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**THE DAILY EXAMINER.**

MAY 1, 1879.

**The Railway Re-adjustment.**

It is greatly to be regretted that the *Patriot* will persist in stating and publishing "the thing that is not." By the recent dismissals, it says, the Government have introduced the "American principle"—which is, "To the victors belong the spoils." Now the victors have received no spoils. Men who have worked hard for years, and who have suffered much for the Liberal-Conservative Party, and who, perhaps, hoped to profit somewhat by the great victory they helped to achieve, have been utterly ignored in the recent readjustment. The dismissals, too, have been made without regard to party. Friend and foe, and those who did not bother themselves with politics at all, have suffered alike. From a party standpoint there has been no discrimination, whatever; and many active Liberal-Conservatives in the city and in the country are disappointed and disgusted with the way the re-organization has been effected. The American principle has not been introduced; and the *Patriot* has no ground, whatever, for its complaints and regrets on that score.

We confess, however, that there are some points in connection with the recent dismissals upon which the *Patriot* might fairly express dissatisfaction. The dismissal of officials—and not only those who held sinecures, but also of those who had plenty to do and were not too well paid—at one day's notice, no fair-minded man can defend. Officials are entitled to the same consideration as would be extended to the employees of mercantile establishments; and they should get at least a month's notice of dismissal. We have no doubt that representations will be made on this point; and the wrong which has been done in this respect will, we have no doubt, be righted.

With respect to those whose salaries have been cut down, the *Patriot* might also find some fault. The work seems to have been done in a bungling way. Some of the most competent officials, who were never too well paid, have had their salaries reduced, at one fell swoop, by \$240 a year. We hope the re-adjustment will be amended in their behalf.

There are other points fairly open to the criticism of the *Patriot*. In fact, it could not have blundered upon a falseness statement than that the dismissals are made from party motives.

But, though the Party may be displeased and the officials discontented, the country at large has no right to complain. The re-adjustment will result in a saving to the taxpayers of the Dominion of about \$10,000, as follows:

Salary of Engineer,	\$ 2,200 00
Assistant Engineer,	800 00
Bridge Inspector,	1,000 00
Store Keeper,	1,000 00
Travelling Auditor,	1,200 00
Train Dispatcher,	1,000 00
Engineers' Clerks,	1,020 00
Reduction of pay of 17 Station Masters \$10 per month,	2,040 00
Paymaster's salary,	400 00
S. F. Hodgson's salary,	120 00
D. M. Fraser's salary,	120 00
J. Breen's salary,	60 00
G. A. Sharp's salary,	240 00
	\$10,200 00
Less additions—	
Chas. McNeill's salary,	\$500 00
D. Davies, jr.,	100 00
W. Bagnall,	300 00
	900 00
	\$9,300 00

A FINAL search was made at Pugwash, N. S., last week, for the missing man John Nicholson, but without success. Nearly one hundred men were out, and the whole ground between Pugwash and the Gulf was traversed.

The following passengers arrived per str. *Carroll* last evening:—Miss Emily McKeen, Messrs. L. S. Hamblin, D. W. Shedd, R. O. Lavender, W. Veige, Turawith and Peter Henry.

The "St. Lawrence" will leave to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock for Summerside and Shediac. Should she succeed in making the passage, she will probably leave Shediac on Saturday morning, at 8 o'clock.

The last mail by the Capes crossed yesterday, the 30th ult., and was delivered in this city last night.

