

NOTES FROM OTTAWA.

The Budget Debate and the Division at the Close.

Summary Evidence in the Tarte-McGreedy Case.

[Special Correspondence of The Examiner.]

The principal incidents of last week were the defeat of the Cartwright Unrestricted Reciprocity amendment, and the developments before the Public Accounts and Elections and Privileges Committees.

The budget debate had lasted some five weeks, and had dragged wearily enough, enlivened occasionally by a few really good speeches. It was incomprehensible to me how men of common sense, and the representatives of an intelligent people are supposed to be, could spend hour after hour driving before empty benches, uttering nothing new or instructive, but simply repeating, often in execrable English, what some one had said days before. Not only were the galleries deserted, but the House also, yet some old smooth bore would prate away, without a soul listening to him but the Hansard reporter, whose lot was an unenviable one. It reminded me of our own House of Assembly where, even upon a pauper grant, it used to be considered the proper thing for every member to "put himself on record." I think the Local House is not so given to this now as formerly; but the Legislative Council seems to preserve the system, judging from the columns of the Guardian, which appears to be the subsidized organ of the "old money of the upper chamber," and of other aggregations of garrulous and gossiping females generally.

But to return to the Parliament of Canada. The Grits built high their hopes upon the result of the budget debate. They protracted it day after day, trusting that something might be elicited in the Tarte-McGreedy case, or in the departmental investigations which would turn to their advantage. But the longer they waited, the worse they fared. The dissensions in their own ranks had time to increase and the breaches to widen. Casey had Ananias Cameron and McMillen by the throat; Mulock would not be dictated to by Cartwright; Charlton was chafing under the lecture Philosopher Mills had read him about his Sunday Observance Bill; Welsh had irritated them by fraternizing with Abbott at the Club and then going home; and several of the young French members were particularly fractious. Then, again, some of the new blood was asserting itself altogether too prominently to suit the leaders of the party, and it was impossible to restrain it. Mr. Fraser, of Guysboro, the biggest man in the House, and an ex-member of the Nova Scotia cabinet, gives them a lot of trouble,—he does not drive well in harness, neither does Mr. Flint, of Yarmouth, nor Mr. Davlin, of Ottawa County, who never opens his mouth but he puts his foot in it, nor Mr. Hyman, who defeated John Carling, of London, and who considers himself considerable pumpkins because he beat a cabinet minister. These men, and the like of them, charge of the debate took and propounded their own theories, utterly regardless of the leader of the opposition and of the prominent counsellors of that party, whose annoyance was hard to conceal, and was indeed evidenced by the fact that neither Laurier, Davies, Mills nor Mulock took part in the debate. Mr. Savard, the well dressed young Frenchman who defeated Sir Adolphe Caron in Chicoutimi, plainly told them he would not support them, and they had hard work to persuade him to take a trip for his health, so as to avoid the spectacle of his voting with the Government. Mr. Tarte, whose action against Sir Hector Langevin has ranged him on the other side of the House, told them they need expect no support from him, and so he absented himself, as did also Mr. Gibson, for reasons best known to himself. Several days before the division took place, the opposition knew their weakness, and the only thing left them was to postpone the evil event as long as possible. But it had to come, and it came at 4 o'clock on Wednesday morning, 26th July, just as day was breaking. I had been on hand all night, and for want of something better to do had smoked myself black in the face. Joe Foran had exhausted his fund of humor and had succumbed to the sweet-restorer, and I would fain have followed suit, but a vile fly decreed otherwise, when the division bell rang out its noisy clatter. Rubbing the sleep out of our eyes we made for the galleries, which all night long had held a number of stragglers, to say nothing of a boy of ladies who were bound to be in at the death. There had been a dinner the evening before (for this was morning, mind you) in the Commons Restaurant to Col. Howard Vincent, M.P., for Sheffield, England, the delegate of the United Empire Trade League, at which nearly one hundred guests were present, the majority being Conservative members. These gentlemen, at the call of the bell, flocked into the House in full evening dress, and rare good humor, while the opposition sat stolid, stupefied and soulless. Then J. J. Curran of Montreal, sang "Old King Cole," and after him Col. Prior gave "The Red White and Blue," and by that time the whips marched in and all was ready for the supreme moment. The Speaker put the question on the amendment and asked those in favor of it to rise. The Clerk Assistant turned, as is customary, to the Government side, but in vain did he look and wait and look for a signal of acquiescence. The Government ranks were closed and solid against the insidious scheme. At last the division is over and the result declared. The amendment is defeated by 114 to 88, a majority of 26. Immediately there arose cheer after cheer which, for some minutes, the Speaker was powerless to repress. Then, after a formal motion the House adjourned and while the Grits, in rout and confusion, hurried from the Chamber, the Conservatives kept their places and sang God save the Queen. I have often in various kinds of gatherings heard the National Anthem—performed, I think, is the word most suitable but perhaps "executed" would be more appropriate as suggestive of a slow and violent death. While the anthems were putting

