

THE DAILY EXAMINER

MARCH 19, 1898.

ELECTION IN WEST PRINCE.

The arrival of Mr. John Yeo from Ottawa shows that the Conservative electors of West Prince made no mistake when they took the advice of THE EXAMINER, organized for the contest in time, and put their candidate into the field. An election will, doubtless, be held in West Prince forthwith; and either forthwith or in the near future an election will be held in East Prince. Electors in these ridings who do not approve of the conduct of the Government will have an opportunity of saying so in a practical way. Let us hope that they will do so in spite of all the appeals to their selfishness and cupidity that will be made by a hoodling administration.

There is, there can be, no question that Mr. Hackett is the ablest and most experienced man available for the representation of West Prince in the House of Commons. All will remember his conduct during the first session of the present Parliament as in every respect admirable. Mr. Hackett takes, and will take, a position in the House of Commons second only to that of the more prominent men on either side who occupy seats upon the front benches.

With the circumstances under which he was deprived of his seat we are all familiar. An investigation was held, party and personal hatreds were stirred up, every act of Mr. Hackett and his agents in the election was scrutinized in open court by lawyers and by judges, with the result that every personal charge against him was thrown out; and every other charge, except that of not warning a man with whom he drove upon a certain day while canvassing not to treat anyone with spirituous liquor,—not knowing that the man had a bottle of whiskey in his buggy. At the end of the trial the Chief Justice of Canada felt constrained and bound to say,—

"I ADMIT THAT THE OFFENSE PROVED IN THE PRESENT CASE WAS OF A TRIVIAL AND UNIMPORTANT CHARACTER AND THE APPELLANT WAS ACQUITTED OF ALL THE OTHER CHARGES, of which the particulars contained a great many."

Moreover, the Chief Justice (Sir William Strong) said,—

"The bottle of whiskey was in the buggy, but it was not shown the appellant (Mr. Hackett) was aware of the fact."

It was upon this ground, and this ground only, that Mr. Hackett was deprived of his seat. We feel sure that every man—even Mr. John Yeo, himself, if unbiased by party considerations and the prospect of a Senatorship, will admit that Mr. Hackett ought to be returned to the seat from which he was ejected upon a mere point of law—under the circumstances stated by Sir William Strong.

But it will be said that the Government is in office, that the Government has promised to do great things for the district; and that, therefore, Mr. Hackett ought not to be returned to his seat.

In answer to this we say,—

1. It is true the government is in office; but it is not likely to be long in office.

2. It is true that the Government has made promises and will probably make more;—but it is not probable that they will perform their promises.

The Government have made many promises many of which they have had ample opportunity to perform. But hundreds and thousands of deceived men throughout the country can attest that they are not to be trusted. Their promises to persons have not been performed; and still less have their promises to districts. Mr. Martin was informed in Parliament a few days ago that the government had not decided to go on this spring with the construction of the Belfast-Murray Harbor railway. Would this have been the Government's reply to Mr. Martin if an election were pending in Belfast or Murray Harbor? As they are ready to deceive Belfast and Murray Harbor so they are ready to deceive West Prince and East Prince—after the elections have been run! What monkeying there has been about the Summerside breakwater,—tenders for which have been again called in view of an approaching election!

In respect to large matters, as well as small, the Government is not to be trusted. Witness their conduct as to Preferential Trade. Before the election Sir Wilfrid Laurier promised to exert himself to obtain a preference for Canadian products in the British markets; after the election he went to England and told the statesmen of the Empire that Canada did not want a preference in British markets at all, but would give the British people, as a free gift, a preference in the Canadian markets!

Witness their conduct as to Protection. Before the election they preached free trade and cheap goods,—the removal of every vestige of protection; after the elec-

tion they maintained protection,—and everyone knows that taxes are higher and that the prices of goods, upon the whole, have been increased.

If any proof were needed of the entire unreliability of the present administration, it is to be found in the refusal of the Premier, himself, a few days ago, to bring down to Parliament the copy of a cable despatch which, standing in his place upon the floor of the House of Commons, he solemnly promised to bring down. Fancy Sir John Thompson, Sir John Abbott, Sir John McDonald, the Hon. Alexander McKenzie, the Hon. Edward Blake, Sir McKenzie Bowell or Sir Charles Tupper guilty of such a perfidious and disgraceful act. The Parliament of Canada—in all its history—does not, we believe, afford a precedent for such a case.

