The Weekly Examiner

JANUARY 14, 1881.

THE SYNDICATE CAMPAIGN.

MIS-REPRESENTATIONS AT THE DAVIES' MEETINGS.

We presume that, by this time, Mr. L. H. Davies has made an end of his speaking against the ratification of the Canadian Pacific Railway Contract. He has, like his leader, taken good care to have it all to himself. Of course it was not his fault that those who can match him on the stump, are either in Ottawa attending to their Parliamentary duties, or are busily engaged with official duties here. He did his best to keep them at home, and unemployed in the service of the Province; and they, consequently, had not on this occasion, the experience of having their offer for a full, free and fair public discussion of the bargain declined. He has had his way and his say; and by saying, uncontradicted, "*the thing that is not*," he has snatched a small, ephemeral and questionable, though much-prized, triumph. Doubtless he hoped that the passage of two or three resolutions in condemnation of the Syndicate Contract will prove the forerunner of more substantial triumphs in "the sweet bye and by." He is mistaken. The arts which cajole or scare have lost their power. The people may, indeed, be mislead for a time, but under the influence of intelligent minds and free discussion, they will return to the right path and follow the true Leader. That the speeches recently delivered by Mr. Davies will have any lasting effect, we have no fear. But merely to have this important bargain fully discussed and understood in all its parts, we shall now call attention to a few of the many misrepresentations in which he revelled.

I NOTE BY THE …

Now, the first and main proposition on which the argument was based, is:—

That "In 1871 the men who are now in power made a bargain with British Columbia—impossible of fulfilment—to build the road in ten years. They made this bargain without stopping to consider the difficulties which had to be met. This mad scheme was concocted and Canada was pledged to it without the consent, and almost without the knowledge, of the people. Such an act was improvident in the extreme. It was worse; it was wicked."

Mr. Davies is aware and the people of Prince Edward Island are aware that in 1873 Mr. Haythorne and Mr. Laird went to Ottawa to negotiate terms of Confederation with a country that was committed to what he says was a mad scheme, and impossible of fulfilment. Was the voice of Mr. Davies heard anywhere in town or country after the return of Messrs. Haythorne and Laird, urging the people to oppose Confederation, on the ground that Canada had made a 'mad' 'improvident' and 'wicked' bargain with British Columbia. Mr. Davies was content to follow his leaders, to plunge the country headlong into the difficulties that he now deplores. He held out no cautionary signals to his leaders nor to the people at large. The day following Messrs. Haythorne and Laird's arrival in P. E. Island he was willing to swallow, "holus bolus" the terms of union negotiated by them, with the very same men who made the mad bargain with British Columbia—terms which would have compelled Mr. Davies to raise $60,000 by direct taxation under his Assessment Act instead of $30,000, so much worse were they than the terms upon which we actually entered the Union. "But let that pass;" we merely wish to show Mr. Davies that the more he fulminates against the bad, "mad scheme" of 1871, the more unpatriotic does his action appear in taking steps to unite the Island with a country pledged to a ruinous bargain. All that we have to say at present upon the merits of the original scheme is, that if it was a mad one, the scheme of Mr. Mackenzie was doubly so. While the original policy was to build the road by a company and pay for it out of the lands of the North West, Mr. Mackenzie, by the Carnarvon Terms, fastened upon the people the responsibility of building it as a public work. The Carnarvon Terms provided

1. That a railway from Esquimalt to Nanaimo across Vancouver's Island be im…
2. That the Survey on the mainland be pushed on with the utmost vigor.
3. That a wagon road telegraph line be immediately constructed across the continent.
4. That $2,000,000 be spent yearly in the Province of British Columbia.
5. That the Pacific Railway be completed by 31st December, 1890.

AN EXAGGERATION.

Let us now take note of a few of the figures which Mr. Davies presented to his audience, and show how he has exaggerated the cost of that portion of the road to be constructed by Government and handed over to the Company. Mr. Davies takes Sir Charles Tupper's estimate for building and equipping certain sections of the road which is $33,769,000, and says that these sections, worth that amount, are to be handed over to the Company. This assertion of Mr. Davies' is not true. It might be a fair estimate if the Government equipped the road; but as the Company will have to provide the rolling stock, which will cost about six millions, the estimate must be placed at $28,000,000 and not $33,769,000. If Mr. Davies was fairminded, he would accept Sir Charles Tupper's estimate, and not pretend that the portions of road under the contract will cost the country as much without rolling stock, as is estimated with rolling stock.

AN ODIOUS COMPARISON.

Let us examine some of the statements lately made by Mr. Davies in comparing the bargain now before the House with the scheme of Mr. McKenzie in 1874. Mr. Davies says that McKenzie offered $10,000 a mile and $50,000,000 acres. The quantity of land was 55,000,000 acres, and not 50,000,000, as stated by Mr. Davies. The fact that the McKenzie administration was willing to hand over as a present to a company one-third of the land subsidy was suppressed by Mr. Davies. The fact that the late Government would have to bear all the expense of selling the land was also kept from his audiences, although he endeavored to show how liberally the McKenzie Government was going to deal with settlers by selling the company's lands at one dollar and acre. Mr. Davies says the provision for selling the land for one dollar an acre was "a most wise one." Let us see how wise this provision was. Mr. Mackenzie has stated that it would cost one dollar an acre to dispose of the lands to settlers. So that, on this estimate of one on whom Mr. Davies relies, the whole fifty millions of acres were to be absolutely given away, and no revenue derived from them to build the road!! Or, in other words, the Government would have to pay the company fifty million dollars, the value of the land at one dollar an acre, and then spend fifty millions more in getting clear of the land. This fifty million dollars would have to come from the pockets of the people in addition to $10,000 per mile, and 4 per cent interest for any sum over that which the road would cost!!!

