The Examiner.

Charlottetown, Oct. 16, 1876.

MR. LAIRD AND THE VACANT SEAT.

The Hon. David Laird was never very popular. He never could command the respect or admiration of the people. He was thrice a candidate for popular suffrages before he obtained a seat in the House of Assembly. He succeeded in gaining the support of the people of Belfast by denouncing the railway, and he maintained himself in power by building the branches. To obtain power he denounced Mr. Pope for contracting with Schreiber & Burpee to build the railway, and when in power he contracted with Schreiber & Burpee to build the branches at an additional cost of $1000 per mile. While elevating his horn he denounced Mr. Boyd as an incapable truckler, and when his horn was elevated he gave Mr. Boyd the superintendence of the railway works. When in Opposition he professed to abhor the idea of Confederation; when in the Government he did his best to effect an union with the Dominion at an annual loss to the Province of $24,000. To gain a seat in the House of Commons, he professed friendship for the Government of Sir John A. McDonald. After he obtained the seat he deserted Sir John in his extremity, to accept a Cabinet office in the McKenzie Administration at $7000 per year. He deserted Sir John on the ground of corruption; and he has been hugging a party individually and collectively corrupt ever since,—witness, the decisions of the judges on the controverted election trials; witness, Madiver's laconic "come along John, we've got lots of money"; witness Brown's "Big Push" and Senator Simpson's plethoric bank; witness, the bribery of the first Commoner of Canada by twenty per cent over and above the cost of the Post Office printing of New Brunswick. All this corruption of the hypocritical party has been brought to light and proved beyond the possibility of a doubt, since Mr. Laird threw from him in well effected disgust the blue book in which the evidence of Sir John's guilt was alleged to be set forth. And yet Mr. Laird clung to his office and pocketed his $7000, till the very day of his appointment to the Governorship of the North-West.

Mr. Laird's political career has been marked by falsehood and selfishness. In every prominent act he was, to serve his own purposes, false to the principles he previously laid down and the cries he previously raised. He was false to the people of Belfast and he gained a seat in the Government of this Island. He was false to the people of this Island and he gained a seat in the House of Commons. He was false to Sir John and he gained $7000 a year. He was false to political morality and he gained the Governorship of the Northwest. This consummation of his falsehood and his selfishness has given infinite pleasure to the people of this Island. The politically "evil man" has been removed far from them.

The people of Queen's County will soon be called upon to elect a member to fill the seat which he has vacated. In making a choice of a representative the first consideration should be THE MAN. He should be a man of integrity and intelligence, versed in politics and capable of taking part in debate. We agree with the *Patriot* that there is no necessity to elect a respectable nincompoop or an ignorant unlettered boor who may happen to have local influence. There are several men in the community who possess the necessary qualifications. Then, the electors should see to it that they elect a man who will be loyal to the Dominion; who will not support a Government, the policy of which is calculated to bring about a disruption of the Confederation. The Pacific Railway Policy of the present administration has already caused a great clamour and some dissaffection in British Columbia. So grave was the situation in the Pacific Province that the Governor General, when there, deemed it his duty to make a speech for the purpose of reassuring the people and restoring confidence in Mr. McKenzie. His Excellency showed very clearly that Mr. Me Kenzie was honest in his endeavors to build the railway. He declared that in his opinion, the Pacific Railway had no more sincere friend in Canada than Mr. McKenzie. Yet, British Columbia has been driven to the verge of rebellion by Mr. McKenzie, on account of the railway. Here surely is ground for suspicion as to Mr. McKenzie's administrative ability. Had Mr. McKenzie been, like Mr. Blake, avowedly opposed to the Pacific railway, no one would have wondered at the dissatisfaction of British Columbia; but being its sincere friend, grave doubts must be entertained that Mr. McKenzie (willing as he is,) is not able to grapple with the Pacific Railway question." Since he obtained power, Mr. Mackekzie has promulgated at least three distinct policies concerning the railway. Yet the Governor General, to allay the discontent of British Columbia, felt compelled to announce that the original policy of Sir John A. Macdonald had been returned to, and that the contracts would be let as soon as possible. Under these circumstances the statements of the *Patriot* of Saturday are most unfair and dishonest. The *Patriot* says:

"The lowest estimate that we have seen of its cost is within a trifle of EIGHTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. We are a fortieth part of the *Dominion*, consequently, our share of the debt contracted to build the Pacific Railway will be $2,000,000, which, at five per cent., would be a burden on the Island alone of $100,000 a year."

Under Sir John Macdonald's scheme, (which has at last been adopted by Mackenzie) the contractors are to have 50,000,000 acres of land in the Northwest Territory—equal to at least $50,000,000. No part of that will come out of the pockets of the people of this Island. Then they are to have $30,000,000 as the work progresses. Of the interest of this amount Prince Edward Island will, of course, have to bear its share. But the Government are to reserve 50,000,000 acres of land in the Northwest, by the sale of which the Dominion Government will receive a sum sufficient to repay us all the money we lay out. Besides the building of the Pacific Railway was taken account of by Pope, Howlan, and Haviland, when they settled the terms of union; and we receive annually the proportion of the interest of $30,000,000 which we will be required to pay. So that the building of the Pacific Railway will be no loss to us; and the *Patriot's* computation is a mere bug-bear. The fact is that the railway must be built whatever Government is in power. Canada is solemnly pledged to perform the work. The only question is whether it shall be performed under Mr. McKenzie, who is by sheer incapacity, fast driving a "glorious Province"—the Pacific key to the Dominion—into secession, or under a Government capable of grappling with the question, and preserving the union intact. This question, we commend to the attention of the people of Queen's County at the present juncture.

