assortment of
Parlor and Cooking Stoves,
fitted with PATENT OVENS the inner shells of which draw out for cleaning purposes.
Those wishing to buy cheap would do well to us a call.
Shop in rear of Custom House.
A. C. M'LEAN.
ChathamJuly 22.

IRON PIPE AND FITTINGS.
GLOBE and ANGLE VALVES
STEAM COCKS;
GLASS WATER GAUGES;
STEAM GAUGES,
INJECTORS, STEAM PUMPS;
RUBBER and LEATHER BELTING,
And a Full Line of Machinists' Supplies.
WISDOM & FISH,
41 Dock Street, St. John, N. B.

In the Estate of Alexander Ferguson.

All persons are cautioned against settling any claim or paying or handing over any property of said estate to James Robinson, pending the decision of the Courts in reference thereto.

WILLIAM FERGUSON,
HUGH FERGUSON,
CHRISTINA FERGUSON,
JESSIE PARKER
MARGARET PARKER.

Derby, 9th May, 1881.

International Steam Ship Company.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
We beg to call the attention of
SHIPPERS of FROZEN FISH
to our former very low rates, which will be continued through the winter.
Steamers will run during the winter months,
TWO TRIPS A WEEK,
Leaving St. John
Every Monday and Thursday Mornings
at 8 o'clock.
Shippers can rely upon every attention being given to forward their fish promptly and, as quick ly as by any other line.
H. W. CHISHOLM,
Agent.

CHEESE
450 Best Quality Factory Cheese. For sale at a Bargain of 3 cts. per pound, below usual prices.
C. M. BOSTWICK & CO.
St. John, N. B., Jan. 28, 1882.

SUGAR, FRUIT, ONIONS, &c.
LOGAN, LINDSAY & CO,
Have Received:—
45 BBLS. EXTRA C. SUGAR
30 do Granulated do.;
10 Boxes ORANGES;
5 " LEMONS;
10 Bbls ASTRAL OIL;
DAILY EXPECTED.
150 Bbls. ONIONS;
350 Boxes Layer, London Layer, Loose Muscatel and Dehesa RAISINS;
2 Cases BURNETT'S EXTRACTS;
New Walnuts, Almonds, Quinces, &c.;
25 Bbls. AMERICAN OIL, &c., &c.
78 and 80 King Street, St. John.

For Sale,
750,000 Pine Shingles,
—AT—
R. FLANAGAN'S.

BOYS and GIRLS,
180 PRIZES.
BOYS and GIRLS, we want Agents everywhere to get subscribers for our Bright and Pleasant Paper, *The Canadian Band of Hope*. Beautifully illustrated, 25 Cts. a Year. We give you a choice of Gold and Samples, prize list and return envelope free. Address T. MADDOCKS, Publisher, London, Ont.
180 PRIZES.

Dressmaking.
MISS H. CLARK, begs to inform the ladies of Miramichi, that she is prepared to attend to any orders in the above line with which she may be favored.
Room up-stairs, Mr. Thomas Kingston's, Water Street Chatham.

Fresh Seeds, etc.

SEEDS
My Illustrated Catalogue for 1882 will be mailed free to all intending purchasers on application. *Farmers wishing a reliable change of Seed, Grain, etc., should order early.* Price on application.
WM. RENNIE, Seedsman, Toronto, Canada.

Just Received.
Fresh Garden and Field Seeds.
50 Bushels "Lost Nation" "Odessa" and "Fife" Seed Wheat.
20 Bushels Timothy Seed.
500 lbs Western Red Clover Seed.
200 lbs Large Late Red Clover Seed.
5 Bushels two row'd Barley.
5 " Field Peas.
AND A LARGE LOT OF
CHOICE GARDEN SEEDS,
all warranted fresh and true to their kinds.
Bottom Prices!
D. CHESMAN.
Chatham, April 20, 1882.

FARMERS
AND
GARDENERS.
We wish to call your attention to our complete assortment of
FRESH SEEDS.
As usual, our stock is the best and most reliable to be had in the market. We make it a point of always keeping only the first quality of seeds, and will guarantee every package sold.
Flower Seeds.
These are carefully selected. Very choice, comprising every variety indigenous to the climate. For particulars see our catalogues.
REMEMBER THE PLACE.
Newcastle Drug Store.
E. Lee Street, - Proprietor.
Newcastle, April 10, 1882.

TO FARMERS.
TO ARRIVE.
35 BUSH. FYFE SEED WHEAT;
15 BUSH. CHOICE TIMOTHY SEED;
6 BUSH CHOICE RED CLOVER;
Parties requiring any of the above can book their orders with the Subscriber at
LOWEST MARKET PRICES.
W. S Loggie.

