THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1888.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND CONFEDERATION.

The Government of Newfoundland has decided to send a delegation to Ottawa, in response to the invitation of the Governor-General, to discuss terms of confederation. Latest advices from that Colony show that the feeling in favor of confederation is very strong throughout the Island. Indeed, the opposition to the movement seems to be confined to a few Grits, who, true to their record, oppose it not knowing exactly why, but are going it blind. They are opposed to sending a delegation to Ottawa to ascertain what terms the Dominion Government are willing to negotiate relative to the entrance of Newfoundland into the Union.

Could anything be more unreasonable? Until the terms are known the people of that Colony cannot be in a position to decide whether or not entering the Dominion would be advantageous or disadvantageous to them. We may be very sure the people of Newfoundland, however much they may wish to become part of the Dominion, are not anxious to do so on any terms; and until the delegates return and lay before them the conditions of entering the confederation, the question can scarcely be discussed on its merits.

The principal reason advanced by the opponents of the movement is that Sir John Macdonald's government is in power at Ottawa, and then the usual amount of abuse is hurled against the veteran Premier. Could anything be more transparent? Could anything more fully show the motives which actuate the Grits wherever found? What have the people of Newfoundland to do with whether Sir John or some one else is Premier of the Dominion? They have only to consider whether or not the terms that may be offered them will be to their advantage. The Grits, to satiate their undying hate of Sir John, are willing, on all occasions, to do anything, no matter how injurious to the land of their birth or adoption.

The St. John's *Evening Mercury*, of March 26th, speaking of those who are trying to raise the cry of high taxation as an argument against confederation, says:—

"We are constantly hearing of the ruinous effects that will follow, should we come under the Canadian Tariff. But when we glance at our own tariff, do we find very much in it to keep us enamored of it, and to induce us to cling to it? Is it the working-man's tariff? Does it secure that a fair and proportionate share of taxation is borne by rich and poor? Or does it make the poor man pay more than his fair share, and let the rich man escape?

"Let us take the prime necessaries of life—flour, tea, coffee, sugar. On flour there is a duty of 30 cents a barrel, irrespective altogether of the quality, so that a poor man's barrel pays as much as the rich man's. The working man with a family will consume a larger quantity of flour than the rich man with the same number in his household, because the former is more dependent on that article of food; and thus in two ways the working man is taxed more highly for the staff of life than his well-to-do neighbor. A family using fifteen barrels of flour per annum pays as tax on this quantity $4.50, to whatever class of the community that family may blong. Flour, the produce of Canada, would be free under the Dominion tariff.

"Tea under our tariff pays 20 per cent. and 6 cents per pound. This is equal to 50 per cent.—an enormous tax on an article which is so largely consumed by our working people. Under the Canadian tariff tea is free of duty. Here again our taxation bears heavily and unfairly on the working man. Coffee pays 5 cents per lb. (green), 7 cents roasted. In Canada green coffee is admitted free of duty—unless it comes from the United States. The Canadian tariff, therefore, would give us free tea and coffee.

"The duty on Sugar here is enormous. The unrefined pays $3 per cwt.; bastard $3.50, loaf and refined $4.50. This is equal to one hundred per cent. In Canada, sugar imported direct for refining pays one cent per lb., or $1.12 per cwt. Nearly all the sugar used in Canada is now refined in the country, so that brown sugar is retailed at 5 and 6 cents per lb., and granulated at 7½ cents. Compare these with our own prices. Our butter pays $2 per cwt. of duty; in Canada, being a product of the country, it is free.

With these facts before us it is difficult to see how the Canadian tariff is going to ruin us. As compared with our own, it is the working man's tariff, and gives him the prime articles of food entirely free of duty. At the present time the working man obtains nothing that is free of taxation. His potatoes pay 5 cents a bushel; his turnips, etc., 10 cents a bushel; his cabbages $2 the 100. We shall have something more to say on this point."

An election contest going on in L'assomption, Quebec, a few days ago, a lawyer named Burgoin, formerly a conservative, spoke in favor of the Grit candidate, raising the Riel cry. It happened that the Hon. Mr. Taillon was present and had in his possession a letter from Burgoin, written some time after Riel's execution, asking that Conservative influence be used with the Government at Ottawa to secure his appointment to the Senate. Mr. Burgoin's conversion to Gritism was, no doubt, due to his failure to secure this appointment, rather than to the execution of Riel. This disclosure created a sensation in the Grit camp.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The Annual Report of the Chief Superintendent of Education, on the Public Schools of this Province, presented to the Legislature a few days ago, is a very important public document, and, although made up largely of statistics, as such reports must necessarily be, the whole subject is presented in such a way by Mr. Montgomery as to be decidedly interesting. The Report shows that, during the last year, four hundred and thirty-one schools were in operation in this Province, and that five hundred and five teachers were employed, being a slight increase in the number of teachers over the previous year. Of these teachers fifty-three were of the first class, one hundred and forty-four of the second class, and three hundred and eight of the third class. Two hundred and seventy-five were male teachers, and two hundred and thirty females.