on their wraps and hunting for hats and walking sticks, and I have come to regard the practice as very much of a nuisance, but last Wednesday morning over one hundred voices pealed it out in tones of lusty defiance, and as though they intended it as a notice to Farrer and his traitorous clique that there was no room for them and their reasonable schemes in Canada.

One of the principle witnesses in the Tarte-McGreedy investigation was Mr. Laforce Langevin, C. E., Assistant Engineer of the Quebec Harbor Works. He told a perfectly straight and convincing story. He told the committee how he had studied Civil Engineering at Laval University; how he had received his certificate, and on what works he had been employed. He declared that he had never asked for or received from any person any sums of money, large or small, to assist his father's election or to be used for any improper purpose. He did not deny that he might have said if he had a few thousand dollars he would spend it for his father's election, and he had probably talked to the Connollys about the election, as it was a very interesting topic of conversation at the time. But the Connollys gave him no money, and he had used none, and if Onesime Thibault said that he had told him differently, Onesime was not telling the truth. He explained the appearance of his name in Connolly's books in this way. He and Thibault had jointly taken out a patent for a new kind of ladder and in connection therewith he had borrowed \$600 from Mr. Hume, engineer for Connolly's contracts. He had given Hume his note therefor, and on Hume leaving Connolly's employ he had sold the note to the Connollys. Part of the note had been paid, but a portion was still due. Onesime Thibault being called, said Laforce Langevin had told him that Connolly had given \$5,000 for his father's election, and that he had sent it to Three Rivers by Joe Lachance. Onesime said he himself was a Grit and Langevin had subsequently boasted to him that he had saved the Three Rivers election. Joe Lachance being called said Thibault was away off; that such a thing had never taken place as Langevin giving him money for the Three Rivers election. So much for that incident. Mr. Perley, Jr., an engineer employed on the Kingston Dry Dock was examined as to Robert McGreedy's evidence, that he had been paid \$2,000 to give to his father. He positively denied the charge in every shape and form. It having been suggested that Mr. Perley might have some other son, the witness replied he had a young brother who had been a clerk in the Ottawa Bank and who had never been in Government employ. He, however, was a confirmed invalid, and had been confined to his bed for two years.

Robert McGreedy's cross-examination occupied a long time and was exceedingly unsatisfactory. I spoke last week of the character of the books he produced and of the matter of fact way in which he admitted having perjured himself. He told the story of his business connection with his brother which, after lasting for some 30 years, had ceased on account of his brother's charging him with dishonesty. He admitted having enjoyed his brother's confidence and having had access to his private books and papers, nor did he dare deny that he had abstracted such of them as he wanted. He frequently contradicted himself, and being confronted with two diametrically opposite answers which he had made to the one question, and asked which was the true answer, he coolly replied "either may be accepted." Nothing seemed to abash him in the slightest; he sat there and lied and everyone in the room, who listened to him for five minutes, knew that he was lying. The Grit members of the Committee, I am ashamed to say, showed great solicitude for this infamous liar and tried by various means to protect him. Upon his discharge Mr. FitzPatrick immediately had him subpoenaed as a witness for the defence with orders to produce all the letters of Thomas McGreedy that he had in his possession from 1882 to 1890, all letters written by himself to Thomas, all his books of account and other papers.

The Committee having required Sir Hector Langevin to produce all telegrams exchanged between himself, Thomas McGreedy and Baker and Shakespear, the British Columbia members, Sir Hector explained that all official telegrams were produced, but private telegrams he was not in the habit of preserving.

