

The Planet.

Business Office 58
Editorial Room 102
S. STEPHENSON - Proprietor.

MR. SIFTON'S LONG ABSENCE.

The Mail and Empire notes the long absence of Hon. Mr. Sifton from the post of duty, and in a sarcastically regretful way points out that his illness began immediately after the elections on November 3rd last. No doubt Mr. Sifton's allotment of territory (for election purposes) was a troublesome during the campaign, and, being a Conservative section of the Dominion, desperate exertions were necessary in order to carry it for the Government. Not much wonder that Mr. Sifton's health was impaired by the strain. The people in the Yukon territory, not having the fear of Sifton before their eyes, allowed things to happen which must have grieved Napoleon of the West—or, more properly, the Czar of the West, for he carried on a dynastic Government. Then there was much to do with the voters' lists in order that the whole scheme might not miscarry. It was absolutely necessary to cut out names of men opposed to the Government, and of course this business had to be handled with the utmost care.

Oh, yes, Mr. Sifton was tried, no doubt. It is to be hoped, however, that his illness will not prevent him from attending to business before the session closes. Not only are inconsiderate members asking awkward questions about the doings in the Yukon, but Premier Roblin, of Manitoba, is threatening to attack the "Napoleon" on his own stamping ground, just because a few thousand Conservative voters were cut off the lists under the direction of one Leech, who was to Sifton what Vance was to Stratton in Ontario. Of course, Mr. Sifton did not know what Leech was doing, any more than Stratton knew what C. J. Sullivan and his son Frank were doing when the attempt was made to buy Game, and it must be a great strain on Mr. Sifton's sensitive nature to think all this badness was going on, and he held responsible just because he employed the man Leech to look after the campaign in sections where "Napoleon" could not be himself. There must be general sympathy for Mr. Sifton in his trials.

To make matters worse, that school question, which Mr. Sifton had so much trouble with years ago, has been brought up again. The territories, which are being made into provinces, rather like a public school system, similar to that in Ontario, or indeed do not appear to care whether separate schools exist for Roman Catholics or not. On the other hand, it seems that certain people in Quebec want the separate school system extended. Just now Parliament is busy upon a new constitution for the West, and it is most important that "Napoleon" be there to look after it. For some reason or other the proposed new provinces are not to be allowed to shape their own school system, as Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba and the other old provinces do.

It is peculiarly unfortunate that Mr. Sifton's health breaks down almost always during critical periods. There is no telling but that the people of the West may be deprived of important legislation for a year, all on account of the illness of "the Emperor."

MAKING A RAISE

Assessors Gonne and French are Elevating Property Values in this City—Effect of the New Law.

Assessors W. H. Gonne and Thomas French say that the task of assessing the property of the city this year, under the new law, is the worst proposition they have ever run up against. The job is an exceedingly difficult one, as the value of the land has to be considered separate from the building. The assessors worked a day and a half on the Victoria Block alone. There are 22 tenants and each tenant has to be credited for part of the value of the land. The law says that the building could not be there if it weren't for the land and each part of the building must therefore pay its share of the value of the land. The result is that a very careful adjustment of the assessment must be made. Mr. Gonne says that next year the work of assessing will be very much easier. Each merchant is now subject to a business tax.

One effect of the new law is a complete revision of the assessments. The last time that the assessment was revised in Chatham was in 1886. Then all the property in the city was given a new valuation. W. H. Gonne and T. M. Northwood did the work. Not one property owner escaped and the assessments were all raised from \$50 to \$2,000. The assessments will be raised this year, and it is expected that in consequence the Council will be able to strike a lower rate.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

Redmond Springs Debate and Cuts Balfour's Majority.

Compels Mr. Wyndham to Show That Sir Anthony MacDonnell Was Given Wide Powers—Morley Scathingly Assailed Government, But Admitted None of the Parties Had Acted Dishonorably—Premier Explains.

