

THE DAILY EXAMINER

MAY 4, 1887.

The Additional Subsidy.

The Patriot of last evening gave the lie to its assertions of the past five months respecting the addition of \$20,000 a year—equal to a capital sum of \$500,000—to the subsidy paid this Province by the Dominion Government. It is to be noted that the Patriot persisted in its false statements until the very evening previous to that on which the Hon. Mr. Sullivan delivered his Budget Speech, when the truth would necessarily appear. Up to the last day on which the public could be humbugged and misled it continued to publish telegrams, garnished with big letters, setting forth that the prominent supporters of Sir John Macdonald in this Island had been "guilty of a wicked and most deliberate lie."

The boldness and pertinacity of its reiteration of the statement that the Province had not, as reported by THE EXAMINER, been guaranteed the interest on \$500,000, impressed the public mind with the belief that the report was merely "an election dodge," and that there was nothing in it. Indeed, THE EXAMINER was at last almost persuaded that the news was too good to be true, and that sources of information which had never before proved false had at last sent forth an erroneous report. But now the truth is out. THE EXAMINER is vindicated;—and the Patriot is (or ought to be) covered with shame and confusion.

What will the public think of the Patriot now. It has misled its own friends. It has deceived the electors of this Province. Hundreds of honest men supporting the Opposition Party have, on its authority, made statements respecting this matter which were absolutely false. What apology can it make to them? These honest men, in their turn, induced other men, who believed in them, to withdraw their support from the Government which has all the while befriended the country? How can the Patriot survive the indignation and wrath of the men whom it duped and used as means for the propagation of its falsehood?

Now that the truth is known, an intelligent people will not fail to appreciate the tactics of the men who obtained their election on the strength of the Patriot's base falsehood. These men have prejudiced the Government in the eyes of our people by representing that Sir John has treated this Province unfairly; and now they are striving with all their might to prejudice the Government in the eyes of Parliament, and thus to defeat their liberal intentions in behalf of this Province. No other construction can be placed upon the motions and speeches calling attention to the proposed grant of \$20,000 a year as something exceptional, something better than the other Provinces have obtained. Mr. Davies and his friends are doing in Parliament the work of representatives of Ontario and Quebec, and injuring, as much as they can, the interests of the people who, misled by their organs and henchmen in this Province, sent them there.

But thanks to the strength of the Government majority, thanks to the firmness of the Government, their efforts have proved vain. Mr. Sullivan in the course of his budget speech read the following telegram from Sir Charles Tupper:—

To Hon. W. W. SULLIVAN:—

"Have announced in House of Commons today, that Parliament will be asked to grant additional subsidy of twenty thousand dollars to Prince Edward Island."

CHARLES TUPPER.

This proves that the Government have not—in spite of Mr. Davies and his colleagues—receded from the promise they gave Messrs. Sullivan and Ferguson in December last, the particulars of which are set forth in the following Minutes of Council made after the elections were over, and after the Island had sent a solid contingent to oppose them in Parliament:—

"The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a memorial dated 27th Sept. 1886, from the Government of Prince Edward Island, relative to the financial arrangements existing between that Province and the Dominion of Canada."

"The sub-Committee of Council to whom the memorial was referred, state that they have duly considered the statements therein contained and that they have also had a conference on the subject with the Hon. W. W. Sullivan, the Premier of the Island Government, and after due consideration they have recommended to Council that for the year ending 31st Dec. 1887, a grant of \$20,000 be made to that Province, and that the authority necessary to carry this recommendation into effect, be obtained from Parliament at the ensuing session."

"The reasons which have led the sub-committee to make these recommendations of Council are as follows:—

"1st. From the insular position of the Province they are of opinion that the construction of the Pacific railway and of the International Railway has not affected it to the same extent that it has the other provinces, and the Island has not had the benefit of the advantages which accrue to the other provinces from these lines, and on this ground it is entitled to some consideration."