**The Grumbler's Complaint.**

We often hear the expression now-a-days—and sometimes we even hear it in the Legislature—"It was a blue day that we entered Confederation." The expression is sometimes raised by such words as "black" and "mournful." Now, what grounds are there for this doleful expression? It is an undoubted fact—made the very most of by our enemies in the House of Commons—that, so far, the Island has drawn from the Dominion Treasury many thousands of dollars a year more than she put into it. Is that a cause of rain? We have drawn the best part of \$300,000 to pay for the fee simple of our lands. We are, at least, that much better off than before we entered the Union. Owing partly to the extravagance of the Grits, partly to the depression of trade, and partly to the fact that it was a new undertaking, some \$60,000 or \$70,000 have been spent upon the railway every year over and above its receipts. This money has circulated through out the Province. And is this one of the causes why we should "mourn the day," etc? By Confederation we gained absolute free trade with the whole of British America. Is this one of the reasons? Just fancy the position we should now be in had we not entered the Union. Shut out from the markets of the United States by an almost prohibitory tariff, shut out from the markets of the Dominion by the tariff recently enacted,—cut off from the British markets for our oats by reason of the reduction of prices, we should be obliged either to suspend trade operations almost entirely, or else to sue for Union with the United States—with its tariff varying from 25 to 85 per cent. and its billions of National debt, or we should have to turn to the Dominion, with a moral certainty of making worse terms than we made in 1873. Are the prices of imported goods higher they were before Confederation? Not at all. They are lower! But in common with the rest of the world, we have lately experienced hard times. Had we never had hard times before we entered the Union? A friend of ours, who has an excellent memory, says he remembers well a time when the shutters were up on nearly every store around Queen Square; and everyone knows that there were "hard times" previous to Confederation. We have suffered. But we have not suffered so severely as many other communities. Perhaps, if the truth were known, we have suffered less than we should have done had we not, before the hard times came on, obtained a claim upon the Dominion of Canada. It is a pity to hear sensible men making use of foolish, ridiculous and baseless expressions, calculated to breed harmful discontent. We suffer but temporarily. When the great natural resources of the Dominion shall have been developed—when our mines are full of miners, and our factories and workshops support a large population of thriving citizens—when we are able to produce fabrics of every description sufficient for our own use, as cheaply as they are produced in England and the United States, and when a home market has been established in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the fortunes of the Market Garden of the Gulf will be securely established for all time to come.

**PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.**

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.**

WEDNESDAY, April 30.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN laid on the table the Report of the Superintendent of Education; also the Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

Morning Session.

TUESDAY, April 29.

MR. REID, from the Committee appointed to receive tenders for printing the Debates of this House, read the report of said Committee, and recommended that the tender of P. R. Bowers, being the lowest, be accepted.

MR. BOLGER, from the Committee appointed to receive tenders for printing the Journals of this House, presented the report of said Committee, and recommended that the tender of Arthur Fultz be accepted as being the lowest. He (Mr. B.) considered it right that bonds should be entered into for the performance of these contracts.

MR. LAIRD said the publisher of the *DAILY EXAMINER* had agreed to publish a summary debate, provided that the reporter of the House would furnish it.

MR. REID, as Chairman of the Committee having under consideration the Draft Address in answer to the speech of the Lieutenant Governor, desired to make a few remarks on the topics alluded to in that document. With regard to the first paragraph, all would agree that the present was a very unseasonable time for the meeting of the Legislature; but the necessity was forced upon the Government on account of the late Administration holding on to the reins of power so long, knowing that they had forfeited the confidence of the

country. However late as it was, the business of the country must be attended to. There was a reference in the speech to the finances of the country being in an unsatisfactory state, but as the Public Accounts would be laid before the House, there would then be a better opportunity to discuss this matter. We were entitled to our proportion of the Fishery Award, and the Local Government should strengthen the hands of our Dominion representatives in getting this amount. The Registration and Ballot Act had not given satisfaction. Besides increasing the cost of elections, revising the lists and printing cost over \$3,000 a year, and this should be abolished. The Dominion Government should have borne the expense. He was in favor of abolishing the Legislative Council. It was not much of a check on hasty legislation, as many of the most important measures were sent up late in the session, and not discussed as fully as the otherwise would be. Were the Council abolished, the House of Assembly would be more careful in making the bills perfect. While wishing to have the Council abolished, he wished to see property-holders protected. The cost of the Civil Service should be reduced, but that would be better done by reducing the number of officials than by cutting down salaries. There was great necessity for an improvement in our public roads and bridges, but he felt himself at a loss to say how this was to be effected. Under the old Statute Labor Act, the money appropriated by Government was often wasted, and he had been of opinion that it would be better to let out the roads in sections, to be kept in repair the year round. The great trouble was, the roads were only repaired in spring, and then there was no person to look after them the rest of the season. The Government intended to introduce a Bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt, and he hoped it would be a better one than that passed some years ago. A Lien Law was required to prevent dishonest contractors from cheating mechanics and laborers. Those who let contracts would then have to be careful who got them, or take good security. The repeal of the Assessment Act was demanded; but a revenue was required, and he believed the Government would introduce a Bill which would remedy this matter, at least in part. He (Mr. Reid) had been in the midst of the small-pox, and he was sincerely thankful that they had got rid of that troublesome disease. He would move that the House go into Committee on the Draft Address, and that Mr. Arnsar take the Chair of that Committee.