The Chief Superintendent points out that the present Report closes the first fifty years of the official supervision of our Public Schools, as well as the first decade under the Public Schools' Act, 1877, and takes advantage of this as a favorable time for contrasting and comparing these two periods in our educational history. This he does by presenting a tabular representation of the statistics for the years 1837, 1877 and 1887, which is as follows:—

Number of Teachers in 1837, 51; in 1877, 374; in 1887, 505. Number of Pupils in 1837, 1,649; in 1877, 16,109; in 1887, 22,460. Expenditure by Government in 1837, $2,766; in 1877, $80,513.60; in 1887, $110,484.54. Rate of Expenditure per pupil in 1837, $1.67; in 1877, $5.00; in 1887, $4.92. Population of the Province in 1837, 35,000; (census of 1881), 108,891.

In this connection he also presents, in full, the first Report of the first Visitor appointed to inspect the District Schools throughout this Island. It is addressed to the members of the Board of Education, Charlottetown, and signed by John McNeill, Visitor of District Schools, and dated October 26th, 1837.

The following extract from the Report, embracing a comparison of the educational results of the different Provinces of the Dominion, will be of interest to most of our readers:

For the benefit of those who may desire to compare the educational results of our own Province with those of the other Provinces of the Dominion, I have endeavored to collect statistics for the year 1886. The information which I obtained is given in the following table. It will be found interesting as a basis of comparison between the educational facilities afforded by the different Provinces of the Dominion. The population quoted is that of the census of 1881, except in the case of Manitoba, where the census of 1886, as published by Provincial authority, is given. The educational statistics for Manitoba include the Protestant schools only. I have not been able to ascertain the statistics of the Catholic schools:—

Province.	Population.	Pupils enrolled at School.	Average daily Attendance.	Number of Teachers Employed.	Amount paid for Education by Government.	Amount paid for Education from local assessment.	Per centage of Attendance.
Ontario	1,923,228	487,496	299,876	7,304	$ 568,112.00	$3,619,680.00	49.12
Quebec	1,359,027	256,549	49,693	7,541	356,000.00	2,283,000.00	
Nova Scotia	440,572	86,808	39,920	2,062	299,583.59	442,351.07	57.1
New Brunswick	321,233	61,872	31,370	1,500	158,925.76	315,507.12	51.05
P. E. Island	108,891	17,614	8,612	520	110,484.54	81,192.30	56.07
Manitoba	108,640	22,914	12,819	524	92,192.30	316,790.79	56.07
British Columbia	49,459	4,471	2,481	101	98,616.14	.....	55.50
Total	4,311,050	935,546	.....	19,681	$1,550,003.00	$6,994,015.78	.....

In the concluding portion of his Report Mr. Montgomery enumerates the following among the causes which have advanced the Public Schools, and brought about the satisfactory state of things that now exists:—

1. The enactment of the Public School Laws of 1877.
2. The amalgamation of the Prince of Wales College and the Provincial Normal School—1879.
3. The admission of young women to the Prince of Wales College—1879.
4. The change in the government of the Prince of Wales College, by which that Institution became a part of the Public School system—1879.
5. The institution of a Provincial Teachers' Association—1880.
6. The adoption of a general "Course of Studies" for the grading of the Public Schools—1881.
7. The establishment of a general system of entrance examinations to the Prince of Wales College and Normal School, under the control and direction of the Chief Superintendent of Education; and the separation of the examination of Teachers' certificates from that for the matriculation of general students to the College. This step, by which examinations are held at different local centres, has been of very great service and convenience to schools and pupils—1881.
8. The introduction of a system of classification of graded schools based on merit alone. Up to the year 1880 first class schools were established by a vote of the Board of Education, and retained their rank without any regard to efficiency. They are now raised to that rank whenever they reach the standard fixed by the Chief Superintendent of Education. This step has made these schools centres of educational activity. Those of them that cease to be such are dropped from the list of First Class Schools and assigned an inferior rank until by merit they again win the position lost—1880.
9. The enactments of 1882, by which several important amendments were made in the Public Schools' Act.
10. The introduction of the study of Agricultural Chemistry into the schools of this Island—1883.
11. The establishment of an Arbor Day for the Public Schools throughout the Island—1885.
12. The revision of the Regulations of the Board of Education for the government of the Public Schools, and the addition of several new rules and regulations—1886.
13. The presentation for the first time of an educational exhibit from this Island—1886.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Report of the Commissioner of Crown and Public Lands for the past year, shows that 5,685 acres of land were sold by the Department during the year, for which the sum of $7,935,16 was agreed to be paid. Ninety-three accounts were opened and four hundred and fifteen accounts closed.

