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The Examiner.

Ch'town, May 11, 1874.

DISMISSAL OF OFFICIALS.

It is hardly possible that the Premier could have been in earnest when he declared that he would dismiss every Dominion official who had taken an active part against the Government during the late elections. Surely Mr. McKenzie must, for the nonce, have allowed his passion to get the better of his judgment. A more unwise and impolitic exercise of power can hardly be conceived. The Government, should it introduce a system similar to that which obtains in the Civil Service of the United States, will introduce an unmixed political evil—an evil which will be resented, on the first opportunity, by the constituents of the Dominion. The practice of dismissing public officials every time a victorious party assumes the reins of Government, results in loss of the public money, and confusion and delay of the public business. Untrained, untried men, whose only qualifications may be the facility with which they can make political speeches or take the lead in election rows, are appointed to offices requiring skill and experience. The result may easily be imagined. Everything goes wrong. As well expect a sailor to manage a lawyer's office, or a lawyer to direct the movements of an army, as to expect that such official neophytes will successfully conduct the business of the country.

The practice is, besides, a prolific source of political disorders. It is the cause of nine-tenths of the broils and contentions, the corruption and bribery, of elections. It increases the power of unscrupulous politicians to do wrong, and it creates in greedy, idle, incapable men a morbid appetite for the "sweets of office." We need not refer to the United States for an illustration of the evil fruits of this bad practice. We have many apt illustrations at home. Only two years ago there was in power here a party which raised a hue and cry against the railway, and, so obtained the support of a majority of the people and control of the reins of Government. No sooner was their influence established than they almost doubled the length of the railway at an additional cost of nearly one thousand pounds per mile. Thus was illustrated, in a most striking manner, the effects of a combination of unscrupulous politicians and grasping office seekers—a combination which would never have existed had it not been for the evil practice of changing public officials on the accession of each succeeding Administration. The General Custom House and Post Office, in this city, were each, previous to Confederation, examples of the scandalous extent to which public business is confused and muddled up under the vicious system of which we complain. When we entered the union we congratulated ourselves on having got rid of this great and widespread evil. No sooner, however, had the late Government been defeated, through the defection of Laird and his colleagues, than we were undeceived. The Collector of Customs and the Auditor of Public Accounts were both summarily dismissed. But still we hoped. We trusted that the dismissals in this Province, were solely in deference to Mr. Laird, and in accordance with a special arrangement, by the carrying out of which Mr. Laird was enabled to reward a political friend and punish a political foe. It appears, however,—if indeed the words of the Premier in his place in Parliament are to be credited—that all Dominion officials are to be dismissed, and the old, evil practice is to be renewed.

We sincerely trust that influences will be brought to bear upon the Government which will induce it to reconsider its determination. The vote of the Senate upon Hon. Mr. Howlan's resolution respecting the dismissals, "without cause assigned" will surely have some weight.

AN EXPLANATION.

We have no desire to do the Minister of the Interior the slightest injustice. His misdemeanours as a politician have been numerous and glaring. His incapacity is notorious. Yet we wish to treat him with the strictest fairplay. We regret, therefore, that the article on "Our Men at Ottawa"—as published in the edition of the EXAMINER sent to country districts where there is no daily mail—should have contained a few inaccuracies regarding his pre-ministerial career. They were not discovered until after the edition had been issued. We took the earliest possible opportunity of removing the errors; and they—along with a modicum of unpalatable fact—did not appear in the second, and by far the largest, edition of this paper.

A telegram has been recieved stating that the people of the Fejee Islands have unanimously voted in favor of the cession of those Islands to Great Britain.

THE NEW ELECTION LAW.

Many persons in the community misapprehend the requirements of the Election Law. They think the provision for the qualification of voters bears with exceptional severity upon the electors of this Province. As our local Election Laws now stand, this is, undoubtedly, a fact; for the qualification of electors is raised to the standard required in the election of members to our Legislative Council. But the moment our Local Parliament provides for the registration of voters—a duty which, by the way, it should have performed long ago—that moment manhood suffrage will be permitted us in the election of members to serve in the House of Commons. Our readers may be assured on this point by reading the following sections:—

"41. Subject to the exception hereinabove contained, all persons qualified to vote at the election of representatives in the Elective Legislature of the several Provinces composing the Dominion of Canada, except Prince Edward Island, shall be entitled to vote at the election of members of the House of Commons of Canada for the several Electoral Districts comprised within such Provinces respectively, and all lists of voters made and prepared, and which would according to the laws in force in the said several Provinces be used if the election were that of a representative or representatives to the Elective House of the Legislature of the Province in which the election is held (where such lists are required to be made), shall be the lists of voters which shall be used at the election of members of the House of Commons to be held under the provision of this Act.

42. In the several Electoral Districts in the Province of Prince Edward Island, all persons qualified to vote for the election of members of Legislative Council of that Province, under the laws in force in that Province at the passing of this Act, shall henceforth be the electors qualified to vote for the election of a member or members of the House of Commons of Canada; *but whenever the Legislature of that Province shall have provided for registration of voters and for the making of lists of qualified voters for the election of memberes for the House of Assembly of the said Province, and when lists of voters shall have been made and prepared, then the persons qualified to vote under such provisions for the election of a member or members of the House of Assembly of that Province, shall be entitled to vote at the election of members of the House of Commons of Canada*, for the several Electoral Districts in the said Province; and all lists of voters so made and prepared, and which according to the laws then in force would be used in the said several Electoral Districts, if the election were that of a representative or representatives to the House of Assembly of the said Provinces, shall be the list of voters which shall be used at the election of members of the House of Commons to be thereafter held under the provisions of this Act."

