

News by Telegraph.

LONDON, March 19. eve.—In the House of Commons last evening, Mr. G. W. Hunt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question, promised the appearance of the Budget on the 16th of April next. . . .

VIENNA, March 19.—In the Reichrath to-day, an announcement was made by the Ministry, that the project for authorisation of the right of civil marriage ought to pass, in spite of the concordat, while they regretted the ill will of the Pope. . . .

NEW YORK, March 20.—It is supposed that over 80 lives were lost by the explosion of steamer Magnolia, below Cincinnati, on Wednesday.

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considerably modified their sentiments, and content themselves by asserting that "sooner or later Europe will not doubt be afflicted with a war, because the proposed great and expensive armaments cannot be kept by any country long in a state of inactivity." . . .

General discontent is said to prevail in Naples, originating in the dearness of food and the inconvenience and losses which paper money imposes upon the people. Partisans of Bourbons, who are daily increasing, are actively employed in turning the public discontent to account for political purposes.

The terms of the treaty concluded between Prussia and the United States have just been published. With the exception of criminals and deserters, all Germans resident in America for five years are to be regarded as American citizens. The treaty also specifies the terms under which Germans would abandon their American naturalization rights.

In the House of Lords, on the 24th February, the Marquis of Clanricarde moved the second reading of his bill to amend the tenure of land system in Ireland. A long debate ensued. The Marquis of Clanricarde contended that the proposals made by Mr. Bright and others would injure the Irish agricultural classes by driving away large capitalists. The Earl of Kimberley, an ex-Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, strongly advocated the speedy adoption of liberal remedial measures.

The Earl of Malmesbury, acting as temporary leader of the house, intimated that he would not oppose the early stage of any bill brought in by the noble marquis, but for after that he would not pledge himself. The bill was then read a first time.

At a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, in London, on Monday evening, Sir S. Northcote, Secretary for India, stated that the Government will adhere to its determination to withdraw from Abyssinia as soon as the liberation of the prisoners has been effected.

A report is again current in Paris that the Emperor of the French will take a journey to Rome early in the month of April, and that Her Majesty, with the Prince Imperial and Mgr. Lucien Bonaparte, will spend a week in the Eternal City.

The Pope, it is stated, has made a short address to the Easter preachers whom he has received. His Holiness expressed a hope that Rome, recently saved by the fidelity of the Pontifical troops, the devotedness of the Catholic world, and above all by France, which on this occasion, as on many others, was the instrument of Providence, would not again be threatened. Count de Sartiges has placed in the Pope's hands an autograph letter of the Emperor, which thanks the Holy Father for the unsought promotion of Mgr. Bonaparte to the rank of Cardinal.

In the House of Commons on the 24th Feby., Mr. McLaren gave notice that on the motion for the second reading of the Scotch Reform Bill he should submit a resolution declaring that Scotland required at least 15 additional members. From a statement made by Lord Stanley it appears that Captain Hobart has been required to serve his connection with the British navy in consequence of his acceptance of office on the Turkish admiralty board.

James Hannan, Esq., of the Home Circuit, has been recommended to the Queen's Bench, occasioned by the death of Mr. Justice Slesce.

Bishop Grey and his party have sustained a signal defeat in Natal. The Supreme Court has ordered the cathedral to be surrendered to Bishop Colenso, and indicated the Dean from entering it, or at all interfering in the spiritual management of the diocese. This is the heaviest blow the Metropolitan of the Cape has yet sustained in his conflict with Dr. Colenso.

Mr. Boreford Hopa has been returned for the University of Cambridge by a large majority over Mr. Cleasby, Q. C., the Ministerial candidate. Mr Hopa is what is called an Independent conservative, and is by no means friendly to Mr. Disraeli. The Ministry have also sustained a defeat in the Potteries, a warm admirer of Mr. Gladstone having been returned for Stoke.