When Mr. Taylor, M. P., was speaking in the House of Commons a few days ago on Sir Richard Cartwright's resolution regarding unrestricted reciprocity, he remarked, referring to what Mr. Davies of P. E. Island had said to the effect that the National Policy had done little or nothing to develop our industrial trade, that he had lately seen in the hands of a Gananoque, carriage manufacturer, an order from West & McLeod, of Summerside, P. E. Island, for $20,000 worth of top buggies. These luxuries, as he supposed were to drive the poor farmers in.

Sir John Macdonald—Too poor to walk.

Mr. Taylor—Yes, too poor to walk.

Mr. Taylor—He showed me another order from a Fredericton firm for $30,000 or $40,000 worth of similar articles. Here were $60,000 that would go to the States only for the National Policy.

From the annual report of the trustees and medical superintendent of the Prince Edward Island Hospital for the Insane, for the year 1887, we learn that the total number of patients under treatment in that Institution during the year, was one hundred and fifty-three, twenty-five were discharged and eight died during the year, leaving one hundred and twenty patients in the Hospital at the end of the year. It is satisfactory to learn that the percentage of recoveries last year was the largest in the history of the Institution, and that the death rate was lower than usual. The sum appropriated by the Legislature last year for maintenance, including the salary of the medical superintendent was $18,000; the amount realized from fees paid on behalf of patients and from other sources, was $1,300,97. The expenditure for maintenance, including medical superintendent's salary was $16,325,73. The estimated cost of the Institution for the current year is set down at $17,000.

The Quebec resolutions have been very summarily dealt with in the Legislative Councils of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In the House of Assembly of each of these Provinces, the resolutions were passed by large majorities, but when they went to the Council Chamber they were quickly voted down. In the New Brunswick Legislative Council the resolutions were condemned by a vote of eleven to four, quite a number of those voting against them being Government supporters. In the case of Nova Scotia, where they had been carried by such a large vote in the Assembly, the majority against the resolutions in the Council was still larger, being thirteen to four. In addition to voting them down by such a large majority, the councillors did not consider the question worthy of discussion, Thus ends, so far as these Provinces are concerned, the farce enacted at Quebec last autumn.

Joseph Chamberlain was presented with the freedom of the city of Birmingham on the 28th ult. Speaking of the Fisheries Commission he said: "Its first object was to cultivate a friendly neighborly feeling between the United States and Canada and to endeavor to remove all possible causes of misunderstanding. Even if the final settlement of the fisheries question were delayed, the Commission might with confidence assert they had paved the way for an amicable arrangement of all difficulties between Great Britain and the United States. Replying to the toast, Chamberlain said he had been received with a warmth of hospitality, for which he was totally unprepared. He had now almost as many friends across the Atlantic as at home, and contracted obligations in America which he was only too glad to acknowledge but could never adequately repay. He had found the American plenipotentiaries men of distinguished ability, firm in defence of their rights but of fair judicial minds, zealous for the honor and good faith of the American people, anxious to promote an honorable and amicable settlement. On the other hand the Canadians were equally desirous to deal with the matter in a spirit of equity, and were willing to surrender the strict interpretation of their rights in the hope of promoting neighborly intercourse. Now that the task of the commissioners was finished, the prophets of evil were again at work, but he hoped that they were again mistaken. Referring to Secretary Bayard's opinion that the treaty conceded all that in reason and justice American fishermen could ask, he said that were it so, the rejection of such an olive branch would throw heavy responsibilities upon the shoulders of those who would prolong the state of irritation and dangerous antagonism on the question between America and Great Britain. He hoped nothing of the kind would occur, but should the final result be delayed, they had at least arranged that which must influence a perpetual settlement.

AN ADDRESS TO THE ELECTORS OF QUEEN'S COUNTY.

Gentlemen,—Having been a candidate for your suffrages at the last general election for the House of Commons, receiving on that occasion the votes of nearly 4000 electors, and having been accorded throughout the campaign great courtesy and consideration from the electors who voted against me, I venture to hope I may not be considered obtrusive in offering for your consideration a few observations on the question which Sir Richard Cartwright has submitted to the House of Commons as the issue between the Government and the Opposition parties.

The first remark I have to make is that Commercial Union or Unrestricted Reciprocity, in manufactured articles, with the United States was never mentioned during the contest in this County, and that your representatives have no moral right to vote for a measure which Mr. L. L. Beer very properly said at the Charlottetown Board of Trade, means a revolution, and upon which the electors have never been asked to pronounce an opinion.

But although the action of your representatives on this question lacks the weight of your authority constitutionally expressed at the polls, there would be some consolation if you, having every confidence in their patriotism, could be convinced that they thoroughly understand the scope and bearing of the measure which they are endeavoring to bring into operation.