The duty of our Local Legislature, at its very next session, is to pass an Act in which shall be embodied a system for the registration of voters. This will, no doubt be done; so that our people, at least, will have no cause to complain. As it is not likely there will be another general or even partial election for several years, it is hardly probable that electors will be required to vote for members to serve in the House of Commons under the law as it is at present.

THE PATRIOT'S DEFENCE.

We have a short answer for the *Patriot*. Neither of the gentlemen whose names it published on Thursday last, wrote, or dictated, or suggested a single word of the article entitled "Our men at Ottawa"; nor did any one of them either see it or hear it read till after it was published; nor have they, individually or collectively, ever attempted to control the editorial columns of the EXAMINER. We condescend to make this affirmation for the sole purpose of defeating one of the most contemptible and barefaced attempts ever made to procure the expulsion from office of a political opponent whose character and capabilities are alike unassailable. Further explanation we decline to make. We rather enjoy the frantic-futile efforts of the *Patriot*. We regard as an indirect, though unintentional, compliment the attribution of the editorial control of the EXAMINER to men distinguished in this community for their mental abilities and literary attainments. That the *Patriot* should, in passing this great, though indirect, compliment upon us, have placed itself outside the pale of journalistic respectability by "naming names," is cause for sincere regret.

The *Patriot's* defence of "Our Men at Ottawa" may be most correctly represented by a cipher. Omitting the names of our respected Postmaster and other gentlemen who took no part whatever in the attack, there is "nothing in it." We will not, therefore, honor it with a review. We desire to have as little to do with the self-octracised outcast as possible.

POSTAGE.

Under an existing regulation, newspapers sent to and received from the United States are subject to a tax on both sides of the border. It is to be hoped that this annoying regulation will speedily be repealed. There can be no valid reason why postage on newspapers should not be taxed in the same manner as postage on letters. Either let it be collected in the United States or in the Dominion—not, as at prssent, in both. We join with contemporaries in commending this matter to the attention of Government.

WOODWORTH'S EXPULSION.

Right or wrong, honest or dishonest, the Government of Nova Scotia has lately demonstrated that its members are not men of tact. In expelling Mr. Woodworth from the House of Assembly they acted a highly impolitic part. Mr. Woodworth is now a hero, and the Government still endures the obloquy of the charges he preferred against it.

The Tariff.—Referring to the Tariff and its late modifications, the Toronto *Mail* says:

"We venture in all calmness to say that never before in any civilized country did the Minister charged with the management of financial affairs make such a public confession of his own incompetence as did Mr. Cartwright in his place in Parliament yesterday. And though he must be held primarly responsible for the violent charges which have astonished and confounded the business community, we by no means seek to releive the Cabinet, as a whole, from the responsibility of the terrible blunders which resulted in yesterday's shameful exhibition. We set them up in the pillory of public opinion as confessedly unfit for the high position into which they have been accidentally thrusted."

A London despatch says there seems to be no prospect of settlement of the strikes at Durham Collieries. Seventy thousand miners and laborers are now out of employment, and great distress prevails among them, and many are preparing to emigrate.

NEWSON'S FURNITURE FACTORY.

Next the Christian Brothers' School, the most prominent feature of the south side of Market Square, is "Newson's Furniture Factory." This is an attractive as well as an extensive establishment. Its large and, in the language of the shop, "well-dressed" windows; its bright, gilt signs; its splendid situation,—together with the "busy hum" of machinery which issues daily from it,—all assist in impressing a passer-by with the belief that the "Queen Square Furniture Factory" is a first-class establishment, owned and superintended by a first class man.

The show-rooms, of course, front on the square. A glance is sufficient to show that they are well stocked. The first flat is devoted to furniture of the commoner qualities. There, chairs, tables, book-cases, washstands, etc., of every size and pattern are on exhibition and for sale. On the second floor are suits of furniture made of the best woods, and strongly and elegantly constructed, upholstered in first-class style—and sold at prices varying from $100 to $300 per suit. On the third floor are a large variety of chamber suits—at quite as large a variety of prices. Some suits are sold at $50; some for $60; some $70, and some even as high as $180 and $200. All these are worthy the inspection of the honest seeker after good furniture at moderate rates. The fourth flat is fitted up with mattrasses, iron bedsteads, office-furniture, etc. The factory fronts on Sydeny Street. It is "not much to look at," but it contains a large number of machines worthy the inspection of the curious; and is the source whence much of the furniture Mr. Newson sells emanates. On the first floor are machines for planing, dubbing, moulding and tenoning; circular saws, jig saws, lathes, and all the necessaries of a well-stocked shop The second and third flats are fitted up in like manner. All the machinery is worked by a six horse-power steam engine. Mr. Newson is, we observe, enlarging his premises by the erection of a large brick building. This is a good sign. We trust he will increase his sales; and that finally he may achieve the success his enterprize and perseveranc so well deserve.