London, Feb. 23.—Encouraged by the reduced Government majority in the Division in the House of Commons on Tuesday night, the Irish party unexpectedly returned to the attack yesterday. The speaker of the House, Mr. Balfour, held the post of Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. This move came as a surprise, and caught the Government off its guard. The Government had expected the debate on the night session. It had been expected that the debate on Mr. Morley's amendment, calling the attention of His Majesty to the condition of the army, showing "negligence," which came up yesterday, would occupy two days. A number of Unionist members accordingly absented themselves. Mr. Redmond's tactics caused a great outcry by the whips and much upsetting of arrangements.

Defeated by 285 to 223. The debate lasted till midnight, when a motion to adjourn was defeated by 265 to 223, but Mr. Redmond scored a point by compelling Mr. Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, to read the correspondence between himself and Sir Anthony MacDonnell, by which it was shown that the Under Secretary was given extraordinary powers and authorized to arrange for co-ordination in the control and direction of the board and administrative agencies. It was also shown that Premier Balfour had concurred in this arrangement. John Morley scathingly assailed the Government's administration in Ireland. He said Sir Anthony had been censured without a hearing he would do, and which they had invited him to carry out. The Earl of Dudley, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Mr. Morley said, had been overthrown by the Premier, and the Under Secretary's conduct was described as "indiscreet."

"What a picture," said Mr. Morley, "of confusion of administrative forces worse confounded." Mr. Morley admitted, however, that nothing was shown by the correspondence that was dishonourable to the parties concerned. Premier Balfour explained the letters showed that when MacDonnell was appointed Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, nothing in the shape of devotion was contemplated. Sir Anthony's conduct, he said, was indefensible, because, in respect to the unruly scheme he had exceeded the bounds laid down. This, however, Mr. Balfour said, implied no criticism of his great services. The whole episode was due to a misunderstanding, and Mr. Balfour appealed to the House to bury it.

Mr. Moore, on behalf of the Irish Unionists, said the resolution showed that Mr. Wyndham had tried to force a moderate party in Ireland, which would have destroyed the Irish Unionist party. This, Mr. Moore said, justified the attitude of the Irish Unionists towards Mr. Wyndham. Mr. Asquith said it was clear that Sir Anthony MacDonnell had been censured for acting under the terms of his appointment. The division followed on a motion to adjourn, which was defeated by 265 to 223.

Mr. Balfour immediately raised a point of order. The speaker ruled that the remark was "offensive," and Mr. Redmond promptly apologized and explained that he had not meant to imply that untruths had been told, but that the whole truth had not been told yet, and that he was not obliged to drag it out piecemeal.

Mr. Redmond ultimately secured an adjournment of the House to call attention to Sir Anthony MacDonnell's position. None of Britain's Business. James Keir Hardie, Socialist, attempted to extract from Premier Balfour an expression of opinion on the recent events in Russia, especially the shooting of workmen at Warsaw, and asked if the Government had any intentions of making representations on the subject. The Premier, however, merely said: "We have received no confirmation of the story of the shooting of the workmen at Warsaw. I must decline to discuss matters outside of the province of the Government and the House. It is absolutely impossible for the Government to interfere in the internal affairs of Russia or express any judgment on those affairs."

Kennedy Remanded. Brantford, Feb. 23.—Joseph Kennedy was brought up at the police court yesterday morning. He was charged with having carnal knowledge with a girl under fourteen years of age, Irene Cole, on Sept. 20, 1903. He pleaded not guilty and was remanded till Friday for preliminary hearing. He has not yet selected his counsel.

City Treasurer Arrested. Everett, Wash., Feb. 23.—Former City Treasurer Holcomb is under arrest here charged with embezzlement from the City of Everett while treasurer of the sum of \$11,500.