The declaration of the Catholics of Ireland against the maintenance of the Irish Church Establishment as an insult to the people of that country, occupies, with the signatures, five columns of the Dublin Freeman's Journal. It is entirely a lay movement, and the signatories are wholly those of laymen. These include twelve peers, four honorables, four Privy Counsellors not being peers, a considerable number of baronets, twenty-seven members of Parliament, about sixty deputy-lieutenants, between 300 and 400 justices of the peace, nearly all the Catholic members of the Bar, and a long array of other professional men, aldermen, town councillors, and private gentlemen residing in all the provinces.

On Monday last there was an informal meeting of the leaders of the Liberal party at Mr. Gladstone's residence. We have reason to believe that no decision was arrived at respecting any immediate action, but we believe that a meeting of Opposition members will soon be held, and a determination come to as to what is best to be done under present circumstances, more particularly on the Irish Church question. The latter will, undoubtedly be the battle field of the Liberals during the session, and there is in their ranks very much more union of opinion on this question than the Ministerial press gives them credit for.

An evening contemporary states that in the seven years between 1861 and 1868, Italy—that is, the kingdom of Italy—has borrowed £115,800,000! If any doubt is entertained of the fact, here are corroborative details:—Bastogi loan, 20,000,000; Minghetti loan, 28,000,000; Scialoja loan, 17,000,000; rentes created by Signor Scialoja, 4,000,000; rentes of the worship fund, &c., 4,000,000; sale of States railways, 8,000,000; State lands obligations, 6,000,000; forced loan of 1865, 14,000,000; bank loan, 10,000,000; and Treasury bonds, 4,000,000. Thus Italy has been adding to her indebtedness at the average rate of upwards of 16,000,000 per annum since 1861.

It is understood that the Irish Reform Bill will propose to reduce the borough franchise to £4 rating; to divide the county of Cork and give to each division or ward two members; to the Queen's University a member; and to the city of Dublin an additional member. The four members are to be obtained by the disfranchisement or grouping of Portlinton, Mallow, and other small boroughs.

LORD DERBY AND THE IRISH QUESTION.

We have heard it stated that Lord Derby's resignation was hastened, if not actually caused, by a decision adopted at a recent Cabinet Council in regard to the Irish question. The ministers, it seems, had made up their minds to promise some measure in relation to the Irish Church, which it was hoped, might disarm the opposition of moderate Liberals. We cannot pretend to say what the scheme was, but it must certainly have gone further than the attempt to balance matters by granting a charter to the Catholic University. Something distinct and considerable was to be announced, and Lord Mayo hoped to speak at an early period of the debate on Mr. Maguire's motion, in order to make the announcement.

The intention was, of course, telegraphed to Lord Derby; and the report is that his lordship, though not individually opposed to the concessions recommended, felt that the difficulty and labor of carrying on a new struggle alike with his own followers and his opponents would be too severe for his present state of health, and so made up his mind to resign his office. The determination, it is said, took his own colleagues by surprise.—Star.

R. M. S. City of Washington, Tibbetts, master, from Liverpool 14th and Queenstown 15th, arrived at Halifax on the 26th. The principal features of the news have already been received by telegraph.

The Scotsman, which is usually well informed on political matters, says:—"Some days ago our private correspondence from London foreshadowed the probability that a motion of want of confidence in Government would be the consequence of their failure to meet expectations and necessities in framing their Irish policy. We hear now that the impression is that a motion of want of confidence will actually be proposed on Tuesday next, or on an early day thereafter; but of course, so long as the Irish debate is unfinished, and Mr. Disraeli has spoken, it is possible that something may occur to modify, postpone, or dissipate the intention."