PRESENTATION.

On Sunday last, immediately after the Second Service at S. Peter's Church, Charlottetown, some of the members of the congregation presented the Rev. G. W. Hodgson with the following address, together with a purse of $600:—

ROGATION SUNDAY, 1874.

The Rev. Geo. W. Hodgson, Priest Incumbent of S. Peter's Church, Charlottetown.

Reverend Father.—The members of S. Peter's Congregation have learned, with much pleasure, that you have been induced to take some rest from your unremitting work; and that the Bishop, having granted you leave of absence, you propose visiting England for a few months.

They take this opportunity of asking your acceptance of the accompanying purse as a tribute of their affection and esteem.

Much as they will miss you, they will gladly, for a time, forego the benefit of your ministrations, trusting that the rest you are about to take, may under God's blessing, conduce to the perfect establishment of your health and strength. They know that although absent from them, you will not cease to remember your flock whenever the opportunity is afforded you of offering the all-prevailin Sacrafice at the Altar of God.

On behalf of the Congregation,
RALPH B. PEAKE,
J. S. CARVELL,
JAMES PEAKE,

To this address the Rev. gentleman returned a short but feeling reply; and later in the day, forwarded the following:—

ST. PETER'S CLERGY HOUSE,
Rogation Sunday, 1874.

My Dear Friends;—I most heartily thank you for your kind and unexpected gift, as well as for the good wishes with which it is accompanied.

Your thoughtful and generous liberality will be the means of adding much to the pleasure of my visit to England.

I may say that in the five years during which it has been my privilege to minister among you, nothing has occurred to mar that harmony which should exist between priest and people; and I trust that this is an assurance that the connection which has been to me such a happy one in the past, will long continue in the future.

You will be glad to learn that the Rev. Dr. Wright, who gave us so much valuable assistance last summer, has consented to take temporary duty during my absence; and as the Assistant Priest has kindly offered to forego this summer, his well-earned holidays, the usual services will be kept up.

I need not assure you that I shall often remember you during my absence, and I ask your prayers for myself. I look forward with much pleasure to my visit to England; but I can sincerely say, that to return to you, and labour with you again, is the greatest pleasure that I anticipate.

Again thanking you for your kindness.
I remain
Yours, very faithfully,
GEORGE W. HODGSON.

To R. B. Peake, J. S. Carvel }
James Peake, Esquires. }

LIVINGSTONE.

The remains of Dr Livingstone having now been deposited in Westminster Abbey, it is satisfactory to know that while this illustrious man rests entombed among the most honoured of England's worthies, the sons and daughters whom (with two sisters)—all in straightened circumstances—he has left behind, will have a hearty effort made for their future comfortable subsistence. Lady Coutts, Lord Kinnaird, Sir Bartle Frere, and a few other well known and influential persons have formed themselves into a Committee to appeal to the public for subscriptions, which, we apprehend, will be freely forthcoming. The numerous packets of papers of the deceased forming a bulky collection of doubtless original and interesting memoranda, have been brought from Africa and safely deposited at the Foreign Office. Sooner or later they will give to the world the full discoveries of this extraordinary man, who, it would appear noted events down almost to the time of his death —*Toronto Mail*.

Presentation.—Our friend, Mr. Robert Galbraith, the talented and energetic leader of the Volunteer Band, which has, during the past winter, discoursed sweet music to the 'fair women and the brave men' who have patronized the Skating Rink, was, a few evenings before the close of the Rink Season, presented with a handsome Meerschaum Pipe as a token of the appreciation in which his music was held. The presentation was made by Mrs. Ralph B. Peake, who highly complimented Mr. Galbraith upon the exquisite music which had been offered by his band; to which complimentary remarks he made a suitable reply. The Pipe is ornamented with a handsome silver ferule, on which is engraved 'R. Galbraith, Rink, 1874.' Such a recognition of his professional services must be highly gratifying to Mr. Galbraith.—*Patriot*,

LEGISLATIVE UNION OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

[From the Halifax Citizen.]

A resolution was introduced into the House of Assembly yesterday afternoon by the Hon. Provincial Secretary, authorizing the Government of this Province to correspond with the Governments of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island on the subject of a legislative union of the three Maritime Provinces. Mr. Blanchard declared that he was just about to move a resolution on the same subject, and complained that the wind had been taken out of his sails, asserting that the Government had borrowed the idea of their resolution from certain remarks he had made on the subject. We remember that some days ago, the Leader of the Opposition in course of some remarks upon the subdivision of the road grant, or else upon the County Courts bill, (if our recollection serves us), made some allusion to the desirability of such a union, though we could not see at the time any connection between those allusions and the subject on which he was supposed to be speaking at the time. But for Mr. Blanchard or anybody else to say that the Government of this Province borrowed from him the idea of suggesting a legislative union of these Provinces, is something very absurd indeed. There is not a boy in the country old enough to remember the Confederation agitation, who does not know that at the time of that agitation this subject too was discussed, if not directly, at least incidentally, not only on public platforms but in most of the juvenile debating societies of the Lower Provinces, while grown up people and boys who have read anything besides their primers and Sunday School books, know that the question was an old one even then. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, however, deserves credit for the graceful way in which he eventually accepted the situation, and, deprived of the opportunity of moving his own resolution seconded and supported the resolution introduced by the Hon. Provincial Secretary.