Will be mailed FREE to all applicants, and to customers without ordering it. It contains five colored plates, 600 engravings, about 200 pages, and full descriptions, prices and directions for planting 1500 varieties of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Plants, Fruit Trees, etc. Invaluable to all. Send for it. Address,
D. M. FERRY & CO., Detroit, Mich.

Medical.

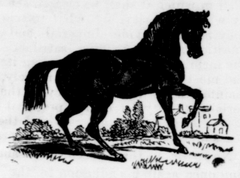
DR. JOSEPH B. BENSON,
Residence of late Dr. S. Benson,
WATER STREET - - - - CHATHAM

Dr. J. S. Benson,
RESIDENCE:
Duke Street, - Chatham.

JOHN M'CURDY, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
CHATHAM, N. B.

DRY GOODS CARD!
THE Subscriber begs to return thanks to his numerous friends for their patronage of the VICTORIA HOUSE during the last five years, and announces that he has sold his extensive Stock of Staple and Fancy DRY GOODS, HABERDASHERY, etc., therein to
MR. JOHN F. GEMMEL,
who will continue the business.
Mr. Gemmel's well known experience in the dry goods trade is a guarantee that he will deserve a continuation of public favor, which the subscriber in retiring, bespeaks for him.
GEO. I. WILSON.
Chatham, 22nd March, 1882.

VICTOR HUGO.



The Northumberland Agricultural Society's Entire Horse "VICTOR HUGO," will travel the usual circuit the coming season, at the usual low price $4.00, and for the accomodation of persons living outside the circuit of travel, he will be found at the stable of the groom, Mr George Dickson, Napan.
D. T. JOHNSTONE, Secretary.
Chatham, April 22nd 1882.
Advocate copy.

ANTHRACITE AND SOFT
COAL.
The Subscriber has for sale
100 TONS Anthracite Coal, best quality
500 Tons Soft Coal, in Lump, Stove, and Nut Sizes.
50 Tons Blacksmith Coal.
THOS. F. GILLESPIE.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM. - - - MAY 4, 1882.

Speech of Hon. Edward Blake on the Resolution Relating to the Irish Question.

Mr. Blake said:— If no other hon. member proposes to address the House on the subject, I do not, for my part, feel disposed to give a silent vote upon it. It is now two years ago since, in the course of a very important discussion here, I ventured to suggest in my place in Parliament that the accession to power which had then recently taken place of the Liberal Administration in England, would lead very shortly to the concession of some measure of Home Rule to the Irish people. I believed, as I said, that such a solution as could be obtained of the land question, such solution as had been from time to time reached of other questions, would, after all, not settle the Irish question, and that unless the dictates of prudence and of justice alike were observed and fulfilled by the granting of some measure of control over their local affairs, we would see that which has been the disgrace and the humiliation of the British Empire for many years still continued. I also observed, as the hon. gentleman in his speech and in his motion has observed, that we had one amongst many material interests here, in Canada, in the solution of that question, and the change which might be expected from it in the attitude of the great bulk of the Irish people towards the Empire, that we had a material—although I regard that as a much lesser interest than the interest which has been mainly discussed—we had a material interest of a serious character with reference to the chances and the opportunity of immigration to our soil so long as the present state of feeling continued. Now, I propose to justify the attitude which I took upon that occasion and which did not then meet with any very animated response in the House or in the country; I propose to justify it by a reference to some obvious historical facts which it appears to me can lead to only one inevitable conclusion.

In order that we may understand the grounds upon which, as I conceive, some action in this direction is demonstrably necessary, it is by no means needful to go further back than to the time of the Union. It is not needful here to recur in detail to the more ancient events in connection with Irish history, to the history of the conquest, to the history of the confiscations, to the history of the proscriptions, to the history of the penal laws, directed at one time against Protestants, and at one time against Catholics, to the history of these penal laws of the most serious and terrible description, laws and events to which I have briefly alluded, but which ought to make us all, when we recur to them, blush with shame, and which had left the marks of human error and of human crime almost indelible, and enhancing, there can be no doubt, even to-day, the difficulties of the situation. I say it is needles for the purposes of this discussion that we should revert to them in detail, for I am willing that this question should be tried not upon the history of the past eighty years, but upon the history of the government of Ireland under the present constitution of the United Kingdom.

Of the history of Ireland since the Union, we all know the means of the basest corruption by which the Act of Union was passed. However beneficial the public men who carried that measure may have believed it to be, I do not suppose it will be to day urged that the end justified the means, and I have myself a strong belief that the nefarious means by which that measure was carried, operated very largely to increase the difficulties of its working and produced a state of feeling which gave it, perhaps, a poor chance of being satisfactory to the people of the country which were by such means brought into more intimate connection. But, Sir, since that period, for a little more than eighty years has Ireland been managed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom and I do not hesitate to say that the result of that management has been a dreadful failure. There has been time enough to try the question out. Eighty years in the history of a country, and such eighty years as Ireland has experienced, is surely time enough to try the question out. Now, let us apply some obvious, plain and palpable tests as to whether there has been a good and successful administration of Irish affairs under the existing system.

