

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

APRIL 10, 1894.

BEGINNING OF THE SERIES.

Is the midst of the howling storm yesterday—nature herself protesting in sympathy with the people—and in the absence of a number of the members of the Legislature, the Premier brought down the first instalment of his tax acts. It is apparently intended to postpone the tax acts as far as possible. Small doses are to be given at first, in the hope that the patient may, later on, stand larger amounts. First of all there is to be an act to tax a small extent banks and other incorporated companies; but according to Hon. Mr. Faughran there is no certainty that the bank or company called upon to pay \$100 this year may not have to pay \$500 next year. Then there is to be an act to tax more or less the estates of the dead. Then other tax acts are to be introduced. No one, we are told, will escape. Finally, there is to be the biggest tax of all, a tax which, whether upon earned income or unearned income, or both, will, at all events, come directly out of the pockets of our farmers. Farmers are, if possible, to be persuaded that they will not pay the taxes which are to be levied upon the other orders of men in the community who are dependent upon them. As the well-to-do father of a large family is sometimes almost persuaded that money paid to others by his wife and children and servants does not come out of his pocket, so the farmers are to be cheated into a belief that they will not have to bear, in the last degree, the burden of the tax imposed upon those who exist and are maintained out of their hard earnings. The plan is clever; yet it is a little too thin.

THE TWO-THIRDS CLAUSE.

"The two-thirds clause is not worth the paper that it is written upon." This, in effect, is the conclusion arrived at by the Minister of Justice. Referring to this notorious clause, Sir John Thompson reports: "This section appears to be intended to limit the right which the Legislature constitutionally has of repealing or altering previous acts. Such a provision does not appear to be unduly onerous to be in accordance with the principles of legislation and might afford reason for the disallowance of the statute, were it not that in the opinion of the undersigned, the section is wholly inoperative and of no effect whatever in restricting any further legislative power to the Legislature. The section itself may be repealed at any time by a statute passed in the ordinary way."

Thus the Minister leans fully the contention of the EXAMINER and the Opposition in the Legislature. We even anticipated that the Minister of Justice might permit the bill to go into operation on account of the utter worthlessness of the two-thirds clause. What will the duped ex-Legislative Councillors say now? They were induced to give up the privileges of the Legislative Council on the strength of a worthless contract which seemed to afford assurance that the property holders of the Province would always be specially represented in the Legislative Assembly. A majority of one may at any time sweep away the anomalous, unjust, unfair and ridiculous distinction which at present exists between Council electors and Assembly electors, between "Councillors" and "Assemblymen" upon the floor of our Legislative Chamber. What will the deceived ex-Legislative Councillors say now to the Lender who led them astray? In view of the report contained in the despatch to the Lieutenant-Governor, which was submitted yesterday, how is the boasting of Mr. Arthur Peters, when recording the address, to be justified? That honorable and learned gentleman enlarged upon the triumph of the Government in respect to the passage of the Legislative Assembly Act, and said that "the result has proved that the Government was right and the Opposition wrong, and no one now doubts the constitutionality of the measure." At the moment that there was in possession of the Government an official despatch setting forth that the Government was wrong and the Opposition right, and that only the absolute certainty that the two-thirds clause was "wholly inoperative" prevented the Minister of Justice from advising that the bill be disallowed. The deception and brazenness of the Government and their supporters apart, it will be pleasing to all British men to learn that there is in the law, as it exists, no real bar to any further constitutional change which a majority of the people's representatives may decide to be necessary and judicious.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—Montreal Gazette: Hon. Mr. Mills, in his speech, proved to his own satisfaction that, fiscal conditions being equal, the United States would take much more Canadian goods than Great Britain. Fiscal conditions being unequal as a result of our neighbor's prejudices, Great Britain takes much more Canadian produce than the United States. It is with what, and not with what might be, that Canadians have to do. John Bull's stomach knocks out Mr. Mills' brains. —Ottawa papers received today report the reelection of Mr. Robert Harris to the position of President of the Royal Canadian Academy, and the presentation by him of an address to the Governor-General on the occasion of the opening of the art exhibition now being held there. In the course of the address it was stated that the interest taken in art in Canada "is certainly very much greater than that which existed a few years ago," but "the number of persons who from natural inclination or cultivated taste, look to it to satisfy a real want in life is small." The improvement apparent is, it is claimed, due largely to the impulse given to art in Canada by the Royal Canadian Academy.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

MONDAY, APRIL 9.