We trust that in the coming election they will follow the example of Ontario in signifying their detestation of corruption and hypocrisy, and their disapproval of incapacity in the Government.

CIVIL SERVICE.

The new Government is neither well represented nor ably defended by its Press. We search the columns of the *Argus* and *Patriot* in vain for any indication of its policy or any vindication of its acts. The organs have not yet risen to the dignity of their positions. The *Patriot* does nothing but criticize the Opposition, while the *Argus* argues that Hayes should be President because he has a wife!

Yet the Government have already been charged with offences which have challenged the attention of the Press of the neighboring Provinces, and which, if defensible, should certainly be defended by its organs. We are free to admit that it is a difficult task to defend the members of a Government who know that their acts are unjustifiable—who themselves believe that what they have done is opposed to the true interests of the country.

The practice of removing officials merely for the sake of rewarding the political friends of a Government, is universally condemned. What answer has the *Argus* to the following from the Halifax *Chronicle*?:—

Our sister Province of Prince Edward Island has yet to learn an important lesson in the matter of Civil Service. The general election held in the Island a few weeks ago resulted, as already reported, in the triumph of the secular school party and the formation of a new government under the leadership of Mr. Louis H. Davies. As the first result of the change of administration we have the announcement that a batch of officials, high and low, have been dismissed on political grounds, and their places filled by others whose political views are more in accord with the policy of the new Government. It is not pretended, so far as we have seen, that any of these officials has been unfaithful to his trust. The presumption is that they were efficient public servants. But because they were not in sympathy with the triumphant party they have been removed and others put in their places. To many readers in the Dominion this proceeding will seem little less than an outrage on good government and the commonest principles of justice. But Mr. Davies's Government must not be too hastily condemned. The circumstances of his situation and the practices of the past must be taken into consideration, and these may be held to justify the changes that have been made. Other Governments in Prince Edward Island dismissed officials to make room for political friends, and consequently, from the Island point of view, Mr. Davies' administration has done nothing extraordinary. But while custom may justify or excuse the action of the Government, it certainly cannot defend the evil system under which the dismissals have been ordered. The practice is a bad one and should be abandoned. So long as electioneering services are counted of more value than faithful official work the civil service will be inefficient, if not corrupt. The evil of such a system may be seen in the demoralized condition of the civil service in the United States to-day. * * * * The civil service should be non-political and every member of it should be secure in his office so long as he faithfully performs his duties. The leaders of both political parties in Prince Edward Island would act wisely if they came to an agreement on this basis. The public service would gain by such a system, the politicians would be relieved from much of the office seekers pressure which they must all feel to be a burden, and the political contests of the country would be marked by more patriotism and less selfishness than at present.

Will the *Patriot* advise the Premier to take a friendly advice of the Halifax *Reporter*? The *Reporter* alluding to the recent dismissals by the Davies Administration remarks:—

These men are dismissed from office for no greater fault than that they could not see political maters through the same spectacle as the members of the victorious party. They are not accused of actively engaging in the political contest which has just closed and driving their friends from office and from power. They *belonged* to the losing party in the struggle, and that is sufficient. There is something in this principle of action so repugnant to every feeling of our nature—so subversive of freedom—so pregnant with evil to the State—that the wonder is that it has ever found a footing in any civilized land—much less in one boasting of its free institutions—or laying any claims to being guided in its Government by British principles. In the United States this principle has full swing and the fruit it is yielding has aroused a storm of indignation among the people, which it is to be hoped will result in a much needed reform in the civil service of that country, where fraud and embezzlement among the officials is almost a matter of every day occurence. * * * * Will Mr. L.H. Davies, the leader of the Government, take our friendly advice. He is young, but not inexperienced. He has had greatness thrust upon him, but he should not abuse the power placed in his hands. Should he do so, he will have cause for regret in after years, when, perhaps, his well-known talents will have placed him in a more commanding position than he occupies at present.

The vile system which the government has perpetuated on this Island is doomed in the United States. The following resolutions unanimously adopted at a great political meeting held in Indiana, indicate the manner in which the greatest curse ever fastened upon a free country is regarded in the neighbouring republic:—

"*Resolved*, That we heartily indorse and approve the declaration of principles of the Republican National Convention, and we especially commend and approve the manly and courageous sentiments of the letter of acceptance of the nominee of the said Convention for President of the United States; that by said declaration of principles and letter of acceptance of the nominee for President, the Republican party stands fully and squarely committed to a radical and complete reform of the civil service of the Government, to the end that offices shall no longer be bestowed as rewards for party services, nor services in behalf of any individual or individuals of the dominant party, but that the good of the public service, 'honesty, fidelity and capacity,' shall be the sole test of preferment, and, in the language of the national platform of the party, 'that Senators and representatives, who may be judges and accusers, should not dictate appointments to office.'