That no such claim can for one momemt, be set up for either of them will, I submit, be freely admitted by every unprejudiced man. Mr. Davies declared himself at Cape Traverse in August last an advocate of Commercial Union. In November he appeared before the Charlottetown Board of Trade as the champion of Commercial Union, which he declared to mean a free interchange of all articles between the two countries, and a common tariff against the rest of the world. He also undertook, on the same occasion, to define unrestricted reciprocity as meaning perfectly free trade between the two countries while each country would regulate its own tariff against the rest of the world, and he declared that it was "impracticable" and the Americans could not agree to it only on the assumption that they were "arrant fools." Only a few weeks later the same Mr. Davies, finding that the gourd of Commercial Union had a worm at its roots, publicly abandoned the advocacy of it and declared in favor of Unrestricted Reciprocity. He says in explanation of his change of base, that Unrestricted Reciprocity, as he now understands it, has a different meaning from the definition given by him before the Charlottetown Board of Trade in November last. The most charitable construction, and the one which he asks us to put on his actions, is that during last summer and autumn, while he was advocating Commercial Union, he was in a state of profound ignorance of what it meant, and that when he declared Unrestricted Reciprocity to be "impracticable," and that it could not be accepted by the Americans unless they were "arrant fools," he was equally ignorant of what he was talking about. That the eight thousand free and intelligent electors of Queen's County should without their consent be committed, by their representatives, to the support of a revolution, is bad enough under any circumstances, but the danger of the situation is greatly increased when these representatives, in their efforts to escape a severer condemnation, practically plead that they have been in the past blind guides.

The scheme of Commercial Union was inherently a bad one. It involved a complete subversion of our political independence; it involved disloyalty to our own Dominion, to our Queen and to the Empire. That many of its promoters understood all this from the outset cannot be doubted; but many honest and loyal men were misled for a time. When, however, the latter saw that a common tariff, fixed by treaty, for a term of years was an impossibility, and that nothing short of a common Parliament, or in other words, a political union, could annually adjust the common tariff for the two countries, they drew back from supporting what they too plainly saw meant annexation to the United States. The same fatal objection lies against the new scheme known as Unrestricted Reciprocity.

Under Unrestricted Reciprocity it is claimed that while there would be a free exchange of articles between Canada and the United States, being the growth or manufacture of either country, each country would regulate its own tariff against the rest of the world. *This is simply impossible as far as manufactures are concerned.* A large proportion of goods manufactured in Canada or the States are made in whole or in part from raw material imported from other countries. If each country regulated its own tariff there would be constant collision by way of duties or bounties by one or the other on raw material. Take sugar for instance. If one of the countries removed the duty on raw sugar, the other would have to do the same, or give up the business of refining. If one country gave a bounty on the importation of raw sugar the other would have to follow suit. This is equally true of hundreds of other articles, and shows the ridiculous character of the scheme by which manufactured articles are to pass free of duty between Canada and the States, while each country retains the power of imposing any duties it pleases against the rest of the world. This leads me to lay down the following propositions:

1st, Unrestricted reciprocity, in manufactures with the United States, is utterly impracticable while each country retains the power of dealing with its own tariff.

2nd. A common tariff cannot be fixed by treaty for a term of years. War or internal insurrection might cause demands for revenue which could not be forseen, while on the other hand a plethora of revenue which could not be got rid of might cause severe financial complications. No sane man would contend that the United States to-day could entertain a proposition by which its tariff would be fixed at present rates for a period of years.

3rd. A common tariff cannot be fromed and adjusted, year by year, and afterwards administered without a legislative and executive authority common to the two countries, which means political union or annexation.

Therefore, unrestricted reciprocity in manufactures, as well as commercial union, is altogether impracticable, and cannot receive the support of any except those who do not understand its full scope, or those who are desirous of annexation. Mr. Davies declared at the Board of Trade that he was opposed to annexation. He also pleads that he did not understand the question of unrestricted reciprocity when he condemned it at the Board of Trade. I will take him at his word; and, as I cannot believe that he is a traitor to his queen, particularly after his disclaimer of pro-annexation views—there is no alternative but to conclude that he has no correct appreciation of what is involved in the proposition of unrestricted reciprocity with the United States in manufactured articles.

There is a specious attempt made to deceive the unwary by the use of phrases. The old treaty with the United States, existing between the years 1854 and 1866 was known to people of these Provinces as "the Reciprocity Treaty"; and as that treaty proved at the time highly advantageous to the people of Canada, an attempt is now made to launch one of the worst schemes ever advocated in a free country into popular favor under the disguise of artful phrases, and a pretence that it is similar in character to the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854.

Nothing could be more dishonest than this. The light of noonday's sun does not differ more essentially from the hues of midnight than the old Reciprocity Treaty from the scheme which Sir Richard Cartwright recently submitted to the Parliament of Canada.

The old Reciprocity treaty, as far as trade was concerned, simply provided for a free exchange of the natural products of the two countries. It involved no discrimination against Great Britain or any other country. It gave each country full power to regulate its own tariff, in other than the articles specified, according to its own revenue necessities and other requirements, and maintained in its integrity, the legislative independence of British America. There was no humiliating concession on either side. The treaty was the work of able and patriotic men.