The population of Ireland in 1726 was 2,300,000, in 1805 it was 5,400,000, and that increase, nearly doubling, occurred during a time of difficulty, of religious proscription and of immigration. In 1841, the population had abnormally increased under circumstances which it is not necessary to discuss, but it had increased to the number of 8,200,000. But since 1841 the history of Ireland has been a history of periodical distress, of famine and of emigration, and the result is that the population, which at the time I have stated stood at 8,200,000, stands to-day at 5,160,000 only, or 235,000 less than eighty years ago at the time of the Union, and 3,000,000 less than it was forty years ago. In the last thirty years, from 1851 to 1881, there has been an emigration from that country of no less than 2,750,000. Now, it may be said that Ireland is overcrowded. I deny that Ireland, as a whole, is over-crowded. There are parts of Ireland in which the distribution of the population is probably too dense; but I maintain that, judging by all the tests which we can reasonably apply to it, Ireland, as a country, is not an over-crowded country. The number of inhabitants to the square mile in France is 180; Italy, 225; Belgium, 221; Flanders, 718; England and Wales; 442; in the whole of Great Britain, 333; in Ireland, 161. The acreage of Ireland is 20,325,000 acres, of which there is at present arable 13,465,000 acres and an additional acreage easily made available for tillage of 4,000,000 acres more, making a total of land actually arable and available for tillage of 17,465,000 acres. How many acres are cultivated at this time—only 5,200,000; and this is the case with respect to a country of which the soil is indubitably very fertile, which has raised in times past enormous crops, comparing favorably in past times with crops at the same time raised in England, of wheat, rye, barley, peas, beans, potatoes and turnips, and no one doubts the capacity of Ireland for raising cattle. It has very great advantages. It has great quantities of bog land from which is produced a very cheap fuel, and which lands when reclaimed are inferior to none in the world whether as wheat or as pasture land. It has splendid coal fields, although these are hardly used at all. It has magnificent, perhaps unequalled fisheries in regard to the quantities of fish caught and harbor and other facilities in connection with the industry. It is possessed of valuable mines of gypsum, gold, silver, lead, copper and zinc. It has, besides, great facilities for manufacturing both as regards facilities for the transport of manufactured goods, for the supply of raw material, and for the cheapness of the labor to be employed. It has, moreover, great water power, encouraging the manufacture of the raw material with the perfected article. It has a population confessedly very free from crime of the ordinary kind; a population which, whatever its prospects and chances and capacities may have been demonstrated to be in its own country, has shown in every other country than Ireland, that it possesses the capacity to rise, and, by its industry, its ability and its capacity, to take its own place in the world, wherever its lot may be cast. That population is also a population confessedly affectionate, and grateful, and possessing, in a large degree, the organ of veneration, and easily impressed by any act of kindness shown towards them.

With such a population, with such a soil, with such natural advantages, how does it come that we have such a result, with respect to population, as I have mentioned? How does it come to pass that the population of Ireland should have diminished instead of increased, that the emigration should have been so great, and that the condition of the country should be such as we know it to be? The whole is due to the chronically wretched state of Ireland, its miseries, social, material and political. That is the reason why. Although there may be, although there has been, as we all rejoice to know, some improvement in the physical condition of some portion of the population during the last few years, this is to-day a pressing question, and no man holds that the condition of Ireland is satisfactory, when viewed in those aspects to which I have referred. The condition of the people materially, as well as in other respects, is one which ought to create in all of us who call ourselves British subjects a feeling of shame. I say that the condition of Ireland to-day is due largely to the want of security and contentment, to the want of identification with the soil and attachment to the Constitution, to the want of hope, of improvement and of bettering their condition, which is really the most essential thing to induce men to labor. I say that it is due to a feeling that their grievances are not in reason redressed, to the lack of a feeling that their Government is conducted according to their needs and wishes, and to the lack of any machinery for the management of their local affairs.

