

The "Parliamentary Spree."

WHILE the Patriot is profoundly ruminating upon the question "how can a duty on flour (proposed and seconded by Mr. McKenzie's followers, and opposed by Messrs. Pope, Masson, and other Conservatives) increase the cost of bread? we shall turn our attention to "something easy." The farces recently enacted in the Dominion Parliament and the Local Legislature are the most tempting theme we can imagine.

Think of two hundred grave and reverend seigneurs the representatives of a distressed and struggling people—think of the great Commons Chamber, appropriately seated in its plain gray marble pillars and mellow light, as the *dramatis personae* and the scene of a "Parliamentary spree." What an elevating; what an edifying spectacle. Truly a subject worthy of a Dante, a Byron or a Burns.

The leader in the orgies is the notorious "standard elevator" who denounces those who oppose him as "dead in trespasses and sins." He has control of the House—and the drinks; for, conjointly with Mr. Speaker, he has rule over the internal economy of the Parliament Building. The members, we are told, "were nearly drunk;" and must they have got the drink that made them drunk in the Parliamentary tap-room. But was not the Parliamentary tap-room closed? Or was it only to catch the temperance vote that a mock resolution—never acted upon—was passed and published through the land?

Under the auspices and leadership of the Purists, Patriots, Prohibitionists and Economists who now hold the portfolios of office, honorable members played the fool with mirth and laughter, baccanian songs and mock heroic speeches.

It does not appear that one party was either worse or better than the other. The name of "Cheval"—a French Grit—figures prominently in the report; and Messrs. Blake and Mackenzie, we are informed, joined in singing "God Save the Queen." But there is no evidence that the disgraceful orgies were confined to them. McKenzie, it appears, permitted the drink to be provided, and kept the House in session for twenty-seven hours, during which the other members drank, sang and speechified.

Cleverly Done.

THE Local Premier very cleverly evaded a disagreeable discussion of the report upon the Lunatic Asylum Foundation. Instead of permitting it to come on after recess last evening—as was expected—he moved to give "Mr. Speaker" \$500 and the members \$200 each for their session's work. A long and farcical debate followed; and thus, cleverly, was the Asylum matter burked. It is almost needless to add that hon. members—by an overwhelming majority—voted themselves full pay,—though, cleverly enough, Mr. Davies voted against his own resolution. The work of the session being nearly over, the Leader and hon. members thought themselves at liberty to play; and the evening was spent most enjoyably by both the House and the spectators. The exhibition was worth fully twenty-five cents.

THE mails arrived at Cape Traverse early this forenoon. They will arrive in this city by the 6 p. m. train.

HENRY LONGWORTH, Esq. exhibited at the Cattle Show yesterday, a cow which has almost equalled her value by the prizes that have been awarded her. She is now twelve years old, and has taken ten prizes at different exhibitions.

ON Saturday evening last a man named Thomas Calroy, of Fairville, N. B., met his death by taking arsenic. It appears that on Thursday last Calroy, who is about forty-five years of age, when going to his home from Portland, and a few minutes after passing the Suspension Bridge, had been knocked down by a number of roughs and robbed of a watch and thirty dollars. Calroy, as soon as he could make his way clear from his assailants, ran to his home; and next morning, between ten and eleven o'clock, he stepped over to policeman Malone's house, informed him of the occurrence, and requested him to make immediate search for the robbers. Calroy, in the meantime, apparently, was using every effort to have this bold band brought to justice, but all in vain. On Saturday morning he came to policeman Malone again, and told him he was to have a search warrant issued and that he must have his watch and money restored. Malone advised him in the matter, and Calroy then left him, and went towards his house. He was not seen afterwards by Malone. During the remainder of the day Calroy confined himself, it is said, closely to his home. He took his tea as usual, and then retired to his room. It is thought that he took the poison about half past six o'clock in the evening. Nothing was known concerning Calroy after his retirement to his room until about half-past nine o'clock, when he was discovered in his fatal state.—*St. John News.*

THE TRADE QUESTION.

Hon. Mr. Pope's Speech.

(From Hansard.)

Mr. Pope (Queen's, P. E. I.) said he desired to define his position, and express his opinions in regard to the question before the House. In the first place, he was

OPPOSED TO PROTECTION.

in the ordinary acceptance of the term; that was to say, he was opposed to placing high duties on articles to favor certain manufacturers at the expense of the consumer. But while he was prepared to advocate Free Trade to a certain extent, he maintained there was no such thing as Free Trade pure and simple; and his impression was that there were modes in which the manufacturers of the country might be encouraged without adopting a high protective tariff. That was the ground which he was prepared to take. Let hon. members look at the administration of public affairs during the seven years the late Government was in power. Canada prospered to a degree to which no other country had ever prospered during a similar period; the late Government reduced the duties instead of increasing them, and year by year, provided for the construction of public works and meeting the public wants; and, notwithstanding their great liberality, amounting almost to extravagance, there was a yearly surplus. When the present Administration came into power, they commenced by imposing additional taxes on the people, and the first act of this Government, which had elevated the standard of purity, which was to be an Administration of economy and reform, was to attempt to strike a blow at the most important industry in the Maritime Provinces; the shipping interest. Although the present Government had yearly increased the duties, it had a