The scheme of unrestricted reciprocity in manufactures bears the impress of very different minds. Is it the work of Free Traders? Most emphatically, no! It is protection—not of the manufacturers of our own country, but of those of the United States. As far as the tendency of protection is concerned, the little finger of unrestricted reciprocity with the States in manufactured articles is stouter than the thigh of the National Policy. Is it the work of loyal men? It is not, because it is an act of the most profound hostility to Great Britain and all her possessions. Is it the work of men desirous of maintaining the faith of Canada? It is not, because at one swoop it would deprive the Dominion of over twelve millions of her Customs Revenue and her entire Internal Revenue whenever the United States saw fit to abolish her Excise duties. This would necessitate the abolition of the subsides to the Provinces, which would be a breach of faith, causing an immediate disruption of Confederation. It would also necessitate the abandonment of all great public works by the Dominion, and our hopes regarding the Terms of Confederation being carried out would forever pass away. It would also lead inevitably to the repudiation of obligations to the public creditor; and the credit of Canada, ranking amongst the highest in the world, would be trailed in the dust. But the greatest of all breaches of faith would be towards those who have trusted in the honor of Canada and invested their capital in our public enterprises. The coal fields of Nova Scotia, our seaports, the stations of all our railways which run east and west, our sugar refineries, our cotton factories, in fact all our centres of industry would become as silent as the ruins of Herculaneum, and the capital invested would be lost forever. The immense start enjoyed by the American manufacturer, his greater wealth, the dominancy of more powerful government in arranging foreign duties, or, if necessary, in giving bounties, and the inexorable Combine would, under commercial union or unrestricted reciprocity, if either were possible, in a very short time crush out every manufacturing industry north of the boundary line, and reduce Canadians to the position of hewers of wood and drawers of water to their neighbors in the United States.

And now the pertinent enquiry comes in: How is all this going to affect our farmers? We hear a great deal about the importance of the markets of the United States to us, and I freely admit that they are of great importance to us, although not nearly so much as they were twenty years ago. But what makes Boston and other American cities a market for our agricultural productions? Is it because the American soil or climate is unsuited for the production of the articles which we have to sell? it is not. There is not a natural product which we have to spare but can be grown or produced in the United States. Even in potatoes, take one year with another, the United States export more than they import from us. The only reason why the markets of the New England states, New York or Philadelphia require any of our products is, because there is a larger number of the population of these States engaged in manufactures, in proportion to those engaged in agriculture, than with us. Even should the duties on potatoes, horses, sheep, etc., be removed, the distance to the American markets will always put us at a disadvantage in competing with the American farmers who are on the spot. We can never bring Boston or New York or Philadelphia any nearer to us than they are at present. But we can, if we are true to our own country, raise up manufacturing centres nearer home, which ultimately absorb all the farm products we have to spare. The increase in this trade has been most remarkable in recent years. The great bulk of our oats is now consumed in the sister Provinces. Take one year with another, we sell more potatoes to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland than we do to the United States.

A reciprocity in natural productions with the United States would now, and probably for many years, continue to be of great benefit to us; but if I saw no prospect for farmers in Prince Edward Island except that which is obtained from a careful study of the American market, I would never advise a boy of mine to become a farmer in Prince Edward Island. Our true, remunerative and natural market will be the outcome of the prosperity of the mining, manufacturing and fishing industries of Canada—shortly, I hope, to include Newfoundland.

A policy which would destroy all our industries in the Maritime Provinces, and prevent them from ever lifting their heads again, would be the greatest blow ever levelled at the farmers of Prince Edward Island. Such a policy is the scheme of Commercial Union or Unrestricted Reciprocity with the United States,—proposed in Parliament by Sir Richard Cartwright, and supported by your representatives, Messrs. Davies and Welsh.

There never was a more flagrant breach of trust on the part of representatives but it is not the only one of which the people of Queen's County and all Canada have just reason to complain. When Mr. Blake declared at Malvern that his party would not, if returned to power, disturb the National Policy, he spoke for his political friends from Cape Breton to Vancouver. Yet at the same time Messrs. Davies and Welsh protested in Queen's County that they were out and out Free Traders, and would, if elected, obtain a renewal of the old Reciprocity Treaty in six months. It was quite plain at the time that both these professions could not be true. But they both answered the purposes for which they were made. By his declaration at that time in favor of the National Policy, Mr. Blake, no doubt, secured a great deal of support in the larger Provinces, while Messrs. Davies and Welsh, by their Free Trade professions, and promises of immediate Reciprocity, carried their elections in this county.