The opinion of the London press on the debate in the House of Commons on Thursday night are, of course, diversified. The Times says it will excite a certain disappointment among all real friends of Ireland, and adds, "It is clear that nothing can come of it, and the single valuable result to be expected is that every one in the end will be convinced of the inadequacy in all respects—the positive mischief in some—of the Government policy. The Government have no policy. They advise, as Mr. Horsman says, inaction as to the Church, prostration as to Ireland, and reaction as to education. The endorsement of the Catholic University was aptly described by Mr. Lowe as a mere pyrotechnic device sent up into the air that men might gaze at it for a moment, after which it would disappear. It would seem, indeed, that this particular rocket is very likely never to rise at all. The front bench of the Opposition has made no sign, and the fair deduction is that they are as distracted as the Ministry. The Standard praises the speech of Mr. Lowe, and says it is the best he has made for the last 18 months. His criticism of Mr. Mill's scheme was exhaustive, and extremely amusing. Upon the questions of the Irish Church and education he maintained the views which he had expressed before, and which have been so often refuted. The Morning Post says we are drifting again. An uncertain hand is at the helm, or rather the steersman is not allowed to steer his course. There is little doubt that the new Premier has been outwitted in his first Cabinet councils. The Morning Post regards as certain that ere long the Cabinet will be summoned in unmistakable terms to surrender either its policy or its position.

An important fragment of intelligence comes from Prussia. Krupp, of Essen, proposes to extend his already vast establishment in order to manufacture iron plates to be used in the building of ships. The vessels of war which Prussia has hitherto ordered have been for the most part built in England; but the progress which Prussia has made in the arts necessary to the successful prosecution of that branch of industry during the last ten years is so marked and considerable that it has been determined to commence the construction of steamers at home.

Intelligence has been received from the Cape of Good Hope alleging that the news had reached the colony that Her Majesty's Government are determined to extend British protection and control over the Basuto people. It was understood that the protectorate would be established by the appointment of a British Resident at Moshesh's capital, and that the Basutos themselves would be taxed to a sufficient extent to provide the revenue for maintaining the protectorate. Governor Woodhouse had required Mr. Brande, the President of the Free State, to suspend hostilities against the Basutos until matters could be arranged.

THE ALABAMA DISCUSSION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The New York press generally comment very favorably upon the tone and temper of the debate in the House of Commons on the Alabama claims. The New York Times says:—

The temperance and intelligence of the debate are no less striking than the desire for justice and good feeling which every speaker expressed. In making this remark we had no intention of drawing any contrast with the debate in Congress on the same question; but still it may be no harm to add, that we should think no less either of the statesmanship or intellect of our representatives, if, after perusing this Parliamentary debate, they would give us reason to believe, next time the question is before them, that they are capable of treating it in an equally admirable manner and spirit. We know that displays of froth and fury, bluster and bombast are thought by some people to be very impressive; and we will not dispute the point, as regards some politics; but we think that in international questions where foreigners observe our conduct, it would be well to retain as much self-possession as is consistent with the force of our determination.

The Tribune contains the following criticism:—

The remarkable debate on the Alabama claims which took place in the British Parliament on Friday night, ought to convince us that if there is any insuperable obstacle to a speedy settlement of our dispute with England, that obstacle must exist with ourselves. All parties in Great Britain are anxious that the matter should be set at rest. There are few who are not ready to meet us half-way; and many of the leading statesmen are ready to admit nearly everything we claim, and appoint a mixed commission immediately to settle the amount of damages. What, then, is the point of difference between the two Governments? Simply this: Mr. Seward maintains that the British Government acknowledged the rebels as belligerents sooner than it had any right to do so; that this acknowledgment was a material aid and comfort to them, and that an arbitrator must take it into consideration before the indemnity due us can be properly adjusted. Lord Stanley will not admit this; and so the matter stands.