Resolved, That we require of the nominee of this Convention, in case of his election, that he faithfully observe the doctrine of the fith resolution of the national platform and the doctrine of Mr. Hayes' letter of acceptance in reference to civil service reform, and that he shall use such power and influence as he may possess as repsesentative to secure the adoption and carrying into effect the doctrines of said resolution and letter of acceptance as the 'invariable rule' in the bestowal of and removal from office.

Resolved, That we denounce as a glaring offence against good morals and public policy the bestowal or promise of bestowal of office for services rendered or to be rendered at party caucuses or nominating conventions, and that we regard such offence as only second to the crime of selling offices for a stipulated price, or a share in the emoluments of the same."

The last resolution is worthy the attention of the magnates of Tooley Street and all our local politicians. So also is the following from the writings of the late John Stuart Mill:—

"The entire business of government is skilled employment; the qualifications for the discharge of it are of that special and professional kind, which cannot be properly judged of except by those who have themselves some share of qualifications, or some practical experience of them. The business of finding the fittest persons to fill public employments—not merely selecting the best who offer, but looking out for the absolutely best, and taking note of all fit persons who are met with, that they may be found when wanted—is very laborious, and requires a delicate as well as highly conscientious discernment: and as there is no public duty which is in general so badly performed, so there is none for which it is of greater importance to enforce the utmost practicable amount of personal responsibility, by imposing it as a special obligation on high functionaries in the several departments. All subordinate public officers who are not appointed by some mode of public competition should be selected on the direct responsibility of the minister under whom they serve. The ministers, all but the chief, and the chief himself, though really designated by Parliament, should be, in a regal government, officially appointed by the Crown. The functionary who appoints should be the sole person empowered to remove any subordinate officer who is liable to removal; which the far greater number ought not to be, except for personal misconduct; since it would be vain to expect that the body of persons by whom the whole detail of the public business is transacted, and whose qualifications are generally of much more importance to the public than those of the minister himself, will devote themselves to their profession, and acquire the knowledge and skill on which the minister must often place entire dependance, if they are liable at any moment to be turned adrift for no fault that the minister may gratify himself or promote his political interest, by appointing somebody else."

OUR JAIL.

The old-time, dreary, and forbidding appearance of the jail in this city, has lately given place to an aspect at once fresh and attractive. But for the high fence which surrounds it, it might now be taken for a daily rendezvous for our public officials. The rain-worn roof—at which many an impatient prisoner, anxious to escape, has cast a longing eye—has been removed. The dingy walls have been stripped. In short, the entire building has undergone a metamorphosis. A story has been added to its height. Its length has been increased some twenty feet. It has been re-shingled and re-painted. Its entrance is quite as elegant as that of the private abodes of many of our most law-abiding citizens. If an old jailbird, who had left his country for his country's good, were to pay a flying visit to the land of his crimes, he would hardly know the place of his punishment—

"So chang-ed is the scene."

The keeper's apartments, we are specially pleased to note, have been greatly improved. They are now at the southern end of the building. With windows overlooking the jail yard, is the keeper's office; opposite is his dining room; and adjoining are bed rooms for the use of himself and family. Below is the kitchen, a root cellar, and a room for general uses. In the latter there is a force pump by means of which the water needed in the prison is drawn from a well in the yard, and, when required, forced to a tank in the third story. The half only of the second and third flats of the new building are set apart for the use of the keeper. The other half is divided into rooms in which unfortunate debtors are to be incarcerated. The rooms on the western side command pleasing views of the harbor; and, if it were not for the checks which strong locks and bars impose on liberty, they would not be dreadful places of abode during the winter months. From the third flat of the new building a passage-way leads through the middle of the story which has been added to the old prison. Twenty-one apartments have been added. Each room is ventilated. A bath-room is among the improvements. Gas-lights are provided for the keeper's and debtors' rooms and for the several halls. In the yard there is in course of erection a small brick building, 30x18 feet, in which to do the cooking and washing of the establishment. This building will contain—besides the cookery, etc.,—a morque and a storeroom. Attached to it will be four dry earth closets. These will be provided with boxes (on runners or wheels) which may be drawn away without expense or offence. A drain (of Nova Scotia tiles) is being laid from the jail to the shore; so that the cesspool which has hitherto heightened the appearance of the jail-yard will be no more seen.

Altogether, the change effected has been a good one. The new arrangements reflect high credit upon Richard Weeks, Esq., late Superintendent of Public Works for Queen's County. The work performed under the inspection of his foreman—Mr. Profit—has been well done. We need hardly remark that Messrs. Hermans and Trainor—who did the gasfitting and painting—performed their parts in a workmanlike and finished manner.

We trust that the attention of the Commissioner of Public Works will now be directed to the provision of labor and discipline for the criminals.

THE NEW MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.

It is announced that Mr. Cauchon is Minister of the Interior in the room of Mr. Laird. There must surely be some mistake here. The Government would never give the care of the "poor Indian" to the man who, for starving poor lunatics, was denounced by the Toronto *Globe* as one whose "crime is rank and Smells to Heaven!"

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.

To be Commissioners of Highways—Mr. Donald Crockett for the fourth District *vice* Thomas McGrath, Esq., whose appointment has been cancelled; Mr. Daniel McLaren for the eleventh district of King's County *vice* Mr. John F. Holland, whose appointment has been cancelled; Mr. Richard Pooley for the ninth district of Prince County *vice* Mr. Henry Dawson, whose appointment has been cancelled.