Hon. Mr. E. Proulx introduced a bill incorporating the Women's Christian Temperance Union, which was read a first time and referred to the Private Bills Committee. Mr. Arthur Peters presented a bill incorporating the trustees of the Morrell Hall, which was referred to the Private Bills Committee. Hon. Mr. Peters presented messages from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor concerning the bills passed by the Provincial Parliament in the year 1893. The act respecting investigations after fires was read a third time and passed. Hon. Mr. Peters moved the House into committee of the whole for the purpose of taking into consideration the following resolutions: "Whereas, the expectation which the Government of this Province has heretofore held that this Province would receive from the Government of Canada such increased amount of subsidy as would make it unnecessary to supplement the revenue of this Province by any mode of taxation has not been realized, although the Government look forward to its realization in the future, and it is, therefore, necessary for the time being by some means of taxation to add to the revenue of this Province in order that we may continue to maintain our educational system, public and other branches of the public service in an efficient manner. "And, whereas, in the opinion of this House it would be practicable to realize some part of the additional revenue necessary by imposing taxes upon banks, telegraph, trust and loan companies, also other incorporated companies doing business within the Province, and which companies are now enjoying special corporate privileges, to contribute to the revenue of this Province. "Therefore Resolved, That it is expedient to provide for the payment by each of the above named Companies, and also other incorporated companies, of an annual sum to the Provincial Treasurer of this Province; the amount payable in each case to be fixed upon such just and equitable basis as the Legislature may by Act of the Assembly provide. Hon. Mr. Peters, in moving this resolution, pointed out that it was well known that without some system of taxation the Government could not go on meeting the requirements of the Province. Outside of taxation, said he, we have a revenue of about \$200,000, some years more and some years less. No person can expect us to carry on the business of the Province with that amount. Last year we spent about \$1,100,000 on education, and the year amount will be larger. Besides the public works and other necessary expenditures must be kept up. Without going into figures, he thought that all would be ready to admit that some measure of taxation is necessary. Economize as you will, there will still be a gap, and that gap must be closed. On this question of taxation, all kinds of wild statements have been made by the Opposition, and the press. He proposed in the first place to see if there are not some persons and institutions that have a right to supplement the revenue. If the farmers were to be taxed the tax should be made as small as possible. If the farmers cease to prosper then all other professions and pursuits must cease to prosper. The farmers are the backbone of the country and without them we cannot have a country. We wish to prove this by passing such legislation as will make the burden on the farmers as light as possible. He proposed to put on only a reasonable tax on certain companies and not a tax that would drive them away. Banks, telegraph and telegraph companies should be taxed. They have grown from small beginnings and have become great and rich in the state. They are useful to the country, and they amassed their wealth little by little from the farmer. Some say that it is proposed to levy a single tax, a tax on all property, and that is nothing else. While the single tax idea was a good one, it never did and never could exist in this country. The single tax idea is this: In Chicago or New York, speculators buy land, say for \$50,000. In a few years the value of this land will go up to millions, and the single tax man says the difference is the "unearned increment." Now let us apply that to this country. In 1873, when the railway was building, we had a lot of real estate and land greatly increased in value. Land at that time about Souris went up to \$800 or \$1000 an acre. The value was true, but the increase was not. Speculators bought land in some cases before the railway was built and then sold it, pocketing the "unearned increment," and they have it yet. Now, if we could get that "unearned increment" by taxing the land, we could go in for it. But we cannot. The man who "toiled and neither did he gain" got that money and he will keep it. While in New York or Chicago or any of the great cities, the "unearned increment" idea might be suitable it would not do here. We must look at the large companies that have grown up and made their money amongst us. If we would not tax the companies, we would want amongst us, but when it comes to tax they should not object, because they owe their business to the property of the country. By taxing them, and in other ways, we propose to bring the tax on farmers down to the smallest possible limit. He had made extensive enquiries regarding this system of taxation and was in receipt of letters from the Secretary of the Single Tax Association approving his course in the matter. He thought it was all right to tax "unearned increment" where you can get at it. But in cases where the land has actually decreased in value, how are you going to tax? We believe the rich should pay as well as the poor, and the system of taxes adopted should bear lightly on the people as possible. He hoped that in their endeavor to put on a proper tax, and take the weight of the farmers' shoulders, they would receive the cooperation of the House, that no hon. member would be bold enough to object. He looked for no serious opposition to the other side of the House. The motion was then put and carried, and the House went into committee, with Mr. H. C. McDonald in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Gordon, who explained that he spoke for himself alone, said he felt for some time that a small tax was necessary but he was not prepared for a measure of the kind proposed by the Government. However, if the Government found such a tax necessary, owing to their own indiscretions, he would not oppose it. He maintained that such a tax would never become necessary but as it was, owing to the injudicious conduct of affairs, the tax would have to be accepted. The debate was continued by Hon. Messrs. Faughran, A. J. McDonald, A. Peters, Arsenault and Laird. At six o'clock the house adjourned for the night. After recess the debate was continued, the resolution carried on division, and a