Now, whatever may be said of the justice of our position (and it is by no means certain that it is just, for the first person to recognize the rebels as belligerents was not Queen Victoria but President Lincoln,) it ought not to be forgotten that what we really want is not a decision of this question of belligerency, but the payment of damages. Grant that Lord Stanley is right; that the moment any large fragment of a nation takes up arms to assert its independence, all the rest of the world has a right to acknowledge it as a belligerent; who will profit by the admission of the doctrine so much as ourselves—we who have always been prompt to recognize and encourage popular insurrections against despotic powers? Besides, Mr. Seward, be it remembered, does not ask that an umpire shall decide upon the justice of the recognition. He only wants the arbiter to turn the matter over in his mind; to see what bearing it may have upon the question of responsibility, and perhaps the amount of damages. But the responsibility is not seriously denied in England. Many leading statesmen are ready to admit it at the start, and to agree to a mixed commission for settling the claims without further preliminaries. At any rate we risk little or nothing by waiving Mr. Seward's point, and leaving history to pronounce upon the precise time when the Southern Confederates became belligerents in the sense of international law. That they acquired belligerent rights in the course of the war we fully deny; that they acquired them before the Alabama put to sea, we think can hardly be disputed. Mr. Seward's difficulty therefore is mainly a matter of sentiment, and cannot seriously affect the real question at issue, which is the amount of compensation Great Britain ought to make us for the depredations of corsairs fitted out in her ports and with her connivance. She recognizes the debt, and is willing to pay it. Let us not huddle over the means of getting at the amount, but meet her in a frank and friendly spirit, and a great trouble will be off our minds.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

See fourth page.

MONDAY, March 23.

Hon. Colonial Secretary presented the Report of a joint Committee of both branches of the Legislature, appointed last year, relative to the improvement of Highways. Said Report, with documents attached, were ordered to be laid on the table, and published in pamphlet form.

Hon. Attorney General presented the Reports of the School Visitors, and Minutes of the Board of Education, relative to said reports.

Ordered to be laid on the table.

The Board recommend portions of said reports to be published, and allude to the defective state of School accommodation in the City, and say it is vain to look for results in any degree commensurate with the contribution of the citizens to the public educational funds, under existing arrangements; that, with two exceptions, the Schools of the City are wholly inadequate and unsuitable for the purpose, if not positively injurious to the health of the children. They recommend the establishment of an intermediate school, officio Tenentes of City Schools, thereby bringing that body into more immediate contact with the educational interests of the City. Numbers of the children of the poorer classes were to be seen in the streets and places of public resort during School hours. In regard to Grammar Schools the Board recommend that Districts calling for the superior privileges of such schools should put forth corresponding

local efforts, by providing suitable school houses and cottages for Teachers, with a few acres of land attached, sufficient at least, to keep a cow and plant an orchard. They direct attention to improved plans of Schoolhouses to be seen at the Secretary's office, and state that the subject of School Architecture has not yet received that attention which its importance relative to the health, morals, manners, and intellectual progress of children demand.

House in Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the due observance of the Lord's Day. Mr. Cameron in the chair.

Mr P. Sinclair explained the object of the Bill, which was to prevent the selling or vending of fresh fish on the Lord's Day; and said that though, as a people, the Lord's Day was generally well observed in this Colony, yet the amendment introduced by him was necessary, as cases had occurred where the Sabbath was desecrated in the way pointed out by the existence of a Statute which gave license for the violation of the Sabbath.

After some remarks from several hon members on both sides of the House, during which no opposition was offered to the principle of the Bill, it was reported agreed to.

Hon Atty General presented the accounts of the Land Office for the past year.

House in Committee of Supply. Mr Reilly in the chair. Several Resolutions were submitted by the Hon. Atty. General and agreed to.

The appropriation of £600 to the Stock Farm called forth remarks from several hon members, relative to the objects, economy and usefulness of that establishment. The Report of the Commissioners of said Stock Farm presented to the House by Dr. Jenkins, one of said Commissioners, was alluded to, showing the quantity of Stock on said Farm, the distributions thereof for the past three years to the three Counties. Said Report also alludes to the increase and value of Stock exported from the Colony during the past year, consisting of 6,444 head of live Stock, and states, that as the result of the application of muzzel-mud, great increase in the growth of hay has taken place, thereby showing the necessity of the speedy introduction to all parts of the country of the best breeds, with the view of increasing the future welfare of the Agriculturalists.

The said Report also states that the managers of the Stock Farm were now raising muzzel-mud to improve waste portions of said Farm, with the view of producing larger crops of hay, and the Commissioners express the hope that after a few years the Farm can be sustained and kept in good order with less annual expenditure than is now required.