The Nova Scotia Giantess.—Captain Bates and his wife, formerly Miss Anna Swan, the giants, whose marriage in London attracted much attention several years ago, have retired from show life, and built a fitting residence near Rochester, N. Y. He is seven and a half feet high, and she is an inch taller, and each weigh over four hundred pounds. The rooms of their house are eighteen feet high and the doors twelve feet. Their bedstead is ten feet long, and all the furniture is proportionately large.

EARL DUFFERIN ON BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The following is the opening part of Earl Dufferin's speech at Victoria, as published in the Toronto *Mail*:—

Gentlemen.—I am indeed very glad to have an opportunity before quitting British Columbia of thanking you, and through you the citizens of Victoria, not only for the general kindness and courtesy I have met with during my residence amongst you, but especially for the invitation to the banquet with which you have honored me. I regret extremely that my engagements did not permit me to accept this additional proof of your hospitality; but my desire to see as much as possible of the country, and other engagements, forced me most reluctantly to decline it. I shall, however, have a final opportunity of mingling with your citizens at the entertainment arranged for me at Bacon Hill this afternoon, to which I am looking forward with the greatest pleasure. Perhaps, gentlemen, I may be also permitted to take advantage of this occasion to express to you the satisfaction and enjoyment I have derived from my recent progress through such portions of the province as I have been able to reach within the short period at my disposal. I am well aware I have visited but a small proportion of your domains and that there are important centres of population from which I have been kept aloof. More especially have I to regret my inability to reach Cariboo, the chief theatre of your mining industry, and the home of a community with whose feelings, wishes, and sentiments it would have been advantageous for me to become personally intimate. Still, by dint of considerable exertion, I have traversed the entire coast of British Columbia from its southern extremity to Alaska. I have penetrated to the head of Bute Inlet, I have examined the Seymour Narrows, and the other channels which intervene between the head of Bute Inlet and Vancouver Island. I have looked into the mouth of Dean's canal and passed across the entrance to Gardiner's Channel. I have visited Mr. Duncan's wonderful settlement at Metlakatlah, and the interesting Methodist mission at Fort Simpson, and have been able to realize what scenes of primitive peace and innocence, of idyllic peace and beauty, and material comfort can be presented by stalwart men and comely maidens of an Indian community under the wise administration of a judicious and devoted missionary. I have passed across the intervening Sound of Queen Charlotte Island to Skidegate, and studied with wonder the strange characteristic of a Hydah village with its forest of heraldic pillars. I have been presented with a sinister opportunity of descending upon a tribe of our Pagan savages in the midst of their drunken orgies and barbarous rites, and after various other explorations I have made have had the privilege of visiting under very gratifying circumstances the Royal City of New Westminister. Taking from that spot a new departure, we proceeded up the valley of the Fraser River, where the river has cloven its way through the granite ridges and bulwarks of the Cascade range, and along a road of such admirable construction considering the engineering difficulties of the line and the modest resources of the colony when it was built, as does the greatest credit to the able administrator who directed its execution. Passing thence into the open valleys and rounded eminences beyond, we had an opportunity of appreciating the pastoral resources and agricultural capabilities of what is known as the bunch grass country. It is needless to say that wherever we went we found the same kindness, the same loyalty, the same honest pride in their country and its institutions, which characterize the English race throughout the world, while Her Majesty's Indian subjects on their spirited horses, which the ladies of their families seemed to bestride with as much ease and grace as their husbands and brothers, notwithstanding the embarrassments of one baby on the pommel and another on the crupper, met us everywhere in large numbers, and testified in their untutored fashion their genuine loyalty and devotion to their White Mother. Having journeyed into the interior as far as Kamloops and admired from a lofty eminence in its neighborhood what seemed an almost interminable prospect of grazing lands and valleys susceptible of cultivation we were forced with much reluctance to turn our faces homewards to Victoria. And now that I am back it may perhaps interest you to learn what are the impressions I have derived during the journey. Well, I may frankly tell you that I think British Columbia a glorious Province—a Province which Canada should be proud to possess, and whose association with the Dominion she ought to regard as the crowning triumph of Federation. Such a spectacle as its coast line presents is not to be paralleled by any country in the world. Day after day for a whole week, in a vessel of nearly 2,000 tons, we threaded an interminable labyrinth of watery lanes and reaches that wound endlessly in and out of a network of islands, promontries, and peninsulas for thousands of miles, unruffled by the slightest swell from the adjoining ocean and presenting at every turn an ever shifting combination of rock, verdure, forest, glacier, and snow capped mountain of unrivalled grandeur and beauty. When it is remembered that this wonderful system of navigation, equally well adopted to the largest line of battle-ship and the frailest canoe, fringes the entire seaboard of your Province, and communicates at points sometimes more than a hundred miles from the coast, with a multitude of valleys stretching eastward into the interior, at the same time that it is furnished with innumerable harbours on either hand, one is lost in admiration at the facilities for inter-communication which are thus provided for the future inhabitants of this wonderful region. It is true at the present moment they lie unused except by the Indian fisherman and villager, but the day will surely come when the rapidly diminishing stores of pine upon this continent will be still further exhausted, and when the nations of Europe as well as of America will be obliged to recur to British Columbia for a material of which you will by that time be the principal depository. Already from an adjoining port on the mainland a large trade is being done in lumber with Great Britain, Europe, Australia, and South America, and I venture to think that ere long the ports of the United States will per force be thrown open to your traffic. I had the pleasure of witnessing the overthrow by the axes of your woodmen of one of your forest giants, that that towered to the height of 250 feet above our heads, and whose rings bore witness that it dated its birth from the reign of the Fourth Edward, and where it grew and for thousands of miles along the coast beyond it, millions of its contemporaries are awaiting the same fate. With such facilities of access as I have described, to the heart and centre of your various forest lands, where almost every tree can be rolled from the spot upon which it grew to the ship which is to transfer it to its destination, it would be difficult to over-estimate the opportunities of industrial development thus indicated—and to prove that I am not over-sanguine in my conjectures I will read you a letter recently received from the British Admiralty by Mr. Innes, the Superintendent of the Dockyard at Esquimalt:—"From various causes spars from Canada, the former main source of supply, have not of late years been obtainable, and the trade in New Zealand spars for top-masts has also completely died away. Of late years the sole source of supply has been the casual cargoes of Oregon spars, imported from time to time, and from these the wants of the service have been met. But my Lords feel that this is not a mode to be depended upon, more especially for the larger sized spars." Their Lordships then proceed to order Mr. Innis to make arrangements for the transhipment for the Dockyards of Great Britain of the specified number of Douglas pine which will be required by the service during the ensuing year,—and what England does in this direction other nations will feel themselves compelled to do as well. But I have learnt a further lesson; I have had opportunities of inspecting some of the spots where your mineral wealth is stored, and here again the ocean stands your friend, the mouth of the coal-pits I have visited almost opening into the hulls of the vessels which are to convey their contents across the ocean. When it is further remembered that inexhaustable supplies of iron ore are found in juxtaposition with your coal, no one can blame you for regarding the beautiful Island on which you live as having been especially favoured by Providence in the distribution of these natural gifts. But still more precious minerals than either coal or iron enhance the value of your possessions. As we skirted the banks of the Fraser we were met at every turn by evidences of its extraordinary supplies of fish; but scarcely less frequent were the signs afforded us of the golden treasures it rolls down, nor need any traveller think it strange to see the Indian fisherman hauling out a salmon on to the sands, from whence the miner beside him is sifting the sparkling ore. But the signs of mineral wealth which may happen to have attracted my personal attention are as nothing, I understand, to what is exhibited in Cariboo, Cassiar, and along the valley of the Stickeen, and most grieved I am to think that I have not had the time to testify by my presence amongst them to the sympathy I feel with the adventurous prospector and the miner in their arduous enterprises. I had also the satisfaction of having pointed out to me where various loads of silver only await greater facilities of acces to be worked with profit and advantage. But perhaps the greatest surprise in store for us was the discovery, on our exit from the pass through the Cascade range, of the noble expense of pastoral lands and the long vistas of fertile valleys which open up on every side as we advanced through the country; and which, as I could see with my own eyes from various heights we traversed, extended in rounded upland slopes or in gentle depressions for hundreds of miles to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, proving after all, that the mountain ranges which frown along your coast no more accurately indicate the nature of the territory they guard, than does the wall of breaking surf that roars along a tropic beach presage the softly undulating sea that glitters in the sun beyond. But you will very likely say to me, of what service to us are these resources which you describe, if they and we are to remain locked up in a distant and at present inaccessible corner of the Dominion, cut off by a trackless waste of intervening territory from all intercourse, whether of a social, or of a commercial character with those with whom we are politically united? Well gentlemen, I can only answer:—Of comparatively little use, or at all events of far less profit than they would immediately become, were the railway upon whose construction you naturally counted when you entered into Confederation once completed.