We have lived to see all these promises violated. The followers of Mr. Blake, from one end of the country to the other, repudiate his pledge so solemnly made at Malvern that the National Policy would not be disturbed; and Messrs. Davies and Welsh turn their backs on the scheme of Reciprocity and Free Trade, by which they gained their elections, and give their support to a new fangled, wild and impracticable scheme of protection to American manufacturers, which was not mentioned at the elections, and the advocacy of which presents to-day the greatest obstacle in the way of our obtaining a really advantageous Reciprocity Treaty with the United States.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your humble Servant,
D. Ferguson.

Charlottetown, March 31, 1888.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.

The ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter Sunday were admirably carried out in St. Dunstan's Cathedral, under the direction of Rev. F. X. Gallant. The Rev. Rector, the professors and students of St. Dunstan's College were in attendance, and assisted at the different offices of Holy Week. The office of *Tenebræ* commenced at four o'clock p. m. on the afternoons of Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, His Lordship the Bishop occupying his throne. The singing of the lamentations, by Rev. Fathers Gallant and McLean, Professor Caven, Mr. Blanchard and others, was exceedingly well rendered.

On Holy Thursday morning the services commenced at eight o'clock. His Lordship the Bishop, having vested at his throne, commenced the celebration of a Solemn Pontifical Mass, assisted by Rev. J. C. McDonald, Rector of St. Dunstan's College as Arch-Priest. Revds. John A. McDonald and J. C. McLean as deacon and sub-deacon, and Rev. F. X. Gallant as master of ceremonies. At the proper time during the Mass, the oils were solemnly blessed by the Bishop. After Mass the Blessed Sacrament was borne by his Lordship, assisted by the clergy, in solemn procession to a magnificent repository which had been prepared at the Altar of the Sacred Heart, on the epistle side of the Sanctuary.

The morning office of Good Friday commenced at the same hour as that of the previous day, His Lordship the Bishop officiating, assisted by the same priests as on Thursday. After the adoration of the cross, the Blessed Sacrament was borne back to the High Altar in the same solemn manner as it had been borne thence on the previous day.

At half-past seven on Saturday morning the blessing of the new fire took place in the vestibule of the Church, Rev. F. X. Gallant officiating. This was followed by the blessing of pascal candle, the blessing of the holy water, the singing of the twelve prophecies and the Litany of the Saints. After this Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Rev. J. C. McDonald, the deacon and sub-deacon being the same as on the two previous days.

On Holy Thursday evening a sermon on the Blesed Eucharist was preached by Rev. John A. McDonald, and on Good Friday evening Rev. J. C. McLean preached a sermon on the Passion of Our Lord.

Easter Sunday was a most charming day, lending its splendor to the glorious festival celebrated by the Church. Solemn Pontifical Mass was celebrated at ten o'clock, by His Lordship the Bishop, the assistant clergymen being the same as on the days of Holy Week already mentioned. The sermon of the day was preached by Rev. F. X Gallant, who took his text from the Gospel of the day, Mark xvi., 6. He first spoke of the joy which, everywhere throughout the Church, characterized the celebration of the glorious Feast of Easter. This joy had its foundation in the resurrection of our Lord from the dead. The Rev. preacher then pointed out the reasons why the resurrection was necessary, and concluded by exhorting his hearers to practice all the christian virtues, so that our resurrection might be glorious and be the beginning of life everlasting.

Vespers, followed by solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, took place at seven o'clock in the evening. The High Altar was profusely adorned with flowers and ablaze with numerous lights. The choir did their part in excellent style.

Messenger of the Sacred Heart.

The *Messenger of the Sacred Heart* (Philadelphia) has taken another new departure. Besides the "Illustrated Varieties," added a few months since, the April *Messenger* gives 32 additional pages, devoted to an American tale complete in the number. This is promised four times in the year for the present, and every month another year, if success warrants. This is in the line of the secular magazines, which are abandoning the long serials for the complete short story. Success ought to warrant the continuance of this increase of the *Messenger*, if all the tales are to be like the one now given, "Barbara's Grandfather," by Mr. Joseph E. Barnaby, deals in the most realistic way with an American country village, where the life of Catholics who have settled together is gradually influenced by the Puritan town "over the river." The story, which is evidently founded on reality, is inexpressibly touching, and even tragic in its simplicity, though there is a break of permanent Catholic sunlight at the last. Fiction like this, wrought out from the lives of the lowly in the mingled life of Americans of widely different origin, deals with the important elements of our history. A light touch has here portrayed with much completeness a narrow field of this kind, for more picturesque than could be found by roaming abroad. The American character of these tales, told with so universal a sympathy, will be their chief interest. "The Convert Painter"—the illustrated article of the number—gives an interesting account of the spiritual side of the life of the celebrated Christian painter Overbeck. A good portrait and four excellent reproductions from the Gospel Cartoons are given. These efforts at refined illustration ought alone to insure the success of the *Messenger*. Two other important articles are, "Thomas Daniel,—a Life of Faith shown by Works,"—a vivid sketch, by a lady long resident in Russia, of the central figure in the Catholic colony of St. Petersburg (a good portrait accompanies), and Father Weninger's "Account (the first yet published) of the American Miracles of St. Peter Claver," admitted at Rome for the late canonization. In the special work of the *Messenger*, the *Acta S. Sedis*, in connection with the League of the Sacred Heart, are given.