It is perhaps rather early now, while the way is only being prepared for correspondence with the Governments of the other Maritime Provinces on the subject, to enter into a discussion on this question. We have not immediately under our hands at present the data upon which to base any calculations with regard to the economy that such a union would effect in the Legislative expenses of the Lower Provinces, but it must certainly be considerable, if a well-planned scheme should ever be effected. When a federal union of the Provinces of British North America was urged, we argued that it could effect no saving, but would rather entail additional cost in carrying on the business of the country. Events have not disproved the force of our arguments, for the cost of a general Parliament, added to the cost of the Local Parliaments which are still retained, is no less, and we believe considerably greater than was the former cost of our several Local Parliaments. It would have been a wonderful thing had it turned out otherwise. But the union of the three Lower Provinces, inasmuch as it will be a Legislative Union, replacing three Local Parliaments by one Parliament, which need not be much larger than the present Parliament of this Province, must necessarily curtail our Legislative expenses by one-half. Using for the moment the figures given by Mr. Blanchard yesterday, the Legislative expenses of the three Provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, amount to something over $153,000 annually. This amount covers the expenses of three Legislatures, containing, we believe, something over one hundred and fifty members. If the three Provinces were united, there is no reason why a House of Assembly of say sixty members, and a Council of say thirty members, could not satisfactorily discharge the business of the country. There would not, in that case, be much more public printing required for the new Legislature than for our own Local body. This last fact might lessen the work and profits of the printers, but as newspaper men are always known to be foremost in advocating public economy, we know they would not grumble at this fact.

The financial aspect of this question we are aware is the strongest argument in favor of the suggested union. While the interests of the three Maritime Provinces are to a large extent the same, there are a great many legal considerations that will affect both the Local Legislatures and the people in their consideration of this question. The several Legislatures will, or at least a great many of their individual members, will hesitate about giving up their separate corporate identities. The people of the various Provinces will, to a great extent, be disposed to look with jealousy upon the idea of allowing their local affairs to be decided upon by gentlemen representing other Provinces, and fears will be entertained by some of an occasional clashing of interests between the Provinces. But in spite of this we believe that the time will come when the three Provinces will be one, living in harmony under one Legislature. The union may not be brought about immediately, as the result of the correspondence with the Governments of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island now proposed to be authorized, but that correspondence and the negotiations and deliberations that will spring out of it will prepare the mind of the country for a full consideration of the measure. Of one thing we may be sure: there will be no attempt in this Province at least, and we may assuredly say the same for the other Provinces, to force a scheme of union upon the people without giving them the fullest opportunity to pass upon it. We do not agree with an hon. member who said in the House yesterday in speaking upon the resolution, that the suggestion of the desirabilty of such a union should come from the people at large directly. Every important measure hitherto has been suggested in Parliament before the people have decided whether they want it or not. It is impossible to lead the people at large to give a matter of this kind serious attention, unless such a recognized exponent of the people's will as a parliament takes the initiative. No agitation, begun and continued outside of Parliament, could, we believe, ever induce the people to demand by petition a scheme of union from their local representatives. Let the matter be seriously considered at the next meeting of our Legislature, and then if it is thought advisable, let steps be taken which will put the question in a shape to be submitted to the people.

Dr. Livingstone has been identified by a singular formation on his arm.

Madrid advices report that Concha has been appointed General in Chief of the Northern army. During bombardment of Bilboa, 150 citizens were killed and wounded.

To make farming pay produce a good, a superior article. The profit in farming lies in the difference between the prices of products of the best quality and those of the other sort.

The Carlists, after much gallant fighting, are overpowered by numbers, and compelled to rush off to the mountains of northeast Spain again. The recent gains of the Republicans indicate more vigor on the part of the Government thaa we expected.

HORRIBLE TRAGEDY.

A FAMILY MURDERED AND BURNED IN THEIR DWELLING NEAR PITTSBURG—GREAT EXCITEMENT IN THE VICINITY—ON TRACK OF THE MURDERER.

A Pittsburg (Pa.) despatch to the St. John *Telegraph* reports:—

"Great excitement is caused all through this portion of the State, by the murdering and burning of the Hamnet family. There was no clue up to midnight of Love, the supposed murderer. The police and citizens are scouring the woods in search of him. He is 25 years of age, came from Germany a short time since, and had been in the employ of Hamnet since mid-winter. From the fact that the remains of Ella, the eldest daughter, have not been found in the ruins, it is thought by some that Love carried her off with him plunder thus not being his only object. Frank Ackerman, coal digger, was the first to dicover the burning building about 3 o'clock yesterday morning. It was daylight before the ruins cooled off, and the search was commenced for the bodies. The first body found was that of farmer Hamnet; it was a charred mass of human flesh. Portions of his partially consumed clothing were still in places clinging to his unconsumed remains. His face was blackened and charred in a few moments. The horror of the people was increased by the discovery and the digging out of another body. This was Robert Smith, an apprentice, who was badly disfigured. His right hand, only, was whole, but shrunken and shrivelled; the left arm was dislocated at the shoulder, and lying across his breast; his feet were entirely burned off, and the shin bones protruding from the burned and steaming flesh; his throat was cut in three places, the horrible gashes being gaping open at those who gazed upon the terrible spectacle. The third body is believed to be that of Emma Hamnet, four years of age but her features were totally unrecognizable. The lower members were entirely destroyed from ends of small ribs, which protruded through the back, near the spinal column. The fourth body was that of Agnes the wife of Hamnet She was recognized by portions of her clothing, which was clinging to the remains. Her outside dress had been burned, but her underclothing was not entirely consumed. The wires of her hoop skirt were still around the body, furnishing proof that she had not retired to bed when she met her fate."