MORE QUEER FIGURING.

Now, let us take Mr. Davies' method of figuring the cost of the road from Selkirk to Kamloops, and show how much more the McKenzie Government offered for the same section than the Syndicate will receive. Mr. Davies estimates that, for this section, the company will be paid $74,625,000. The McKenzie Administration, according to the estimate of Mr. Davies, were willing to give $97,520,000, or $22,895,000 more than the Syndicate can derive from its subsidy. But Mr. Davies' method of figuring, while it shows how much more advantageous the present agreement is than the one which he would have …ported, and which the Grit representatives of the Island supported, …ted, and was, no doubt, … deceive. He takes the … from which the com-

pany will derive the most of its profits, and says nothing about the difficult sections to be built at both ends. Mr. Davies was either unpardonably ignorant on the subject or wilfully hid from his hearers the fact that nearly 1,000 miles of road are to be built in the Province of Ontario, where the Government has not an acre of land and consequently will have to go to the North West to the centre section for lands wherewith to pay for constructing the road. Mr. Davies says that the Company is not bound to build these difficult portions. He must have been aware that the Company is as much bound by the terms of the agreement to construct the line in the eastern and western sections as in the centre; but it suited him to make a false statement for the purpose which he had in view, and that was to get up an agitation against a sheme that will secure for Sir John Macdonald and his party a lease of power for twenty years to come. We do not accept the statement of Mr. Davies as to the value of the land being $3.18 cents per acre, as that value was placed last year by Sir Charles Tupper upon the land after the road would be completed and not in its wilderness state. Mr. Davies stated that the road to Nipissing is completed. We merely mention this to show that he did not know what he was talking about. It is a fact that no road is built to Nipissing, but the Canada Central has a charter from Government to build a branch line to connect with the Canada Pacific at Nipissing.

THE STANDARD.

At the meetings he has held, Mr. Davies has been either guilty of a wilful mistatement in describing the standard of the road, or else he is blindly ignorant of the fact that the Union Pacific—the standard upon which the Canada Pacific is to be built—was not constructed till the year 1873, and then handed over to the United States Government. The road which Mr. Davies describes as the standard, was incomplete and payment refused by the American Government till their Engineer had pronounced the road finished according to the standard of the Baltimore and Ohio road. He also says iron rails may be used. Now, it is well known that the Syndicate would have to pay 17½ per cent. duty on iron rails while steel rails are free. The iron rails would cost more than steel, and, therefore, it is the interest of the Company to use steel rails. In addition to this the Syndicate after hearing the gross misinterpretation of the agreement by the Opposition sent a letter to the Government stating that no other intention is entertained by them than to build the road after the standard of the Union Pacific when handed to the United States Government, and that steel rails, and iron bridging will be used.

THE GROSSEST MIS-STATEMENT.

But the most "infamous" and "wicked" part of Mr. Davies' discourses was the untruthful assertion that the company will gobble up all the fertile land along the line of railway. Now in the face of the agreement which provides that the Government retains every alternate block of 640 acres it requires a good deal of audacity and unblushing impudence to make that statement before any audience laying claim to average intelligence. If there is not sufficient land "fairly fit for settlement along the line of railway, and within 24 miles of the road on each side, the company can go elsewhere, but the Government still retains every alternate section of the land selected. The syndicate will undoubtedly build branch lines. This they must do without any subsidy. But the building of these branch lines will give value to the Government lands and open them up for settlement. In fact the agreement secures the branch lines as the company cannot take up the land without building them.

Public Meetings.