The dwelling house of Mr. Murdock McLeod, Dundas, with its contents was burned to ashes on Tuesday last, while Mr. McLeod, wife and family were absent. It is thought the fire originated in some kindlings that were left under the stove. There was no insurance on the house or contents. Mr. McLeod, who was a comparatively poor man, saved nothing except the clothes he had on at the time.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

On the 27th ult., Mr. Rykert resumed the debate on Cartwright's resolution, and spoke for upwards of four hours. In referring to the statement made in Tuesday evening's debate by Mr. Paterson (Brant) that at the international board of trade at St. Louis in 1874 a resolution had been moved by the Hon. Thomas White and seconded by Adam Brown, now member for Hamilton, substantially favoring such a measure of unrestricted reciprocity, Mr. Rykert showed that they favored the same measure of reciprocity as the present government were willing to agree to at any time. He also read from speeches of White and Brown this session to show that they had expressed sentiments exactly the same as those they had embodied in the resolution of 1874. Mr. Paterson having also read from the evidence given by the manufacturers before the trade depression investigating committee in 1878, for the purpose of proving that these manufactures, etc., are in favor of unrestricted reciprocity. Rykert had telegraphed these parties for a statement of their views at the present time, and the majority of them most emphatically deny that they are at all favorable to unrestricted reciprocity. "In fact," said Mr. Rykert, "Mr. Laurier, the acknowledged leader of the Opposition, has not yet in the house or elsewhere endorsed the scheme of unrestricted reciprocity, and he (Rykert) doubted that the Opposition had nailed their colors to the mast, but that they would be found trying some new expedient at an early date.

Mr. Taylor (South Leeds) followed and exposed the Opposition's barley argument. He stated that he and an American had been in the barley business for a number of years, and that there had practically been no difference in the prices paid in the United States from that paid in Canada until during the past year, he had actually paid one cent or two per bushel more in Canada than his partner had paid in the United States.

Mr. McMullen, of South Wellington, the bore of the house, then took the floor till midnight in favor of Cartwright's resolution.

Sir John presented a petition of the London Methodist conference asking an extension of the franchise to women.

In reply to Cartwright, Sir John stated that the committee on banking and commerce would strike a subcommittee to frame legislation for the regulation of Canadian banking institutions, but that a measure would not be passed till next session.

On the 26th, Mr. Mitchell called attention to the despatches from Washington stating that retaliation was threatened if the Dominion government did not carry out the stipulations of the tariff act of 1879, which provides that in the event of several articles enumerated in clause 19, being placed on the free list by Congress, Canada would reciprocate in like manner. Mr. Mitchell said he supported the national policy in good faith in 1879, but he was not surprised to learn that owing to the neglect of our government retaliation had been threatened. This question was one of the greatest importance to Canada. Hundreds of tons of fresh fish daily left one station, Chatham, N.B., in his constituency for the States, and if this retaliatory policy were carried out the people of Canada would have just cause of complaint against the government for not taking steps to try and prevent it. This was a matter of vital import to Canadians. There was an evident intention on the part of Americans to reciprocate with us, but if they were met at the outset by a refusal to reciprocate in natural products, the consequence might be serious. He held the government to be guilty of a breach of confidence in not carrying out the clause in the tariff, and refusing the just claims of the United States. He was anxious to know whether the government were going to drive the people of Canada into a position in which their export of fresh fish would be taxed on entering the States. He asked whether or not communications had been received from the United States government, complaining of a breach of faith, or offering to extend a system of reciprocity to Canada; whether any answer had been received and what that answer was?

Sir John Macdonald—The course of the honorable gentleman in bringing this matter forward is irregular, but I will say that no application has been made to the American government on the subject.

Mr. Mitchell—Have not the United States consuls in this country made representations in relation to a breach of faith on the part of the Canadian government under a section of the act of 1879?

Sir John Macdonald (vehemently)—Mr. Speaker, I repudiate on behalf of the government that there had been any breach of faith. The hon. gentleman has no right to use such insolent and unparliamentary language. If he repeats it, I shall call for the protection of this house, and no doubt the house will protect me from such coarse and unparliamentary language. I say I repudiate the charge of breach of faith. No representations have been made to us by the American government, but communications have been received from American seedsmen asking that the clause in our act should be given effect to. The government does not forget, however, that we have seedsmen in Canada whose interests must be looked after. (Hear, hear.) The matter is now engaging the attention of the government, but there have been no official communications, not even from the consuls.

Mr. Laurier, leader of the Opposition, contended that Mitchell's enquiry was legitimate. He simply wanted to know whether any communications had passed between the two governments on the subject.

Sir John—There have not.

