

ST. JOHN LETTER.

An anniversary—Local news—The markets, etc.

Last Saturday, August 8th, was the 59th anniversary of the falling of the bridge over the falls in this city, which in 1837 was in course of construction. Seven workmen lost their lives by the accident and twenty-three escaped, some of them very seriously injured. The writer has a poem on the event, 28 stanzas, written by George Bond and printed by D A Cameron, August 17th, 1837, which was given him by one of the injured survivors. I quote:—

Two fleeting hours had scarce elapsed, when,
lo,
The death-like minute gun and tolling bell
Were heard, while many a color waved low;
It was our late King William's funeral knell.

On the same day, heralds went through the streets of the city announcing the death of King William and proclaiming the accession of Victoria. The poem was printed on a broad sheet with a black border and sold for four pence, "the profits to be distributed among those who were rendered widows and orphans by the awful catastrophe."

An Italian organ grinder, seeking admission to the United States, was turned back at Vanceboro last Thursday. If they had begun turning back the illiterate and criminal classes twenty years ago the country would be in a very different condition to-day from what it is.

The pursuit of a ruffian of a young lady through Mill street the other evening and some incidents that have recently occurred on Douglas avenue and in other parts of the city, should serve as a warning to women to carry the means of self protection when they go shopping in the evening.

Kirk's crossing, a veritable death trap, since the lamentable death of Emma Kennedy, will probably have some attention from the railway or city authorities. Unguarded as it is, it is a menace to the life of every passer. The inquiry into the death of Miss Kennedy is not concluded.

George Gould has bought a fishing privilege on the Kedgewick, Restigouche Co. His salmon will probably cost him about \$200 apiece, but he can afford it about as well as the most of us can afford to pay a cent for a smoked herring.

The marriage is reported of S K Foster of Montreal, grandson of the late Col S K Foster of this city, to Miss Eleanor Luxton of Winnipeg. Mr Foster is a well known knight of the road.

Last Saturday a house built on Navy Island was launched and safely towed across the harbor to Carleton. It was slid over the ways without a hitch, landing on a scow that was ready to receive it.

Ten deaths were reported in the city last week: four from consumption, two from cholera infantum and one from typhoid fever.

Mrs Anna F Dolby of this city, died on Saturday, aged 90 years. Her first husband was the Hon George Henry Hazen.

Connors Brothers, whose extensive fish and fruit canning plant at Black's Harbor, Charlotte Co, was destroyed by fire July 31st have rebuilt and this week they will be in the market with a full assortment of their goods. They have met disaster bravely, and the trade, appreciating their energy and courage, are loading them with orders, their products being of the highest class.

Mr de B Carritte, representing the Welcome Soap Co, has recently returned from a business visit to Newfoundland, where their goods, as in Bermuda, Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces are in constantly increasing demand.

George S DeForest & Sons report an advance of 15 cents in flour and 1 cent in sugar. Choice butter is dull at 14 cents; eggs are in demand at 9 cents; good yellow cheese sells for 9 cents. Codfish is scarce and higher. For the fall trade Messrs DeForest are importing 1000 half chests of Saryune tea, diamond D, a favorite brand, direct from China, and a larger quantity of Union Blend from London.

EDWARD EDWARDS.

St John, Aug 10.

Our Stock is being added to daily, our shelves and counters are simply loaded, ask to be shown up stairs where you will see the Largest Stock of Clothing, Carpets, Papers, etc, in the county.
Hugh Hay & Son.

Southampton Items.

Aug 10, 1896.

Your correspondent made a visit to Granite Glen Poultry Yards one day last week. He found the genial proprietor, Mr. John Oldham, dispensing the noon ration to his feathered tribe. Well might a tinge of admiration sweep over our worthy friend's countenance as he welcomes a visitor. For standing as we found him, surrounded by three hundred and twelve (312) birds of thirty-four (34) different varieties is an occasion for the most modest farmer to recognize a feeling of self esteem. I don't think it would be flattering Mr Oldham to say he stands ahead of the poultry business in the Province. His poultry house, 24x100ft., gives him ample accommodation and his recently constructed yards makes him master of the situation.