Public meetings are now being held in many parts of the Island for the purpose of discussing local and Dominion politics. The notices calling these meetings generally contain invitations to the representative of the respective districts, and also to two or three would-be agitators, who occupy no public position. To the unin… seem to indicate that the people of the localities in question are dissatisfied with their representatives, and the invitions to outsiders are given for the purpose of securing their assistance in properly chastising the erring representatives. A little peep behind the scenes would soon convince any person that such impressions as these are entirely erroneous. In nine cases out of ten the meetings are called and the invitations are given at the instigation of the agitators themselves who, wishing to keep their names before the public, resort to these underhand tricks to create an appearance of popular feeling in their favour. Only the other day a meeting was called in one of the outlying counties, through the agency of one or two persons who are known to be sure tools in the hands of the wirepullers or agitators before referred to. When the faithful few in the locality had their little plans matured, a trip to Charlottetown on the Sabbath Day, and the issuing of handbills on the Monday were all that was required to inaugurate a *Monster* meeting of the electors of the county on the following Wednesday, to which of course the agitators were invited. Invitations were given at the same time to other gentlemen who, it was well known had other engagements on the same day. In opening the meeting at Victoria Cross the other evening, we learn that the Chairman said he did kno… the purport of the meeting. All he … that the late Supervisor of th… who lives in another Township, …lled on several electors of the place asking them to sign a requisition to himself, asking himself to call a meeting. On being twitted a little further, the ex-supervisor suggested that he might not be the writer of the requisition, although he carried it round. This suggestion threw a flood of light on the subject. The ex-Supervisor being a relative as well as a tool of one of the agitators, it was not hard to guess that the calling of the meeting and the invitation of W. D. Stewart to attend, was the work of that individual himself. It was not much wonder that the electors of Victoria Cross, although hitherto opposed to the Government, should resent the insult that was offered them, and declare in the most unmistakeable manner their want of confidence in W. D. Stewart and his party. Public meetings for the consideration of local or general matters, may be of advantage at any time. But the arrangements for these meetings might be left to the people and their representatives. The underhand tricks of would-be agitators to keep themselves before the public should be frowned upon by every right thinking man. We do not write thus because we have anything to complain as to the result of these meetings. The attempt at agitation in Dominion matters is treated with contempt by the Conservative party, while the supporters of the Local Government meet their opponents on their own grounds and invariably carry the meetings against them.

A farmer named W. Wilson, living at Kingston, was aroused during the night by a great tumult among the cattle in a barn. Dressing he went out, but found everything apparently all right with the exception of the cow, which was acting as if much frightened, but nothing could be found to account for it. In the morning, however, he found a snake stretched on the window sill. He grasped a stick and killed the reptile. The blow broke through the skin, out of which came a pint of milk, thus explaining the cause of the cow's terror. The snake is said to have been four feet long, one of the largest ever seen in Kingston, Ont.

A Niagara Falls special says that Horseshoe Falls are Frozen over solid for a distance of 200 feet from the shore, in consequence of which the Clifton Water Works Co. have ceased operations. Reservoirs … run dry and the town is without a …

Ireland and Parnell.

In another column we publish a glowing letter on Ireland and Parnell. There is much in the letter beside the point, and this we insert because we think it expedient to give vent, through the press, to strong feelings. That Ireland is justified in agitating, we make no doubt. That Parnell has wisely led and directed the agitation is quite another matter. We hold a very decided opinion that he has not done wisely. With Gladstone in power, and with the tenant farmers of England and Scotland struggling against the competition of the products of the free lands of America, a proper and constitutional agitation for the relief of Irish tenants would have been aided by the sympathy of the Government and by the sympathy of a very large class of the people of the Mother Country. But to give countenance to Parnell's wild demand for a disruption of the Union, would be to aid in an attempted revolution; and the savage acts which have been perpetrated and the extreme danger to which life and property in Ireland is subjected by reason of the agitation led by Parnell, have so horrified all good men, that many have been prevented from enlisting actively in Ireland's cause. Parnell is neither wise enough, nor strong enough, nor good enough, to lead and guide the Irish people in the present crisis. This is our firm conviction.

References to old-time outrages can do no good now. The sooner the strifes of the past are forgotten the better. Our forefathers acted foolishly and harshly We ought to be wiser and better than they; and forgetting the troubles of the past we should set ourselves, as men and Christians, to deal with the affairs of the present. The British people are now honestly and sincerely desirous of dealing fairly and liberally with Ireland. We hope Parnell will let them do so.

Civic Matters.

Great satisfaction must be felt by our citizens when they see this evening in The Examiner a clear statement of the financial condition of the city on the 31st day of December, 1880; and it will be additionally pleasing to learn that a pamphlet has been issued, containing a detailed account of all expenditures and receipts during the past year. In the olden time—not many years ago—no one—not even the Mayor, the councillors, or the clerks—knew how matters stood. Now, all is clear. This shows the advantage of having, first of all, a good system, then well-trained, industrious clerks, and, over all, a man of a practical mind, knowing when the accounts are right and how to keep them right.

There is also a gleam of comfort in the fact that the amount of the small deficit shown in the accounts—which is almost covered by additional real estate purchased for the use of the city—is not so much as the falling off in the Police Court receipts. In 1877, these receipts reached $2,817.94; last year they were only $862.83—a difference of $2,055.11—which shows that the number of civic offenders and debtors has diminished.

It is hardly possible that expenditures can be cut down to a much lower figure than they were last year. The Street Commissioner was last year very much hampered for the want of money. Though he made the little he had placed at his disposal go a great deal further than a committee could have done, there were many improvements which we have no doubt he would like to have made, many improvements which, in the interests of the city, should have been made—which had to be deferred for the want of money. In view of the fact that it is not possible to maintain the civic departments, on their present basis, with less money than was expended last year; and that the City School Board have the expenditures for education completely within their own power, it is evident that, unless some radical change be made, more money must—to keep up the Street and Fire Departments—be raised next year than was raised last year. It is therefore well that the number of taxpayers has been increased by the addition of those who, though not householders, live and receive …

The Mayor has … attention to the necessity for an inspection of buildings, to the advisability of prohibiting, within certain localities, the erection of buildings, other than brick and stone, and to the desirability of having water works. We hope these suggestions will not be forgotten by the next Council.