Mr. R. R. Dobell, a business man of Quebec for 33 years past, ex-President of the Board of Trade and a Harbor Commissioner, gave important evidence. He showed that the whole trouble originated in the Mackenzie Government making the Harbor Commission a political body, creating the Commissioners salaried officers, and appointing a lot of incapable party heaters thereto as a reward for political services. He showed that it was absolutely impossible for the Commissioners to have formed any opinion of the relative position of the tenderers with a view to exercising favoritism, as the tenders were not moneyed out. After the tenders were opened they were sent to Ottawa in compliance with instructions, and he was perfectly clear and positive that nobody, from what was done with the tenders when opened, could form any idea of their relative value. Neither he nor any member of the Board, as far as he knew, had any suspicion of Robert McGreedy's connection with the contractors for two years after the contract was let. When he told Thomas McGreedy of it, the latter emphatically and angrily denied it. He regarded Thomas McGreedy's position upon the Board, in relation to the Public Works Department and to Sir Hector, as nothing irregular. Thomas McGreedy, being conversant with large contracts, gave the benefit of his experience to the Harbor Commission. Coming to Ottawa so frequently as he did, Thomas McGreedy was regarded as the natural medium by which the Commissioners learned the Minister's views. Mr. Valin, the Chairman of the Harbor Commissioners, claimed that he himself was all powerful in Ottawa and was running the Government, but he (Dobell) had voted against Valin from the first and maintained a steady fight against him, as he believed him incapable of performing the duties of Chairman properly. In like manner Mr. Chauveau had been Chairman during the Mackenzie administration, a most gentlemanly, honorable man, but utterly incapable. Mr. Dobell further expressed his belief that neither Thomas McGreedy nor Valin nor any other man could influence Sir Hector. Said he: "My experience of Sir Hector has been that no one could

blow hot and cold with him. He has always appeared to me to be better up in the details of his department than any man I know. He was always asking in regard to the tremendous cost of the works, and whether they were going to be useful. His anxiety was always very keen. He was always in earnest. I believe no man had ever the interest of Quebec more at heart than Sir Hector Langevin." Mr. Dobell being asked, cited instances of the government having acted directly contrary to Mr. McGreedy's advice with regard to the harbor works.

The painful incident connected with Mr. Perley's re-examination I have already informed you of. He said he had reported that Gallagher's tender was too low, but he could not say upon what data he had formed his opinion unless it was upon the estimate of quantities and report of his assistant, Mr. Boyd. He said he had nothing to do with preparing the quantities, but accepted the information prepared for him by assistants in whom he had perfect confidence and acted upon it. Some of the opposition were commencing to worry him with questions as to whether he thought he had fulfilled his duty in accepting such statements and not enquiring into the truth of the matter himself when he collapsed and amid sobs and tears he cried, "I know nothing about it beyond what I have told this committee. I was no more interested in this than in any other of the works upon which I reported, and honestly I can tell you nothing more." Then he fainted away and was carried from the room. The poor man has suffered several years from heart-disease and the worry of this investigation has completely broken him down. Each time that he has attended the committee, his medical man has accompanied him fearing the consequences. Perley was telling the truth, John Edward Boyd was his assistant on these works—a man well known on the Island, and everyone acquainted with Mr. Boyd's honorable record will say that Mr. Perley was perfectly justified in depending upon his report and figures. Mr. Boyd stood equally high in his profession with Mr. Perley, and the latter would never dream of doubting Mr. Boyd's calculations.