bill introduced to impose taxes as follows: On Fire Insurance Companies, per year..... \$100 On Life Insurance Companies, per year..... 150 On Accident and Guarantee Companies, per year..... 25 On Trust or Loan or Building Companies, per year..... 50 On Banks, with only one office, per year..... 50 On Banks, with more than one office, per year..... 100 The bill was read a first time. The House then went into committee on a resolution setting for that it is expedient to accept a succession tax. Hon. Mr. Gordon moved in amendment that: In view of the novelty in this Province of the tax proposed to be levied, and leaving that such a tax would be onerous to the people of this Province, besides being, as at present advised, unnecessary, this House is of opinion that it would be inadvisable to introduce a succession tax. After some discussion, progress was reported, and the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10. House met at 12:30. Mr. H. C. McDonald presented a bill incorporating the trustees of the Wood Islands East Hall, which was read a first time and referred to the Private Bills Committee. House took recess at one o'clock.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

The regular monthly meeting of the City Council was held last evening, Mayor Dawson presiding. After routine business was disposed of, Councillor Hughes reported that owing to his absence from the city, and other causes, the matter of the Bolger drain nuisance had not been attended to, but it would be drained up later on. Councillor Hazard reported that the case of John Drake vs. the city of Charlottetown was now before the court, and no one but Mr. Drake could withdraw it. In view of this fact he thought it was right that the Council should interfere in the matter at the present time. Report adopted. On motion of Councillor Tanton, seconded by Councillor Taylor, \$20 was voted to the Power in connection with the injuries sustained by him some time ago by reason of a defective sidewalk or crossing. Councillor Hazard, from the Fire Committee, reported that the prayer of the petition of the Hook & Ladder Company could not be entertained. Report adopted. Councillor Hazard submitted the estimates of the Fire Department for 1894, amounting in all to \$1,850. Laid on the table.