THE RAILWAY.

Some of the strongest opponents of the railway policy have been "won over." The last Summerside *Progress*, remarking on the extension, says:—"The road appears to be in excellent order. The time made in coming was within three hours, including stoppages and about the same in returning. The cars are very comfortable, they run easily and are handsomely upholstered. They can seat about thirty passengers and are well ventilated and provided with all necessary conveniences. The train left Charlottetown at half-past nine in the morning, remained between four and five hours in Summerside, and was back again in the Charlottetown station a little after eight o'clock in the evening. Our readers will be able to form a ood idea of the convenience of railway travelling when they can go to Charlottetown and back in a day and have plenty of time to do a moderate amount of business without hurry and without fatigue. The excursionists all seemed to enjoy their holiday greatly, and we can testify from our own obsesv tion that the trip to Chrrlottetown was particularly pleasant. We cannot close this short and hurried notice of the first excursion made on the P. E. Island Railway, without bearing our testimony to the obliging disposition manifested by the contractors' employees, from the highest to the lowest, with whom we came in contact. They have all, from Mr. Gregory and Mr. Rainnie downwards, evinced a desire to render their intercourse with the people of the Island as pleasant as possible, and to afford them as much accommodation as circumstance permit.

TARIFF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE MARITIME PROVINCES

Mr. Cartwright has felt it necessary to lighten the burdens he imposed on our shipbuilders. Some of the shipping materials which he taxed he consents to admit duty free again Yet we of the Maritime Provinces have no very great reason to rejoice on that account. For if Mr. Cartwright lessens the weight of one kind of taxation that pressed heavily on the Maritime interest, he discriminates against us in his newest Tariff in another direction. What he gives up to the ship-yard he regains from the tea table. In his first Tariff, the duties imposed on tea were 6 cents per lb. on green and 4 cents per lb. on black tea. These, compared with the duties on tea levied under the old Tariff, before the tea taxation was abolished, bore quite unfavorably on the people of the Maritime Provinces. Under the old Tariff, besides an equal *ad valorem* duty on the green and black teas, there was a tax of 7 cents per lb. on green tea, and one of 3½ cents on black tea. Thus, under the old Tariff, the specific duty on costly green tea was precisely as much again as that upon the cheaper black tea; whereas, under Mr. Cartwright's first Tariff the specific duty on green was only half as much again as that on black tea. But when he resolved to make concession on shipping materials, he, it seems, determined to recoup himself by so re-arranging the tea duties that the specific on green should be only one third more than that on black tea. So in his second Tariff he placed the specific duty on the former at 4 cents and that on the latter at 3 cents.

The significance of these facts lies in this circumstance, that in Ontario and Quebec green tea is mainly used, while in the Maritime Provinces the consumption of green tea is very small.—*St John News*.

Advices from Arkansas represent affairs in a more serious light than at any previous time. Another collision is reported, and five men said to have been killed. The seizure of Judges causes great excitement and writs of Habeas Corpus have been served, but were not obeyed, on ground that martiall law prevailed,

