

The s. s. "Katahdin" is expected to arrive at Christiansted at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning with 165 tons of cargo.

Correspondence.

Editor St. Croix Avis.

Dear Sir:-

I am not a theologian. It may be fortunate for all, except myself, that I am not. I have due regard for the clergy. On this drink question, it is no part of their official duty to make their congregation good by legislation. We believe that the people of St. Croix can govern themselves, and think for themselves, without the assistance of any supernatural power. (*i. e. the clergy.*) We believe that the Colonial Council is the rightful source of authority. This legislative body have determined what is politically right, and their legally expressed will is the supreme law. This leaves no room for special privileges to people who are members of religious societies, or supernatural beings. This matter is outside of, and beyond the horizon of their authority. There is nothing in the Constitution of the United States to justify this religious impertinence.

What the clergy ought to do, is to get back of all their old-rum-soaked drunkards and reform them. The clergy cannot make their people good by legislation. The law can punish them for being bad. When the people learn that the clergy men are the "blessed ones" that prevented them having their "booze", they the people will retaliate by not attending the Churches; and next we will have legislation to enforce the people to attend churches? Then there would be laws against blasphemy, laws against the publication of letters and articles like this for instance. Our little St. Croix would be filled with theological spies, with religious evesdroppers, and all the snakes and reptiles of the lowest natures in this moonshine of religious authority would uncoil and crawl.

No man has a right to set himself up as the moral standard of all the community, or of any part of the community except himself. As far as this "drink question" goes, every man so far as personal acts that do not include any acts of lawlessness are concerned, should be the guardian of his own morals.

It was never intended that the law should lay down the rules that should constitute a good man, and say that all men should live up to those rules. That never was the intention of lawmakers. But with the "Prohibition law" the *Ultra Theologian* have abandoned that kind of legislation. It was the legislation that resulted in whipping people at the tail of the cart, placing them in stocks, branding them upon the hands etc. That was the kind of legislation under which some

person or coterie of persons undertook to set themselves up as the censors of the morals of the people. I thought that age had passed. I suppose every year, according to the temper of nations, we shall see new prohibitions and restrictions. The ultra theologian loves these laws, he wishes to destroy the liberty of the people,—he wishes that he should be recognized as the source of authority, to the end that the Church may become the supreme power.

Respectfully

BACCHUS.

Christiansted, St. Croix 28 July 1920.

You are invited to attend the regular "jazz concert" that the Navy Band renders tonight. The pieces are lively marches, rags, trots, blues, and the favorite comic novelty, Laughing Rondo. After the concert, the band will give you a tramp home in the glow of the moonlight.—*Communicated.*

Frederiksted, July 29th. 1920.

CELEBRATION BY THE "FREDERIKSTED CENTURY BRASS BAND" OF THE LIQUIDATION OF THEIR INDEBTEDNESS TO THE BANK.

GALA EVENT ON "OVAL"

A day of sunshine followed by an evening with "Luna" gleaming in all her glory, yesterday, July 28th. marked the celebration of the liquidation of the indebtedness to the bank of the "Century Brass Band".

As they approach the third year of their labor and service to the public, let us cast a retrospective glance on the condition of the band at that time.

We find a few ambitious men and boys gathered together, with practically no means and still worse no encouragement, for forming an institution for the entertainment of the general public.

At this time we find Frederiksted without any organization of this kind. Attempts had several times been made, but failure followed each. Lack of interest in the very ones who volunteered to help continually showing itself was the cause of these sad breakdowns.

In those days the brass bands of Christiansted visited our little town and spread musical cheer among the otherwise dull folks, but their visits were costly and were consequently few and far between. The need of our own became apparent and the little band realised the fact that to depend on the help of others was but to die. They desired contributions of the community, so as to be able to procure instruments.

The cost of them however, exceeded by far the amount contributed and ended in the band becoming indebted to the bank for the sum of several hun-

dred dollars. By entertainments etc., but especially by subscription lists, the band struggled along paying its installments as they became due. During the last year the Government granted a subsidy which has helped immeasurably toward the defraying of incidental expenses.

The last installment becoming due, the officers of the band effected the raising of the necessary cash by the issuance of subscription lists and sales at the gala event.

The programme was carried out as advertised. The "Oval" was streamed with friends and well-wishers. One cannot help remarking the feeling of mingled joy and sorrow, when the "Oval", the place where indulgence in outdoor sports of all kinds were formerly more frequent was again made the scene of jollification. Let us try and keep it up!

The speakers made short and interesting talks amid unrestrained applause.

It is with pleasure we hear of the over-subscription to this most worthy cause. We congratulate the officers and members and wish for them continued success and would urge them to stick to it, so they may sail along over the rough and stormy seas of hardship and criticism.

St. Thomas News.

We learn that Bank Director Holst has bought estate "Pearl" where he intends to establish a branch of his apiary at "Botany Bay." Director Holst has always been a strong advocate of bee-keeping in the West Indies; but believes that modern methods will be necessary in order to achieve success. In his opinion three things are conditions sine qua non: first the introduction of the Italian bee, which is able to resist the ravages of the bee-moth; secondly, the use of full sheets of comb foundations, to control the raising of unnecessary drones; and thirdly, to be prepared in time; which latter condition is absolutely indispensable in our island, where the honey flow comes on in sudden bursts. Director Holst is always glad to welcome visitors, interested in bee-keeping, at Botany Bay, where is found the various kinds of the Italian bee, say, the three banded, the leather-coloured, and the golden Italian bee, the latter being his favorite. *St. Thomas Mail Notes, July 23rd.*

The following clipping will prove of great interest to our readers, more so as, if successful, the fair will in all probability visit this port:

ROME, June 14.

A floating fair has been organized by the Italian Government and will visit Tunis, Algiers, Tangier, Lisbon, Barcelona, Marseilles and Genoa. It will carry samples of all the products Italy can export and will remain from four to seven days at each port. Orders will be