We regret that we have not space for His Excellency's remarks on the Pacific Railway.

THE HARRISON TRAGEDY.

A CRAZY LOVER'S ATTEMPT TO KILL A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN — PRESIDENT HARRISON'S GRANDSON TURNING THE HOUSE OF A FRIEND INTO MOURNING—A STRONG WOMAN'S FIGHT FOR LIFE—A TERRIBLE SCENE, ETC.

[*From the Cincinnati Enquirer, Oct. 4.*]

The people of Boone County, Ky., who lived along the river nearly opposite to North Bend, in sight of the tomb of Harrison, and only about fifteen miles from this city, were appalled yesterday morning at the intelligence that William Henry Harrison, a son of the late Symmese Harrison and a grandson of a President of the United States, had entered the residence of Major John H. More and stabbed to death Miss Mary More, the only daughter living at home. In the early part of the summer young Harrison began to visit at Major Harrison's oftener than usual, and it was soon suspected that he had designs on Miss More. Harrison had received no encouragement, and was never by word or look given to understand that his feelings were reciprocated or that his attentions were agreeable. He had conceived an idea that Miss More's father was his bitterest enemy, and when that gentleman was home he rarely came to the house. Last Monday morning Major More came up to Cincinatti and Covington. Monday night, and in fact nearly all day Monday, Harrison, availing himself of the Major's absence, hung round the old More homestead. During the day he obtained intimation that Major More would be home Monday evening, and it was during that evening that his hellish ambition was first developed.

