

THE CAMPAIGN. Opening Meeting.

The Opening Meeting of the Campaign will be held in the MARKET HALL,

This Evening, at 8 o'clock.

Government candidates and their supporters will address the Meeting, and the two Policies will be discussed.

Come One! Come All!

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

FEBRUARY 10, 1891.

Mr. Welsh's Position.

Mr. WILLIAM WELSH has, it seems, authorised a denial of the statement that he expressed his intention to support Sir John Macdonald in an effort to arrive at a treaty of reciprocity, fair and honorable alike to the United States and Canada, and not prejudicial to Great Britain.

There are shining examples all over the country whom Mr. Welsh might well have imitated. For instance, the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie emphatically declared that he will not be a party to any arrangement providing for reciprocity under which Great Britain will be excluded, thus condemning the unrestricted reciprocity in toto.

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We shall, of course, have from Mr. Welsh a clear statement over his own signature. Mr. Welsh's "card" will be read with interest.

"Poor Show for the Tunnel."

The Patriot hasn't a word to say about the memorandum submitted to the Dominion Government by the Provincial delegates in promotion of "the Northumberland Straits Tunnel." A hearty supporter of the tunnel scheme—as the Patriot now professes to be—ought not to withhold from its readers a document so important and interesting. Why hasn't the Patriot published the memorandum in full? Men who have been Oppositionists are as much interested in the tunnel as men who have been supporters of the Government.

Extreme and reckless statements such as this are made for the purpose of prejudicing the minds of electors in Quebec and Ontario. Should not we in Prince Edward Island stand by the Government which is denounced on account of a matter of vital importance to all generations in this Province?

—President Lane, of Boston, said a few days ago:—"Our Liberal friends, Fielding and Longley, of Nova Scotia; Davies, of Prince Edward Island; Mercier and Laurier, of Quebec; Cartwright, of Ontario, and a host beside, look to us, the people of the United States, for the sign by which they shall conquer. Can we deny them?"

"Eye Openers" From Washington.

The New York Herald's Washington correspondent telegraphs the following paragraph from the Herald's Washington Bureau (Feb. 4.) It is worthy of the most careful attention; for it affords a glimpse behind the scenes from the United States point of view. Referring to the diplomatic negotiations which recently have been carried on between Ottawa, London and Washington, the Herald's correspondent says:—

"Those who have watched or participated in the game assert that the veteran premier (Sir John) has in this movement displayed all his old time cunning and sagacity. He has succeeded in thoroughly exploring Mr. Blaine's disposition and tendencies toward commercial relations with Canada and has practically got him upon record without letting Mr. Blaine suspect that he meant at an early day to turn all the latter's friendly offices and assurances to the service of the conservatives in a party struggle in Canada, the imminence of which was undreamed of."

"The Congressional friends of commercial union take a despairing view of its chances and expect to see Macdonald and Tupper come out of the approaching struggle with a great majority at their backs."

"One bit of interesting information that old Sir John has snugly tucked away in his portfolio is that Mr. Blaine is really anxious for a reciprocity treaty with Canada. The Dominion is said to have stood last on his reciprocity list, but now stands best."

"Sir John's under view of Mr. Blaine's recent declaration that he will have unrestricted reciprocity with Canada or none at all is that it is a mere bluff, designed to furnish ammunition for the grits in the campaign that Macdonald has forced upon them."

"I have information of a very positive kind that Mr. Blaine is well aware that the imperial government will under no circumstances consent to commercial union between the United States and Canada, nor to anything of a cognate nature that would open the Canadian market, without restriction, to the products of the United States. To any scheme of reciprocity limited as to time and a list of commodities not materially injurious to British trade there will be no objection."

"In anticipation of the early coming of Sir Charles Tupper and his fellow Commissioner, the third Commissioner being the British Minister at Washington, Mr. Blaine is preparing to show what trade concessions the United States must have in exchange for our concessions to Canadian agriculture. It is understood that he is very desirous of receiving suggestions on both points from representative manufacturing, farming and water transportation interests."

Canada's Proposals.