MR. BURNS seconded the motion, and agreed with the remarks of the hon. member who had moved the Address. All would agree that Parliament should meet at a much earlier season than the present, so that more consideration could be given to the various measures brought before them. Merchants, as well as farmers, were busy at this season of the year. Public men on both sides of politics declared at the time we entered Confederation that our revenue was sufficient for many years to come; but in five years we had to resort to direct taxation, and this was an unsatisfactory state of affairs. We were told nearly the same thing in the Speech at the opening of the late session; and this was proof that the statement was true. Instead of retrenching, the late Government launched out into more expenditure. For not making this retrenchment the late Government was swept out of power, and the present Government should heed the voice of the people, cut off every unnecessary expenditure, and bring the expenses within the income. He hoped the Government would make every exertion to get this Island a fair share of the Fishery Award. We did not give away our right to the fisheries when we went into Confederation, and no stone should be left unturned to secure a large share of the money. The cost of elections was a heavy drain. A more efficient and less expensive system, he hoped, would be introduced. The public were of opinion that one branch of the Legislature was sufficient to carry on the business of this small country. Regarding the way in which the Legislative machinery should be reduced, there was a difference of opinion; but he hoped the Bill which the Government would bring down would be such that they could give it their hearty support. It was very necessary to secure the efficiency of the Public Departments. It was necessary to do away with all officers that were not required, and pay those who do the work a fair salary. Every man had now to work for less than he did some years ago. The Road Service required improvement, for last year the roads were in many places much worse than usual. He was not altogether inclined to abolish imprisonment for debt; but as we were to have a Lien Law in connection with it, he hoped the matter could be settled in a satisfactory manner. He could not say that he was sorry the Assessment Law was unsatisfactory, as he never heard of class legislation being anything else. Why was the Assessment not put on all property? Why was the enterprising farmer saddled with extra taxation on account of his improvements? This Act was introduced to meet the extra expenses of the schools, and the towns reaped the greatest advantages from the School Law, while they were exempted from taxation. The expenditure for education was now double what it was when the Land Tax amounted to \$14,000, and now the farmers had to pay \$35,000 assessment, and the towns got the benefit of it. The effect of this was to crush the farmer, and that would recoil on the country towns. It was a matter of congratulation that the small-pox in Alberton was destroyed; and no doubt the Government of the day deserved some credit for their action in the matter. With proper precautions, he thought that dreadful disease could be prevented from coming to shores at all. Regarding the last paragraph, he believed that the deliberations of the present Legislature would tend to the peace, prosperity and advancement of this Island.

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**NEW GREY COTTONS,**

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**IMMENSE VARIETY**

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TO OFFER TO OUR

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Ch'town, May 1, 1879.

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Cheapest & Best IN TOWN.

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UPHOLSTERING of every description done in latest styles, of best materials. Hair, Flock, Fibre and Straw Mattresses, single and double, and on cheapest scales.

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OF every modern pattern, in Walnut and Gilt, for Picture Frames, cheap, and made up promptly to order.

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DRAWING ROOM and Dining Room Suits in latest styles; Bed Room Sets in Walnut, Ash, Walnut Trimmed and Painted Sets from \$20 to \$150 per set.

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Hearses and Mourning Coaches of best class on shortest notice to any part of the country, and at lower prices than ever before offered to the public.

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