DEFICIT

for which they were obliged to provide, and at the same time maintain the credit of the country. That was the condition in which we were now placed. He maintained there was plenty of money collected, and that, with economical and proper management, the necessary requirements of the country could be amply provided for without levying any additional duties whatever. There was no question about the fact. But the answer to all charges of extravagance brought against the Government was simply that the late Government, having surpluses year after year

COULD AFFORD TO BE GENEROUS.

their conduct afforded no justification of the present Administration which, entering office at a time when trade was depressed, should have exercised economy and refrained from increasing the burdens of the people. As a FREE-TRADER AND NON-PROTECTIONIST, HE VOTED LAST YEAR AGAINST THE ADDITIONAL DUTIES PROPOSED BY THE FINANCE MINISTER. He thought those duties were unfair and that a re-adjustment of the tariff might be made, and the additional amount of money required might have been raised in some other way. He was in favour of imposing duties to raise the amount of revenue required, but nothing more. The duties imposed last year on

TEA AND MALT

were uncalled for, and, particularly that on malt was thoroughly unjust. By placing a high duty on malt, the Government struck at one of the agricultural interests, for the duty effected the price of barley very materially

A BLOW WAS STRUCK

at the industry of the farmer by imposing that duty, which did not exist in other parts of the world. While Canadian farmers were prevented from placing their barley on the American market on account of the duty imposed by the United States Government, the Americans were allowed to send their breadstuffs into this country free of duty; among the principal articles thus admitted being corn, which was largely used for distillation purposes. If the Government wished to raise that amount of money by duties, why did they not lay them on rum, whiskey, brandy, wines, silks and satins, instead of upon the poor man's tea? That was an objection he offered to the tariff last year, and he repeated it now, and, at the same time, it must be remembered that the present Government called itself a Free Trade Government, although he could not understand how there was such a thing as Free Trade. The reason why so many articles were on the free list under the present tariff was because they had been left there by the late Government for the purpose of encouraging manufactures. Those duties acted as a protection, and when the Government, through the Finance Minister, made an attempt to strike at the shipping interests of the Maritime Provinces, unless outside influence had been brought to bear to induce him to place the duties proposed at a lower rate than he intended, the Government would have destroyed the best industry of the Lower Provinces. The shipping interest was very much depressed, and it was not profitable to build vessels at the present; but, rather than give up the business altogether, they continued it in the hope that, when trade revived, they would be in a position to undertake work advantageously. If the Government were to add one dollar per ton to the cost of vessels built in the maritime Provinces, they would destroy the trade. The shipping interest, with the small Protection now afforded it, afforded employment for a large number of persons: and in Prince Edward Island alone, \$500,000 was annually expended on the material and labor used in shipbuilding. That was a

DIRECT ADVANTAGE;

and there must also be indirect advantages flowing from it. Every farmer in the Province, on account of that shipbuilding interest, received five or ten cents a bushel for his oats more than he would otherwise obtain. A large number of vessels were built in that Province for which the builders provided cargoes, and thus became, to a certain extent, grain merchants, and went into the market to buy produce. Consequently, competition was increased; and if any hon. member thought proper to turn to the prices for which oats were bought in Canada and Prince Edward Island, they would find that, while they brought in Canada, for example, from 29c. to 32c., they were sold at the Island for from 38c. to 42c. He was, therefore, satisfied that, in addition to the advantage of the employment given, and money paid for labor and material in the shipbuilding interests, each farmer received about \$1,000 more than he would otherwise obtain. By reason of ships being built at the Island, and the owners being obliged to obtain cargoes, the Province derived benefit from it. In regard to the sugar interests, if the Government, instead of increasing the duties on raw sugar, were to reduce them very materially, they would not only encourage the

refining interest in Canada, but also give employment to a large number of vessels, and enable them more easily to carry products into the markets of the West Indies and bring return cargoes. While he was not prepared to increase the duties or to advocate Protection, he was ready to support a readjustment of the tariff in such a manner as to fall more equitably on those best able to pay the duties, and

NOT ON THE POOR MAN'S TEA

or on the farmer's barley, and not to encourage the use of spirits. That was really the effect of the policy adopted by the present Government.

THE PRINCIPAL OBJECT

of the people of the Maritime Provinces was to obtain Reciprocity with the United States, and the question arose: which was the most likely way to get it? They knew their American neighbors were not fools and would not make any concessions unless they could obtain something in return.

HOW DID THIS COUNTRY GET RECIPROcity BEFORE?

