The Mail.

VOL. II. NO. 60. TORONTO, FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1873. PRICE THREE CENTS.

which bore on the present one in question, he held in his hand a letter signed by Mr. G. Griffin, and addressed to the Postmaster-General, to the following effect:—

"POST OFFICE INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
"LONDON, Ont., 2nd May, 1873.

"*My Dear Sir,*

"In the House of Commons on the 28th ult. Mr. Mills, the member for Bothwell, is reported to have said that Mr. Hancock, Postmaster of Ridgetown, had been warned by the Post Office Inspector that if he voted at the time of the local election for Mr. McKellar it would notbe for his interest. I enclose the *Globe* report of what Mr. Mills said, and I enclose a letter received to-day from Mr. Hancock denying Mr. Mills' statement *in toto*. I wrote to the Postmaster at Ridgetown, and told him that whilst it was not intended to prevent his voting for whatever candidate he pleased, or to influence his vote in any way, he should take care not to parade his political principles against the Government whose officer he was. If you consider it necessary will you please set the matter right.

"Yours respectfully,
"GILBERT GRIFFIN,
"P. O. Inspector.

"To Hon. A. Campbell,
"P. M. General, Ottawa."

The Postmaster at Ridgetown wrote as follows:—

"RIDGETOWN, Ont., 1st May, 1873.

"*Dear Sir,*

"Yours of the 29th ult. to hand. In reply, I beg to say that you did not write to me as stated in the Toronto *Globe* of the 26th inst., and I have to write to me and state that it was reported that I was taking an active part in the elections. You said that your letter was not intended to prevent me from voting or to influence my vote, but to show that I had no right to parade my political principles against the Government, and you doubtless remember that I did not. What appears in the *Globe*, I presume, has come from what was said by Mr. W. D. Balfour, who lives in or near London, at the time Messrs. Glass and Kirby were candidates. Mr. Nelles was very canvassing in their interest, and strongly solicited my vote, which I refused to give. He said that it would be greatly to my interest to vote for these gentlemen, as Mr. Glass could do a good deal for me. When he found that he could not prevail on me to vote in their favour, he wished me to promise that I would not vote at all. I would not promise, but I did not vote then nor since.

"I am your obed't servant,
"L. L. HANCOCK, P. M.

"To Gilbert Griffin, Esq., P. O. Inspector, London.

"P.S.—I noticed what was said in the *Globe*, and contradicted it at once."

His (Mr. Tupper) had also a memorandum by Mr. Griffin, Deputy-Postmaster-General, in relation to the question of the removal of certain postmasters which had been brought before the House. It was as follows:—

"OTTAWA, 1st May, 1873.

"Mr. Farrarbith, M. P., Complaints were made against Mr. W. Robertson, Postmaster at Farran's Point, for his interference as the Lanark Post Office to deposit money in the Post Office Savings Bank, he has on several occasions dissuaded them from so doing, and had induced them to lend him the money by promising them a higher rate of interest than the Post Office allowed; that money had several times been entrusted to him for remittance, but it could not be traced receiving, and that public confidence in him as postmaster was impaired. The above charges were publicly investigated in the Municipal Hall of Lanark by the Post Office Inspector, assisted by the Reeve of Lanark, and on a careful consideration of the proceedings and result of the investigations, the Postmaster-General came to the conclusion that the conduct of the Postmaster had been such as to undermine confidence and want of confidence in the management of the Lanark Post Office and was injurious to the service, and that it had therefore become expedient to remove Mr. Robertson from the postmastership of Farran's Point, Ont."

Mr. Farrarbith—The attention of the Postmaster-General was in January last called to a memorial which stated that Mr. John Farran, postmaster of Farran's Point, was engaged in milling operations in a neighbouring township, and had, for a long time past, ceased to give his personal superintendence to the office, and that the office had been twice burned down whilst in charge of the person to whom he had delegated it. Finding, upon enquiry, the statements to be correct, the Postmaster-General considered it to be his duty to place the office on a better footing and appointed Mr. James Reddy, of Farran's Point, to be postmaster in the room of Mr. Farran, Eagle Out."

"To Hon. A. Campbell,
"Mr. Casey, M.P.: Enquiry as to the supposed dismissal of Philip Linderman from a postmastership. There must be some misunderstanding in this case. No such dismissal has taken place, or there has been no postmaster of that name.

"W. H. GRIFFIN,
"Deputy Postmaster-General Inspector."