Captain Larkin, the senior member of the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co., then took the stand. It should be premised that the captain Larkin is a good Grit—that he has been president of the Grit Association of the County of Lincoln for six years, and that he is a stockholder in the Globe newspaper. He stated that he had not much to do with the contracts under investigation, as he was interested in other contracts most of the time independent of the Connollys, Murphy & McGreedy. Soon after Murphy was taken into the firm, he made up his mind to get out for he did not like Murphy's dealings and he plainly told him and McGreedy that they were robbing the firm. He had agreed to contribute to Quebec election funds; but he did the same himself for the Grits in Ontario. He had never had any dealings with Thomas McGreedy and was never informed that any of the firm's money was paid to Thomas McGreedy or Sir Hector. Captain Larkin knew nothing of Murphy's record until after he joined the firm some time. He never borrowed money from Murphy. He denied Murphy's statement that he was present when the \$10,000 payment to Sir Hector was discussed. In numerous points he directly contradicted Murphy and Robert McGreedy. He told how the Globe had at one time bitterly opposed alterations in the Esquiamaul gravely dock, as being in the interest of the contractors; that he had remonstrated with Mr. Edgar; and the result was that soon after the Globe turned round and warmly supported the changes. That letter to Edgar is to be produced if it can be found.

Thomas McGreedy was examined before a sub-committee regarding his books. He produced everything in his possession; he was not in the habit of keeping private letters and such as he retained had been stolen from the safe to which his brother Robert had access. W. C. D.

Personal.

Rev. Mr. Turner and Mrs. Turner, of P. E. I., paid their friends in Debec a visit not long ago.

Richard Ivans, Supreme Grand President of the Sons of England B. S., is expected here to-night.

Mr. Bernard Trainor, of the Post Office department, leaves this afternoon for the State of Indiana on a holiday trip to the "Hub." We wish him a pleasant time.

Sister St. Bridget, daughter of Mr. Thomas Lynch, of this city, arrived here on Saturday last, after an absence of thirteen years, and is at the Convent de Notre Dame.

Hon. James Richards left by the Northumberland on Tuesday, for a trip to St. John and probably to the United States. He will be away about a week or so.—[Farmer.]

The Summerside Farmer says: Sister St. Hilda, eldest daughter of Mr. Jas. Brazil, returned to the Island last Tuesday evening, and will become an inmate of the Charlotte-town Convent. She has been in the Ville Marie Convent, Montreal, for the past fifteen years.

Rev. Father Gregory McDonald, of Summerside, is paying a visit to East Point, which parish has been vacant for over a year. We have no doubt but the parishioners of St. Columba would be pleased to have Father Gregory return to remain permanently among them.

At the Osborne House last evening there were registered: J. Wheaton, Woodstock; M. Reid, S. side; J. Craig, wife and child, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mrs. Geo. B. Carpenter, Miss Carpenter, Ashaway, R. I.; Mary Graham, Murray Harbor; C. L. McLaren, J. H. Bryant, Mrs. McLaren and child, Boston. This morning there were registered: L. B. Morris, Wallace; E. P. Ford, M. D., Souris; J. D. Schurman, Freetown.

Arrivals at Hatch House, Stanhope, yesterday, the 5th inst.: Joseph Knight, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Geo. Knight, Miss Ritte Knight, Katie Knight, Emma Knight, Ch'town; Emma Knight, Troy, N. Y.; Bessie Knight, Pictou; Lieut. McAlpin McKinnon; Willie Knight, Geo. S. Parker, Capt. Curbett, St. John; S. C. Moore, J. E. Pope, Mrs. Pope, Misses Pope, Miss P. P. Kelv., Boston; Mrs. L. L. Beer, T. D. Rogers, R. M. Johns, Ch'town; Mrs. C. H. G. Fisher, Fredericton; Miss Lownd, Ch'town; Master A. Fisher, Fredericton; Miss M. Peebles, Miss J. McMillan, G. B. McDonald, J. G. Hardy, R. C. McNeil, Ch'town.

The arrivals at the Hotel Davies last evening included: J. L. Otis, P. A. Otis, Northampton, Mass.; E. G. Merginson, Montreal; E. D. Eddy, Toronto; H. E. Palmer, St. John; Fred T. DeWolfe, Halifax; M. Burle, Montreal; Wm. C. Blundell, James P. Wallace, J. H. L., T. Holland, Halifax; H. E. Ellis, Toronto; Curtis Thompson, Bridgeport; A. M. Tallmudge, George W. Wheeler, C. I. Williams, St. Paul; Miss Carmichael, Pictou; Miss MacGregor, Halifax; B. W. Ralston, Amherst, N. S.; B. J. Lawson, F. S. McCausland, Jr., Somerville, Mass.; C. S. Payson, W. H. Jackson, St. John; W. S. Davidson, Halifax; S. E. Fuller, Lindsay; E. L. Gunn, J. H. Bryant, Boston; J. H. Myrick, Tignish; Mrs. J. Flanagan, Miss Flanagan, Moncton.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A Denial.