PHONE 350
—FOR—
GOOD GOODS, LOW
PRICES AND PROMPT
DELIVERY

16 lbs. Montreal Gran Sugar, \$1.00
1 lb. Special Blend Coffee, 25
3 lbs. Choice Selected Raisins, 25
1 lb. Fancy Canned Corn, 25
Allen's Sweet and Refined Cider
per gallon, 40
3 packages Armour's Mutton, 25
All 15c. Cereals, 5 packages, 25
New Nests, mixed, as you wish, 25
per lb., 25
4 lbs. New Dates for, 25
6 lbs. Cooking Figs for, 25
1 lb. Buckwheat Flour, 7 lbs. 25
for, 25c

Choice Cooking and Table Apples.
Oranges, Bananas, Cranberries, Pumpkins, Squash, Carrots, Beets, Turnips, Parsnips, Celery, Lettuce, Cabbage, Sauerkraut, Turnips, &c.

Chatham Table
Supply Co.

AGAINST SEPARATE SCHOOL

Petitions Presented in the House From Various Quarters by Dr. Sproule.

In Supply. Ottawa, Feb. 23.—A return presented to the House yesterday by the Prime Minister, shows that the lands undivided in Provincial districts of the N.W.T., are: Assiniboia 32,285,576 acres, Saskatchewan 31,823,246 acres, Athabasca 155,622,704 acres, Franklin 320,000,000 acres, MacKenzie 740,864,420 acres, total 935,818,310 acres.

A petition from the City of Toronto against the passage of the Ottawa Electric Company's bill, was read. Against Separate Schools. Dr. Sproule presented the petition of G. Wallace and others of Centre York, praying that in the bills providing for Provincial autonomy in the Northwest Territories, no amendment or other restriction should be placed upon the new Provinces, which will interfere with their freedom to control the question of education and the establishment, maintenance and operation of schools. Dr. Sproule also presented a petition to the same effect from E. F. Hicks of Calgary and others.

In Supply. The House, on motion of Supply, passed \$288,000 for Toronto Customs House, military and postal requirements in the way of buildings, and plant equipment.

D. D. McKenzie of Cape Breton drew the attention of the Government to the plight of several Nova Scotians who are prisoners of the South American Republics on the unproved basis of poaching seals. The facts of the case seem to be that the schooner Agnes V. Donahue, formerly owned in Halifax, left Nova Scotia last autumn for British Columbia via Cape Horn, to engage in the sealing business. En route the vessel captured seals in the South Seas, was seized by the Government of Uruguay and taken to the port of Montevideo, where she was detained. The captain and crew of nineteen men have been detained as prisoners on board their vessel.

There was no charge proved against them, although there had been a sort of trial before the Supreme Court of Uruguay. Mr. McKenzie observed that as an international question this might seem a small matter, but it was a serious affair for the parties concerned, and he hoped the Government would see that justice was secured, also as compensation was likely to be made to the owners, it was only right that the crew should be released. The men were not on wages but on shares. The charge alleged against them was poaching seals, but there were no laws in Uruguay on the subject of sealing.

Preparing a Defence. Mr. Prefontaine said that while the subject was a new one to the House, it was not new to the Department. About a month ago complaint of the illegal seizure was received by the Department at once communicated with the Home Government, with the result that after exchange of one or two cables the men had been released. But the Government of Uruguay had insisted on keeping the captain a prisoner while a new law was being prepared to meet the case. (Laughter). Further representations had since been made to the Home Government but to them no reply had yet been received.

Can't Be Helped. The British Consul in Montevideo, the Minister said, was doing his best for the victims, but it was one of those peculiar cases which were to be met with in dealings with those South American Republics. Everything possible was being done, however, to secure justice for the Canadians concerned in it.

Mr. Foster caused the Prime Minister to laugh by asking if the Government was sending the armed cruiser Canada down there.

Change Postal Charges. Ottawa, Feb. 23.—In the Senate yesterday, Hon. Sir George Drummond called attention to certain anomalies in the postal charges and moved the following resolution: "That the attention of the Government be directed to the local, foreign and Imperial postal charges, with the view of remedying certain inequalities therein, and the Senate affirms the principle that the conveyance of letters, newspapers, books, periodicals, etc., should be at a lower scale of charges within the Empire than at the time rolling with any foreign country."

After an interesting discussion, the motion was agreed to, and Mr. Scott suggested that an extra edition of the Hansard be printed for circulation.

Minard's Liniment Cures Dandruff.

