

NANAIMO



FREE PRESS

Gabriola Edition January - February, 1883

January 10

FARM FOR SALE

A cultivated farm on De Courcy Island, south of the "Rapids" is offered for sale on reasonable terms, together with the stock and farming implements. Possession can be given at any time. Title perfect. Particulars can be obtained by applying to [W.M. Flewett](#) on the premises.

P.S.- Also a steam launch, 28 feet long, 6 feet, 6 inches beam, and draws 2 feet, 6 inches of water.

January 10

NOTICE

I hereby give notice that, as my daughter, Helen, has left her home without my consent and contrary to my express wishes. I hereby caution parties not to trust her on my account, as I will not be responsible for her debts.

[W.M. Flewett](#) Nanaimo, Dec. 29th 1882

January 13

DOWN! DOWN!

The telegraph lines during the past two or three days has been out of order. On Wednesday Mr. F. Brown, the operator, went down to Valdez Island in the ferry steamer NELLIE TAYLOR. On Thursday he

February 3

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Following are the reports of the public schools in this city and vicinity taken from the report of C.C. McKenzie, Esq., Superintendent of Education for the year 1882:.....

Gabriola Island.-

Salary, \$50 per month.
 Inspection, 20th September, 1881, and 15th May, 1882.
 Teacher, Alex. Shaw.
 Enrolled: boys, 14; girls 15; total 29.

Average number attending monthly, 20.
 Average daily attendance, 16.62.
 Percentage of regular attendance, 82.

Expenditure, \$584.58.
 Cost of each pupil on total and average attendance respectively, \$20.16 and \$35.17.

This school, having been closed for two years, has its 29 pupils reckoned as new ones.

Present at inspection, 18 and 18.

At the first visit an oral examination of the school was held, the school having been closed for the previous two years. At the second visit, one, John Shaw, 18 years of age, examined in the A papers, obtained 60 per cent, and passed the standard for high school. Three, of the average age of 15

February 21

MARRIED

In this city, on the 17th instant, by the Rev. B. Chappell, Mr. Thomas R. Jones of Wellington to [Mary Helen Flewett](#) of Nanaimo..

February 21

MARRIAGE OF MINORS

EDITOR FREE PRESS.- An incident occurred on Saturday last of so great concern to the community at large that I would respectfully crave a short space in your columns to draw the attention of your readers to the matter in question.

I was asked to solemnize the marriage of a couple, one of whom (the bride) I found to be not of legal age as required by the Marriage Act, viz: 21 years of age. Moreover, the father's consent had not been obtained, nor any notification sent him of her intended marriage.

The Act most distinctly states that any minister, clergyman, or registrar, knowingly marrying either party under 21 without the knowledge or consent of parent or guardian, if such exist, subjects him to a liability of being prosecuted for felony. And, it also as clearly implies that it is the solemn duty of each minister to satisfy himself on the point before proceeding to celebrate the marriage.

went down in the pilot sloop but, owing to the high wind, could not go through the False Narrows and returned on Thursday night.

The wire which crossed from Gabriola Island to Valdez Island was broken and on Wednesday, after a great deal of labor and trouble, was restretched. However it only lasted a few hours when it broke again. Mr. Brown attempted to reach it on Thursday, but failed, and yesterday Mr. Conway went across to repair it. It is expected to be in working order today.

January 20

MAGISTRATES COURT

Before His Worship Mayor Bate and W. Raybould, Esq., J.P.

Three lads, [G. McGuffie](#), E. Foster, and [J. Chapple](#), of Gabriola Island, were charged with breaking into the house of Mr. [W. Hoggan](#) on Gabriola Island and taking a small quantity of apples.

The magistrates explained to the boys the grave nature of the offence they had committed and, after warning them not to appear again on a similar charge, dismissed the cases.

February 21

WRECKAGE

A fisherman known by the sobriquet of "Portuguese Joe" reports that a number of boxes, bales of hay, and bags of flour had come ashore on the gulf side of Valdez Island. It was at first thought that a schooner or sloop had been wrecked, but there is now little doubt that it was part of the cargo of the steamer BEAVER stranded in Burrard Inlet Narrows. It is a well-known fact that the Fraser River current sets strongly

years, obtained nearly 36 per cent in the B, and five, of the average age of 13 years, 25 per cent in the C.

There were also examined orally, four in Second and five in First Reader.

The school has done well and is deservedly popular among the parents of the children attending it.

....

February 3

ROADS AND BRIDGES

The following statements of work done by the provincial government in the Electoral District of Nanaimo we extract from the annual report of Commissioner of Lands and Works:...

Repairs have also been made to roads and trails in various parts of the district, and on Gabriola Island.

February 14

NOTICE

I will not be responsible for any debts contracted by my wife (better known as Mrs. Jeffrey) in my name.

[Robert Gray](#)

Entrance Island Lighthouse
Feb. 10th, 1883

February 21

NOTICE

To whom it may concern: my wife has not contracted any debts in my name.

[Robert Gray](#)

Entrance Island Lighthouse
Feb. 16th, '83

I asked for time to refer the question to the father and found I could receive his reply before eight in the evening, to which hour the affair, by general consent, was postponed.

In the meantime, unknown to me, application was made by the parties to the acting minister of the Methodist Church (Mr. Chappel) who, I find, was not informed of the previous application to me, and the marriage took place at the Temperance Hotel while I was waiting for the reply, which reached me through a friend, who had given himself great trouble to oblige me, at 7:30 p.m.

I regret exceedingly to find, on inquiry, that it is a common occurrence for persons to be married in violation of the plain and direct prohibition of the Act, which was intended to give parents full protection against the clandestine actions of their children. Who thus, by the connivance of those in whom the public trust and who ought to stand, as it were, *in loco parentis*, set all authority at defiance.

It is high time such proceedings came to an end. The marriage licence was never intended to sustain such irregularities and whoever lends himself to defeat the efforts of those who would seek to maintain what conduces so materially to the safety and welfare of the commonwealth deserves the reprobation of every good citizen amongst us.

I have reason to believe that the resident clergy of this town, representing different congregations, will set their faces against any further attempt to override the law. And, I can only say for myself, in my capacity as Rector of St. Paul's, that whether I suffer pecuniary loss

in that direction.

or not, all marriages celebrated by me must be above board, as it were, and the parties applying must be legally entitled to claim my good office before I consent to make them, in the sight of God and man, indissolubly one, and to give them that marriage benediction which was never intended to be bestowed on the children of disobedience.

I am, Yours etc.,
J.B. Good, Rector of St. Paul's

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