SIR,—Opponents of the "City Bill" are circulating the report in Ward Four and Five, that I, as one of the canvassers on behalf of the bill, advocated abolishing personal property tax and levying entirely upon real estate; and further that this was the policy of those advocating reform in the representation of the city. These reports are not true. No member of the committee (including myself) said anything of the kind. In conversation with Councillor Douse and Mr. Edward Davy, Mr. Douse charged us with this, when I told him it was not true, but explained to those gentlemen what I thought would be a very fair way of taxing the people, and they agreed with what I said. With reference to the personal property tax, I stated it was not far-reaching enough, that it should include all a person was worth, whether in merchandise, bank stock, bonds, mortgages, cash or any other thing (that it should not be confined to merchandise alone.) If that was done, it would relieve rather than hamper real estate. I was one of the first to advocate the personal property tax, but wanted it fairly levied. I want to see it retained and improved. I do not want a seat in the City Council.

The question of taxation is not now before the people. That will come up in February when you are electing the Council. As a resident of Ward Five I will do my best to see such real estate owners as Messrs. Angus Martin, Peter Halloran and Henry Lowe elected to look after the interests of the citizens, especially the real estate owners.

FRED PERKINS.

The above with reference to conversation which took place between Mr. Perkins, Councillor Douse and myself, is correct.

EDWARD DAVY.

Civic Politics.

SIR,—To show the citizens to what extremes the editor of the Guardian will descend in order to injure the majority of the City Council, I clip the following from Monday's issue of that truthful journal: "We understand that the Water Commissioners have been compelled to discharge the men employed laying pipes, not being able to issue debentures to pay them, because of the neglect of the Council to meet and attend to their business." As THE EXAMINER reporter was present at the last two meetings, regular and adjourned, will you be kind enough to publish the names of those Councillors present on both evenings, so the taxpayers will see who were absent neglecting their business, as admitted by the Guardian.

WARD FIVE.

[The regular monthly meeting of the City Council was called for Monday, 13th July, at 8 p. m. There were present Councillors Morris, Douse, Byrne, Eden, McCarron and Taylor. Mayor Haviland was unable to attend, owing to the illness of his daughter. As there was not a quorum there was no meeting. The Council adjourned itself, according to law, until the following evening, when there was no meeting, for the same reason as on the previous evening. The Councillors present were the same as on the evening before. According to law the Council then adjourned sine die. There has been no meeting called since.]

CLERICAL.—The Rev. James McLaren, son of the late Simon McLaren of Rollo Bay, preached at Bay Fortune and Souris on Sunday last, in place of the regular pastor who was at Covehead preaching in the church lately occupied by the venerable Rev. Mr. Allen, who, owing to advanced years and failing health, has been laid aside from active work for some months back.

CHARMING.—A drive through the country at the present time is simply charming. We would advise all in search of pleasure, from the heated cities of the United States and elsewhere, to come to Prince Edward Island and spend their summer holidays. There is no other place on the continent that can compare with it in purity of air and rural charms.

THE WHEAT YIELD.—The annual report of the Dominion Miller's Association, submitted at the meeting in Toronto a few days ago, estimates the wheat crop for the Dominion at 55,106,000 bushels of wheat. Ontario is to contribute 29,106,000; Manitoba 20,000,000, and the Northwest provinces 5,000,000. This would allow 22,180,000 for export.

Hon. T. Heath Haviland, Mayor of Charlottetown.

WE, the undersigned Citizens of Charlottetown, respectfully request you to call a meeting of the Ratepayers in the Market Hall, on FRIDAY EVENING NEXT, 7th inst., at 8 o'clock, to consider the change in the constitution of the City Council, as passed at last session of the Legislative Council, and which has to be voted on by the Electors of the City of Charlottetown, on the 12th inst.