THE STAGE

"All the world's a stage
and all the men and
women merely players."

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

At the Grand—
Irish Hero—Feb. 24.
Sign of the Cross—Feb. 27.

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

Wilson Barrett's great play, "The Sign of the Cross," which has been the success of two continents during the last five years, comes to the Grand on Monday night. Although the tide has been one of the greatest theatrical attractions of the day and is well known in all of our largest cities, this is the first time that it has made a tour comprising any but some twenty of the most prominent cities. It is gratifying to be able to state that the company that comes to us is as strong dramatically as the organization that William Greet has been sending to America and which ran for weeks each year in such cities as Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Baltimore. The scenery, costumes and appointments are the same that Mr. Greet made of the piece at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York. The company is composed of English and American actors who have been selected with special reference to their temperament and fitness for the parts entrusted to them. Walter Law, the eminent young English actor, will be seen in the leading role.

SEEKS HIS GRANDMA

Frank Neagle, 2107 College Ave., St. Louis, Mo., has written to the surviving relatives of the late Wm. Northwood, asking information in regard to the writer's grandmother, Mrs. Margaret or Martin McGue. He believed that she had lived in Chatham some fifty years ago, but had gone to New London, where she afterwards died. Inquiries have been made of some of the older residents, but so far no information has as yet been received. John Northwood, Head St., is of the opinion that a family of that name moved to Windsor up to the age of a lady named Mrs. McGue who was living in that city. Perhaps some of the old residents could throw some light on the case.

BLENHEIM

Feb. 24.—Owing to the sickness of the Misses Lundy and McCormick their respective rooms at the Public school are being taken by the Misses Samson and E. VonGuten.

Mr. Dan Gray received a telegram from the Windsor Press saying that the funeral of his father, who was dead, was left for Harrisburg yesterday to attend the funeral.

J. A. Moore, of St. Thomas, was a Blenheim visitor this week. Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Williamson, of Hamilton, are in town this week. T. C. Ford is gradually improving from his recent illness and was driven up town this week.

The Misses Ward have been attending the millinery openings held at London this week.

E. W. Henneker has taken a position in Mr. A. W. Bell's store.

An Irish concert will be given in the Opera House on the evening of St. Patrick's Day, March 17, under the auspices of the Blenheim Epworth League.

Frank R. Norton held a very successful sale on Wednesday at his farm on the 4th concession. The weekly shoot of the Blenheim Gun Club took place on Wednesday afternoon.

TILBURY

Feb. 23.—The box social on Tuesday night, in the Separate School Hall, realized \$20.

Local Separate School teachers are attending the semi-annual convention in Sandwich.

Mrs. D. Smith is visiting her sister, Mrs. J. R. Gilly, at Battle Creek, Mich.

Married at the rectory, on the 23rd inst., by Rev. T. Debar, Robert Ward to Miss Emma Charlton, both of Tilbury East.

"The Three Hats" will be given in Anderson Hall this evening, by Prof. La Blanche, of Detroit, and 16 other performers.

Samuel Finston, of Tilbury East, leaves next month for British Columbia.

Village Council met last night for general business. The principal questions discussed were the snow and bowling licenses by-laws, both of which were passed—the former to take effect Dec. 1st, 1905, and the latter at once. The penalty in future for failing to clean off the snow in front of properties by the owners is a fine of from \$1 to \$20, or the expense of removing the same may be put on the owner's tax bill. The bowling license was fixed at \$25, and minors are forbidden frequenting the alley.

Horses

Wanted

Thos. Jacques,

of Toronto,

will be at McGARVIN BROS. Stables on SATURDAY, FEB. 25th, to buy a carload of Heavy and Carriage Horses. Must be in good condition

Matchless Bargains

For Saturday Shoppers at Northway's, Saturday.
Follow the crowds to the Busy Cash and One-Price Store if you want the best and most for your money.

12½c. NEW PRINTS AT 10c. YARD.

400 yards fine Print, full yard wide, soft weave, clean finish, the best 10c. Cotton you can buy, Saturday a yard, 8c.