If a private Company can be found who will introduce Water Works, there should be no hesitation about that matter.

Exports for December.

Mr. Lydiard supplies the following statement of exports from Prince and Kings Counties during the month of December:—

	Value.	
Oats to Provincial ports	$13,500	
" Foreign do	47,023	$60,523
Potatoes to Provincial ports	6,302	
" Foreign do	19,915	26,217
Meats, fresh, salted and preserved to Provinces	42,084	
Do to Foreign ports	16,073	$58,157
Fish to Foreign ports, including preserved,		114,455
Miscellaneous, Colonial,	32,186	
" Foreign	34,342	66,528
Total Exports for Dec., for Queen's and King's Co's		$325,880

RECEIPTS IN THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

Cash Receipts for December, 1880,	$21,680.09
Do for December, 1879,	13,344.63
In favor of Dec., 1880,	$8,335.46

The Syndicate Contract.

Mr. Ives, in his excellent speech, said:—

"The only objection to this scheme worthy of consideration which I have heard, is that it will place in the hands of a company a large lot of land which they may retain on speculation. This objection would be a very natural one for us if we were in a position to build that railway and present it to the Northwest; if we were in a position to deal with these lands entirely as free grants and homesteads. If this country possessed a population of thirty millions, if we had an overflowing treasury and no public debt, we might very fairly be asked out of our abundance to construct the Canada Pacific Railway, and to take immigrants there and give them lands free. But, unfortunately, we are not in that position. No one expected that the older provinces of this Dominion would undertake the cost and the burdens of taxation necessary to build that railway, and open up those lands for settlers. That is not our position, and, therefore, we are not in the position to object to the sale of lands for the purpose of constructing the railway. I believe there are thousands of people in this Dominion who would say:—Take as much of the land as is necessary for the purpose of building the railway, and free us from the burden, even if the land must be excluded from settlement forever. I believe there are thousands of people in this country who would say:—If it is necessary to consecrate one half of the fertile belt for the purpose of constructing that railway, then take it, rather than impose on the older Provinces of this Dominion the burden of taxation which otherwise must fall upon them."

Mails.

We have not had a foreign mail for several days; and we are glad to learn that the Inspector has ordered that they be conveyed by way of the Capes for the remainder of the season.

The Boston Silver Plating Company, is now prepared to do all kinds of Gold and Silver plating, such as knives, forks, spoons, cake baskets, fruit stands, tea sets, watches and jewelry of every description.

Carriage work, handles, dashers, &c, &c.

N. B.—Every job warranted to give entire satisfaction or no charge made.

Shop opposite the Athenæum.

P. O. Box, 219, Charlottetown. nov. 17

The Mayor's Report.

Mayor Dawson, at the City Council meeting on Monday night, read the following report, which speaks for itself:—

Mayor's Office,
Charlottetown, 10th January, 1881.

To the City Council

Gentlemen,—The Accounts and Reports herewith submitted exhibit in detail all matters so clearly, that but few remarks from me is required.

You will not fail to observe that the year's expenditure ($32,199 26) has exceeded the revenue ($30,767.01) by $1,432.25.

The total receipts are as follows:

Assessment 1878....	$ 807 44	
" 1879....	5,388 20	
" 1880....	23,385 10	
Other sources.......	10,546 91	
Union Bank........	7,881 93	—$ 48,009 58

PAYMENTS.

Income Account....	$32,199 26	
City School Board...	13,810 32	
Debentures redeemed	1,000 00	
S. Mutch, for land..	1,000 00	—$ 48,009 58

The indebtedness of the City stands thus:

Debenture Debt........		$ 92,355 01
Union Bank........		18,672 55
Hospital Fund........		97 06
Checks afloat........		32 25
		$111,156 81
Less		
Assessment 1878.....	$1,758 66	
" 1879.....	1,723 63	
" 1880.....	1,815 00	
Other Assets..........	483 00—	5,780 29
Total Liability..........		$105,376 52

In my report of January last, after discounting for "Removals," "Poverty," &c., I said the probabilities are that "from the $14,600 of Assessment arrears not more than $3,500 is collectable, so that the City Debt reaches some $104,000."

After the lapse of twelve months, the estimate then made is verified by the action of the Finance Committee and City Collector, who, after going carefully through the list of arrearages for the years 1878 and 1879 have, on the authority of a Resolution of City Council, passed 14th June last, written off for "Removals," "Insolvencies," and "Poverty":

From arrears of 1878..........	$2,581 45
" 1879..........	1,740 80
A total of..........	$4,322 25

I am, however, of opinion, after a careful supervision, that the estimate I then made of the value of these Assets was too high, that the Committee have not written off sufficient to cover the shrinkage, and I am satisfied that the $3,482.29, for which credit is taken, will not realize beyond $2,000.

The slight increase of the liability of the Corporation has been mainly caused by the payment of $1,000 to Mr. Samuel Mutch for the land upon which the King Street Fire Engine House is built.

It is gratifying to find that the ordinary outlay for the current year has been kept within the income, thus showing an improved state of things as the result of adopting and adhering to an authorized estimate of expenditure; and I trust the same wise course will be continued.