He slipped into the sitting room unannounced, found Mary their, and, it is supposed, made some proposition of marriage to her, which she rejected. He had been in there but a moment, however, when he began yelling, "I'm crazy, I'm crazy!" whisked out a formidable jack knife with a blade as thick as a razor, and dashed at his victim. His first lunge resulted in a ghastly wound in the breast, just to the left of the breast-bone. He struck again for the heart, and another wound was made in the left breast, and still again a third wound spurted blood from just over the heart. Then he lunged again, this time for his victim's throat, and a bloody slip, down the left temple was all he accomplished; then again, and a wound in the left cheek was made. By this time Mary caught the knife-blade in her hand, but her assassin drew it through, and her hand, with every finger wounded, was helpless. Again, with uplifted blade, he sprung for her throat only to plunge his ugly weapon into her left arm which she raised for defense, and still again and again until five gaping wounds were bleeding in her arm and still the demon followed. Harrison walked deliberately out of the house and towards his own home. Arriving there he told his boys that he had killed Mary More—"She would not marry me, and I killed her"—and that he was now going to kill himself. He then took his own rifle in his hands as if to shoot himself, when his son Pike seized it. A struggle ensued, but Pike, discovering that the rifle, too, had no cap, ceased struggling. Harrison made the discovery, or pertended to about the same time, dropped the rifle, and with the same yell, "I'm crazy! I'm crazy!" ran to the cistern and jumped in. The cistern contained only about four feet of water, and the supposition is that Harrison knew it, for had he been bent on suicide the Ohio river would have answered every purpose, and that was only a few rods away. He floundered around in the cistern a few minutes, keeping up his cry of "I'm crazy!" until his sons fished him out; then he made a dive for a small medicine-chest in the house, saying he was going to poison himself, but when our reporter left he was still alive and trying to devise some means of self distruction. The room in which the deadly scuffle occurred was still as it was left in the morning, and presented a horrible appearance. The matting on the floor was stained with blotches of blood, and the door where the fiercest struggle had occurred was all stained over with the crimson fluid, as were the doors in William More's room. From the sitting-room clear across the kitchen the struggling woman's course could be traced in blood.

On Saturday afternoon, about half past five o'clock, as the son of James L. Holman, Esq., was driving a team down his father's wharf, he was run into by the shunting engine. He had barely got over the railway crossing when the engine struck the hind wheels of the carriage and hurled it with the little boy in it, to one side of the track, tearing it clear of the horse, and completely smashing it to pieces. The little boy was considerably hurt, the result of the fall causing concussion of the brain. Had the carriage been an open one the boy would probably have been killed. Fortunately he was wrapped up in an apron. This and the carriage top, no doubt, pootected him from receiving injuries which otherwise might have proved fatal. The engine, Mr. Holman informs us, was running back and forth at a furious rate, only whistling occasionally and not ringing the bell at all. Drivers should run their engines cautiously around that part of the tract crossing streets and wharves so many times.—*Summerside Journal.*

Further butcheries by the Turks at Kruschewatz are reported.

THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORY.

[*From the Toronto Mail.*]

Hon. David Laird has accepted the appointment of Lieut. Governor of the North-West Territory, and will leave for Battleford in the course of a few days.

Let those "advanced Reformers" who scoffed at the establishment of a Viceregal Court in this Province, imagine a Court with all its trappings, paraphernalia and appanages in the North-West Territory, that howling region beyond the confines of Manitoba and Keewatin, where the wild Indian is the solitary subject of his White Mother! In Ontario we have at least a wealthy and intelligent people among whom the symbols of royalty are respected and, it may be added, paid for. But in the North-West region, who, what is there, to be governed? The land is void and empty, a vast desolation where the white man is almost unknown. Picture, we say, the gaunt Prince Edward Island publisher rigged out in his Windsor clothes with a sword and a cocked hat and a body guard of office-holders and a blaze of gold lace and an aide-de-camp with the regulation eyeglass, sitting on a throne, waiting to administer constitutional government to generations of Icelandic emigrants yet unborn, amid solitudes unbroken save by the cry of the benumbed Indian for his Government annuity and his contraband whiskey!

For this gorgeous vision, we are indebted to the austere "Reformers" now in power. Sir John Macdonald entreated them in the session of 1875, to let the North-West region remain as in the past, under the tuteleage of the Lieut. Governor of Manitoba, but Mr. Mackenzie saw a chance of providing a right royal refuge for a follower, and eagerly he seized it without counting the cost to the country. In 1874-75 the expense of governing the wilderness in question—if seeing that a waste place is not stolen and does not stray be governing it—was $2,308 (Public Accounts. 1875, *p.* 181.) For that sum annually the territory might have been efficiently governed from Manitoba until such time in the far-off future as it became possessed of a population large enough to pay for the luxury of a separate Court. But our 'Reform' Premier who is himself fond of strutting it in Windsor clothes, rejected the views of the Opposition and created a Court, of which Mr. Laird is King David the First, to rule over utter desolation and emptiness at the expense of a heavily taxed people of the rest of the Dominion.

Ontario, of course, will have to pay the bill for this mockery, and no small bill it will be. *Imprimis*, take the expenses of the Court itself as given in the Estimates for 1876-77, *p.* 70:

Lieutenant-Governor	$7,000
Two Members of Council	2,000
Clerk of Council	1,800
	$10,800
Salaries of two Stipendiary Magistrates at $3,000 each (*p.* 18)	6,000
Total	$16,800

That is a very fair beginning. It is by odds, truly, a more 'Liberal' way of governing a desert place than that of ruling it from Manitoba at a cost of $2,300 a year!