Among the resolutions severally submitted by the Hon Atty General and agreed to, was, that the following sums be granted and placed at the disposal of the Government for the following purposes, viz:

Educational purposes, £1,500 0 0

Expenses of Light Houses, 15 0 0

Light on St. Andrew's Point, 15 0 0

Do Rustico Harbor, 15 0 0

Do Tracadie, 15 0 0

Do St Peter's Harbor, 15 0 0

New Light at Murray Harbor, 20 0 0

Do do New London, 20 0 0

Summerside Light Keeper, 15 0 0

St. Paul's and Scatarie Lights, 45 0 0

A Bill to revive and continue the law relating to the inspection of Pickled Fish, was read a second time, and agreed to.

Said Bill provides for regulating the size and quality of fish barrels and tins, and the weight of fish made up therein, the appointment of Fish Inspectors, and the inspection of pickled fish exposed for sale within this Island.

House adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24.

Hon Mr Laird introduced two bills for the Incorporation of the Agricultural Societies of Prince County and St Peter's Bay. Said bills were received and read.

Mr Brecken introduced a bill to amend the Act relating to Jail Limits. Received and read.

Mr Reilly, Chairman of the Committee on Supply, reported to the House several Resolutions agreed to by said Committee, which were severally read and adopted by the House.

Hon Atty General presented a petition from the Stockholders of the Summerside Bank, asking for an extension of time for the payment of the third and last instalment due from Stockholders of said Bank.

Ordered that said petition be referred to a special committee to report thereon.

Ordered that the Hon Atty General, Hon Mr Haviland, and Mr Green compose said Committee.

House in Committee on the bill to amend and explain the Land Purchase Act. Hon Mr Callbeck in the chair.

Several clauses in said bill having been read and agreed to, the Chairman reported progress.

Hon Mr Howland presented to the House the Report of J. E. Boyd, Esq., Civil Engineer, on the present condition and proposed improvement of Big Tignish Run.

Said Report, which was received and read, recommends that a Pier, twenty feet wide, and twelve hundred and fifty feet long be built on the N. E. side of the Run, where it will present a barrier to the waves of the prevailing storms, and especially to those which come along with the flood currents; and states that by the performance of the work as pointed out in said Report, a Boat Harbor, having five or six feet of water at low tide, may be formed and maintained, the probable cost of which is estimated at £1,700.

House in Committee on Supply.

Hon Atty General, in submitting a Resolution granting £700 for the encouragement of Steam Communication with the Eastern Sections of the Island, remarked that he would like to hear from hon members from those sections of the country what satisfaction was given by the appropriation of last year.

Mr Prowse said that the arrangements of the past season were not satisfactory. There was no proper wharf at Murray Harbor at which a steamer could land passengers and freight. He believed that a petition on that subject had been presented to the Government. If a wharf was built at Murray Harbor at which goods and passengers could be landed, a good steamer would get considerable trade on the Eastern route. He had known passengers to wait at the landing place, Murray Harbor, for the steamer, to get to Pictou, and on being disappointed, had to hire a boat. Goods had been shipped on board the steamer at Georgetown, for Murray Harbor, and instead of being landed there were taken first to Georgetown, and then back again to Charlottetown whilst the owner was waiting with a lighter and crew to meet the steamer at Murray Harbor. The boat employed on that route was not sufficient for the service. He would, however, be sorry to see that route abandoned, or the grant withdrawn; on the contrary, he hoped wharves and buoys, for the safety of the boat and the accommodation of the public would be placed where necessary.

His Honor the Speaker observed that, doubtless, neither Souris nor Murray Harbor resided their advantages from Steam Communication that was desirable, because of the want of accommodation. It would, however, be a retrograde movement to dispense with the arrangement. He hoped that greater facilities would be afforded, and that a better and more suitable Boat would, ere long, be placed on that route. He hoped never to see the project abandoned.

Mr Owen remarked that the disappointment to passengers, alluded to by the Hon Member for Murray Harbor, must have taken place late in the Autumn, when the trips were changed from weekly to fortnightly, of which, perhaps, the people were not apprised. It was well known that no steamer could remain with safety any length of time at Souris.