The sum of $636.21, owing by Mr. J. J. O'Kielly, late Assistant Clerk, has for the past four years appeared in the Accounts as an Asset. I cannot conceive the propriety of carrying this amount from year to year, and I would again recommend that it be written off.

The powers obtained from the Legislature at the session of 1880 to enable the Corporation to "Levy an Assessment" on Real Estate, instead of upon the occupant, have met the anticipations of the promoters of the change, and placed the finances of the City upon a much improved basis; the discount allowed for payment within thirty days was taken advantage of by many of the citizens, as the following figures show:

Paid to City Clerk..........		$3 386 26
" City Collector..........		6,447 49
		$9,833.75
The Levy for the year was....		25,702 90
Paid to Collector	$19,126.14	
" City Clerk	4,258 96	
Discount........	252.30	
Appeals, &c.....	250.40	23,887.80
Leaving unpaid but.........		$1,815 06

This speaks well not only for the diligence of the City Collector, but also the willingness … system of rating and collecting, to pay a fair rate of taxation.

During the year, Pownal Wharf has been leased for a term of five years to Mr. R. F. Quirk, at a yearly rent of $725, equal to a return of a little over five per cent. on the outlay of the past four years.

In the estimates submitted for the year's services, and approved by the City Council, there was a vote of $2,000 for the formation of a "Sinking Fund." I have endeavored to secure an investment, but have so far failed. I trust, however, to do so at an early day, thus forming the nucleus of a fund which, yearly added to, will enhance the securities of the Corporation, and cause them to be eagerly sought after as investments second to none.

"The depreciation in the value of "Real Estate," the wear and tear of "Plant and Moveable Property," owned by the Corporation since the last appraisement was made, is very considerable, and as it appears to me desirable that the "Balance" sheet should show, as near as possible, a correct value of the assets of the Corporation, I would therefore again recommend that a re-valuation of all city property be made, and that the appraisers for the coming year be so authorized.

The falling of a portion of the building situated on the corner of Kent and Prince streets, owned by Mr. Lemuel Wright, on the morning of the 21st ultimo, resulting in the loss of life, would seem to call for the appointment of a qualified Inspector of Buildings to whom all plans of proposed erections within the City should be submitted, and whose approval should be first had before proceeding to build, and whose further duty it should be to inspect the same during progress, having power to enforce compliance of the necessary regulations.

I would urgently recommend your early attention to this subject, and also to the enactment of a Bye-Law prohibiting, within certain localities of the City, the erection of buildings other than brick or stone.

If we are ever to effect improvement in this respect and keep within any reasonable distance of other towns, it is imperative that something be done in this direction without delay.

The scarcity of water during the past few months and the drying up of many wells, notably the one known as "Quirk's," and the shrinkage of the "Spring" at Spring Park, consequent upon the small rainfall, is dealt with by the Chief Engineer in his report (page 29) to which I direct your attention.

By an order of City Council, 13th September last, Mr. Murdoch was requested to furnish his report of Winter River survey, and I had hoped, from correspondence with him on the subject, to have been placed in possession thereof in time to have incorporated within the cover of the yearly report, so that not only the City Council, but the citizens at large should be put in possession of information … this important subject at the earliest p… …ble moment; I regret to say the report is … yet to hand.

The subject of Water Supply calls … or and must receive at no distant day th… serious consideration of the City Council.

If it be desirable that Water W… …rks should be constructed and owned by a … …ivate company, I am led to believe from cor… …espondence which has reached me (quite … …nsolicited,) that there would not be much di… …ficulty in securing a Company to undertake the work, granting them certain concessions.

If it should be deemed best that W… …ater Works be constructed and owned by the corporation, I have reason to believe that there are gentlemen prepared to carry out their construction immediately, taking payment in City Debentures at par.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. Dawson,
Mayor.

Late on Friday last a little boy named Alexander Campbell, was coasting down a hill which comes to a stop at the waters of North West Arm, Hx. It is supposed the little fellow was speeding along on his sled when it struck a rock, throwing him into the water, for when search was made, his lifeless body was found in the water near the shore.

The Lockport, N. S., fishing vessels have done well this season, upwards of 100,000 quintals being caught.

How the Matter Stands.

The Hamilton *Spectator* puts the whole thing in a nut-shell in the following parallel column:—

1874.	1880.
Mr. Mackenzie asked for tenders from capitalists to build the Pacific Railway.	Sir John Macdonald asked for tenders from capitalists to build the Pacific Railway.
He offered $26,000,000 in cash.	He offered $25,000,000 in cash.
And 52,000,000 acres of land.	And 25,000,000 acres of land.
And a 4 per cent. guarantee, estimated to cost the country $15,600,000.	And finished road estimated to cost the country $28,000,000.
The road was to be finished by 1890.	The road is to be finished by 1891.
He failed.	He has succeeded.

The only question to be asked on reading this parallel is: Was the extra 27,000,000 acres of land offered by Mr. Mackenzie worth the extra $11,400,000 in cash outlay offered by Sir John Macdonald? According to the private memorandum published by the Reform party, the 27,000,000 acres at $3 would give $81,000,000, or $69,700,000 in favor of Sir John Macdonald's scheme.