There can be no doubt that Ireland, at and before the time of Union, was subject to some great political grievances. There can be no doubt that those grievances were not of a sentimental character, but were such as to a large extent are to-day, acknowledged to be grievances which demand the attention of legislators, and should be redressed by legislation. If you go back over the history of the parliamentary government of Ireland for the last eighty years, and if you begin your enquiry by a reference to those great and important land marks or grievances, and should enquire as to the time when, and the circumstances under which, those grievances have been, so far as they have been, redressed, you will find a very good reason there, if you sought no further, for a deep seated and justifiable dissatisfaction in the parliamentary government of Ireland, by the Parliament of the United Kingdom. There was the question—at that time as much a question of justice and of right as it was at any later time—of Roman Catholic emancipation. There was the question—at that time as much a question of justice and of right as at any later time—the disestablishment of the nominal church of the minority. There was the question—at that time as much a question of what was called here the lamentable question, but still in the condition of the country none the less a pressing question—of a proper measure for the relief of the poor, required because of the unnatural conditions that ruled distribution. There was a question of reform of the land laws, by the creation of proper interest in the soil by those who occupied the soil. There was the question of creating local institutions to manage local affairs, and rendered very important because of the abrogation of the rights of the Parliament of Ireland and the transfer to Westminister of the management of those minute affairs which, up to that time, was under the control of the Legislature which sat in the capital city of Ireland. These leading questions, to which I have referred, have been in part—all but the last one, and that one has never been substantially dealt with—disposed of, and it may be asked, since such is the fact, why do I refer to them. I refer to them, because I see that the circumstances under which, and the time under which, those questions were dealt with, demonstrate more clearly than anything else can do, the unsatisfactory character of the Government of Ireland by the Parliament of the United Kingdom.

When was the question of Roman Catholic emancipation dealt with? It was not dealt with until nearly thirty years after the time of Union. Thirty years is about a generation, and it required about a generation for the Parliament of the United Kingdom to nerve itself to the task of dealing with that question. And how was it then granted? Was it granted them as the boon of a cheerful giver?—No, Sir. It was granted grudgingly and of necessity. It was granted, avowedly granted by the Ministry because they were forced to do it. Not because it was just, because they had been proclaiming to the ends of the earth that it was not just. Not because it was right, because they had been proclaiming that it was wrong. It was granted, because, as they themselves stated in Parliament, the question was between granting that concession and civil war, not an ordinary outbreak, but the condition of things had come to that pass that there was to be an immediate outbreak, a civil war, unless Roman Catholic emancipation was granted. Well, Sir, did that do good? Of course, you could not remove, even under such circumstances, a monstrous injustice of that description without some good being done; but I say the good was minimized by the delay which took place, and the attitude which was assumed by those who received and by those who gave that Act. The Irish people were taught that dreadful lesson, so far as the administration of the Parliament of the United Kingdom could teach them it, that England's difficulty was Ireland's opportunity. They were taught this by the delay, and by the disposition with which those Ministers acceded to the grant. They were taught not to rely upon that constitutional agitation which is the proud basis of our system, and which everyone is free to engage in, but upon other and worse methods of accomplishing by unconstitutional revolt. I say that no doubt something was done by the removal, even under those circumstances, of that great blemish, yet nothing was done towards relieving, or conciliating the feeling of the Irish people, towards leading them to believe that they had a right to expect from the unconstrained sense of justice of the British Parliament the relief which they had a right to have; or towards obtaining those golden fruits which might have been reaped from a great act of justice cheerfully performed in sufficient season.

The next great measures of relief for Ireland—and I am dealing now only with remedial legislation—I am dealing with those measures to which the English Parliament may point with the greatest pride as marks of its parliamentary government with reference to Ireland—the next great measures of remedial legislation occurred, how long after? Nearly twenty years after. It was not until nearly twenty years had elapsed that we had the measure for the relief of the poor to which I have referred, followed shortly by, and intended at the time to be followed as soon as possible by an Act for the sale of encumbered estates. The years 1846 and 1849, are, I think, the years in which those two measures were passed; one fully twenty years after the Emancipation Bill and the other a few years earlier. These Acts, as I have said, were not of a late date, they were not the offspring of fresh institutions lately developed. They were the approach by the English Parliament, the Parliament of the United Kingdom, to dealing with old difficulties, and how again was it that they were brought about? How was it, that the public opinion of the British people and the opinion of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, were aroused to action, such action as was then taken in these two particulars? Sir it was not the hand of the insurgent upon that occasion, it was not the hand of the agitator, so much as the hand of famine and of pestilence. It was not until the direst calamity which has beset the modern Christian world came upon us, and until a famine took place in which more human lives were lost than in all the wars with which England has reddened the soil of Europe or the world, it was not until that had happened, that the public opinion to which the House referred was sufficiently aroused to deal with this question; such was the unhappy condition of Ireland, and the measure passed for the relief of the poor was a great boon to them. The Encumbered Estates Act, too, was greatly needed. It was hoped, however, that that Act would have had an indirect effect very beneficial to the tenants, but that hope failed. The condition of the tenants as a whole from the practical operation of the Act was not mitigated, because it happened that the sales of many of the lands that were sold under the Encumbered Estates Act were made to persons entirely new to the country, and who in a great many instances, were wholly neglectful of and defiant of those customary—I cannot call them rights—but those customary favors which were granted by the former proprietors to the tenants, and the system of rack-renting and the other difficulties which might naturally be expected to grow from such an unnatural system as existed, were aggravated and intensified by the new proprietory; and so it happened that the demand for tenant right became more—pressing