Simply by protecting our fisheries and by seizing and confiscating their vessels when they came within our waters. As soon as the Americans saw they could obtain advantages by giving Canada reciprocity, they would do so, and not before. With a view, therefore, to reciprocity, as he stated last year, and he repeated now, the people of the Lower Provinces were willing to adopt any policy which would be calculated to bring that about, and to impose higher duties on goods coming from the United States. The question of reciprocity was the

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL SUBJECTS

to the people of Prince Edward Island, whose people desired it and were willing to submit to any reasonable taxation to secure it, because the Island never prospered to the same extent as it did during the ten years the Reciprocity Treaty was in force. He hoped the Dominion would hold on to its fisheries and to every privilege and right it possessed, and would not barter them away to any foreign power unless it obtained a fair money value for them. He knew the feeling was strong that what we wanted was a reciprocity treaty. The people were quite prepared to adopt the policy so far as reciprocity went; but the Government

DID NOT OFFER ANYTHING.

they did not intend to do so, and, therefore, it was the duty of the Opposition, as representatives of the people, to press the Government upon the matter. Something had been said in the House the other evening by the hon. member for Prince that, at the last election, he (Mr. Pope) did not dare to come forward and oppose him, but that he sent someone else, who was beaten by a large majority. He wished to state that he had nothing to do with sending another candidate, and he did not even vote at that election. The hon. gentleman had gone through the country declaring that if this Government did not keep its promises, he would withdraw his support from them. He had made another statement; that in 1852, Prince Edward Island was a stronghold of Liberalism. But in 1857, he (Mr. Pope) had the honor of being returned to the Conservative Government in the Local House, which was in power for eight years. In 1868, he was leader of the Conservative Government there, and was supported by the hon. member himself. In 1872, again, he was leader of the Government, and was supported by the hon. gentleman. For eleven or twelve years he had been supported by him, and, although the Local Government was not called Liberal, there were almost as many Conservatives in it as Liberals. He was surprised his hon. friend should get up and make a statement so far incorrect. He wished, again, to say that he was not a Protectionist in the strict sense of the word, but he was prepared, in the hope of obtaining reciprocity, to vote for the amendment before the House.

What Steam has Done for France.

According to recent official statistics, the total power of all the steam engines existing in France is 1,500,000 horse power, representing the actual labor of 4,500,000 horses or 31,500,000 men. This last aggregate is equal to ten times the present industrial population, which amounts to 8,400,000 souls, but from which must be subtracted old people, women and children, leaving a remainder of 3,200,000 working men. It is interesting, says *La Nature*, to compare the above data with the condition of affairs in 1788, before steam engines were introduced in France, as we are thus led to appreciate the enormous revolution which steam and improved machinery have produced. Just ninety years ago, in every \$200,000,000 worth of French products, sixty per cent. of the value represented labor, and forty per cent. raw material. To-day this ratio has exactly reversed, although labor has increased forty per cent. At the present time the total industrial productions of France aggregate to a value of about \$2,400,000. Of this \$1,400,000,000 represent raw materials, and the remainder labor. If the same proportion as existed in 1788 applied now, taking into account the increase in labor noted above, no less than the eleven-twelfths of the above amount, or \$2,200,000, would be the cost of handiwork. Roughly, then, steam engines and improved tools have produced an economy of \$1,200,000,000, but more than this if they were suddenly swept out of existence and forgotten, there are not enough of men and animals in the country to supply an equivalent amount of power, and even if there were, there would be no way of procuring the necessary food for their support.

Died.

At Halifax, N. S., on Sunday, 31st March, in the 70th year of his age, Mr. Morgan Flaherty, a native of the Parish of Killoam, County of Roscommon, Ireland, and formerly sexton of St. Paul's Church, Halifax, leaving a widow to mourn her loss.

THE MEMBERS OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH Sewing Society purpose holding a FANCY SALE

About 10th July.

Contributions will be thankfully received by Mrs. E. J. Hodgson, President, Mrs. ALEXANDER, Treasurer, Miss JENKINS, Secretary. March 30—law

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Our Agreement with W. H. OLIVE, of St. John, N. B., has this day terminated by mutual consent. In the meantime, parties desiring Machinery can obtain information from us direct, or through

AMOS FISHER, TRURO, N. S., or JOHN WELSH, St. Martin's, N. B.

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Ch'town, March 23—sw pat s jour 2i

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For sale cheap for cash or approved notes.
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Apply to WM. MCGILL.

April 13—dy pat 2i

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A GRAND

SACRED CONCERT!

WILL BE GIVEN IN THE

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Monday Evening next, the 22nd inst.,

In aid of the funds of the Association THE PROGRAMME

will consist of some of the best Anthem Choruses ever sung before a Char-lottetown Audience, such as

"THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING," from "HAYDN'S CREATION."

A Choir of nearly one hundred voices, comprising the best musical talent to be found in the several Churches of the City, accompanied by Piano, Organ, Violin, Flute and two Cornets, are to take part on this occasion. The friends of the Association and lovers of music may confidently expect the best musical treat of the season. Tickets 25 cents; reserved seats 50 cents.

By order, D. M. FRASER, Musical Director.

Ch'town, April 16—

RINGS!

A Lot of Heavy 15-Caret PLAIN GOLD RINGS (assorted sizes and prices) received to-day. W. W. WELLNER. April 15—3i

HARPER'S HISTORY OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES,

COLLINS' GEOGRAPHY,

Chemistry Of Common Things

and other School Books just received at

THE SCHOOL BOOK DEPOT.

HARVIE'S BOOK-STORE;

Ch'town, April 8—cod

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