A letter from R. R. Fitzgerald, barrister-at-law, claiming damages amounting to \$150 for injuries sustained by a man named Daniel Connolly last February, which injuries were caused by a dangerous sidewalk, was referred to the Street Committee. A letter from W. S. Stewart, barrister-at-law, regarding a claim of John P. Nicholson for services in connection with the inspecting of Pownall wharf, was ordered to stand over until next meeting. The claim of W. S. Best, of St. John, for the analyzing of samples of well water was referred to the Finance Committee. The auditors reported regarding the accounts in the office of the City Court. They spoke very highly of the efficiency of the City School Board in the system of keeping the accounts. Report adopted. On motion of Councillor Douse, J. B. Macdonald was appointed a member of the City School Board in the place of Thomas Foley, deceased.

On motion of Councillor Taylor, the rest of the Market Hall was reduced from \$14 to \$10 per night from this date. On motion of Councillor Hughes, the Finance Committee was authorized to continue the account of the city with the Merchants' Bank of P. E. Island. Councillor Hazard moved that from this date the City Auditors audit the books and accounts of the City School Board, without any additional remuneration therefor. Carried. Councillor Douse gave notice as follows: I beg to give notice that it is my intention, at the next regular meeting of the Council, or at an earlier meeting to be called by the Mayor for such purpose, to move the following resolution: Whereas, Six thousand dollars or over will be required this year to meet the waterworks sinking fund, and real estate in this city is already taxed as much as it can bear, and Whereas, It is desirable and necessary, in the event of any demand being made upon the city to supplement the Provincial revenue either in the shape of a direct tax on the property of citizens, or in the withdrawal of Government money from the payment of teachers' salaries in the city schools, or otherwise, that increased taxing powers be given the city, be it enacted, Resolved, That an application be made to the Legislature now in session for an amendment to the Act of Incorporation to enable the Council to impose a tax on persons selling intoxicating liquors within this city.

Councillor Tanton moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Councillor Taylor: "Whereas, Under the provisions of the Charlottetown Water Works Act, 1887, it becomes necessary for the City Council to assess, levy and collect a sum sufficient to provide a sinking fund for the redemption upon maturity of all debentures issued by virtue of the said Act, for the purpose of constructing the said Charlottetown Water Works; and Whereas, By discharging with the Board of Water Commissioners—as at present constituted—and investing the City Council with the powers, privileges and offices now held by the Water Commissioners, and under and by virtue of the said Act and several amendments, a saving in the cost of management will be effected, which if invested in a sinking fund, would be sufficient to liquidate the water debentures debt within a period of fifty years, and thus obviate the necessity of resorting to taxation for said purpose; and Whereas, all business matters in connection with the Charlottetown Water Works can be efficiently and satisfactorily administered by the City Council and its officials, it is therefore expedient and in the interest of economy that the changes and reforms hereinbefore referred to be carried into effect; Therefore Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to act in conjunction with the Recorder to prepare a bill for submission to the Legislature, containing such amendments to the Charlottetown Water Works Act, 1887, and such other legislation as may be required in order to effect the changes hereinbefore referred to, and to bring the Charlottetown Water Works un-

der the supervision and control of the Mayor and City Council. Councillor Taylor seconded the motion. Councillor Hazard thought that as the resolution was of a very sweeping character and therefore required considerable consideration, it would be advisable not to take action thereon tonight. He therefore moved that it stand over until next night of meeting. Mayor Dawson also suggested that the matter stand over until next meeting. There was a good deal of other business to attend to and he thought it would be well to let all stand over for a night or two. A Councillor Tanton expressed his willingness to let his resolution stand over for a day or two but not longer, as it was necessary to take action while the Legislature was in session. The Council then adjourned until this (Tuesday) evening at half-past seven o'clock.