600 YDS. AMERICAN INDIGO PRINTS

Splendid quality, choice patterns in Indigo and Butcher Blues, warranted fast colors, special a yard, 8c.

4000 YARDS CRIN'S BEST PRINTS—

32 in. wide, the best range of patterns ever shown in Chatham. Every yard guaranteed in color and wear, special a yard 12½c. a yd.

NEW OXFORD SHIRTINGS, 10c YARD

Full width, fine heavy make, in splendid range of Checks and Stripes, guaranteed fast colors, regular 12½c. a yard, special at 10c.

10c. FACTORY COTTONS AT 8c—

Extra quality half bleached fine even weave, clean finish, the best 10c. Cotton you can buy, Saturday a yard, 8c.

40pc. NEW-DRESS DUCKS—

Large range of patterns in indigo, black and butcher blue grounds, guaranteed fast, a yard 12½c.

HEAVY DEILL SHIRTINGS—

Black and white and navy and white, wide width, guaranteed colors, for Men and Boy's shirtings, regular 16c. a yard, special at 14c.

40 in. PILLOW COTTONS 11c a yd.—

Fine pure bleached pillow cotton, full 40 in. wide, regular 14c a yd., special at 11c.

PRINTS, at 6c a yd.—

40 pc. new prints in large range of dark and light patterns, fast dyes, special a yard 6c.

25c. BLEACHED SHEETINGS 19c a yd.—

Full 2 yds. wide, good firm quality, pure bleached, regular 25c a yd., Saturday 19c.

MILLINERY—

9 only Trimmed Hats, regular \$5 to \$8.50 each, clearing Saturday at \$2.50.

3 doz. NEW YORK TRIMMED OUTING

HATS—
Good range of styles, regular up to \$2.00 each, clearing Saturday at 25c.

LADIES' FANCY COLLARS FOR LESS

THAN HALF—
15 doz. Ladies' Fancy Collars, large range of pretty styles, in silk, satin, ribbon and lace, sold regular at 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c each, clearing Saturday 17c.

CUSHION TOPS AT 25c. EACH, WORTH

UP TO 50c
8 Doz. beautiful Lithographed Cushion Tops, new designs, regular up to 50c, clearing at 25c.

20 DOZEN CUSHION GIRDLES AT 25c

EACH.
3½ yards long, rich heavy silky cord with tasselled ends, every wanted color, special each, 25c.

ANOTHER HOSIERY BARGAIN

14 dozen Ladies' and Children's Worsted Hosiery, pure wool, elastic rib knit, seamless feet, double heels and toes, regular 25c to 35c, pair, clearing Saturday 19c.

25c, 35c. and 50c. BELT BUCKLES AT 10c

EACH.
6 dozen assorted styles in Fancy Belt Buckles and Slides, regular 25c to 50c each, clearing Saturday at 10c.

20c. EMBROIDERED HANDKERCHIEFS

2 FOR 25c
20 dozen Ladies' Fine Lawn and Linen Handkerchiefs—embroidery, Lace and hemstitched, regular 15c, 18c. and 20c. each, clearing Saturday at 2 for 25c.

A SILK WAIST BARGAIN.

9 only beautiful Silk Waists, Taffeta, Tulle and Liberty Satin, handsome styles, assorted colors and black, lined throughout, regular \$5.00 to \$7.00 each, clearing Saturday at \$3.50.

FUR COAT BARGAINS

All our \$25.00 Coats clearing at \$15.90
" " \$35.00 and \$37.50 Astrachan Coats at \$23.90.
All our \$35.00 Greenland Seal Coats at \$23.90.
All our \$45.00 to \$50.00 Near Seal Sable Trimmed Coats for \$35.90.

Seven Stores The Northway Company, Ltd. Two Factories

NEW ELECTRIC ROAD

—AS AN—

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!