Hon Mr Henderson corroborated the remarks of his hon colleague, Mr Prowse, who had stated the sentiments of the people, as expressed at a public meeting held at Murray Harbor shortly before the opening of the present Session, when that, with other subjects affecting the interest of that portion of the country was spoken of. The Resolution was then agreed to.

On submitting the second Resolution the Hon Attorney General remarked that it contained an appropriation of £100 towards repairing the Court House at Georgetown. That vote, he said, was rendered necessary owing to the improper foundation on which the said Court House was built.

Mr Prowse remarked on the want of accommodation to Jurors and Witnesses in that Court House. Old and infirm persons summoned to attend Court, were compelled to stand on their feet all day long, waiting to be called as evidences. Justice to the public demanded that seats should be provided. If there were no seats for the gentlemen at the Bar, they would not be heard from on 18th judges.

Hon Attorney General agreed with the remarks of Mr Prowse, and hoped that the evil complained of would be remedied before the next term of the Supreme Court at Georgetown.

Mr Brecken regretted that the sum voted for the Fire Department of Charlottetown was but £50. He did hope the amount would be at least £100. That department cost the City last year upwards of £700, and surely where so much Government property was at stake, a more handsome vote than a paltry £50 should be given in aid of that important Department.

Hon Mr Davies also spoke favorably of the Fire Department. He had just visited the Fire Engine House in company with his Worship the Mayor, and it was gratifying to see the good order in which it was kept. The Steam Engine there was always ready for action at a moment's warning.

Hon Leader of the Opposition remarked that the Resolution under consideration contained small grants for the

Grammar School at Belfast, and Lennox Island Indian School, but it would appear that the old and deservedly popular Infant School at Georgetown was overlooked.

Hon Attorney General said Supply was not yet closed, nor had the usual supplementary estimates been submitted.

Hon Leader of the Opposition said he would be content to wait, and expressed the hope that the usual small grant in aid of the school in question would not be forgotten.

Mr Prowse asked if the school at Lennox Island was a District School, and under like supervision as other Schools.

Hon Leader of the Government replied that a young educated Indian on that Island proposed to provide a School house and all other necessary apparatus. The vote in question was in lieu of all charges, and was merely an experiment.

Hon Mr Henderson would offer no objection to the sum voted if it were consistent with the general principle upon which all other District Schools were based.

Mr McNeill said it appeared the Indians on Lennox Island desired to have one of their own as their teacher, and it was but right to assist them.

Hon Atty General said the Indian teacher was responsible to the Board of Education, and subject to School Visitor's Inspection. And the experiment was a failure, it could not be abandoned. He was, however, just in time to see the Indian Commissioner (Mr Stewart) that 18 Indian boys were in attendance at the School in question, and that the prospects of the school were good.

The Resolution was agreed to.

When the Resolution containing a grant of £400 to the contractors of the Hillsboro Ferry for extra trips was read.

Hon Mr Davies remarked that the Committee appointed by the Executive Council, of which he was Chairman, took great pains to adopt the best and most practical plan for remedying the grievances complained of relative to the Hillsboro Ferry. Different propositions were submitted to the committee, but the most feasible was the one adopted. He also alluded to the dredging now being performed on the river to facilitate the crossing, and expressed his hope that it would prove successful and satisfactory.

Dr. Jenkins said that the present Steamboat on that Ferry was behind the age, and altogether inadequate for the work to be performed. If not two, at least one good boat should be procured. Three propositions on the subject were placed before the Government, and should be laid before the House.

Mr Owen said the Committee did wrong in placing the side walks on the inside of the Ferry Wharf and not outside, as was at first intended. That Wharf was always too narrow, and therefore the side walks were improperly placed.

Hon Mr Davies—that matter had not escaped the notice of the Committee, but a great saving was effected by performing the work in the manner it now stood.

The Resolution as submitted was then agreed to.

A discussion arose on an item of £40 paid to P. Doyle, for extra work on the Military Drill Shed at Summerside.