—The Pioneer reports that "wild geese are reported quite plentiful at most of the usual shooting points around the Island shores." And our rulers are compelled to stay in Charlottetown making tax acts! Is this punitive justice? —The President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in the course of his annual report says: "The causes of the depression in the United States do not pierce in Canada, and our business is beyond the low price of wheat." It would be idle to attempt to forecast the results of the present year. There is no financial trouble in Canada, nor sign of any kind as long as the abnormal low prices of grain continue, everybody engaged in trade will naturally keep on the safe side, and there will be no marked development of traffic. There are, however, indications of improvement in various directions." —Ottawa Evening Journal:—"At home or abroad, whether pursuing pleasure or engaged in business, do not neglect to give those with whom you come in contact to understand that you live in a Five Town populated by enterprising, go ahead, progressive people and one that is advancing rapidly of reorganizing. If you can truthfully speak in commendation of the ability of your professional men, the square dealing methods of your merchants, the excellence of your mechanics, the superiority of your churches, schools and public institutions and the industry, energy and sobriety of your citizens generally, let nothing prevent you from expressing that privilege. You should rarely to believe, if you do not already, that we have all these and in addition the hand-somest women, the best located city, the finest country surrounding it. Most necessary of all, spend your money in your own town."

OUR PORTFOLIOS. Parts 9 and 10 of the Magic City World's Fair pictures have arrived, also a few numbers of 1 and 3. The series can now be obtained from 1 to 10. No coupon required for back numbers. 7 of the 7 of Stocking Photographs are also here and ready for delivery. Obituary. Lord Bowen is dead. The deceased was one of the Lord Justices of Appeal, born in 1835 and called to the bar in 1861. He was author of an historical essay entitled "Delphi," and of a pamphlet on the Alabama question. Liverpool, April 10. Rev. Bernard O'Reilly, Bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Liverpool, died this morning. Lager Beer Not a Spirituous Liqueur. WASHINGTON, April 10. The United States Supreme Court has decided that lager beer is not a spirituous liquor within the meaning of the statute prohibiting the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian Territory. Gladstone's Health. LONDON, April 10. Mr. Gladstone, in a letter to his friends here, writes: "If anyone asks you how I am, say I feel like a disestablished church, with bracing breezes blowing around me." A Scotch Protest. LONDON, April 10. The Scotch Unionist members of the House of Commons have resolved that if the proposal in every Scotch Grand Committee shall be appointed they will decline to act as members of it. The Fire Flead. BALTIMORE, April 10. Bernard Morrison's livery stable was burned yesterday with 20 horses and 150 carriages. Loss \$200,000. NOT TRUE. Sir,—Were an undertaker to state that Mr. McDonald was waiting for the death of Mr. Biggs, so that he could become the permanent editor of the morning daily—no doubt he would deny the charge—and yet there would be just as much truth in the statement as in the half uttered charge made this morning, that undertakers watch for the death of their neighbors with a view to business. Undertakers are necessary in every community, and often have to perform very unpleasant duties that no money compensation pays for. Strike above the belt next time, Mr. Mac. F. D. Bazaar Co's ad with names of winners crowded out of this issue will appear tomorrow.

An Accident Policy SHOULD BE Comprehensive, Reasonable in Price. Only this kind is issued by the Canada Accident Insurance Co. E. R. BROW BROWN'S BLOCK, CH'TOWN. AGENT FOR P. E. ISLAND. TELEGRAPHIC. SPECIAL DESPATCHES TO THE EXAMINER. PARLIAMENT OF CANADA. House of Commons Proceedings. OTTAWA, April 10. The budget debate was resumed yesterday by Sir James Grant, who spoke principally of the great development of Canada during the past fifteen years. He was followed by Joseph Martin, who declared against the revision as wholly insufficient. He regarded all goods made of iron and steel as farmers' raw material, and said that iron and steel duties should be abolished, and until they were, no tariff revision would suit him. Metcalf followed, making a brilliant reply. THE SENATE. In the Senate, Hon. Mr. Ferguson, of P. E. I., spoke on the Manitoba school dispute. In the course of his speech he gave a history of the dispute of 1876 and 1877, and showed how Mr. Davies in P. E. Island had promised a policy almost identical with that of Messrs. Greenway and Martin in Manitoba. J. A. Vanarsd, of Fredericton, has been appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick.