Appreciation of the value of the new electric road between Windsor and Chatham is best reflected in the inquiries for the company's stock. The entire bond issue has already been placed and but a limited number of shares of the capital stock remain to be taken up. This stock will undoubtedly demand a premium at an early date, and large dividends are practically assured before a wheel has turned. Prospective purchasers of shares apply to G. L. Stryker, Broker, Wilkeson Block, Chatham, for full information, phone 279.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ready for Construction—The Windsor, Essex, & Lakeshore Rapid Railway Company

The Windsor, Essex & Lakeshore Rapid Railway Company is now ready to receive tenders for the construction of its proposed road from Windsor to Chatham, by what is known as the Shore Road, passing through the towns of Essex, Kingsville, Leamington, Wheatley, thence north to Tilbury, thence west by the Middle Road to Buxton and thence to Chatham, according to the charter right as granted by Special Acts of the Legislature of the Province of Ontario.

All tenders must be made in writing and address the General Manager, Philip Hewitson, 1020 Chamber of Commerce Building, Detroit, Mich.

NEW MEAT MARKET

Was Opened on Saturday Last Jan. 14th, King St. West, Next to Dr. Ty's Recent Office.

We wish to call the attention of the meat eaters of Chatham to the fact that we are prepared to furnish a superior quality of fresh and cured meats at very reasonable prices, as we raise and feed our live stock on our farms in Dover. No middle profits to pay. Direct from the farm to the consumer.

We will also keep in stock a first class line of canned goods, consisting of corn, peas, tomatoes, pork and beans, sardines, canned salmon, bottled pickles and a special line of tea, which will surprise you how we sell such fine goods at such low prices. Headquarters for hams, bacon, lard, Bologna and pork sausage, the very best always in stock.

Call and see us even if you don't want to buy. We will be pleased to make your acquaintance.

GEO. STACEY & CO.,
Late of Port Hope,
Telephone 391.

Robertson Estate for Sale

At \$10,500. Whole Lot 24, Con. 2, Raleigh (now City of Chatham) fronting on the Gravel Road, except the front 50 acres lately sold. Parcel offered contains about 150 acres. For terms and conditions of sale apply to SMITH & SMITH, Real Estate Agents, Chatham.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

FRIDAY, FEB. 24
MATINEE and NIGHT

MR. NED RADLEY
PRESENTS
The Radley Stock Company

THE IRISH HERO

with new and up-to-date specialties between acts.

MATINEE 4:15 p. m., prices 50c.
NIGHT 8:15 p. m., prices 50c, 10c and a few at 25c.
Seats on sale Tuesday at Brisco's

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

MONDAY, FEB. 27.

A
NOTABLE
EVENT
Wilson
Barrett's
Renowned
Masterpiece

Management FRED G. BERGER.
Entire original cast and production from the Lyric Theatre, London, Eng. Endorsed by the press, public and clergy, with WALTER LAW as "Marcus Superbus." Prices, 25, 35, 50, 75c and \$1. Seats on sale at Brisco's

The Chatham Loan and Savings

COMPANY.

Capital, \$1,000,000.
INCORPORATED A. D. 1881.

Money to Lend on Mortgages

Deposits received of \$1 and upwards, and the highest current rate of interest allowed.

Debentures issued for sums of \$100 and upwards from one to five years bearing interest at four per cent. per annum half yearly.

S. F. GARDINER,
Manager

MONEY TO LOAN.

MONEY TO LEND

ON LAND MORTGAGES
ON CHATTEL MORTGAGES
ON NOTE.

To pay off mortgages. To buy property by instalment.
J. W. WHITE,
Barrister
Opp. Grand Opera House, Chatham

Money to Loan

—ON MORTGAGES—
4 1-2 and 5 per cent.

Liberal Terms and privileges to Borrowers. Apply to
LEWIS & RICHARDS

FARM FOR SALE

I have for sale 100 acres, more or less, of part lot 16, concession 8, in the Township of Dover, east of Baldwin street, owned by William H. Ruhnke.

I also have money to loan at the lowest rate of interest.
HENRY DAGNEAU.

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is made in Canada, and is sold at the same price as in the United States.

The O. T. R. and C. P. R. use Oliver Typewriters for their heaviest work.

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