The Small-Pox.

A SAILOR SAYS HE HAS SMALL-POX CREATES A SENSATION.

At noon Monday a Swedish sailor whose face and hands were covered with scabs and sores similar to those seen on a small-pox patient, arrived by train from Georgetown, and by direction proceeded to the police station. He carried with him a small bundle of clothing and a letter addressed to the doctor of the Marine Hospital. He was followed at a safe distance by a gang of small boys, who gazed curiously at him and kept up a conversation among themselves about the sailor's disease—small pox, as they thought it was. On arrival at the station, he was met at the door by Officer McGonnell, who asked him what was the matter with him? The sailor, in much mixed English related his story, ended by stating that he had small-pox and asked where he was to go. The port of destination given by the officer in the midst of much excitement, could not be easily arrived at unless the disease grew fatal and the sailor was a very bad man. At any rate he went to Dr. Taylor's. The Doctor was not at home and the poor son of Neptune retraced his steps to the station. The officers seeing him returning betook themselves to the apothecary shops, and became thoroughly saturated with disinfectants. Officer McGonnell went to dinner. The sailor was on return to the station sent to the Quarantine officer, who examined him, and found that his disease was not small-pox, nor was it contagious. He sent him to the Marine Hospital. By the time the sailor was comfortably lodged in the hospital, the rumor that his disease was small-pox spread through the city, and the timid ones became alarmed. But the rumor was not correct.

Now, officer McGonnell had left the station in a great fever of excitement and spent his dinner hour at home, uneasy, fearing he might have contracted the disease while directing the sailor to Dr. Taylor's. His fever did not abate much as he returned to the station, contemplating the loathsome disease. As he opened the door he, with an oath, started back, for he had seen the body of a man stretched on the station floor, and as no one was present, he believed it was the small-pox patient. The Marshal arrived and, being aware of the lark, ordered the officer to throw the man out. But McGonnell declared he would give up his jacket before he would enter the station. A few of the officers then arrived and, by order of the Marshal, lifted the form, and while officer McGonnell, much amazed, stared in at them as they lifted the bundle of haberdashery which was covered by a policeman's coat, and threw it towards him. A crowd gathered around the station to enjoy the joke; but, we learn, officer McGonnell cannot see that there was any joke at all.

St. Peter's Penny Readings.

The first night of the season must be pronounced a remarkable success. The schoolroom was overcrowded, and the performance quite up to the high standard of the St. Peter's Readings. Mrs. J. R. Brecken and Miss M. Rankin, played their instrumental duet with ease and dexterity, and Mrs. Freeland's "Fishermaiden" (a translation from the German of Heine) was sung with much feeling. Mr. A. Peter's gave sensible advice to ladies travelling, and also introduced to the audience a very irrepressible boy, the terror of bald-heads. Mrs. McNab, and Miss Palmer, sang a duett of no small difficulty with great clearness, and the former lady's solo of the "Eastern Gate" was remarkably well done. Miss K. Wright, Miss M. Hobkirk, and Lieut. Dixon, did the scene from Sheridan's "Rivals" naturally, but in some parts, were scarcely deliberate and loud enough for all the audience to hear. Mr. Reid's song of "Blue Glass" enlightened us on the value of that commodity, and to use a well-worn phrase, "took the house by storm." Mr. Morson told with a knowing quaintness the story of "Jamie Butler's first visit to America." Major and Mrs. Freeland followed with a duett, which was very well received. … piece of the evening, was a recent poem of Tennyson, called Rizpah 17. Not often has a lovelier story been recited, and it is undoubtedly Tennyson's best in his lately issued volume, a poem of unique conception, power, a splendour of lament, possessing strong repose of art which is the p… witchery of Tennyson's verse. The reader, the Rev. G. W. Hodgson, held the audience spell-bound during the delivery, and we sincerely hope that he will again give us the rare treat of listening to his rendition of this beautiful poem. The last, but not least, piece, was a quintette sung by Mrs. McNab, Miss Palmer, Major Freeland and the Rev. R. D. Bambrick.

The chairman gave notice that the next reading would take place on Wednesday the 26th inst.

St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society.

At the Annual Meeting of St. Patrick's Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society, held in St. Patrick's Hall, on the 9th inst. the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

Spiritual Director—Rev. A. McGillivray, re-elected.

President—Maurice Blake, re-elected.

First Vice President—Richard Walsh.

Second Vice-President—Thomas Flynn, re-elected.

Recording Secretary—John Leahy.

Assist. Rec. Secretary—Edward C. Grant.

Corresponding Secretary—James King.

Treasurer—Michael W. Smith, re-elected.

Sergeant-at-Arms—Bernard Murphy.

Trustees—Maurice Blake, John Leahy, M… Smith.

Managing Committee—John Bowers, Patrick …, Thomas Doyle, Bernard McQuillan, John Madigan, Daniel Sullivan, Thomas McCabe.

Committee on Resolutions—Richard Walsh, Thomas Flynn, John Leahy.

Marshals—Michael Kelly, chief; Thomas Butler, Timothy Coughlan, Alex. McCabe, Francis Keenan.