The eulogium which had been passed on the Postmaster-General and the administration of his Department by the member for Hastings would, he believed, be received as a deserved eulogium. The *Globe* newspaper, notwithstanding its avowed and unqualified hostility to the Government had, during the present session, alluded to the great ability with which the Post Office Department was managed, and he thought the honourable gentleman opposite would admit that if there was a department which was managed in a way to obtain it no the confidence of Parliament and the country, it was that presided over by the Postmaster-General. He thought the House would agree with him that the member for Lambton had placed a very heavy aspersion upon a very slender foundation, and had offered the very smallest ground on which the House could reasonably affirm a proposition pronouncing that a criminal act had been committed on the part of the Government. He should consider it a very great misfortune if the American system of a rotation of office, with which the hon. gentleman had threatened them, were to be introduced in this country, but stronger cases than this would have to be produced before the House would conclude that there was anything which pointed in the slightest degree in that direction. This Government had been substantially in power since the first of July, 1867, and had the hon. gentleman attempted to show throughout the Dominion a single instance of a man being dismissed from office for his political opinions? The country was filled with office holders who were using their influence in opposition to the Government. (Hear, hear.) It was jesuitical that the great Province of Ontario was filled with postmasters who considered that the first duty they owed to their country was to become its enemies. Some of the postmasters who used their offices as places in which to cabal against the Government, should be relieved from the means by which they should be broken down. In Nova Scotia it was the same. He had been told that when, at one time, when he went down to an election, was met on the hustings by a postmaster who denounced him in the strongest language. That man was postmaster still, and this latitude had been allowed throughout the country without any action being taken against it, except by means of a proper and friendly suggestion such as that contained in Mr. Griffin's letter. It was not seemly for an officer under the Government of the day to come out and take active, energetic part against that Government. (Hear, hear). If one man was allowed to do it another should have the same privilege, and what would hon. gentlemen say if a change of government took place to-morrow and the deputy heads of departments, the men on whom they would have to rely, met them in the hustings when they presented themselves for re-election as Ministers and denounced them as the unworthy to take these positions. Where was the line to be drawn? Every one had the right to exercise the franchise freely, but when one of the class referred against Government ran against it as an active part against the Government. That was all that was contained in that letter. An election had taken place in Welland, and the hon. gentleman had alluded to his presence there. When he heard that the member for South Bruce was to be present at the nomination he felt that he could not shrink from accepting the invitation to meet that gentleman. The time was occupied in discussing the general questions of the day, and he only remained on the nomination day. Great as his computations were as guide into the constituency, he should feel still greater compunctions now that he had more acquaintance with the member for Welland. Mr. Griffin did not say you must vote for Dr. King, or you must not vote for Mr. Thomson. He left the man free as air

(Continued on Third Page.)

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Any person wanting to adopt one of these young children, or to secure the services of the older ones, can apply for the girls to the matron at "THE GRANGE," Gerrard Street, and for the boys, to Mr. Wells, Superintendent, Newsboys' Lodging, Frederick Street.

References to the Hon. G. W. ALLAN and Fred. Wenzer.

Mar. 5th 1873.

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Proprietor.

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WALTER S. LEE,
Secretary.

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THE WEEKLY MAIL

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ENGLISH LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, May 1, 1873.

Mr. Disraeli, it is generally known, is prepared to take office on the dissolution of the present Parliament; and seems to hope that an appeal to the country would result in his favour. Of the latter no one can speak confidently; of the former the present Government seems to have "other views." With an intention of drawing the Government into a declaration of policy, on Monday evening last, Mr. W. H. Smith, M. P. for Westminster, came forward with a motion on the Government's financial policy, which, as a matter of fact, was a motion of want of confidence. He moved "That before deciding on the further reduction of indirect taxation, it is desirable that the House should be put in possession of the views of the Government with reference to the maintenance and the adjustment of direct taxation, both Imperial and local." In the course of his speech the hon. member held that local taxation claimed reduction before indirect taxation; and charged the Chancellor of the Exchequer with adopting a policy likely to embarrass his successor next year. The reference to the office holders of next year was a great slip, and one of which Mr. Lowe made the most. He remarked:—"He says I have laid the bands of my successor for next year. Sir, I shall be very unwilling to do that, because I fully intend to be my own successor. I assure the hon. gentleman that he may trust me not to tie the hands of that most estimable person." The question raised by Mr. Smith was a general one, involving the consideration of the particular tax that ought to be abated. Mr. Lowe took it as an attempt of the wealthy landowners to derive a benefit for themselves, and enlarged upon the policy of the Government for years past, which was to reduce the taxes on the poor, and well-to-do and the poor simultaneously. The tax of the rich is the Income Tax, that of the poor any indirect tax. In knocking off a penny from the former and reducing the tax on sugar, he held that the policy of the Government in the present Budget was consistent with that of former years. Sir Massey Lopes, who has local taxation on the brain, had previously attempted to draw out the Government, and had failed. It is hard to be wondered at then that Mr. Smith, though equal in ability, but with, perhaps, less vim, should have been no more successful. Mr. Lowe gave the Opposition a fearful drive for their conduct at the time of the famine, he expressed the hope that some who were to follow Mr. Smith on the same side of the House, would tell them what was to be done if the resolution were carried. Were they to have another instance of "splendid abnegation"—another period of walking backward and forward and doing nothing? There was no division, a motion of adjournment being carried.