"2nd. The sub-committee think also that consideration should be given on account of the expenditure for the construction of the above named railways having been greater than was anticipated at the time these works were taken into consideration, and the terms upon which Prince Edward Island entered the union having been a great measure based upon the estimate of the cost of these roads."

"3rd. It is also stated in the other proceedings up to the present time in carrying out the railway policy of the Government, in the way of assistance to local railways, have not as yet been made applicable in any way to Prince Edward Island, and that Province has not received any benefit from the carrying out of this policy, whereas, on the contrary, the other provinces forming the union have in this manner been largely benefited."

"The committee, concluding in the reasons above set forth and the reasons mentioned, and they recommend that a grant be asked from Parliament of \$20,000 for the purpose above mentioned."

JOHN J. McLEOD.

John J. McLeod, Clerk Privy Council

right nor claim as a consideration therefor.

We think, therefore, that the thanks of the Province are fairly due to Premier Sullivan and his colleagues; and now that the people have been awakened to the falsity and baseness of those by whom they have been misled, we have no doubt that they will, with practical unanimity, acknowledge the great service which the Government have rendered the Province, and second with the voice of public opinion the efforts which they are making to collect the debts due the Province, to reduce the expenditures for public services, and to administer the affairs of the Province without resort to direct taxation.

Editorial Notes.

—It may not be uninteresting to our readers to know that the Hon. Jonathan Binney, great-grandfather of the late lamented Bishop Binney, was appointed second Judge of this Island in 1768, the Island being at that time under the jurisdiction of the Governor of Nova Scotia.

—It is reported that in face of their representations that the Province is in an impoverished condition, the Grits in power in Nova Scotia are advancing their salaries fifty per cent! The Premier's salary is increased from \$2,400 to \$3,600, and Attorney-General's and Commissioner of Works from \$1,630 to \$2,500. More Grit economy!

Government Railways.

THE Government of Canada are now operating 1190 miles of railway, viz: the Intercolonial, 886 miles; the Eastern Extension, 80; the Windsor Branch, 32; the P. E. Island, 212. The loss on working these railways during the past year was \$195,065.77, as follows: Intercolonial, \$106,042.84; Eastern Extension, \$27,862.95; P. E. Island, \$61,159.98. On the Windsor Branch there was a profit of \$4,423.62, making the net loss on the Government railways in operation \$190,637.15.

The receipts of the P. E. Island Railways during the year amounted to \$155,534.36, or about \$3000 less than in the previous year. The decrease in passenger traffic was 10,049, the passengers carried in 1884-5 making 130,423 and in 1885-6 120,374.

The expenditures on the P. E. Island Railway during the year comprised \$4,668.33 on capital account, making the total capital expenditure on the road \$3,735,989.89; and the ordinary running expenditure \$216,744.34. Included in this is the cost of a combined freight and passenger station at Peake's \$590, improvement to Peake's Station ground, \$305.58 and a station master's dwelling at St. Peter's \$891.04.

The Late Bishop Binney.

(Halifax Herald)

The Synod will be summoned within thirty days to fill the vacancy in the See. The choice lies absolutely in their hands, only requiring a majority of both orders—clerical and lay.

Archdeacon Gilpin, who is now administrator of the diocese, has issued the following notices:

NOTICE TO THE CLERGY.

The corpse of the late Bishop of Nova Scotia is expected at Halifax by the evening train from St. John on Wednesday next, the 4th inst. The city clergy are requested to be present.—EDWIN GILPIN, Archdeacon.

The body of the late Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia will be placed in the cathedral church of St. Luke, on Thursday, the 5th. The funeral will be from the Bishop's Chapel on Friday, the 6th, at four o'clock, p. m. The clergy of the diocese are invited to attend and requested to bring their surplices.—EDWIN GILPIN, Archdeacon.

Election Petitions.

A petition has been filed against the return of Thomas Robertson as M. P. for Shelburne, on the ground of bribery, corruption and other illegal practices.

