

posing a pig or any other small beast should measure two feet in girth, and two feet along the back, which multiplied together, makes four square feet; that multiplied by eleven, (the number of pounds allowed for each square foot of cattle measuring less than three feet girth,) makes 44 lbs. which divided by 14 to bring it to stones, is three stones two pounds. Again, suppose a calf, sheep, &c. should measure four feet six inches in girth, and three feet nine inches in length, which multiplied together, make 16 1/2 square feet; multiplied by 16 (the number of pounds allowed to cattle measuring less than five feet and more than three in girth) makes 264 lbs. which divided by 14 to bring it into stones, is 18 stone 12 lbs. The dimensions of the girth and length of black cattle, sheep, calves, or hogs, may be as exactly taken this way, as is at all necessary for any computation or valuation of stock, and will answer exactly to the four quarters, sinking the offal, and which every man who can get over a list of chalk, may easily perform. A deduction must be made for a half-fatted beast; of one stone for twenty from that of a fat one; and for a cow that has had calves, one stone must be allowed, and another for not being properly fat.

The Politician.

The Colonial Press.

From the Halifax Times.
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AFFAIRS.
 We have for some time back looked over the Prince Edward Island papers as they arrived, for a full and impartial history of the origin and progress of those questions, which have led to dissatisfaction amongst the people, and even opposition to the government of the Colony—and we have been rather surprised, that some of the able and talented men of the Island, had not thought it worth their while, to enlighten the surrounding Provinces more particularly upon those subjects, by giving to every one their due of the odium which the existence of agitation, and strife, and discontent, in a Colony fitted by nature to enjoy a high degree of harmony and contentment, must entail. Unhappily every thing that has appeared, has been one-sided, partial reports of debates upon details, accounts of meetings of the tenantry, and speeches of orators seeking to win themselves into public favor, denunciations of the proprietors and their agents, and exaggerated accounts of the suffering of the tenantry under their oppressive and unjust demands. These agitators there, and they appear to be as virulent and active upon a small scale, as in larger arenas, have had a clear field and plenty of favour—and have succeeded until lately in engaging a majority of the Assembly to aid their views—while the other side, either disregarding their proceedings from a consciousness of their own integrity, or unable from the subtle tactics of their opponents, to grapple them surely, have been in a measure defenceless. At last, however, an opportunity has been afforded of having both sides of the question expounded, by those who have been accused of acting against the people; and that they have made their accusers, the agitators, appear very small, must be generally acknowledged. This exposition took place in the Legislative Council, during the Session just terminated, when that Body had resolved itself into a Committee of the whole to take into consideration the Message of the House of Assembly, and the Address to Her Majesty accompanying the same, on the state of the Colony. It was commenced by the Attorney General, who said that the object of the Resolutions, (which was to disabuse the minds of the tenantry on the subject of that *ignis fatuus* "Escheat," which had been artfully and wickedly made use of for many years to serve the selfish ends of certain individuals to the ruin of hundreds, and to declare the impossibility that existed of the tenantry paying their rents in specie,) should have his unqualified support; and he hoped the Proprietors generally, would cordially respond to the united opinions of both branches of the Legislature. "He, however, felt bound to make a few remarks upon some words introduced into them. The Committee would observe, that the Resolutions stated the arrears due by the tenantry had been increased by the costs of warrants of attorney taken from them, and by the costs of judgement entered upon such warrants of attorney. This he did not believe to be true, and imagined that the framers of the Resolutions had inadvertently allowed this statement to appear, misled by the report that such was the fact, and which report had been industriously circulated, with the view of blasting the character of his hon. and learned friend, the Solicitor General, in this community, and on which report, the House of Assembly had unconstitutionally, he must say, appointed a Committee to enquire into the conduct of his hon. friend, in his capacity as a land agent." He then went on to assert that the Assembly in granting this committee, had widely erred in the estimation of their powers, and after commenting upon its illegality, and upon the charges made against the Sol. General, said, "he entertained no doubt that the Assembly would agree to strike out this part of their resolutions, which only tended to weaken a good cause, and with this alteration he hoped the Committee would agree to them, and report to the House in favor of acceding to the request of the Assembly, to join with them in the address to Her Majesty for her gracious mediation with the proprietors on behalf of their suffering tenantry."