Standard Bearers—Martin Hogan, Michael Sweeney, James Whitty, Patrick Bourke, jr. James Kelly.

The Transvaal.

The *Pall Mall Gazette*, in a leading editorial artic… the 4th, says:—"There is much reason to think … the annexation … of the Transva… would make all Englishmen … which …ation be maintained it will turn … If annex… enmity of every Dutchman in … against us the … reasons usually assigned South Africa. Th… count… little else for not giving up th… than shadowy." A despatch from Ca… to the *Daily Telegraph* … on good authority that Mr. J. H. Brand, President of the Orange Free State, has wired that he is unable to restrain the Boers of the State from joining the insurrection, and in a few days he may be compelled to resign. A Durban despatch to the *Times* says the general in command expects shortly to send large reinforcements to Basutoland. The Free State Boers on the border of the Transvaal express sympathy with the rebels. The *Times* announces that arrangements for sending reinforcement to the Cape are so far complete that by the beginning of February the British force will considerably exceed the numbers which the Boers are reported to be able to place in the field.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the statements or opinions of our correspondents.

Ireland and Parnell.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir,—I am conscious of the difficulty of writing a letter the sentiments of which may not be in accord with your own. I venture to do so, relying upon the well-known liberality of your journal, and with all the more confidence, from the fact that you are in no way "responsible for the statements or opinions of correspondents." Among other matters in reference to Ireland and Parnell, in late issues of your journal, I noticed the following: "Parnell speaks with the tone of one who means business or blood, and *his passionate language must be deprecated by every reasonable man*." The italics are mine, and it is with that part of the sentence I firmly and respectfully disagree. I am so thoroughly convinced in the light of history, and present facts, that England has done little else than misgovern Ireland; that, with millions of others, I am so unreasonable as to believe in Parnell, and rejoice in the fact that he is so severely in earnest on behalf of his down-trodden native land. An actual knowledge of the people of Ireland, and a personal acquaintance—of several years' standing—of much of the present disturbed districts—both North and South—enables me to write with a little authority on the question. Although an Englishman myself, I confess I am not carried away by a certain portion of the ultra-English press, who hate everything Irish, and cater to the depraved tastes of the dogs of Society. Upon the Irish question, the editors of such journals betray a lamentable ignorance, or wilful maliciousness, insulting alike to every principle of justice and sentiment of truth. This is all the more felt, when their falsehoods are wrapped up in the garb of some professedly leading journal, with influence enough to secure a large circulation, and mould public opinion after the fashion of their own pernicious ideas. Their conceptions of Ireland and Irish questions, are founded in falsehoods, either second hand or original; which they scatter broadcast in the face of the world, with as little compunction, as a dog would cherish for a well picked bone. Enough about such fellows, Mr. Editor, and I am glad you are not one of that class.

I am far from professing to justify every act of the so-called followers of Parnell. I will not atempt to advocate the assassination of landlords, or the destruction of the property of those those who refuse to recognise the Land League; but I am a firm believer in the old and oft-expressed opinion, that "when the ruling power becomes unjust and tyrannical, the people have a right to rebel," and I fail to see in the life of the landlord anything more valuable than can be found in that of some unfortunate victim of his cold blooded tyranny, whom he has crushed beneath the iron heel of his heartlessness, and ground beneath the demons of bigotry, prejudice and greed. Well ordered society refuses to take the law into its own hand, and yet there is a sentiment of wild justice beating in the breast of every man, which now and then rushes the culprit into the presence of Judge Lynch, and gives the well merited punishment which the technical niceties of Chief Justice's justice might allow him to escape. I may deplore the fact that blood has been shed in Ireland, but I deplore still more another fact—that Irish character has been unscrupulously painted with all the blackness which the genius of the master of the mint, in the workshop down stairs, could invent. Columns long of "the reign of terror" are dealt out to us garnished with the claptrap of some brainless fool, who would look more at home in the stocks, than in the editorial chair. "Another murder in Ireland" meets the gaze, in every penny-a-liner, and immediately follows a yard long of sad reflections and heart-rending deductions, as to the state of unhappy Ireland. Why bless your heart, Mr. Editor, in free, enlightened, religious, happy, grand old England, who rides "Cock of the Walk" over all creation on land or sea; there are more murders committed in the *seven days of the w… Ire'and in as many …* very little about the … Well what can one e… poor priest ridden, un… papist Irishman! Never… expect, this is what I… she has shed her bl… well-fought field. Sh… with victory the waters … In the senate, the bar and … has placed the brightest or… own or any other time; her … ed among the bravest of t… who would breathe the brea… against the national virtue of I… The greatest of England's lea… …ve sprung from … Ireland has kissed the … struck her; she has strengthened … which have bound a chain ar… Sh…s tried to forget and f… of centuries, and smiled … pages of history, which tell with truthfulness the woes and horrors … gone days. Her altars have been de…ed, her homes destroyed, her p… exiled or martyred. Crushed and ble… she has lay a victim at the feet of Eng… and there was no tear of pity, no wor… hope, no accent of mercy. Her man… was crushed, while the blood of her help… women and innocent babes mingled w… the dust of their native soil, a holy offeri… on the altar of patriotic love, which ha… wailed through all the centuries for justice and still cries to-day for justice.