Bank Robbery. LONDON, April 10. The Bank of British Columbia—an English bank doing business on the Pacific coast, with its head office here—suffered a loss by robbery on Saturday. A bag containing £1775 was taken from the private of Smith, Payne and Smith's counter bankers with whom the bank keeps its accounts. There is always a best, even among a score of good things, and every pipe smoker who has tried the Mastiff brand acknowledges it to be the sweetest, coolest smoking tobacco made. It does not bite the tongue, and is positively free from any foreign mixture. J. B. Pace Tobacco Co., Richmond Virginia, and Montreal, Canada.

Watches Are a Necessity in these days when everyone must be on time. You cannot get better value than we can give you in a good, reliable Watch, either in Gold, Silver or Nickel. G. H. TAYLOR, North Side Queen Square. SUPERIOR FURNITURE For Sale by Auction. I am instructed by L. J. Ostrander, Esq., to sell by Auction at his Residence, corner Prince and Borchers Streets, on WEDNESDAY, the 15th day of April, commencing at 11 o'clock, a. m.—All his Household effects, comprising 1 superior Heintzman Piano, Drawing Room, Dining Room, Hall, Bedroom and Kitchen furniture. All the above is first-class and in good order. Premises open for inspection on Tuesday, 17th, from 11 to 4 p. m. Terms cash. R. BEARSTO, Auctioneer.

Model 36, Columbia. The New Century Columbia stands easily at the head of all fully equipped road-racers, and will successfully maintain the high reputation its predecessors have established. A sample wheel will be on exhibition in a few days at the Stationery Store of Hazard & Moore. R. M. YOUNG, Agent. Desirable Private Residence FOR SALE BY AUCTION. I am instructed by Benj. Rogers, Esq., to sell by Auction on SUNDAY, the 21st day of April, instant, at 12 o'clock, noon—The Dwelling House and Premises now occupied by him on Hillsborough Square. The House and Buildings are in first-class condition, comprising 2 Parlors, Dining and Breakfast Room, two Kitchens, seven Bedrooms, Bath Room and Store Room, Hot Air Furnace and Water in Bedrooms. Premises open for inspection on Thursday and Friday from 2 to 5 p. m. R. BEARSTO, Auctioneer.

REGISTERED CATTLE, For Sale by Auction. I am instructed by B. F. Longworth, Esq., to sell by Auction at the Market Square, on FRIDAY, the 15th day of April, next, at 11 o'clock, a. m., the following Superior Red Cattle:—5 Cows, Shorthorn, Registered, 1 Heifer, 1 yr. old, Shorthorn, Registered, 3 Bulls, 1 Jersey Cow and Calf. R. BEARSTO, Auctioneer. Butter and Cheese. 100 Tubs Choice Butter, 50 Boxes Cheese. N. B. & M. RATTENBURY. ap7-4i eod. Manilla Rope. 100 Coils 6 thread, 100 " 9 " " 200 " 12 " " 20 " 15 " " 20 " 18 " " N. B. & M. RATTENBURY. ap7-4i eod. WANTED—A House to rent in April or May, with parlor, dining room, kitchen, and not less than four bedrooms. Apply at this office. TO LET—A house containing seven rooms, situated on Water Street, opposite Railway Station. Apply to Mrs. LOWDEN, Esplanade. ap7-4i eod

Excelsior Flour Reduced to \$4. Having sold out all our lower grades of Flour, we have reduced the price of our celebrated "EXCELSIOR" brand to \$4.00 per barrel for a short time only. Now is your chance to get a barrel of High-class Flour at about cost. We cannot afford to sell at this price after we get our new stock in. BEER & GOFF. Charlottetown, March 31, 1894—thru sat

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We have just sent out our Quarterly Accounts. A Prompt Response would be greatly appreciated by us. S. AILEY BROTHERS, BROWN'S BLOCK.