A petition has been filed against the return of O'Brien, of Muskoka.

Sir A. P. Caron has filed a petition against Martin, his opponent in Quebec, demanding disqualification.

Queen's Jubilee—Trades Procession.

The adjourned meeting of mechanics and tradesmen was held last evening in the Council Chamber, Mr. John Newson in the chair. After considerable friendly discussion, participated in by Messrs. W. L. Cotton, R. Smallwood, Webster, Harry Anderson, D. M. Fraser and others, regarding the proper method of carrying the matter to a successful conclusion, a committee was appointed—composed of representatives of different trades—to wait upon manufacturers and mechanics not represented at the meeting, and obtain their co-operation, and to report at a subsequent meeting to be held on Tuesday evening 10th inst.

The opinion of the meeting, as generally expressed, was that there should be a united effort put forth to make the Trades procession a complete success worthy of the occasion, and one which would reflect credit upon the mechanics and others who take part in it.

Geo. W. GARDNER, Secretary.

A meeting of the committee was held immediately after, and Messrs. John Newson, W. D. McKay, and C. Hermans appointed a sub-committee to wait upon the Financial Committee of the City Council to find out what amount they would grant to the Trades Procession, and to report to said General Committee on Friday evening.

In the House of Lords on the 29th ult., the Earl of Harrowby asked for information respecting the decision of the government on the proposal of the Canadian government to establish a line of mail steamers between Vancouver city and China. The Earl of Onslow, parliamentary secretary of the colonial office, replied that the committee to which the matter was referred declined to recommend a subsidy of £100,000 for the proposed service of a steamer every three weeks, but was considering the advisability of granting a subsidy of £50,000 for a monthly service, Canada to contribute also. Lord Carnarvon urged that the subsidy be granted and said if England did not assist the enterprise the advantages of the route would pass into the hands of another power.