Planting Our Fruit Trees.—Just as soon as the frost is out of the ground, so that the men can dig the hole deep enough to receive the roots, and large enough to permit covering them well, is the time to set our trees. I generally put a pail of water on the earth as I pack it about the roots, and I am not afraid that I will get it packed too hard. When I finish up on the top, I pack it down, and do not raise a high moun l about the tree to run off all the water from the tree, that falls during the course of the summer. In five or six days after the trees are set, I take a look at them, and see if it is not necessary to pack the earth closer about the tree. I get the best varities—the thriftiest and nicest trees—even if it does cost a little more. If there is a good nursery near by, I prefer getting my trees there, in order to see that proper care is taken not to cut off too many roots, even if it takes longer to dig them up. They must be set out as soon as possible, before the roots are dried A little care in taking up and setting out would save thousands of tress and a large amount of money, that are now wasted every year.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Dr. Tupper bore a principal part in exposing the fallacy of statements made by the Minister of Finance in his "Budget Speech;" and consequently, to him chiefly, is the country indebted for a modification of Mr. Cartwright's offensive Tariff. On the 30th ult., he delivered a very able speech in Parliament. The Toronto *Mail* reports he said, he had already shown from the trade and navigation returns that there had been no decline in the trade of the country which could be taken as justifying the Finance Minister's speech, and in fact there had been no decline at all in articles entered for consumption. Proceeding to deal with the question of deficiency, he handled it in several ways. Even taking the net expenditure at $24,000,000, he showed that by taking into account the money on hand at the beginning of the year, with some other items of legitimate revenue, all outlays could be met without fresh taxation. The Finance Minister, however, he pledged himself to prove, had made a mistake in the item of the working expenses of railways, of from four to five hundred thousand dollars and besides, he had put down as an expenditure of the year $766,200, which, his own figures showed, had not been expended, as they would have to be re-voted this year. He proceeded to point out that in the receipts and expenditure up to the 1st April there had been an actual surplus of $126,822, and the three best months of the year—those in which the revenue was usually large and the expenditure small, were yet to run. He pointed out that, though the returns were but for nine months, the whole of the subsidies of the year, in all $3,951,575, were included. He vehemently denounced the Ministry for having deranged the trade of the country, and for having given notice so far beforehand that the tariff would be raised. Referring to the returns that day laid before the House, and without laying so much stress upon the receipts from customs and excise, he pointed out that in nine months the post office and railways showed an increase of $400,000, a most healthy state of affairs. Having given some further figures, the hon. member for Cumberland concluded that there would, instead of a deficiency, be an actual surplus on the 1st of July of $526,542. He further insisted that the Finance Minister was incorrect in his calculations that the revenue of the ensuing year would not be more than $22,000,000. Had he left well alone, there must have been a natural increase of a million and a half of dollars. Referring to the statement of the Finance Minister, that the late Government had converted a surplus of four millions into a deficit of one million, he pointed out that they had taken the duties off tea and coffee, that they had brought new Provinces into the Dominion, that they had assumed the debts of Ontario and Quebec—just as the Imperial Government had lately done, in dissipating a surplus by taking a penny off the income tax and abolishing the sugar duties. The accusation he said, was not simply rash, but criminal. The late Government, he remarked, had expended in six years out of revenue on the public buildings, no less a sum than $11,726,445, which might in all fairness have been charged to capital amount and added to the public debt, and, while doing this, they had reduced taxation from 13½ to 10¼ per cent. The present Government, instead of reducing expenditure by economising in the public service, as they had promised, had largely increased it. He scathingly denounced the policy of the Government by which the whole trade of the country had been disturbed, and pointed out that if the Finance Minister had required more money, he should have charged more of the public works where economy was not possible, to capital account. The Government would have to go into the money markets of the world for £15,000,000. How could Mr. Cartwright exp ct to get this money in the face of his croaking and damaging speech? This was a time when the most and not the worst of our financial condition should have been made. There was no excuse for the Finance Minister's unfortunate speech. Dr. Tupper then took up the tariff, and scarified the Government unsparingly as he dwelt at considerable length upon item after item of that remarkable production, and concluded a two hours-and-a-half speech of great force and power, amidst much applause.

On the 2nd inst., in Committee of Supply, on the item of $500,000 for the Pacific Railway Survey, the Premier said Fleming's report would not be ready this week—surveys between Nipigon and Nipissing Lake were suspended. Four parties were at work on the British Columbia end. Others were trying to find the best passes through the Rocky Mountains. The Cascade Ranges were the most difficult. Most of the surveys made so far were merely explanatory. Surveys this year would be principally at the British Columbia end. It would be impossible to begin the British Columbia end of the road this year. Thorough surveys must be first had. Mr. DeCosmos expressed his astonishment at this statement of the Premier that the Government was still further going to break faith with British Columbia. The late Ministry had endeavored to carry out its pledges by making surveys and locating the line at the western end. According to the Premier's statement, four years were to elapse beyond the time agreed upon before work would begin. He warned the Government that if they persisted in this course, British Columbia would appeal to this Parliament, and failing here, would appeal to the Imperial Parliament to protect her rights; meantime the Local Legislature would be convened to prepare that appeal. The Premier said no matter how anxious the Government were to begin the work it was impossible until complete surveys were made. Mr. DeCosmos said the Premier was entirely in error. The late Government made through surveys and located the terminus at Esquimalt. Grading could be proceeded with immediately just as easily as the Pembina Railway. He must again warn the Government of the danger of their policy. There was a difference between the unavoidable delay of the late Government and the deliberate proposition of this Government to further postpone the work.

On the same day, the Hon. Peter Mitchell announced that, as an independent member, he was bound to oppose the Ministry which has introduced the Yankee system of dismissing officials at every change of Government.

On the 5th inst. the subject of Emigration was discussed. The Premier reported that a building had been rented in London at twelve hundred pounds per annum, which would be the headquarters of the Dominion agent. The Dominion agents could have offices there if desirable. It would also be a rendezvous for Canadians who had business in London. Mr. Jenkins would have the general supervision of the emigration staff, look generally after Canadian affairs, and conduct special political business when necessary. Sir John hoped that Mr. Jenkins would confine his attention to emigration matters. He (Sir John) thought no good would result to Canada if Mr. Jenkins were to act as a Canadian Ambassador. To be a successful political agent of Canada he should not be actively engaged in English party politics. He strongly condemned Mr. Jenkins' Dundee speech. Mr. Mitchell approved of Mr. Jenkins' appointment, but hoped he would confine himself strictly to his duties.

On the 6th, the subject of the proposed military school received some attention. Mr. McKenzie explained that it was intended to give an education in mathematics, engineering, French, German and Spanish; but the chief object would be to educate cadets as engineers, as at West Point. He thought the country had arrived at that stage when it required an educated class of officers as engineers on railroads and other public works. The services of gentlemen who had obtained a regular military education could be made available He did not favor the establishment of a regular army, but did favor a thorough education of a class of officers whose services in emergency could be relied on. As the country increased, it might be found necessary to maintain a small permanent force. This college was an experiment, but one which the Government was bound to entertain. The Government had to provide the nucleus of a class of officers capable of taking command under certain circumstances. He could not say where the buildings for college would be erected. Kingston was one of those places which might be selected; but this would engage the attention of the Government during the recess.

