

Northern Railway of Canada

Table with 2 columns: Train Name, Time. Includes Richmond Hill Time Table with Morning North and Morning South services.

New Advertisements. Strawberry Plants for Sale. Wm. H. and Co. Paints, Oils, & Varnishes. J. Henderson. House to let. Spring Circular. W. H. Myers. House to let. P. Crosby. School Notice. G. H. Porter. Richmond Hill County Grammar School. M. Teffy.

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The York Herald

RICHMOND HILL APRIL 13, 1866

The School Book Question.

The recent letters which have passed between James Campbell and Sons, of Toronto, and the Rev'd Superintendent of Education, have raised several important questions which demand public attention.

1st. Are the text books now used in our common schools, to the exclusion of all others, in some instances, so seriously defective as to demand that others be substituted in their stead?

We are compelled to acknowledge that they are; the defects of the national series of Readers have long been a subject of complaint. The Spelling-book Superceded and 3rd Reader, are without accentuation or definitions—an omission which greatly increases the labor of the Teacher, and hinders the progress of the pupil.

2nd. Should there be a uniform authorized series of text books in use throughout the Province, and no others tolerated?

By all means, so that the series is not too limited and may keep up with the march of progress. Such a principle is essential to a proper qualification of pupils, and is necessary to prevent frequent changes and unnecessary expense, and to guard against the introduction of works dangerous or worthless.

3rd. Who should have the power of deciding which of the authorized books should be used, and when it is desirable to make a change?

In our opinion the Board of Trustees aided by the advice of the Teacher and Local Superintendent. No one so well as the practical teacher, can judge of the relative merits of the various books allowed, or knows better what is suitable to the wants and capabilities of his pupils.

4th. Is the existence of the Government book establishment just and necessary at the present time.

There is no good reason to think so. It may have been necessary years ago, when it was established, because then, the Canadian book and publishing trade was in its infancy and difficulty might have been experienced in obtaining the necessary books and apparatus to put the schools in a state of efficiency.

the wholesale houses, and it is an unjust reflection on the book selling establishments, to pretend that the necessity exists any longer. But by the bonus given by the Government Superintendent the whole of the local trade in prize books, libraries, maps, etc., is diverted from its legitimate channels, the profit going to support a set of unnecessary employees.

For it is a notorious fact, that more is charged by the educational department than would be paid even at the retail stores in the country. Why should the Government grant which in itself is sound policy, be made dependant on a commercial transaction, which yields the cause of education no benefit, but rather deprives said grant of much of its value?

APPROACH OF THE CHOLERA.

The late news from Halifax, to the effect that this dreadful scourge has already reached this country, should incite every city, town, village, and family to increased carefulness in all matters of health, cleanliness and diet.

On no previous occasion when the cholera visited our shores, has there been so much attention given to protective measures. The city boards of health seem to be well aware of their duties and responsibilities, and are putting forth great efforts to have sanitary regulations adopted.

In the treatment of cholera also, medical science has made great progress. It is no longer beyond the control of human skill, but if taken in time more curable than many diseases now existing among us, and on which we look with indifference.

Dr. Rosebury's Treatise on the Eye.

We have received from Dr. Rosebury, of Toronto, a Treatise on the treatment of the optical defects of the eye, by the scientific use of spectacles. The work exhibits much research and profound scientific knowledge, and the author progresses so naturally from first principles to important deductions, that it appears exceedingly well calculated to convey in a popular and yet thorough manner, that sort of knowledge which the public stand in much need of, and yet from the dry and heavy manner in which it is generally presented very seldom obtains.

Mr. Goschler has been returned for the City of London without opposition.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.

On Saturday last, the 7th inst., the corpse of a newly born infant was found buried amongst some pine bushes in the rear of the Church yard of St. John's Church, Oak Ridges, by some parties chopping the underbrush.

The Yonge Street Agricultural Society.

The communication bearing on the above subject, we commend to the directors of the society. We believe there is no sufficient reason to let the society go down; times are improving and the farmers are in better spirits, than they have been for years past.

Building Material.

Mr. William Macey, of this Village, has secured a patent for his new composition for Building purposes. He claims for his invention, that it is as hard and as durable as rock, and will cost fifty per cent less than brick.

Sale Notices.

Tuesday April 17.—Sale of Store Goods &c. on lot No. 7, 9th King, belonging to the estate of the late Mr. Duane Wilkie. Sale each day at ten, a.m. H. Smoliar Auctioneer.

Correspondence.

Our Spring Fair.

To the Editor of the York Herald. Sir:—I think a few lines would not be out of place, to remind the President and Secretary of the Yonge street Agricultural Society, that if we are to have our usual Spring Fair it is time some action was taken in the matter.

Cholera on the Ocean.

The steamship "England" has put into Halifax for medical aid, with 1,200 passengers on board—among whom, it is reported, that there were 160 cases of cholera during the passage, and 40 or 50 deaths. The "England" had been sent to the Lower Quarantine. It is not a matter for wonder that a ship so crowded should have sickness on board, and it is to be feared that the character of the disease is in this case real cholera.

POPULATION OF CITIES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The Registrar-General makes the following estimate of the population of 13 great towns in the middle of the year 1865: London, 3,967,536; Liverpool, 484,337; Manchester, 338,953; Salford, 112,904; Birmingham, 335,798; Leeds, 228,187; Sheffield, 218,257; Bristol, 163,790; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 122,277; Hull, 105,233. The estimate for Edinburgh is 277,128; for Glasgow, 432,265; for Dublin, the city and some suburbs, 315,437.

Fenian News.

ARREST OF MIKE MURPHY AND HIS ASSOCIATES.

CORNWALL APRIL 10, 1866.