After this speech the Solicitor General made a most complete exposure of the motives of the persons who have been agitating the Island, for their own selfish purposes, and the evil effects

to the tenantry, from listening to the delusion of men, who to serve their own base ends had brought many of them to the brink of ruin. He showed that the Legislature were disposed to aid the tenantry to the extent of their power, and to adopt measures which would enable them to pay their rents in the easiest manner to themselves, and consistent with justice to the landowners; and he most effectually exculpated himself from the charges which had been brought against him in his capacity as Land Agent, while he denied the right or the power of the Assembly to institute an inquiry into his conduct—and concluded by moving that—"that part of the Resolution which stated that the arrears of Rent were largely increased by bonds and judgements to secure the same, should be struck out."

The Hon. Mr. Hell, and the Honble. Mr. Hensley, fully concurred in the observations made by the Attorney General, and expressed their destestation of the attempts which had been made to injure the character of the Solicitor General, by unfounded calumnies; and finally, the Honble. Charles Young, who has been much indebted to the active part he has taken in, fomenting the Escheat agitation, for the popular to which has raised him to his present elevation, confessed, that though he had heard those falsehoods reiterated over and over again, and altho' he did not believe the whole of them, yet they had made impressions upon his mind against the learned Solicitor General—but that now they were fully eradicated from his bosom, and he was convinced he is guiltless of the charges of cruelty, oppression, and tyranny that have been alleged against him. It were well if this open confession, which was no more than due, could recall the impressions which Mr. Young's speeches may have made upon the deluded people of P. E. Island, as easily as he could make it. At all events it may serve to open their eyes. The Resolution was then put, and passed unanimously.

The above is merely an abridgement of the discussion as it appears in the P. E. I. Herald received by last mail—the subject is of sufficient importance to induce us to publish it at length in our next paper. It will show that agitation can produce distrust, and discontent, and mischief, in a small as in a large Colony; and may act with the effect of a moral upon those which enjoy the blessings of unanimity.

The British Press.

From the Liverpool Chronicle.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE ASHBURTON TREATY.

Lord Palmerston's speech the other evening when Lord Ashburton's Treaty with the United States was debated, is said to have been one of the finest pieces of oratory ever heard in the House of Commons. We do not make this remark as a mere common place, newspaper flattery. But we speak of it, as we have heard it spoken of by a member of Parliament, who describes the effect of it upon all present, as positively electrifying, as well for its brilliancy and argument, as for the amazing fund of research and information which it contained. There was, in truth, but one opinion about the speech among men of all parties, whether approving or disapproving of the Treaty itself. His withering sarcasm upon Lord Ashburton for commencing his negotiation, Irish fashion, by setting forth his ultimatum, was most striking and telling, especially as he went on to shew that the unhappy statesman's ultimatum, instead of being the *Omega* of the conditions which he had to offer, turned out, as the matter proceeded, to be the *Alpha* of his catalogue.

And what can equal the following?
 "All these concessions we might naturally have expected to find proposed by Lord Ashburton to Mr. Webster, when he came to the difficulties about the St. Francis; but by the time the difficulties occurred, all those places were gone from us. (Hear, hear.) Lord Ashburton, indeed, went out to America with a whole bag full of equivalents to manage with; but he was so uneasy under the burden, that nearly the first thing he did after his arrival was to throw the bag and its contents down at feet of Mr. Webster, to shake his bag clean out, and to take good care to leave nothing at the bottom. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Webster very naturally took up the squandered equivalents, one after another, and put them very securely in his pocket. (Hear, hear.) He said to Lord Ashburton, "Oh, you give us the half of the St. John; this is a valuable present indeed; this what we have long wished; well this is kind; I can't say how obliged we are;" and therewith he put this present into his pocket, with the determination to take thorough good care not to let it out of his possession again. (Hear, hear.) Then he went on: "Ah, and you give up these questions about the Hall stream and the Ferry stream; this is not so good a thing as the other, but I'll put it into my pocket. Then you offer us Rouse's Point, and the whole of the long line on the frontier. This, indeed, is very valuable; we quite appreciate the value of this, and we are much obliged to you indeed. Then, again, as to the sugar island; it was very kind of you to give us that. We have no sugar islands of our own, you have a great many, and we are much obliged to you for this. As to the mineral district, I thank you for that too; to be sure, it is not of so much value to us at the present moment, but we shall get some of your rich countrymen to lend us money to work these mines, and then we shall make a good thing of them." In this way, all these things were given away; so that, when the difficulties arose, Lord Ashburton had nothing left to offer to the American minister as equivalents. He thus placed himself in a position where he had no choice but either to say this, which I think he ought to have said. "You

shan't have it, and you can't have it; it is impossible for me to agree to your terms;" or else to say that which he did say, and that which I think he ought not to have said, "Oh, yes; send it me quickly, and I'll sign it." In this way were terms agreed to which, if the negotiations had been conducted with more skill, or entrusted to other persons whom I have mentioned, would have assumed a very different shape."