The incubator and breeder added to his hatchery last spring, has proved most satisfactory. One looking at Mr. Oldham's stock and premises would think he had reached his goal in poultry raising, but John will never be satisfied if there are any birds in America better than his. He has just closed negotiations for an importation of prize taking stock of several different varieties; some of these birds will cost him as high as fifty dollars at his hennery. Mr Oldham intends to make a tour of the exhibitions this fall and show the country his breeding stock. Stand

Great Reduction

TAN SHOES & BOOTS,

In Men's, Women's, Misses and Children's Also Bargains in Men's, Ladies' and Youths' BLACK OXFORDS. Men's LACROSSE. Ladies' TENNIS SHOES.

We do all kinds of REPAIRING Neatly and Promptly. Reasonable Prices.

We will sell the whole of our stock very cheap for Cash.

We ask an inspection.

RED STORE, - - CONNELL STREET.
BOYER BROS.

July 23, 1896.

abashed poultry men, for you will find them all prize winners.

"How do you like the stoves?" is the greeting the farmers have for one another since the advent of the Home Comfort Range Company in our neighborhood, and truly it is a magnificent and wonderfully contrived range and their beauty is not confined to appearances. We would not pass without giving an expression of confidence in the creditable conduct of the men selling these ranges. The prepossessing agent, Mr. Moxon, who canvassed this vicinity has by his honorable dealing won the respect and esteem of the entire community. You can't refuse to purchase from him, for his gentlemanly mien and his sincere faith in the excellence of the range inspires a prospective customer with a desire to possess one of these stoves. More than that he is a hustler; early and late we have noticed him prosecuting the interests of his employer; long before the hour when farmers generally break their fast we have heard the clang of steel, denoting Mr Moxon's indulgence in a game of base ball with the frying pans and griddle, to the utter amazement of his auditors.

G W Brown is preparing to build a dam at the falls on Greer creek.

Miss Eta Cluff, of Northampton, has been visiting in this place, the guest of Miss Beatrice A Tompkins.

The cheese factory, under the skillful guidance of Mr Chas Rogers, is turning out cheese of unquestionable character.

Mr O L Coombs and Rev G F Carrie exchanged pulpits last Sabbath.

Rev C T Phillips passed through here last Monday, en route to Keswick, to attend a convention of the Young People's Christian Endeavor society.

Our school teacher, Mr N P Grant, left last week for Bangor, intending to return on his bicycle.

Ladies do not forget the fact that you will be presented with a handsome piece of Furniture, when your cash purchases amounts to \$25.00, at B. B. Manzer's.

A DESPERATE BATTLE.

CAPE TOWN, August 7.—Details have just been received here of the decisive victory on Wednesday by the 700 British troops composing Colonel Plumer's column, over a native force estimated to have numbered from 5000 to 7000 men. The latter fought most desperately and bravely, charging up within a few yards of the British rapid-fire guns. About five hundred of the Matabele warriors were slain during the engagement, which lasted several hours, and the loss of the British included Major Kershaw, Lieutenant Hervey, four sergeants, and about thirty men killed and six officers, several non-commissioned officers, and about fifty men wounded, according to the unofficial figures.

The Matabeles and their allies were commanded by the big chiefs Sokombe and Umlugulus, and were divided into five impi or regiments, each of over 1000 men, well supplied with arms and ammunition.

At 6 o'clock on Wednesday morning a force of about 700 men, whites and natives, cavalry, infantry and artillery, all under British officers, marched to the Umlugulu valley. The white infantry, commanded by Captain Beresford, with two screw-guns and a Maxim rapid-fire gun, was detached to make a detour behind some hills, and then take up a position from which the valley could be shelled. It had previously been reported by the scouts that the enemy, in strong force, was encamped in the valley, preparing for a forward movement of importance upon the British position.