On the 6th, Mr. Costigan moved for an address to Her Majesty on the subject of law respecting common schools adopted by the Local Legislature of New Brunswick in 1871, and praying for the passing of an Act making certain amendments to the British North America Act of 1867. He contended that by the Act of Confederation it was understood that Roman Catholics had lost none of their rights, but subsequent legislation in the Local House had shown they had, in fact they had been deprived of their rights. He held that under a local law a school might be established when the majority of children were Protestants, and yet general principles of christianity taught, but not according to the wishes of parents, or a school where the majority were Catholics; in each case the rights of minority should be respected. The consideration of this motion was postponed till the following Monday (to-day). In a telegram to the St. John *Freeman*, it is reported that "the reason for the postponement is that a telegraphic correspondence is passing between the Bishop of St. John and parties here (Ottawa) in reference to the question."

On the 8th, Mr. Mackenzie moved the following resolutions, which we clip from the St. John *Telegraph*:—That it is expedient to provide for the costruction of Canadian Pacific Railway from some point near Lake Nipissing to some point in British Columbia in the Pacific Ocean, both points to be determined by Governor in Council. It is expedient to provide that the whole line of said railway, for the purposes of its construction, shall be divided into four sections; the first to begin near the south of Lake Nipissing, already mentioned; the second section to begin at some point on Lake Superior, to be determined by the Governor in Council, connecting with the first section, and to extend to Red River in the Province of Manitoba; the third section to extend from Red River, Province of Manitoba, to some point between Fort Edmonston and foot of the Rocky Mountains, to be determined by Governor in Council; and the fourth section to extend from western terminus of the third section to a point in British Columbia on the Pacific Ocean; branches of said railway shall also be constructed from a point indicated as the proposed eastern terminus of said railway to point on Georgian Bay, both points to be determined by Governor. From the main line at Fort Garry, a branch will be built to Pembina, and such branch to be considered as part of the Canadian Pacific. A railway telegraph will be constructed in advance of said railroad, along their whole extent, as soon as practicable after the location shall have been determined.

The gauge of said railroad shall be four feet eight inches and a half; the rolling stock shall be constructed under the general superintendence of the department of Public Works, according to surveys, location plans and description of works contemplated, as may be approved by the Governor in Council.

No contract is to be given unless the contractors show that they possess a capital of £4,000 for each mile constructed, and deposit twenty-five per cent. in money or approved securities to credit in bank or banks as security for the completion of the contracts. A guarantee of interest, at four per cent. per annum, of 25 years, on a sum to be stated in the contract, for each mile of section or sub-section contracted for, shall be given to the contractors.

Tenders for the work will be required to state the lowest sum per mile, for which such guarantee will be required.

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In case it shall be found by Governor in Council more advantageous to construct said railroad or any portion thereof as a public work of Canada, the construction shall be let out by contracts offered to public competition. Branch railroads shall be constructed as follows: section of first branch, extending from the eastern terminus of the first section of said railroad to some point on the Georgian Bay, shall be constructed by contractors as a private enterprise on the same terms and conditions as provided with respect to the main line of road or as a public work of the Dominion under such contract or contracts as may be agreed on.

The Governor in council may also grant such bonus or bonuses, or subsidy or subsidies, to any company or companies already incorporated or to be hereafter incorporated, not exceeding $10,000 per mile, as will secure the construction of branch lines The Governor in council may at any time after construction of said branch railroads, make with a company or companies owing any portion of said branch railroad, such arrangements for leasing to such company or companies any portion of said railroad; and no such agreement for working said railroad in connection with any other railroad shall be binding till it shall have been laid before before the House of Commons.

For the construction of the main line by contractors, or as a public work of the Dominion under such contract as may be agreed upon and sanctioned by the Governor in Council, Government by order in council shall have the right to determine the time when works on each section or sub-section of said railroad shall be commenced, and shall have power at any time to suspend the progress of the work to the next session of Parliament.

Out of sums of money to be raised under an act authorizing the raising of a loan for construction of certain public works, with benefit of Imperial guarantee or a portion thereof, and subject to provisions of said act the Governor in Council may from time to time apply sums not exceeding, in the whole two million five hundred thousand pound out of the sums raised with Imperial guarantee.

In the Senate, on the 29th ult., Hon. Mr. Montgomery inquired whether Sir Robert Hodgson had accepted the Governorship of Prince Edward Island, and if so, why he had not been sworn in. He made this enquiry because for the last six months the Chief Justice of the Island had been administering the Government. Sir Robt. Hodgson had been offered the Governorship, and he wanted to know if had been sworn in, as the session was coming on, and he could not fill the two positions at once, and it would be necessary for the Government to appoint a new Chief Justice at once. Hon. Mr. Letellier de St. Just said the only reason why he had not been sworn in was because he had not accepted the office.

