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THE DAILY EXAMINER

AUGUST 2, 1899.

THE JUDGESHIP.

We congratulate Judge McDonald; and we sympathise with the disappointed friends of Mr. Blanchard. There can be no doubt that the newly-appointed judge had personally the stronger claim from "the party point of view," and that is the point of view from which our Liberal governments regard everything,—even appointments to the Judiciary. We sincerely hope that Judge McDonald will rise to the responsibilities of his position. He has been fortunate as a politician; may he prove to be just as a judge. While this is our wish and hope, we cannot but deprecate the manner in which the claims of our French-Canadian fellow-citizens have been over-riden. It was understood that the Senatorial vacancy created by the lamented death of Hon. Mr. Arsenault having been filled by the appointment of the Hon. John Yeo, an eligible French-Canadian would have been given the next position in which a vacancy was created. Mr. Blanchard was eligible for a County Court judgeship; and it is said that his friends here received intimation from Ottawa that it was arranged that he should be appointed Judge King's County,—Judge Warburton coming to Queen's. But the arrangement, if made, has been overturned. All the efforts of Mr. Blanchard's friends have gone for nothing. The Liberal Party Machine was put into operation on Mr. McDonald's behalf; and so long as the Liberal Party remains in office, the Party machine like the mills of the gods, "grinds slowly, but it grinds exceeding sure."

LIBERAL ECONOMY.

When discussing the increase of Ministerial salaries proposed by our Liberal Government, Sir Charles Tupper said:

"He would be sorry to say anything to wound the feelings of the Minister of Trade and Commerce or any other member of the Administration; but this was a highly important matter, and he could not help saying that in his opinion the Department of Trade and Commerce was entirely unnecessary. The history of the department since its creation showed that it had no important functions to perform and was not by any means as important as either the Department of Customs or the Department of Inland Revenue."

But the majority in Parliament raised the salaries of the two latter ministers; and didn't abolish the useless portfolio of Minister of Trade and Commerce. Such a Liberal economy.

The Liberals have this year added about \$20,000,000 to the Conservative expenditures. Let us see. The farmers of Manitoba and the North-West hope to raise this year about 30,000,000 bushels of wheat. With good prices ruling they may count on an average of, say 60 cents per bushel which will make their entire crop worth \$18,000,000. Takes a lot of labor to make up the amount to be frittered away by the Liberal Government at Ottawa.

—So Premier Laurier didn't know anything about the matter of that judgeship. Well, P. E. Island is a small place; and Sir Wilfrid is a large man. We must presume that all correspondence from what some large people are pleased to call the "baby province" is relegated to his private secretary. Those leading Liberals in P. E. Island who imagined that they were influencing the action of the Government of Canada with their correspondence named "Blanchard" and "McDonald" must feel that they are not so influential as they thought they were.

DOMINION ELECTIONS.

A CORRECTION.

Our Ottawa correspondent writes that the telegraphic message to Maritime Province papers on Thursday last regarding the Senate amendment to Senator Ferguson's Dominion Election Bill was not quite correct. The bill originally introduced contained the following clause:

"In the Province of Prince Edward Island the judge shall ascertain the facts and may take such other evidence as he thinks necessary and is able to obtain and may require the attendance of witnesses and the production of documentary evidence, and shall, for all purposes of such decision, have all the powers of a County Court in Prince Edward Island exercising his ordinary jurisdiction in civil cases."

The Minister of Justice raised a doubt as to whether these words would extend to inquiry to the objected votes of both candidates. Senator Ferguson held that it would and thought the language clearly meant a full inquiry. But in order to satisfy the Minister he proposed to strike out all the clause preceding the words "shall ascertain the facts" and substitute the following:

"In the Province of Prince Edward Island the judge, when recounting the votes, shall take into account all ballot papers numbered and initialled by the deputy returning officer under section 23 of the Franchise Act, 1898, as having been cast by persons whose right to vote has been objected to on the ground of want of qualification, and the judge shall decide such of the said objections as are persisted in at the recount by any candidate or by the agent of any candidate, and for the purpose of such decision he shall hear the candidate or their agents, and may examine on oath the person whose vote has been objected to and any other person. Both candidates may be represented by counsel and the judge."

The clause as amended passed the Senate unanimously. It now remains to be seen what Sir Louis Davies will do with it in the Commons.

The whole scope of the bill is to remove a doubt which has arisen as to jurisdiction of the County Court judges to scrutinize objected votes at Dominion elections. Without that safeguard any scalawag who would swear to his vote would be able to deposit a ballot and there would be no remedy.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—Yes, "Laurier and company are bleeding this country white."

—Mr. Joe Martin will hold his seat in the Legislature. He says he will vote according to the merits or demerits of the contemplated legislation.

—After all, it took Mr. Martin to bring the Government up to the sticking point—the appointment of a Judge for Queen's County.

—When Mr. Greenway took office in Manitoba the province had no debt. Now it has a bonded indebtedness of \$2,500,000, and it is stated there is nothing to show for it.

—Sir Wilfrid was so worried by the Opposition in Parliament that he couldn't think about the appointment of a County Judge for Queen's County. In point of fact, he seemed to have forgotten all about the matter.

—The Mail and Empire remarks that it takes one and one-half years for the farmers of Canada to grow enough wheat to keep the Liberals in funds for one year, even providing that in order to keep the Government on its golden path the farmers themselves should consent to sell all they grow and bring up their families on barley.

—The Hamilton Spectator says that out of \$60,000,000 of expenditure proposed at Ottawa this year Hamilton only gets \$40,000. Hamilton has been founded on the wrong site. If it had been built in Gaspe or in Bonaventure county it might have got \$70,000 for a useless wharf or \$1,000,000 for a bridge. The Masters of the Administration reside in Quebec.

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Men and boy's straw hats selling at half price. You'll save more than the price of the straw, and have the comfort to the good.

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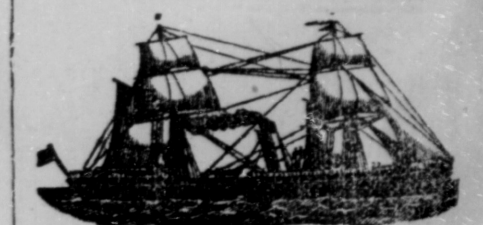
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