The main body of the British troops was halted, while Captain Beresford's detachment, with the guns referred to, was making its way to the position designated for the artillery to occupy, and while this movement was being executed, the guns being moved over a small, isolated kopje, the Matabeles made a sudden and determined rush at Captain Beresford's command. There was no strategy or concealment. The natives rushed forward like a living tidal wave and, in spite of the hot fire which was promptly poured into their ranks, displayed the most remarkable gallantry, succeeded in getting within forty yards of the screw guns and reached a spot only fifteen yards from the Maxim rapid-fire gun before any of these pieces could be brought into action. In fact, another minute's delay in opening fire with the guns might have proved fatal to the Beresford detachment, as the white infantry was apparently unable to check the reckless, wild charge of the tribesmen, who seemed to court death in their fierce attack on the column.

But when the screw-guns began crashing case-shot into the enemy, tearing wide, bloody gaps in the ranks, and the deadly Maxim rattled its hail of lead into the heaving serried masses of the rapidly moving impi, the natives wavered in their charge, and a moment later their rush was stopped and they began to give way, leaving heaps of dead and wounded on the field.

But, rallied by the chiefs who bravely rushed to the front, encouraging their followers by a display of magnificent dash, the native warriors returned to the charge in the face of the fierce and awful fire of the British guns, and Captain Beresford's force was for a few moments completely surrounded by surging waves of warriors who seemed to know no fear.

The position of the Beresford forces was then most critical, and their commander hurriedly ordered his signalmen to ask Colonel Plumer to lose no time in advancing with the main body to their rescue. While the signalling was in progress a hot and determined fight raged around the guns and several British officers and men fell. In the distance could be seen two more impi rushing forward to join in the attack upon Beresford's position, and there was no time to be lost if the guns were to be saved.

Consequently, Col. Palmer ordered the main body of the British troops to advance. The mounted men were sent forward at a gallop to storm the hills on the left of Beresford's position, from which the natives were delivering a hasty, dropping fire upon the kopje occupied by the guns. The cavalry was gallantly led by Major Kershaw, who charged up to within fifteen yards of the enemy's position, when he was shot through the heart by a native, who almost immediately afterwards fell, literally riddled with carbine and revolver bullets.

The advance of the main body of Palmer's force was quickly noticed by the natives who were pressing around the Beresford detachment, and it caused them to take steps to retreat in order to escape being caught between three fires. The guns were thus able to do better execution, and a well directed fire of case shot, followed by a well placed fire of shrapnel, soon changed the native attack into a retreat, and when the full reinforcements came into action the enemy broke and fled.

The guns and war rockets played upon the natives so long as the latter were in range; but the main loss of the enemy was inflicted while they were so bravely charging almost up to the muzzles of the British pieces, and one cannot help speculating upon what would have been the result had the gallant but ill armed Matabeles been able to reply in kind to the fearful fire of the Maxim and screw guns.

The natives displayed bravery to a fault, earning the admiration of the British; but there was no resisting the leaden stream thrown into the native ranks by the Maxims, it would have demoralized well trained and properly officered picked European troops, under similar circumstances, much less hordes of nearly naked, badly armed savages; for while rifles and ammunition were not wanting among the natives, the supply was very far short of the demand, and the shooting of the warriors was of the worst possible description.

Gentlemen, do not forget that when your Cash Purchases amounts to \$25.00 you will be presented with a handsome piece of Furniture, at B. B. Manzer's.

Sir Richard Cartwright made an important speech at Ingersoll on Friday. He was very strong in his declaration that it was desirable to maintain friendly relations with the United States, and said it was most important for the farmers of the Ontario peninsula that they should get access to the United States market. He declared that tariff revision would be of such a nature that the wealthy, no matter how influential they might be, would not be able to use the tariff for their own ends, and that while injustice would be done to no man or class "we"—the government—"do intend likewise to see to it that the great body of the people shall have justice done to them." Sir Richard also intimated that the franchise act and the gerrymander would receive the attention of the administration; but he reminded his hearers that time would be necessary to put all these matters into shape.—Globe.

Housekeepers, be sure and see the beautiful range of Carpets, Opaque Shades, Curtains, House Papers and Window Poles at Hugh Hay & Son's.

BLANKS Of all kinds can be had at the Sentinel Office, cheap.