And justice she will yet have. The world owes it to her, and will yet secure it. If Canada has home rule and her provinces enjoy their own legislatures, why should not Ireland? If this Island was able to transfer the land from the landlord to the tiller of the soil, why should not Ireland? Let a conquering nation come to our shores and treat us, as history says England has treated Ireland, would we endure it with a placid smile, call patriotism, rebellion, and hang our fellow-man because he loved his country? In short, would we be prepared to sacrifice every feeling of manhood, every sentiment of national pride, every emotion of patriotism, every spark of love for the land which gave us birth, and stand like dumb dogs in presence of the blood thirsty might, which recognises no principle of right?

Secure to Ireland home Government. Let her people feel that she is governed, under equal rights to all. Crush out of her everything in shape of a secret society. They have been one of her greatest curses. Allow her to manage her own internal affairs, and steer the ship of state after her own fashion. Just so sure, as Irishman have been Lord Chancellors in England, Judges on her bench, Bishops in the Church, Generals in her army, Admirals in her Navy, just so sure, are Irishmen well fitted to manage the internal affairs of their own country.

Until that time arrives—*which it will*—when Ireland shall obtain all this and more, may she never be without a Sarsfield, an Emmet, an O'Connell, a Butt, or a Parnell. In the midst of every national agitation, things deplorable will occur. The most glorious principles have sometimes kept company with angry passions. The greatest victories have been the color of blood. The wail of sorrow has been hushed by the paeon of victory. Liberty triumphant, grants herself to those who woo her faithfully. Wishing you, Mr. Editor, all … happiness, and many retu… season, I am, Yours …

New Year's D…

To the Edi…

Dear … year 1881, … excitement of … our city, … petition for signa… Dominion Parliam… take, not to conti… Pacific Railroad measu… our country for less than … Winnipeg might be the … on this Island will s… it. Confederation w… but this is a thousand … When the petition was pr… signature they had been ver… they had over twenty-seven na… old and respectable professionals loafers and many of our promising yo… from 16 years old and upwards. No doubt was for the sake of those juveniles a… corner loafers that such a praisewor… object stimulated these good *timekeep…* and *wirepullers* as putting a stop to such … ruinous measure. It will prove to be the salvation of our great Dominion. Mr. Davies lecture in the Market Hall opened the eyes of the Grits, and they are determined to remedy the selling of our future prosperity. I drop this note to you, sir, to let you know that something is doing outdoors not only in the city, but in the country as well, to aleviate our present position. We hope for better times yet, and will have it, if such movements only succeed as these.

Yours truly,
D. O. W.

7th Jan., 1881.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Dear Sir,—Complaint having been ma… by several merchants who complied with th… law and adopted the Imperial measure, th… others still continue to use the wine gallo… professing to sell at a less rate than they d… I hereby give notice that I shall not all… those who obeyed the law to be put to a loss or inconvenience in their trade by th… who do not.

Accordingly, I shall put the law in fo… without regard to who the offenders may …

Persons using guage taps for measur… liquids will also take notice that these … not recognized by the law.

I am yours truly,
James Reddin,
Inspector Weights & Measures.

Keep off the Grass.

A new and very extensive industr… about to be started in Canada. It wil… remembered that Mr. Blake asserted in … course of his London speech, that the sy… cate will not sell its lands but will hold t… for high prices. To this Sir Charles Tu… responded that the syndicate will in a … measure be compelled to sell its lands … that it will not be an unmixed evil ev… they should remain vacant, inasmuch … settlers on the Government la… wou… able to pasture their cattle on … vacant lots. Mr. Blake, h… statesman—a great statesman … statesman he grapples with … The pasturing of cattle on Sy… would create an emergency, a… pate that Mr. Blake last night … his remedy.

The Syndicate will fence in the … the cattle out.

Ha! ha! ha!

Three Cheers for Mr. Bla… Canadian statesman!

The land of the syndicate … 25,000,000 acres. It will be … blocks, each a mile square. … exactly 39,062½ of these bloc… tance around each will be … except the odd half block … only three miles around. C… order to keep settlers' catt… the syndicate will build … fence!

Ha! ha! ha!

Three cheers for Mr. B… miles of fence!

Think of the army of … find employment! Wi… apart there will be 102… required. There is no … holes specific in the … special provision ex… the syndicate should … them they would … per cent duty as "… provided for." S… that these 182,037 … be manufactured … that one man ca… holes a day and … 200 days a yea… find steady em… the post holes … industry.

Ha! ha! h…

… wi… Sta… tion… any … the n… merce, … of all … In imp… $326,000 … coffee, tea… iron, tin, … shows a wo… the expense … poorest show… which it has … vantage with … stuffs it expor… total of $288,000 … try. Philadelphi… divide the greate…

HOLLOW… Rheumat… diseases … in this … distressing, … medical skill to allev… the victim. In no… Ointment and Pills … The Ointment exert… ing influence over … relaxing spasms a… attack soon becor… vals between the… they cease altoge… body from a w… to a state of … bedridd… and …