Mr. Laurier, continuing, said this was not a case of communication between the two governments. We have a standing offer on our statute books that in the event of the Americans placing certain articles on the free list Canada will reciprocate. (Cries of no and yes.) "Well," continued Laurier, "if the present statute does not warrant such an interpretation the clause should be made clear at the earliest opportunity."

Mr. Mills said the words of the clause read "when any or all of the articles mentioned were placed on the free list by the States, Canada will reciprocate." Under the circumstances the government were setting at defiance one of the statutes of the land.

Sir John said Mr. Mills had evidently not read the clause. It was entirely permissive and left to the discretion of the government. He might point out, however, to the Opposition that if the free lists of the two countries were compared it would be found that there was an infinitely greater number of articles allowed to enter Canada from the States free than entered the States from Canada free.

Mr. Mitchell—You are begging the question.

Sir John, continuing, said, we have our own people to look after and it would be highly imprudent on our part to place certain articles on the free list for the benefit of the States while they would refuse to place on the free list anything we might ask. According to the honorable gentlemen opposite the States are to pick out some articles they think they can crush in Canada and keep up the tariff on the others. That is not the way the government thinks the interests of the country are to be protected, and I have no doubt that a majority in the house and country will agree with us on the point. (Ministerial cheers.)

Mr. Thompson, minister of justice, held that the clause was entirely discretionary. The British and Canadian system was that whenever a matter was left to the crown to be dealt with, it was left to the discretion of the responsible advisers of the crown.

Mr. Charlton said if the government did not intend to apply the provisions of the clause, it had better be expunged from the statute. By its course the government was inviting retaliation, and where such great interests were involved it would be better not to let that stage be reached. The subject then dropped.

A number of private bills were advanced a stage. Questions by members, which had been accumulating on the order book since the commencement of the unrestricted reciprocity debate, were then asked and answered to the following effect:—The cost of the railway commission to the present date has been $26,415, and $1,000 more will probably be spent on this account. The labor commission has spent up to the 12th of March $24,138. The amount yet to be spent cannot be estimated, as it is not known how long it will continue in session. It is not the intention of the government to introduce an insolvent act during the present session. No sums of money have been paid by the Canadian government to bring about the removal of residents of Dakota to Manitoba. A number of returns were asked for, after which the house adjourned until Tuesday, April 3rd.

To Denver in One Night.

On December 4, 1887, the Burlington route, B. B. & Q. R. R., inaugurated a fast train service as follows: Fast express train known as "The Burlington's Number One" leaves Union Depot, corner Canal and Adams streets, Chicago, at 12.01 p. m. daily, and runs to Denver solid, arriving at 10.00 p. m. the next day, thus making the run from Chicago to Denver in thirty-four hours. This train arrives at Omaha at 5 a. m., making the run to Omaha in seventeen hours, Corresponding fast train from Denver to Chicago. Direct connection made to and from St. Louis with these trains, and at Denver with the fast train of the D. & R. G. R. R. for San Francisco and Pacific coast points. Superb equipment on "The Burlington's Number One," consisting of sleeping cars and coaches from Chicago to Omaha and Chicago to Denver without change. Meals served en route on the famous Burlington route dining cars as far West as the Missouri River. Omaha passengers will be allowed to remain in their sleeping cars till breakfast time. See that your ticket reads via the C. B. & Q. R. R. It can be obtained of any coupon ticket agent of its own or connecting lines, or by addressing

Paul Morton,
General Passenger and Ticket Agent.

The *Canadian Horticulturist* for March is a most interesting and attractive number. The frontispiece is a beautiful colored plate of the Double Flowering Plum, one of the most elegant of flowering shrubs; and it has besides about fifteen fine illustrations. The contents are as follows:

"Laying out a lawn"; "Plan of a greenhouse costing less than $10"; "Rambles among fruit growers"; "My experience in fruit culture"; "Fruit notes"; "A large vine"; "A prominent American horticulturist"; "Willow Osier growing"; "How to grow the Lily of the Valley"; "Hints for the month"; "Pruning the apple"; "Pruning the grape"; "Questions on fruit culture answered"; "The English sparrow"; "Our fruit markets;" etc., etc.

This monthly journal, which is the leading Canadian authority on fruit culture, may be had, by addressing the Secretary of the Fruit Growers Association of Ontario, Grimsby.

Subscription price $1 also entitling the subscriber to a selection from the annual distribution of trees and plants and to a copy of the annual report for 1887.

Mr. Kennan's Siberian papers, illustrated by Mr. G. A. Frost, who accompanied Mr. Kennan on his trip through Asiatic Russia, will begin in the May *Century*. Their appearance has been deferred on account of the author's desire to group in preliminary papers the last of which will be in the April *Century*) an account of the conditions and events in Russia directly related to the exile system. This system is now to be minutely described and elaborately pictured; and by way of preface to the first illustrated paper Mr. Kenn