The following Bill respecting Prince Edward Island has been introduced:

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. The second and third section of the Act passed in the thirty-sixth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, "*An Act respecting the administration of the colony of Prince Edward Island as a Province of the Dominion*," which would otherwise expire at the end of the present session, shall be and are hereby continued, and shall remain in force until the first day of January, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and thence until the end of the next session of the Parliament of Canada, and no longer

A RELIC OF BURNS.

Scoon and Perth Masonic Lodge, known as No. 3, the third oldest lodge in Scotland, has become possessed of a very interesting relic of Burns, which is understood to be hitherto unpublished. It is addressed to "Mrs. R. W. Riddell Halcaths." The poem appears to have been written on three pages of a sheet of letter paper, the following note occupying the first page: "Mrs. W. Ridell Halcaths,—the health you wished me in your morning's card is, I think, flown from me forever. I have not been able to leave my bed to-day till about an hour ago. Those wickedly unlucky advertisements I lent (I did wrong) to a friend, and I am ill able to go in quest of him. The Muses have not quite forsaken me. The following detatched stanzas I intend to interweave in some disastrous tale of a shepherd:—

"'Desparing beside a clear stream,'
L'amour: toujours l'armour!
Volte subito.

The trout in yonder wampling burn
That glides, a silver dart
And safe beneath a shady thorn
Defies the angler's art:
My life was once that careless stream'
That wanton trout was I:
But Love wi' unrelenting beam
Has scorched my fountain dry.

"That little flowret's peaceful lot
In yonder cliff that grows,
Which saves the linnet's flight, I wot,
No ruder visit knows,
Was mine, till Love has o'er me passed,
And blighted a'my bloom;
And now beneath the withering blast
My youth and joy consume.

The waken'd lay'rock, warbling springs,
And climbs the early sky,
Winnowing blythe his dewy wings
In morning's rosy eye:
As little reckt I sorrow's power,
Until the flow'ry snare
O' witching love, in luckless hour,
Made me the thrall o' care."

THE DEPUTATION TO WASHINGTON.

We believe we are justified in saying that Mr. Brown's mission to Washington has been an utter and complete failure. We ventured to suggest that this would be the case when the Minister of Marine and Fisheries was hastily called upon a few weeks since to pack up his trunks and turn his face towards the American Capital. For the country's sake we sincerely regret that Mr. Brown has been unsuccessful. We have never hesitated to say that the freer trade was between Canada and the United States the better it would be, not for Canada only, but for the Republic as well. No public man in the Dominion could have doubted, however, if he studied aright the signs of the times and the utterances of Parliament, that the people of this country were not prepared to appear at Washington *in forma pauperis*, and sue for a treaty, under circumstances which must necessarily have led to the belief that the trade of Canada was suffering, and that we desired to better its condition by obtaining some advantages from the neighboring country. We are quite satisfied that if a *plebiscite* of the commercial men of the Dominion were taken, it would very clearly show that they preferred going on as they have been, rather than make overtures to the Washington authorities.—*Toronto Mail.*

FARMING IN MANITOBAH.

A young Scotchman who recently emigrated to Manitobah writes to a friend in Halifax, as follows:—

"To give you an idea of the nature of the soil, I will give you a few instances which have came under my notice, which are as follows:—

Mr. Grant of Kat Creek, had 75 bushels of oats to the acre, and over 50 bushels of barley. An 88 bushel grist of his, by measure, weighed 110 bushels.

Mr. Bell, of White Mud from 7 bushels of seed potatoes, raised 350 bushels. Mr. Morrison, of the same place, raised 12 bushels of onions upon a patch of land 20 feet square. Wheat raised last year averaged about 36 bushels per acre, running between 28 and 45. Oats average at least 60 bushels per acre, running from 50 to 75, and average over forty pounds to the bushel. The average yield of barley is about 50 bushels per acre.

With reference to the winter, so far as it has gone, it has been the most pleasant I ever experienced. The coldest day we had was on the 25th of January, when the thermometer stood 42° below zero, but strange to say, even at that, I have felt more uncomfortable from the damp atmosphere in Scotland. There has not been a day one can't work out of doors, as the atmosphere is so clear and dry, and no wind; if any, so slight, that you do not feel it disagreeable.

The climate is very healthy and most invigorating I have never had a day's sickness since I came here, and a pain that often troubled me, while in Scotland, in the breast, has completely gone away.

NEWSPAPER LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

1 Any person who takes a paper regularly from the Post Office—whether directed to his name or another's, is responsible for the payment.

2 If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay up all arrearages, or they publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collected the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the Office or not.

3 The court has decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the Post Office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is a prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

Sir Lambton Lorraine, in a communication to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, says the reported interview with himself, published in the New York *Herald*, is fictious. He also says: "I never said that blood was thicker than water, that the people of England had a strong affection for their American cousins and that it would give me great pleasure to receive a silver brick. Whatever may be my opinion, I am no admirer of those Englishmen who are given to fawning upon their American cousins, at the expense of their own self-respect."

The following is an extract from a private letter, dated Cape Coast Castle, Feb. 20th:—"Sir Garnet is a wonderful man. He gives a date beforehand for every single thing, and has not missed his day once. When he left Cape Coast at Christmas, he said the troops should re-embark on the 20th of February, and here they are back to the day."

A meeting of those favouring the disestablishment of the English Church was held in London on the 16th inst.