THE liveliest newspaper in America is the New York Herald. Here is what the Herald has to say concerning the proposals of the Canadian Government:

"Sir John Macdonald is one of the shrewdest politicians alive. He is a genuine tortoise, but he can steal the thunder of the liberals whenever it suits his purpose. His object is to win in the fight, and whatever means will accomplish that purpose become thereby sanctified."

"He sees that Canada desires closer relations to this country and that the two cannot be kept apart much longer. The mackerel middle, the best middle, the transportation middle have stood in the way of that friendly feeling which would put money in their pockets and ours. It seems ridiculous that the Dominion and the States, with interests in common, should have any misunderstanding whatever."

"It is therefore proposed that a commission be appointed to discuss all differences and settle them. A reciprocity treaty like that of 1854; some plan by which our fishermen can land their catch at a Dominion port and send them to market in bond; an arrangement which will do away with the annual rows between our mackerel men and Canadian gunboats; in a word, a mutual good understanding which will put a stop to the unfeeling jealousies and perennial quarrels which have disturbed us in the carpet."

"These constant bickerings about mackerel, cod and bait are as unnecessary as they are foolish. Crimination and re-crimination should cease, and cease forever. We have had quite enough of both. The Dominion is our nearest neighbor, and neighbors ought to live in peace. We want our rights, nothing more; it is presumed that the Dominion is in the same frame of mind. That being so, we should settle this embittered controversy by the use of plain horse sense and on purely business principles."

We have no doubt that the Herald voices the sentiment of the sensible people of the States.

The Tunnel.

The Montreal Herald (Montreal organ of the grits) denounces the Government because it encourages enterprises calculated to develop the country. We quote a paragraph:

"Another crank has a scheme for tunnelling the Straits of Northumberland—at the expense of the Canadian Government, of course, the cost to be four or five millions; and to day the friends of the Government in Prince Edward Island are calling on the electors to support the Government because it is pledged to spend these millions on that work. And in this way the future revenues of the country are being mortgaged to provide enormous bonuses for wild cat schemes."

Very ancient history—garbled—the Patriot's leading articles of yesterday! ONE of Beer Bros. specialties are linen goods. Their Belgian and Irish linens are selling fast.

A GRAND TIME—The ball given by the Hillsborough Boating Club last evening was successful in every respect. There were between sixty and seventy couples present, and the best of order was maintained throughout. The committee in charge had been hard at work for several days decorating the hall, and their work was favorably commented on by those present. Dancing commenced shortly after eight, and was kept up until about midnight, when a supper was served, after which it was renewed. The committee deserve credit for the manner in which they conducted the affair, which was pronounced "the best of the season."

Unrestricted Reciprocity

ITS FINANCIAL ASPECT.

How It Will Affect the Taxpayer.

This forthcoming Dominion election will be one of vital importance to the people of Canada, and the issue between the Government and Opposition is clearly defined. On the part of the Government, their policy is the maintenance of Canada's position as a part of the British Empire, while at the same time offering to the United States as free a measure of reciprocity as commissioners from each country can agree upon. The cry of the Opposition is, "Give us unrestricted reciprocity with the United States," regardless of consequences; in other words, give the Americans their own way in everything they claim, so long as we can obtain access to their markets for our agricultural and mineral products. I notice by the Patriot, the organ of the Opposition in this Province, that its editor claims that Sir Charles Tupper made an offer of "unrestricted reciprocity" to the Americans in 1887; but the astute gentleman who occupies the editorial chair of that newspaper knows very well that there is a great deal of difference between the "unrestricted offer of reciprocity to the United States" made by the British plenipotentiaries in 1887, and the policy of Messrs Laurier, Cartwright, and company, who say that their policy is "unrestricted reciprocity." Of course, the careless reader might not notice any difference between the two sentences; but when the matter is carefully weighed, it will be seen that all the difference possible lies between those propositions.

Now, what really would be the effect of the adoption of unrestricted reciprocity between the two countries? In the first place, it is admitted that its adoption means the abolition of custom houses on the line between Canada and the United States, which would necessitate the enforcement by Canada of the same tariff against the outside world as exists in the American Republic. This sensible man will deny.