Can Lord Ashburton ever hold up his head again after this lashing? The description of "his bag of equivalents gradually pocketed by Mr. Webster" is rich, graphic, and effective in the extreme. In truth, as we read of the doings of the squeezable citizen-lord, we were strongly reminded of the story of the London doctor who consigned a patient to a Bath medical brother with the laconic and emphatic note—"I send you a fat goose—pluck him well." This patient was the very counterpart of Lord Ashburton, and Mr. Webster in the affair seems—and who can blame him for doing well for his country?—to have acted the clever Bath doctor to the very letter, that is, to have plucked his goose actually to the last feather alias equivalent, and to have sent him home in *poris naturalibus*, without a rag to hide his nakedness.

We are glad to find Lord Palmerston taking a more active part in the war of politics than he used to do, and trust that he will continue again to make himself heard and felt by the enemies of the people.

From the Illustrated London News.

THE OPIUM TRADE.

About simultaneously with the arrival of the Overland Mail, bringing the gratifying intelligence that our affairs in China were on the prosperous road to peace, and that the tocan of alarm, sounded by the last mail, had been silenced down into tranquillity, a discussion was being held in the British Parliament vitally interesting to the destinies of the Celestial Empire, and not less important to the general influence of humanity and the fervent exercise of Christian principles at home. The question involved was not simply commercial; it compassed considerations of morality, of philosophy, of religion—of fair dealing towards another people—of proper philanthropy among our own. It was the great question of the continuance or abolition of the immoral opium trade.

On Tuesday evening Lord Ashley—the nobleman who brought the subject before the house, and whose honorable zeal in matters affecting the Christian interests and character of his country we have so often had to record in the highest terms of eulogy—concluded an eloquent and brilliant speech with the following emphatic proposition:—"That it is the opinion of this house, that the continuance of the trade in opium, and the monopoly of its growth in territories of British India, is destructive of all relations of amity between England and China, injurious to the manufacturing interests of the country, by the very serious diminution of legitimate commerce, and utterly inconsistent with the honor and duties of a Christian kingdom; and that steps be taken, as quick as possible, with due regard to the rights of governments and individuals, to abolish the evil." Now we do not hesitate to declare that the general terms taken up in the position of this forcible resolution are almost out of the pale of denial. They have about them a constructive truth and justice which it is nearly impossible not to admit. The trade in opium is, seriously, not a whit more justifiable than the trade in blasphemous or obscene publications, which in the English mind and heart at once call up feelings of loathing and disgust. It distills a sleepy poison into the human frame, which enervates, intoxicates, excites, excites—prostrating the mental powers—engendering a horrible and unnatural listlessness, and creating delusion and demoralization of such vast, broad, and sweeping character, of so wasting and ravaging a kind, as to induce, from those who witness it and are subject to its fearful influences, the most repugnant sensations of sorrow, commiseration and dread. The opium trade is, moreover, a direct infraction of the laws of the country of which it is a curse. With that country we have opened new relations at the expense of blood and treasure—we have crowned our position with diplomatic conquests and the prowess of war—and we now seek peace and commerce upon broad, open, and generous, and Christian principles, befitting the dignity of Great Britain, and the cause of civilization at large. That peace can never be prosperous, that commerce can never be flourishing so long as the trade in opium endures.

The Chinese, as a nation, have a just horror of it, their authorities forbid it as a crime, and not less than criminal is its influence upon the native people. It unhinges the whole frame work of society—it brutalizes, deadens, corrupts—it plucks the beautiful consciousness of moral responsibility out of the soul—it unmans, uncivilizes, unsocializes—it is in all respect wicked, dangerous, and evil; and what right, then, has a country calling itself Christian to set up such a pestilence in any foreign community by the insolent dictatorship of power, encouraging avarice and embracing gain? Would any argument justify—would any reason palliate—the unrestricted use and strength of ardent spirits among the lower, or indeed any, classes of people in this country? Yet such an evil, dreadful and gigantic as it would become, would be only as a feather in the balance against the free distribution of opium to such a people as the Chinese. That, indeed, is one of the plagues of the East; and with such disgust is it regarded by the moral and thinking among the subjects of the Celestial empire that a distrust of its promulgators has arisen, so strong as to thwart even the activity and exercise of religion, and to palsify the arm of Christianity where it would vain be busiest in reaping fruit. Lord

Ashley had occasion to inform the house that, so strongly had the mischief operated with prejudice to the English, the Baptists had last week resolved upon delegating an American as their missionary to Hong Kong, on the ground that the criminal conduct of England in regard to the opium trade "had made the minds of Chinese inaccessible to the religious efforts of English teachers." The Baptists were wrong in the passing—though not on the grounds of the resolution; it was un-English, anti-national, and, in the present new relations of the two countries, most unnecessary and unjust; but the fact, nevertheless, proves the powerful animus against us to which opium trading and opium smuggling has given birth.