Provincial Legislature

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THE BUDGET.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN, Leader of the Government, moved that the House do now go into the Order of the Day, and in doing so would make a few observations on the state of the Province, as it was at the end of the past financial year, viz., 31st December last. Viewing this subject from the standpoint of our friends on the other side of the House, it would appear to be anything but inviting. The Public Accounts for 1885 show that at the close of that year there was a balance against the Province of \$72,027.01. On the first day of January following, when the semi-annual subsidy was paid by the Dominion Government, that balance against us was changed into a balance in our favor. On the 31st December, 1886, the balance against the Province was \$142,516.02, but on the first day of January of the present year that amount was very materially reduced, and at the present time it is not nearly as great as at the former date. Hon. members, however, can only regard the Public Accounts as made up on 31st Dec., 1885. When, last session, I stated the financial condition of the Province, I pointed out what amounts we expected to receive from the Dominion, and also what we expected to receive from other sources. I also stated the amount that would be required to cover the expenditure of the then current year. Well, at the close of the year it was found that the estimates of expenditure had been somewhat exceeded; and the receipts turned out to be somewhat less than was anticipated. Hon. members will notice that the estimate of receipts for last year, from ordinary sources, was \$235,727.31, and that the actual receipts were \$233,977.64, or nearly \$234,000 less. This was irrespective of a very considerable amount which we expected to receive from the Dominion Government. It will, therefore, be seen that those receipts were nearly realized, with the exception of that amount. Every hon. member of the House is aware that it is almost impossible to prepare estimates that will be strictly carried out in all their details, this must be so from the very nature of the case. When we have a good harvest we have large receipts from the Land Office; when the harvest is bad, those receipts are not as great as were expected. During the past year the receipts at that office were very fair, the amount being upwards of \$47,000. This was in excess of the sum received the previous year from that source. The estimate of expenditure for 1886 was \$277,287.82, and the actual expenditure \$304,466.65, showing an excess of about \$27,000. No doubt the Government will be charged by hon. members of the Opposition with making estimates which they know were erroneous, with the intention of deceiving the country previous to the general election of last year, because it was to their interest to make as good a show as possible under the circumstances. It was estimated last session that the sum of \$6000 would be expended for Boards of Health on account of the Smallpox epidemic; but we were called upon to expend \$8311.63, which is \$2311 in excess of the estimate. The estimate for exhibitions was \$2,200, but the Government expended \$3346.16. This was partly owing to the extra expenditure in connection with our exhibit at the Indian and Colonial Exhibition in London during the past year. Beside this, a balance due from the previous year on exhibition account, amounting to \$693.71, had to be met. Under this head, there was an expenditure over estimate of \$1146.16. On the Ferry Wharves the Government was called on to expend \$8,542.70, most of which was expended upon those on the Charlottetown and Southport Ferry. On bridges the sum of \$29,578 was expended, an excess over the estimate of \$9578. On the public roads, culverts and small bridges the Government were called upon to expend no less than \$21,818.11, instead of \$15,500, the sum estimated, an excess of \$6,318. The estimate of expenditure required on the steamboats plying between Charlottetown and Southport was \$2,200, but no less than \$9,131.28 had to be expended. Extensive repairs had to be made to satisfy the requirements of the Inspector of Steamboats, causing an excess of expenditure over the estimate of \$6,931. The over-expenditure on the various items alluded to more than make up the total of \$27,000 already stated. In some of the items of the estimate the expenditure was smaller than was expected, which accounts for the difference. I have, therefore, fully accounted for the excess of expenditure beyond the estimate of last session. It will be noticed that the whole of this excess has been expended upon those branches of the public service for which it was absolutely necessary, and which could not be neglected without imperiling the interests of the country to a very large extent. Some very large bridges were out of repair, necessitating immediate attention. The public roads also required a very heavy outlay during the year,—much larger than had been anticipated this time last year. Having showed how the excess of expenditure over receipts was brought about, I now propose to deal with the estimates for the present year now before the House. I have no doubt that when the hon. leader of the Opposition addresses the House he will attempt to show that the Government have been very extravagant indeed, and that they have exceeded their estimates by an amount far in excess of what they had any right to expend. The hon. gentleman has made that statement year after year, and will no doubt repeat it again on the present occasion. During the nine long years in which I have been on this side of the House the hon. gentleman has been in the cool shades of opposition, and his speeches during those years have been mainly a reiteration of similar charges against the Government. If the hon. member will compare the estimates submitted by himself while a member of a former Government with the receipts and expenditure of those years, he will find there was a much greater difference between them than was the case for the past year. The estimates of expenditure for the current year amount to \$265,481.22. This includes provision for several extraordinary items; among others, a new Court House for

Georgetown, which will cost, when completed, about \$7,500. The estimate for the administration of justice for the year is \$19,952, while that of last year was \$20,752. The reason for this reduction is that the actual expenditure was not so great as was estimated. I will ask the hon. leader of the Opposition to compare this estimate with that made when he was Finance Minister, which was no less than \$34,000. The difference between the latter sum and the expenditure for the past year in that department, viz., \$19,000, represents a saving to the country of no less than \$15,000 per annum! Hon. members will notice that several of the items of these estimates are the same as those for the past year. I will make no further allusion to them. The amount set down for bridges is \$20,000; and for roads, culverts and small bridges, \$15,000. None of the other items have been increased except in such cases as the exigencies of the country absolutely require it. The total of these estimates is only \$265,481.22—not a very large sum. I will be asked how I propose to meet this expenditure. I dare say the hon. leader of the Opposition will remind me that, last year I stated that we expected from the Dominion Government one-eighth of one million of dollars. That information alarmed at first, and afterwards amused hon. members on the other side of the House. They looked at each other and did not credit the statement, and, perhaps they do not yet do so. It was true the money was not actually received during the year 1886; but I did not state that it would be received during that year. I said that if the Government received that amount the accounts would balance, and that probably there would be a small surplus. I know that during the election campaign in June last hon. members of the Opposition declared we had no claim against the Dominion Government, and that the money would, therefore, never be received by the Province. That statement was published in the Opposition press. When the elections were over and when there was no object in courting popular favor, it was stated by friends of the Government that they expected the Dominion Government to give this Province \$20,000 per year or to place to its credit the sum of \$500,000, we were told that the statement had no foundation. In fact, I do not know that the Opposition believe it yet. They look on the blue side of everything, and discredit any statements which seem favorable to this Province, while the present Government are in power. They would sink the Province in irretrievable ruin in order to accomplish their own purposes and obtain the reins of power. I do not know why they should be so anxious to exchange places with the Government if the public finances are in such a terrible condition as they allege them to be. My attention was some time ago, called to a statement in one of the newspapers respecting this half million dollars. I was not in the Province at the time, and my hon. friend, the Commissioner of Crown and Public Lands was running an election. There is a newspaper in this city called the Patriot which is the press to which I refer. The statement is as follows, and is headed, "That \$500,000:"