Then there is the case of the Hon. Mr. Tarte, Minister of Public Works, who, last year admitted in Parliament that his sons had received, for the purchase of a newspaper, \$30,000 from Mr. Greenfield—the President of the Drummond County Railway—then recently "taken over" by the Government at a capital cost of millions of public money.

Are these the men in whom the electors of West Prince ought to put their trust?

We believe the honest electors will prefer the cool and wholesome shades of opposition for 2 or 3 years; and return to his seat in Parliament an uncorrupt and able man who deserves their confidence and support.

Because right is right To follow right were wisdom in the scorn of consequence.

BOARD OF TRADE DELEGATION.

AFTER THE EXAMINER had been sent to press last evening, a telegram addressed to the Secretary of the Board of Trade came to hand as follows:

"OTTAWA, March 18. E. T. Higgs, Charlottetown.

"Advise dailies, direct steamship subsidy granted; improved telegraphic service promised; second winter steamer strongly urged and favorably considered.

"[Signed.] HORACE HAZARD."

This despatch confirms the opinion that the Board of Trade delegation, composed of Messrs. Aitken and Hazard, was likely to be successful in respect to the main object of their mission. The Board are to be complimented in having seized a favorable opportunity (when two elections were imminent) to bring pressure upon the Government; and their delegates are to be congratulated upon the success of their efforts,—that is if the promises and assurances of the present administration can be said to be worth anything. Mr. Hazard intimates rather more than we anticipated when he says that a direct steamship subsidy is granted. Let us hope that the subsidy will be found large enough to induce a steamship company to send an Ocean steamer here and keep her here until the trade shall have been established. Equally definite is the promise of improved telegraphic service. In this regard, also, let us interpose the expression of a hope that the improvement will include a considerable abatement of rates. An increase of the subsidy promised the Telegraph company—which the improvement implies—cannot be better employed than in procuring telegraphic rates somewhat on a par with those paid by the business men and people generally of the neighboring provinces. That is the telegraphic improvement which is most needed. As to the second winter steamer, we must confess to disappointment and regret that Mr. Hazard has been unable to use some stronger expression than the hackneyed one of "favorably considered." Many of

our business men declare "a second winter steamer" to be the most important of the objects of the delegation. There is no question that we shall be in a bad way whenever an accident shall happen to the Stanley, unless a second steamer is provided. The importance and necessity of a second winter steamer has been fully demonstrated, and the Government ought not to need a reminder that, according to the terms of Union, they are bound to afford continuous communication with the mainland winter and summer, by steam. Indeed a delegation to Ottawa to urge the supply of a second winter steamer ought not to have been needed. We sincerely hope that there will be no failure on the part of the Government to provide at once and maintain a second winter steamer fully equal to the Stanley.

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

Is all the pages of history, those in which are recorded the distresses and sufferings of the native population of Hindustan make the saddest and most pathetic reading. Plague and famine have been, at intervals, throughout their entire history, the lot of the millions in India. Of such gigantic dimensions are these visitations of the plague, that all the skill and all the precautions of the wisest men of our time—supported by the mightiest government in the world—have been effectual only in a pitifully small degree to save the doomed people from the grasp of death.

The recrudescence of the burbolic plague at Bombay, during the past month, is the cause of serious alarm. The outbreak of this pestilence, whenever it has occurred, has always maddened the people with terror, and has always resulted in awful loss of life. In the year 1618 during the reign of the Moghul Emperor Jehangir, in the Emperor's autobiography its origin is said to have occurred through a mouse, which was observed to be distracted, and was thrown to a cat which died. Then the plague broke out and was prevalent in the city of Agra, so that in a day one hundred people more or less were dying of it. Under the armpits, or in the groin, or below the throat a lump comes and they die"—so says the old record. Its ravages during the succeeding centuries were at times terrible. It was known as the "Stroke of God" and those afflicted were given up to die.