We honour Lord Ashley for the boldness, energy, and manly feeling with which he came forward to grapple with the question—to grapple with its bearing upon our interests and our honour—with our love of commerce and our love of justice—and we devoutly hope that the latter and nobler principle will most readily actuate the impulses of the English heart.

The discussion must be productive of good, for it elicited on all hands a condemnation of the trade, or, at all events, failed to elicit a single opinion of approval. The only question which arose was the question of monopoly; whether it was better to leave things as they were, or to throw open the commerce with a view of restricting it? All agreed that the trade was bad, and only differed as to the best method of limiting its influences. But "what is morally wrong," said Mr. Brotherton, "can never be politically right," and, therefore, the total abolition of the traffic is what society should demand.

The debate ended in the withdrawal of Lord Ashley's resolution, at the suggestion of Sir R. Peel, who stated that the whole subject was in course of negotiation by her Majesty's Government, and that under existing circumstances it would be well, perhaps, to leave the question for the moment at the disposal of the executive.

Let us, then, urge that executive to perform the great duty of Christianity, and no longer support the wickedness that has been engendered among a people who congregate in millions, and therefore are the more terrible corrupted with its fearful epidemic of crime. Lord Ashley deserves the best praise of all good men for having opened the eyes of English society to the great iniquity of this abandoned trade, and the termination of his lordship's masterly oration will form the most appropriate conclusion to an article which its subject has called forth. "Although I may be misadverted upon, and perhaps rebuked, for having presumed to handle so important a matter, I shall ever be thankful that I have acted as an instrument to lay this abominable evil before the eye of the public. I shall deeply regret to have given offence to this house, or to any individual; nevertheless I shall rejoice in the disclosure, and the possible removal of the mischief. Sir, the condition of this empire does demand a most deep and solemn consideration; within or without we are hollow and insecure."

"True it is that we wear a certain appearance of power and majesty; but with one arm resting on the East, and the other on the West, we are in too many instances trampling under foot every moral and religious obligation. I confess I speak most sincerely, though few, perhaps, will agree with me; but I do so—it is in my heart, and I will bring it out—if this is to be the course of our future policy—if thus we are to exercise our arts and arms, our science and our superiority of knowledge over the world—if all these are to be turned to the injury and not the advantage of mankind, I should much prefer that we shrink within the proportions of our public virtue, and descend to the level of a third-rate power. [Hear, hear.] But a great and a noble opportunity is now offered to us of being just and generous in the height of victory. In such a spirit, and with such an aim, there is hope that we may yet be spared to run a blessed, a useful, and a glorious career; all directing all our energies and all our vows—all that we shall receive—to that one great end of human existence, "Glory to God in the highest; on earth, peace, good will towards men."

United States News.

From the Boston Notion, May 6.

Bowdoin Estate Seized by two Hundred Men!
Great Times for Boston!

It is well known that the Bowdoin estate, at the corner of Bowdoin and Beacon streets, has been for some time a disputed territory, claimed on one part by Bowdoin college, [Me.] as a testamentary bequest, and on the other by certain heirs who deny the claim of the college. The college, to protect their rights, fortified the disputed territory by the erection of a formidable fence around it, and a carpenter's shop in the centre as a fort. The Boston claimants have been for months eyeing this citadel and the broad lands around it with rather more than the half envious feelings of the Peri at the gate of Paradise.

This morning early, Mr. Amos Cotting of this city, agent for the ostracized heirs arose right early, and summoned to his aid a band of gallant troops 150 in number, all sturdy array chancians of Boston. Where this goodly array was marshalled, we know not, but it must have been an inspiring sight to see Mr. Cotting move down the line in review and receive their courteous salutations as he marched past with due military decorum. There was no sunshine to gleam upon their arms and dally with their blazonry, but in the grew sober light of the misty morning, side by side, shoulder to shoulder,

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