When this was done, the McKinley tariff bill would apply to entries at the Canadian Custom House, and we would have to pay the same protective tariff as the American people. How will the enthusiastic free traders of the grit party who, for years have declaimed against the inequities of the National Policy, reconcile their voting for increased protection to manufacturers such as is given under the McKinley Bill? How many of them have even seen that measure in its entirety, to say nothing of having studied its details? How many of them know that the United States duty on plain white earthenware dishes is 55 per cent., and on chinaware 60 per cent. Do they know that the duty on glassware of nearly every kind is 60 per cent? That the duty on tin plates, such as are used by our lobster packers, is 2 1/2 to 3 cents per pound, or over 50 per cent. That all manufacturers of iron or steel, such as anchors, axles, anvils, blacksmiths' hammers and sledges, boiler tubes, bolts, with or without threads, or nuts, cast iron pipe, cast iron vessels, plates, stove plates, cast-iron, and irons, tailors' irons, batters' irons, castings of iron and chain cables, will have to pay from 1 cent to 2 1/2 cents per pound duty under the McKinley tariff. That on cut nails and cut spikes of iron or steel, horse nails, hob nails and all other wrought iron or steel nails, not specially provided for in that Act; wire nails made of wrought iron or steel; spikes, cut tacks, brads, sprigs, &c., the duty is from 1 cent to four cents per pound. That cotton goods are taxed over twice as much as they are in Canada. That clothing ready-made, and articles of wearing apparel of every description, handkerchiefs and neckties or neckwear, composed of cotton or other vegetable fibre, or of which cotton or other vegetable fibre is the component material of chief value, are taxed 50 per cent. That other cotton goods are taxed from 40 to 80 per cent. That on woolen or worsted cloths, shawls, knit fabrics and all fabrics made on knitting machines or frames, and all manufactures of every description made wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the camel, goat, alpaca or other animal, not specially provided for, from 33 cents per pound and 40 per cent. ad valorem to 44 cents per pound and 50 per cent. ad valorem. That women's and children's dress goods, coat linings, Italian cloth, bunting and goods of similar description have 12 cents per square yard and 50 per cent. ad valorem duty on them. On clothing, ready-made, and articles of wearing apparel of every description, made up or manufactured wholly or in part, the duty is 4 1/2 cents per pound and 60 per cent. ad valorem. On cloaks, dolmans, jackets, talmas, ulsters or other outside garments for ladies' and children's apparel, and goods of similar description or used for like purposes, 4 1/2 cents per pound and 60 per cent. ad valorem is levied. That on webbing, gorings, suspenders, braces, beltings, bindings, braids, etc., it is 60 cents per pound and 60 per cent. ad valorem. On carpets, 60 cents per pound and 40 per cent. ad valorem.

Did space permit I might go on and give other instances of the excessive duties levied under the McKinley Bill—the tariff of the United States; but enough has been quoted to show that if the adoption of unrestricted reciprocity means the imposition of the McKinley Bill on Canada, we had better not "jump out of the frying pan into the fire," even if doing so would give us access to the United States market with our potatoes and other agricultural produce.

There is also another phase of the question, as the Pioneer man says, that should be carefully considered. Under unrestricted reciprocity we would lose the whole of the duties now collected on imports from the United States. These amounted to \$7,371,148 in 1889, and besides, under the operations of such a fiscal system as the McKinley tariff, Canada's imports from Great Britain would decline to one-fourth their present value. Before the McKinley Bill became law the United States bought annually from Great Britain to the amount of \$275 per head of population, while Canada buys to the annual value of \$850 to \$900 per head. If our imports from Great Britain were reduced to the Ameri-