The latest outbreak of this disease occurred in the latter part of 1896. It was carried into India from Hong Kong. It has ravaged Bombay, and spread to other of the crowded cities in the Presidency. It has stirred up race feeling and incited race prejudice and sedition. It has caused murder, and riots, and ill feeling. And all these unfortunate circumstances have been added and undeviated affliction for the British Government to deal with. The efforts of the Imperial Government to stamp out the plague are worthy of the highest praise. The doctors and nurses and troops employed in preventive work have shown a wonderful spirit of self sacrifice. But late despatches point to a renewed visitation of the dreaded disease at Bombay, with the usual complications with the native population to increase the trouble of dealing with it.

It should be the fervent prayer of every charitable mind that this fearful affliction may soon pass away. It is considered that 70,000 deaths have already occurred in Bombay Presidency alone, the rate being about 81 per cent of the seizures.

The question of the cause of the plague has been the subject of research, and a paper recently read at the Imperial Institute gives the following facts: "The bacillus pestis discovered by Kitasato is now universally regarded as the cause of

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the plague. The plague bacillus belongs to the group of parasites or disease producing bacteria which find a home in the bodies of certain animals. To adopt an illustration, it would take about 500,000,000 of such organisms, laid side by side, to cover a postage stamp. A prophylactic treatment by inoculation with a fluid serum containing destroyed plague germs had been used; and of \$142 persons who had been treated only 18 had been attacked, and only two of those had died." It is to be hoped that science and sanitary improvements in the condition of the towns will prove a check to the pestilence.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

—The Board of Trade Delegates have reported. But how about the Provincial Government delegation? Are we to have that "million or more"?

—In Ottawa, a few days ago, there were two successful attempts at suicide, and one unsuccessful attempt. All are not rich or happy yet, even at the capital, under the very eyes of the Liberal Government.

—A feature of the correspondence agent the East Atlantic service is the intimation given by the Under Secretary of State to the Canadian Government, that the Imperial subsidy of £50,000 is intended to aid the accomplishment of the fast Pacific as well as the fast Atlantic service. This intimation is given in the following language: "They (the Imperial Government) are anxious that it should be clearly understood by the Dominion Government that no further subsidy in addition to that now offered is to be looked for from the Home Government towards the improvement of the Pacific service, and that the sum now promised is to be regarded as in aid of the accomplishment of the Pacific no less than the Atlantic section of the Ottawa scheme.

LOCAL NOTICES.

Just received a nice assortment of Catholic prayer books and holy week books at F. J. Hornsby & Co's.

Bargain Corner Hats lead in style quality, and price.

Hats, Hats, Hats—Tis time to buy your new hat, the place to buy it is McKay's Bargain Corner.

A little money goes a long way in buying boots and shoes from us this evening. All sizes, all kinds at big discounts.—R. K. Jost, Stumper's Corner.

Ladies' tan kid gloves, some fastening, sizes 7 and 7½ only, were \$1.10 selling for 50c.—T. J. Harris, London House.

See the latest novelties in the suitings, overcoating and trousersing at John McLeod & Co.

First shipment of spring millinery just opened at F. Perkins & Co.

It'll pay you to visit our store today and tonight—see our ad.—Moore & McLeod.

One lot of small sized blouses for small sized boys put on sale at a ridiculously low price. See them.—Moore & McLeod.

BORN

In this city, on the 18th inst., to Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Whitlock, a son.

MARRIED

At Bedeque, on the 17th inst. by Rev. G. C. P. Palmer, John Sutherland, M. D. to Alice P. daughter of the late Malcolm MacFarlane Esq., all of Bedeque.

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THE QUEEN'S.
TORONTO, Feby. 22nd, 1897

To WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In connection with my visit to Canada as Pianist to Madame Albani, I have had occasion to observe various makes of pianos, and have been much impressed with the advances which are being made in the art of piano construction in this young and flourishing country. One of the most recent instruments to attract my attention—and I might say one of the best—is the well known "Bell" Piano. Its tone is admirable throughout, and the touch firm and responsive—just what we musicians like—in fact, an excellent piano in every respect. The new Orchestral Attachment (which I understand can be obtained on "Bell" pianos only) is also an excellent feature, and one which will doubtless excite interest with all classes. I do not hesitate to say that I consider the "Bell" piano a good, honest instrument, and so recommend it to any intending purchaser.

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