Turn now from the Court to its subjects, the scattered Indian tribes over whom Mr. Laird is to wield his sceprte. They are provided for at *p.* 69 of the Estimates, their brethren in Manitoba having a separate account on the same page:

Annuities	$27 610
Agricultural Implements	8 000
Provisions	12,000
Ammunition and Twine	1,500
Salaries and Office Expenses	19,000
Treaty Expenses	80,000
Total	$148,110

This, it is well to repeat, does not include the annual grants to Manitoba Indians, but is the year's estimate for the new North-West Superintendency alone, and the reader will not fail to notice the comfortable sum set apart for "salaries and office expenses." Then there is the North-West Mounted Police Force established in 1874, which for the future must be regarded as Mr. Laird's little army, as in the past its operations have been confined to the Indian region. It is a mere skeleton of the original force, but as will be seen at page 38 of the Estimates that does not lead to to any decrease in the annual expenditure:

Pay of Forces	$120,750
Extra Pay, &c.	2,985
Rations	47,816
Forage	29,000
Fuel and Light	5 500
Clothing	21,300
Repairs, Horses, &c.	17,800
Miscellaneous Stores	5,500
Books, &c.	2,000
Transport and Freight Charges	30,000
Contingencies	10,000
Total	$292,651

The original force numbered 300 men, but it has been reduced by withdrawals and desertions to 200 men. Thus each man costs us $1,400 a year, exactly $400 a year more than the American soldier on the frontier costs his Government. The reader will not fail to notice also that $29,000 is set apart for forage—a significant item, in view of the boasted fertility of the soil. If the whole region, or at least those sections of it round about Fort Pelly and the other forts built for the force, connot supply 200 horses with hay and cats, sorrow will be the portion of the adventurous emigrant of the future.

The Court, its subjects, and its little army therefore involve an annual charge of $457,561—a far more "Liberal" idea, by the rood, of governing a waste place than that of leaving it in charge of the neighboring authorities at a cost of $2,300 a year. But that is not all. The process of "organizing the North-West Government," whatever that may consist of, has been going on for some time in anticipation of the creation of Mr. Laird's Court:

Expenditure, 1874-75 (Pub. Accts. 1875, p. 192.)	$25,702
Estimated expenditure, 1875-76 (Estimates for 1875-76, p. 57.)	33,800
Estimated expenditure, 1876-77 (Estimates for 1876-77, p. 70.)	12,000
Total	$71,502

Thus on the 30th June next we shall have expended $71,500 in erecting a mockery of a Court (which will entail an annual expenditure of $457,500) for the vice-regal enforcements of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada upon a desert region at present almost uninhabited.

If Manitoba and Keewatin had been full and overflowing with population, this step might have been justifiable, but under the circumstances Mr. Laird's appointment cannot be described otherwise than as a costly and wholly unnecessary creation of patronage. Let us sincerely hope that there are not many more "Reformers" like him yet to be provided for by this wise and economical Government.

Judicial Irony.—Judge Smith, of Nova Scotia, lately said, in reply to a complimentary address from the bar:—

"There is nothing, you may rely upon it, that is calculated to give greater stability to our social and political institutions, inspire a larger sense of security in the minds of our people or afford to them a more enduring satisfaction with our free constitution, and our enobling pride in the flag under which we live, than an unresistless, abiding faith in the unsullied honor and unyielding integrity of the judiciary of the country.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The exodus of Russian soldiers for Servia has been stopped by the Czar.

The Porte has concluded a twenty days' armistice with the Montenegrins.

The Spanish naval forces on the Cuban Station is shortly to be augmented.

The Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia will be closed on the 10th November.

The Turks have again been driven back by the Montenegrins, in attempting to make the pas age of the Drina.

It is said that the Egyptians lost ten thousand men by being surprised and massacred in the defiles at Abysinia.

John Lee, convicted of participation in the Mountain Meadow massacre, has been sentenced to be shot in January next.

Governor Hendricks, candidate for vice President, telegraphs the following from Indiana: "Democratic majority 5,000 to 8,000 for entire ticket."

The barque Ocean Gem, on her way up from Port Hawesbury to Montreal, to load for Melbourne, Australia, went ashore at Goose Island on the 10th inst. She has been taken off and is now in dock at Quebec.

The Gulf Port Steamship Company have this season carried nearly 25,000 tons more cargo from Montreal to the lower ports than during the same time last year, notwithstanding the opposition of the Intercolonial Railway.

The *Times* in its leading editorial, says: "If it is true that an armistice has been granted there is still good hope for peace, and Turkey has placed herself right. Should Servia reject the armistic, she would forfeit all claim to consideration.

Servia has expressed his willingness to accept the Porte's proposed armistice, as soon as formal notification is made thereof by the Powers, and General Tchernayeff has received orders from Prince Milan to suspend hostilities for the time being.

The Presidential contest in the United States promises to be a sharp one. The returns from Ohio and Indiana, where the elections were held yerterday, resulted, according to the N. Y *Herald*, in a drawn battle. The contest for the next three or four weeks will be viewed with much interest.