"During the Dominion Election campaign, the Tories told the public that the Sullivan Government had obtained \$500,000, or \$20,000 a year for all time from Sir John. They said there was an Order in Council giving the money. This yarn was used for all it was worth against the Liberal Candidates throughout this Island. The statement was challenged scores of times, but the Tories persisted in it. It was a false story. They had not obtained the money, and were simply trying to deceive the electors. After their defeat here the Tories began to back down. They said that as P. E. Island had not given Sir John a generous support, the money could not be obtained. It then began to be whispered about that Messrs. Sullivan and Ferguson had a conversation with Sir John, and he had held out hopes to them of getting the \$500,000. To put it plainly, he hinted that he was prepared to give a bribe of half a million dollars if the Liberal candidates here were defeated. The people here did not propose to take as a bribe what was theirs by right, and then the Tory cry was that as we had gone against Sir John, of course we could not expect the money. In their wrath the Tory organs blurted out all this stuff, forgetting they might have another election to run. Now, Mr. Ferguson is again seeking election in the Taird District, and the old story is revived. THE EXAMINER asks, should the people reject Mr. Ferguson because the Government took off the taxes and obtained \$500,000 for the Province? The stale yarn will be persisted in until after the election, then abandoned as it was before."

This article declares that there is no truth whatever in the statement alluded to. It contains no saving clause, as is usual under such circumstances, but gives as an absolute fact, that of which the Editor had no knowledge whatever. He is, therefore, guilty of stating that which he had no means of knowing to be true, and of condemning that which he did not really know to be false. This evening, however, he discovered that he was stating what was absolutely false.

[The remainder of Hon. Mr. Sullivan's speech, crowded out of to-day's issue, will appear to-morrow.]

Advices from St. Petersburg says that after a fortnight's quietude the country is in a state of uneasiness. Large armaments are being pushed forward with feverish activity. An order of the war ministry points to the concentration of great masses of troops on the frontiers of Russia.

MR. GOSCHEN'S budget proposes that the import duty on cigars shall be 5 shillings per pound (of tobacco) on Cavendish tobacco, on the leaf 4 shillings sixpence per pound, on Cavendish manufactured in bond 4 shillings per pound, on other manufactured tobacco 4 shillings per pound. On tobacco containing 10 per cent. moisture 3 shillings two pence per pound and for tobacco containing less than 10 per cent. moisture three shillings six pence per pound.

It is semi-officially stated the Vatican, being informed that France is desirous of resuming good relations with the Pope, will appoint a commission of leading ecclesiastics to study the questions at issue, and to draft proposals for a settlement.

Customs officers through Great Britain and Ireland have received stringent orders to search all vessels arriving from America, China and the East, the Government having been warned that explosives have been sent from San Francisco to ports in the East, to be transhipped to England.

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