The examination of Mike Murphy and his confederates will take place tomorrow morning. The arrest happened thus:—The Mayor of Cornwall received a telegram, last evening, from the Attorney-General East, to meet him at the Station here, and was informed by him that Murphy and the others were on the 8 p.m. train from Toronto.

ARREST OF A FENIAN.

Thomas Sheedy, a man employed in a shoe store on Yonge street, was arrested yesterday morning by a Government detective, on suspicion of being connected with the Fenian men who are now in Cornwall jail. Sheedy is one of the secretaries of the so-called Fenian Society, and has also the reputation of being entrusted with the funds of the organization.

Cornwall Assizes.

The Spring Assizes for the United Counties of York and Peel opened yesterday, His Lordship Chief Justice Draper, C. B., presiding.

County Assizes.

The following Grand Jury panel was struck:—Thos. Grahame, foreman; John Barwick James Ouesar, John Ferguson, Mr. J. Linhart, Thos. Lawson, N. J. Moulton, W. Melbourne, Benj. Pearson, Thos. Russell, John Richards, H. Q. St. George, D. Van Norman, T. A. Miller, P. J. McDonnell, A. C. Mathews, E. Masson, W. Nasson and J. R. Stevenson.

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Some strangers have been round town asking questions covertly, to convey messages to Fenian sympathizers lately arrived. I was asked this evening by one if I was not Donohoe, that he had a message for him, but would not tell me what it was.

Arrival of the 'Belgian.'

Portland, Me., April 10.—The steamer Belgian, from Liverpool on the 20th ult. arrived today.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The London Times, of the 30th ult., says there is too much reason to fear that the peace of Europe is about to be broken by one of the least just and least necessary wars of modern times. The Times, heartily trusts that England may hold aloof. Half a dozen war vessels were preparing for sea, at Plymouth, and it was reported were to go to the St. Lawrence.

THE VOLUNTEER FORCE.

The Provincial military authorities are desirous to have it distinctly understood that the Volunteer Force is not about to be disbanded—but simply placed on reduced duty. The Volunteers are still to be drilled, and to parade for a fixed day twice a week.

THE ENGLISH MARKETS.

Liverpool, March 29.—The commercial news is no later than that sent by the England but is more in detail. Flour very dull. Wheat tends downward. Corn firmer and 5d higher, but was easier at the close, mixed at 28s to 29s 3d. Beef quiet and firmer. Pork easier. Bacon inactive. Lard tends downward; sales at 72s. Butter quiet and steady. Tallow quiet and 6d lower.

ROUMANIA.

The third sitting of the Conference on the Danubian principalities was held on the 25th. The latest via Londonderry. Liverpool, March 40.—The steamship Erin, from New York, arrived here today.

FROM JAMAICA.

The steamship Tasmania has arrived from Jamaica. The Royal Commissioners were bringing the investigation to a close, and expected soon to leave for England. The most important evidence obtained during the last fortnight had been respecting the extent of the so-called rebellion, and how far Governor Eyre based his opinion in the assertion that the conspiracy was general.

COTTON SPINNING.

More than one thousand spindles before the Chinese are we certainly read in the Bible of linen being manufactured in Egypt, but we believe that before that date the manufacture of cotton was known in India, for in one of the hymns of the Rigveda, reference is made to "cotton in the looms" in India. Muslin, we know, take their name from Mosul, in Mesopotamia. Those manufactured by the natives of Dacca are of the finest texture that a single pound of cotton was spun into a length 250 miles. It remained for Messrs. Houlstworth, of Manchester, to spin a yarn from a pound of cotton nearly 400 miles in length. Herodotus, writing in the fifth century B. C., speaking of the usages of India, says, "The trees bear flowers for their fruit, surpassing those of the sheep in beauty and excellence, and the natives dress themselves therefrom."

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AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.—A crisis is approaching in the relations between the two great German powers, from which there are but two issues—war between the confederates of the Elbe duchies, or another surrender on the part of Austria. The Prussian Government has used the power given it by the Gastein Convention by making Schleswig practically its own. It now annex Holstein and Schleswig. But this project meets with strenuous resistance from Austria. The Austrian Government has no particular views of its own with respect to the duchies. It would like to dispose of them in some way by which it could at the same time turn an honest penny, increase its popularity in Germany and balk Prussia. But it does not see how to attain this grand result, and all it can do is to offer as much opposition as possible to the Prussian projects, partly in the hope of defeating them, partly in the hope of compelling Prussia to pay a higher price for its ultimate cessary. The Prussia Government evidently means to risk war with Austria to reason. Count Von Bismark has cleared his decks for action. It has assured himself, or at least he fancies he has assured himself, of the neutrality of France and of Russia. He has money enough in the treasury. He has a good provision of all necessary stores, and, thank to the reorganization, he has a large army immediately available to whom he could offer no more welcome opponents than the Austrians. He is in a better position to deal with Austria than he was last summer when he expelled Lauenburg from her by an ultimatum. The question still with Austria do. Will she do as did last summer, or will she fight? There can be no doubt what the Emperor and his Court would like to do. The Gastein Convention was a bitter humiliation to them, and the effort he began soon after to regain Hungary was dictated in no small part by the desire to restore the strength of the empire, so as to enable it to resist the attack of Prussia. But good as the will of the Emperor to fight may be great as are the resources of Austria, can any one believe that the Emperor is at this moment in a position to risk war with Prussia, and above all to risk it for so small a matter? The battle would have to be fought now against much heavier odds than if it would have been last summer. We do not apprehend any disturbance of the peace of Europe, because we cannot believe that Austria will risk war, and next phrase of the Schleswig Holstein question will, therefore, we are convinced, be the practical commencement of Prussian rule over our duchies.

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