- George Peake, Fred W. Hyndman, Robt. Bridges, Thos. Handrahan, F. Stanley, John Combs, August Hermans, J. Macoschern, M. Blake, J. McQuillan, C. Robertson, Henry C. Lowe, Philip Coyle, Bernard Trainor, A. N. Large, E. Needham, James Curtis, Michael Hennessey, J. D. MacLeod, Samuel McRae, Charles McQuillan.

In compliance with the within written Requisition, I do hereby call a PUBLIC MEETING of the Ratepayers of Charlottetown for FRIDAY EVENING NEXT, the 7th of August, at Eight o'clock, for the purposes mentioned in the said Requisition, the meeting to be held in the Market Hall.

T. HEATH HAVILAND, Mayor of Charlottetown.

Mayor's Office, Aug. 6, 1891.

FASHIONABLE Capes, Jackets

AND Dolmans.



Our Stock is so Large, Our Styles are so Correct, Our Prices are so Low.

LADIES

Desiring anything in our MANTLE DEPARTMENT cannot fail to be pleased. We draw special attention to the fact that the leading London and New York Fashion Magazines illustrate the styles now showing by us. Only a few remaining of our wonderful bargains in Jackets. Don't fail to secure one.

BEER BROS.



Sustaining, Strength-giving, Invigorating.

JOHNSTON'S FLUID BEEF

IS A PERFECT FOOD FOR

Invalids and Convalescents.

Supplying all the Nutritious Properties of Prime Beef in an Easily-Digested Form.

August 1, 1891—dy & wky

Grand Athletic Tournament

STALLION RACE

Driving Park,

MONDAY, AUGUST 24th,

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

The South End Boating and Athletic Club.

THE SOUTH END BOATING AND ATHLETIC CLUB, of Charlottetown, purpose holding a Grand Day's Sport at the Charlottetown Driving Park, on MONDAY, August 24th.

All kinds of Athletic Sports usual at the Caledonian Club Games will take place, with many new features, including a HOSE REEL RACE between members of the Fire Department and South End Boating Club.

The two well-known stallions, Elmo and Golden, will trot one mile for a purse offered by the Club.

The Sports are Open to all Nationalities.

Arrangements are being made with the Railway Department for reduced fares and special trains all along the line of railway.

The Programme, with full particulars, will be issued in a few days.

Reserve this date, for the best Athletes on the Island purpose competing.

A Band will be in attendance.

JAMES A. HUGHES, Secretary.

AUCTION-FURNITURE.

AT SALESROOM, To-morrow, Friday, at 2 o'clock, p. m.:

Walnut Sideboard, Refrigerator (nearly new), Lounges, Capboards, Wardrobes, Bedsteads, Bureaus, Washstands, Tables, Chairs, Feather Beds, Carpets, Desks, and other articles.

R. BEAIRSTO, Auctioneer.

PUBLIC AUCTION

General Groceries, Earthen and Glass-ware, Shop Furniture, etc.

I AM instructed by the Assignees of the Estate of McLeod & Stewart to sell by Public Auction, at the Store recently occupied by McLeod & Stewart, corner of Prince and Dorchester Streets,

On Monday, 10th of August, inst.,

Commencing at 11 o'clock, a. m.

All the Stock of GENERAL GROCERIES, EARTHEN and GLASSWARE belonging to the said Estate.

ALSO—1 Fire Proof Safe, 2 sets Counter Scales, 1 set Fairbanks' Scales, 3 Show Cases, 1 Coffee Mill, 1 Stove, and a lot of other Shop Furniture. Terms Cash.

R. BEAIRSTO, Auctioneer.

"THE PUBLIC HAIR WITH JOY"

a remedy that is used but once a day, and that once at bedtime.

"Dyspepticure" is used but once a day, at bedtime, for Indigestion, Chronic Dyspepsia, Sleeplessness, For Headache or distress after eating, use it whenever needed. It relieves wonderfully and cures quickly.

PRINCE ST. BAPTIST Sabbath School Picnic!

—AT—

RED POINT,

—ON—

Monday, Aug. 10th,

On the Beautiful Grounds of John McEachern, Esq.

Tea and Refreshment Tables provided. The steamer Southport will leave Ferry Wharf at 9:30 a. m. and 2:15 p. m.

Return Tickets, 15 cts.; Children, 10 cts.; Tea, 25 cts.

By order of Committee.

aug3—3i