The man of Blood and Iron is avenged. In spite of Count Von Arnim's vast family influence, in spite of pressure in the Royal Family itself, in spite of a defiant defence, Prince Bismark has beaten his rival to the ground, and a sentence of five years imprisonment has been awarded to one of the first of the German nobles. The diplomatic service of Germany will hereafter be performed with military promptitude.

On the 12th inst. will take place at Philadelphia the inauguration of a monument to Christopher Columbus. The preparations for conferring this signal mark of honor on the memory of the illustrious navigator, by whose genius, energy and perseverence "the dashing, silver-flashing surges of San Salvador" were first revealed to European eyes, has for several months past been occupying the attention of the Italian citizens of Philadelphia. But not only they, but persons of all other origins have been allowed to have a share in the contributions to so great, so merited, so seemly an enterprise.

Mr. Anglin has clearly forfeited his seat in the House, and if he is incapable of either sitting or voting even as an ordinary member, how much less can he legally occupy the still more important position of Speaker? In defiance of this Act Mr. Anglin became a contractor to the extent of $8,000. While he was enjoying the snug sallary attached to the Speakership, he was making a snug profit out of his contract. The Government winked at the law and the contractor of course was content, but the country is not satisfied, and when the House meets the Government will be called sharply to account for their contempt of the law in this matter.—*Dundas Standard.*

Just as the Challenger returns to England, after an absence of three years and a half, an expedition starts on a similar quest, and equipped in like manner, though on a more modest scale, for a cruise of three summers. Its aim is to examine the region of sea surf and bottom bounded by Norway, Shetlands, Faroes, Iceland, and the ice East Greenland, Jan Mayen, and Spitzbergen. This expedition is sent out by Norway, many of whose inhabitants earn their livelihood in these seas, whose scientific men have started the idea and brought it into a definite form, and whose Government and Storthing have accepted the proposal and and supplied the necessary funds with a clear recognition, not only of the wants of science, but of its importance for the national welfare. The ship selected is the Vormgen, of 400 tons burden.

The Pope's physicians are said to be again alarmed as to his health. In spite of the energy which carried him through fatiguing audiences, his feebleness of body increases, and the œdema of the left foot and ankle is such that he maintains the standing posture with extreme difficulty, and only for a short time. The symptoms of general senile dropsy are sufficiently threatening to cause much uneasiness to his medical advisers, foreseeing as they do the inefficiency of measures which rarely succed in less tried constitutions. On Thursday, the 14th, in reply to the congratulatory address of an Irish deputation, he delivered a Latin discourse, in which his usual distinctness of utterance was so impaired that many of his words were inaudible. His *bonhomie*, however, continues, and while he amuses, by his vivacity he gives evidence of an amount of vital resources peculiarly gratifying to his physicians.

Dean Stanley was not present at the unveiling of the bust of Canon Kingsley, which took place recently at Wesminister Abbey. In his absence Canon Duckworth made a brief address, which he gracefully concluded by quoting the following words from Canon Kingsley himself: 'Let us judge his right to be here by the noble words in which he himself tested the right of others to commemoration in this shrine: 'What was your work? Did we admire you for it? Did we love you for it? And why? Because you made us in some way or other better men. Because you helped us somewhat toward whatsoever things are pure, true, just, honorable, of good report. Because if there was any virtue—that is, true valor and manhood; if there was any praise—that is, just honor in the sight of man, and, therefore, surely in the sight of the Son of Man, who died for men—you helped us to think on such things. You, in one word helped to make us better men.' The bust, which is by Woolner, is said to be a good one.

Judging from some of the incident of Mr. Beecher's lecturing tour in Western Canada, that erratic clergyman has some admirers still in the Dominion. These will doubtless rejoice to learn that the services at Plymouth Church have not lost their power to "draw." The *N. Y. Herald* says of Sunday's service:—"The rush to hear Mr. Beecher yesterday was greater than ever before. Before half past nine o'clock a crowd had collected in front of the door of his church, and twenty minutes past ten—ten minutes before service began—there were, by actual count, in and around the building, 9,521 persons. As the building cannot by the closest packing be made to contain more than 3,000, somewhere in the neighborhood of 4,000 people must have been unable to gain admission. Many of those turned away had been standing patiently in line upon the cold sidewalk for an hour previously. A number of pew holders, who came just before the beginning of the services, were unable to force a passage through the crowd, although assisted by the ushers and several stalwart policemen.

A Lucky Man.—The St. John *Telegraph* referring to the appointment of Mr. Laird to the Governorship of the Northwest Territories says:—'Mr. Laird may be said to have been born under a lucky star. He had scarcely made himself felt as a power in local politics than his influence was sought by Dominion politicians in behalf of the scheme of Union, and he had scarcely reached the House of Commons before he was landed in the Ministry and became the recipient of $7000 a year—he who would probably have thought his fortune made could he have secured the office of Colonial Secretary of P. E. Island and a salary of a few hundred pounds! And now after less than three years of Ministerial harness, Mr. Laird is appointed to a Governorship to which, it is true, great responsibilities attach, but which also offers a fine field for the display of ability by a man of parts. On the whole, Mr. Laird is to be congratulated not less on the brilliancy of his political career than for the several marks of the esteem and confidence of his colleagues of which he has been the recipient."