can level, the loss of customs revenue would be at least one half, or \$4,725,000. on the basis of the collections of 1889. In these two items we stand to lose \$12,000,000 of customs revenue under unrestricted reciprocity. It may be said that the higher duties of the McKinley tariff will make up for this loss. But, according to the Patriot, when the high tariff shuts out English goods the American manufacturers, while adding the greater part of the duty, will be able to undersell the manufacturers of Great Britain. In this way—it is good Grit gospel—the people of Canada will have to pay much higher prices for their wants, while the revenue will receive no benefit. And in consequence of the curtailment of the revenue, direct taxation will have to be imposed to meet the expenditure. But the grit party say that the expenditure is excessive. That it could be greatly reduced. That not so large a revenue is necessary. In 1879 the expenditure was \$24,850,634, and we will assume that it was all required. In 1889-90 it was \$35,857,130, a difference of about \$11,000,000. How is this increase made up? In the first place, in 1878-79, when the grit party was in power, the expenditure on account of the Post Office and Public Works, was \$4,465,400, and the revenue therefrom \$3,035,500, leaving a deficit of \$1,429,900. In 1890 the expenditure for the same services was \$7,400,000, and the revenue \$6,157,500, leaving a deficiency of \$1,242,500, or a couple of hundred thousand dollars less than eleven years ago. We, therefore, without any loss to the country, have an increased expenditure of about \$3,000,000 accounted for in the necessary expenditure for these departments. Then the charges arising out of the public debt, for interest and sinking fund, have gone up nearly \$4,000,000 since 1890, or from \$8,500,000 to \$12,200,000, principally owing to the capital outlay on the Canadian Pacific Railway, the enlargement of the canals, the assumption of provincial debts and for miscellaneous public works necessary for the development of the country. These two items account for \$7,000,000 of the increased annual expenditure. The remaining \$4,000,000 is for increased expenditure in the cost of civil government, legislation, the administration of justice, the militia, the fisheries, the mounted police, the care of the Indians, immigration, lighthouse and coast service, mail subsidies, ocean and river service, and public works, chargeable to revenue. Well, supposing the Opposition were in power, with all their economy, could they do better than to save one-half of this latter amount? I do not believe they would spend one dollar less than the present Government. But admitting that they would save \$2,000,000 in the annual expenditure, where would the balance of the \$12,000,000 of decreased revenue come from? Out of the pockets of the farmers and the property-owners of Canada by direct taxation, is the only answer that can be given. When this large amount of direct taxation, amounting as it would to \$2 per head of the population, besides the greatly increased prices we would have to pay for our manufactured goods, is taken into account, I greatly fear that we would be disposed to believe that unrestricted reciprocity was not the blessing that the grit party would feign make us believe.

I have said nothing of the tendency the adoption of the Grit policy would have to bring about annexation. I have simply tried to show that as a financial arrangement, as a policy altogether to be considered apart from sentiment, the adoption of the Grit platform would be disastrous to the people of Canada and to the electors of this province.

The Grit party complain loudly of the high tariff imposed by the present Government. Let us see what really is the difference between the two parties with respect to Customs duties. By taking the Trade and Navigation Report, we find that the percentage of duty on total value of goods imported, manufactured and free, for the year 1876-77 was 13 7/8 per cent. To this must be added the deficit for the year 1876-77 of \$1,463,427, which is equal to a further percentage on the same basis, of 0.92, thus making the percentage 14.68 per cent. The percentage of duty on the total value of goods imported, dutiable and free, in 1889-90, was 20.60. From this should be deducted the surplus of that year amounting to \$1,865,035, equal, on the same ratio, to 0.97 per cent, leaving a percentage for the latter year of 19.63. By comparing the percentage of the two periods we, therefore, see that all the increase of duty imposed by the National Policy all the increase chargeable to the Government of Sir John is \$4.95 per centum on the value of goods imported into Canada. Less than 5 per cent. of increased duties is what it has annually cost the country to build the Canada Pacific Railway, to enlarge and deepen the Canals, to place lighthouses on all the coasts, to open up and develop the Northwest, to establish Post Offices in every settlement, to encourage our voluntary aid immigration, to subsidize our local governments, and generally to attain the improved position that Canada now occupies. G. F. O.

Notice of Assignment.

TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned has assigned to George H. Toombs, of Charlottetown, for the benefit of the creditors. The Debt of Assignment is open for inspection at the office of George H. Toombs and the office of McLellan & McDonald, Charlottetown. A meeting of my creditors will be held at the office of McLellan & McDonald on THURSDAY, the 26th day of February, inst., at One o'clock, p. m. SIMON P. CONROY, Mercant.

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Advertisement for Beer Bros. featuring a large 'B' logo and text: 'Our Annual Sale of WHITE GOODS WILL BEGIN Monday Morning, Feb 2nd.'

We have been fortunate in securing several very attractive lots of EMBROIDERIES, FLOUNCINGS, etc., especially for this occasion. In nearly every line of Goods mentioned below we show unusual values. BEER BROS.

- SWISS EMBROIDERIES, INSERTIONS and FLOUNCINGS, AMERICAN TICKINGS, LAWN EMBROIDERIES, VICTORIA and BISHOP'S LAWN, CROSSBAR MUSLINS and PIQUES, American and Canadian SHIRTINGS, LONSDALE and NAINSOOK, COLORED EMBROIDERIES, LINEN and COTTON EDGINGS, FEATHER STITCH TRIMMINGS, FROSTING MARKING COTTON, FRONTE LINEN, etc., etc. SHEETINGS, Twilled and Plain, SHEETINGS, Grey and White, SHEETINGS, English and Canadian, PILLOW CLOTHS, all widths, PILLOW COTTONS, English & Canadian, DOMESTIC SHEETINGS, TOWELING, Linen and Cotton, TOWELING, large variety, LINEN TABLES, German, " " Irish, " " Grey and White, LINEN NAPKINS & TRAY CLOTHS, LINEN TABLE SCARFS, etc., TOILET COVERS and TIES.

Advertisement for E. W. Taylor, Watchmaker and Jeweler, featuring a large 'B' logo and text: 'Do the People Like to be Gulled?' 'IF NOT, HOW IS IT THEY WILL PATRONIZE WORD COMPETITIONS?' 'Why do they buy Shoddy for Cloth? Why do they send, in answer to a foreign newspaper advertisement, for a SOLID GOLD PLATED CASE WATCH, with WALTHAM style movement, when they can get the GENUINE article at a less price than is often paid for the imitation.'

Watches have been brought to us by the hundred from parties who have bought as above, and which no respectable Watchmaker could repair and guarantee. Glass for jewels, brass where steel ought to be, and iron for steel. They will go when carried. \$5.00 to \$25.00 is often paid for a Watch that is not literally worth more than the price of old metal. Now there is no need or excuse to keep up such a trade, for the cheap watches made by the large American Watch Companies—the Waltham, the Elgin, the Rockford, the Hampden, the Columbus, and even the despised Waterbury—are far away ahead of the best of these imitation articles, and can be had in those days of perished machinery at prices far below their actual value. E. W. TAYLOR, Watchmaker and Jeweler, Charlottetown, Feb. 4, 1891.

Advertisement for Beer & Goff's Groceries, featuring text: 'CHEAPEST GROCERIES IN TOWN ARE AT BEER & GOFF'S.'

OWING TO THE FACT that this has been a pretty hard winter for Farmers and Inducements to CASH BUYERS. We are in a position to do this because, between our two Stores, we handle a very large quantity of goods, which we buy direct from the manufacturers, paying cash down for them, and thereby getting the benefit of any discounts that may be offered.

Our Tea can't be surpassed on P. E. Island for flavor and strength. Our West India Raw Sugar is the cheapest sweetening you can buy. Our Kerosene Oil is the best American water-white. Our \$5.25 Flour is the best value in the city. Our Molasses is bright, pure and nice-flavored. CALL AND SEE OUR PRICES AND GOODS.

Advertisement for Harris & Stewart, London House, featuring text: 'BEER & GOFF, Queen and King Square Stores. HAMBURG EMBROIDERIES. Our Spring Stock Just Received. HARRIS & STEWART, LONDON HOUSE. Charlottetown, Feb. 4, 1891.'