On Friday evening last Mr. Chichester Fortescue paid a high compliment to the administrative capacity of the Dominion Government. In the House of Commons, the Right Honourable Gentleman said that on Sir J. Pakington, and that the investigation into the loss of the *Atlantic* had been made under the authority of a Colonial Act, which gave a Colonial Government similar authority to that which was conferred upon the Merchant Shipping Act. He was in a position to know that all had been regular, but he might state "that Canadian inquiries of that kind were generally well and carefully conducted." The sentence of the Court also was final as regarded the Captain, but the question of the provisioning of the ship, as affecting the owners and the underwriters, Board of Trade, could only be settled by a searching investigation by the Port of Liverpool. I may add that Messrs. Ismay, Imrie & Co., court this investigation.

The case of the *Pearl* proves the Tichborne Claimant draws its weary length along. In a most amusing way, and with a touch of grim humour, here and there cutting irony, and, on occasion, righteous invective, Mr. Hawkins has laid the case for the prosecution before the jury. Supplying material for half a dozen ordinary volumes, he has detailed the life histories of Roger Tichborne and Arthur Orton, the latter of whom he identifies with the Claimant, and has shown how all the evidence for and against the Claimant was concocted by this "bold but unprincipled adventurer." Mr. Hawkins is most successful, I think, than the Attorney-General was, in the fact that, while more forcible, he does not allow his personal feeling to get the bit between its teeth and run away with him.

The case against Edward Noyes and George Bidwell, the late manager, charged with complicity in the Bank of England forgeries, was continued last Friday, and adjourned until Monday. The counsel opposing Counsel stated that the advent of Austin Bidwell might be looked for at an early day; that the examination of Macdonnell in New York had been adjourned to the 7th of May, and that a gentleman had gone to America with some original documents with a view of proving a *prima facie* case against the last named. 245,000 notes, of various United States bonds, sent out by Macdonnell, have been recovered by the police, and placed in the box with the bonds were numerous documents and things belonging to George Bidwell, which, if genuine, implicate him. Bidwell has been given up to the British Consul at Havana, who will forward him to England on board a man-of-war. It would almost seem as if great crimes attract great forgeries; but this is now still further proved, and the prisoners go forth, maybe to that obscurity they richly deserve, to hide.

There was a good deal of comment a few days ago on a pugilistic encounter that took of at the Mansion House, in London, in a tone of reprobation, that among the spectators there were a Marquis and Lord, and many others of rank; and that the prize was bestowed on the better man by the said Marquis, to wit—the Marquis of Queensberry. For the next two or three days personal comment was thus prevented, but the Fall rushed into print to vindicate their ignorance of the purpose for which the Hall was taken, and their disapproval of "the nonsense souls"—of so highly improper an exhibition. The noble Marquis also appeared in print; but in a more manly strain. He asserted that he was not present nor did he give the prize; but added—"Yet, as the giver of it, it is quite probable that I should have been present, as thank God, I see no objection to see a good fight with gloves, or without them, for the matter of that. I do not, moreover, like the present blackguardism attendant on these encounters, he said he feared that this blackguardism would be the means of bringing the "noble art" in public opinion, and added by saying:—"Yet England owes much of some day that her sons should substitute for the use of their fists the first deadly weapon that come to their hand." These are not able to contrast a street row in New York with one in London, the strongest language, the Marquis in this expression of opinion. Not a few who have "seen stars" in the course of boyish fisty encounters, being taken "silly" by a friendly hand, have in later years, maybe in middle life, to thank their stars for the grateful, blessed their stars for the skill and confidence so acquired, in contending with some ruffian, assailant. We may be thankful that a pair of fists (we bestide the assailant if they be armed with diamond rings) still answer all practical purposes here.

A painful sensation has been produced by the suicide of the Earl of Delaware, who drowned himself in the Cam last week. From the evidence it appeared that since the death of a lady who had lived under his protection, his Lordship's mind had been sadly deranged. The lady referred to had died under painful circumstances—from the effects of a fall from her horse. Some time ago the Earl had got the idea into his head that he had been the means of her death. Of course the medical testimony proved that this was clearly an hallucination, and that the mental cause which gave it birth had sprung from the strong love his lordship bore his mistress, in spite of her miserable failing. The death of Earl Delaware has brought sorrow to the noble House of the Stanleys, the Countess of Derby being his sister.

Whatever the Social Science Association may be guilty of, it cannot be charged with wanting in persistence. That body has determined on entering on the consideration of certain prison officials on the ground of cruelty to Daniel Reidlin, the Fenian. The case is to be argued before the Queen's Bench sitting in banco; and a formidable array of counsel has been engaged for the prosecution, viz:—Mr. Butt, Q.C., M.P., the Irish supporter of the Opposition in the House of Commons, and one of the leading Home-Rule members, Mr. Matthews, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. Russell, all able men; but men of rather too advanced opinions, perhaps, to advise on an Irish question dispassionately, and with exclusive regard to the legal bearings of the case. It is said evidence will be adduced proving cruelty in other instances; and the whole system of English prison administration will be exposed. Well, that may be a benefit, though I doubt if the system will not be found to be one on which it would be difficult to improve. A meeting was held last Saturday evening at the Grafton Hall, when an appeal was made for pecuniary assistance in promoting the said legal proceedings; and Mr. P. O'Leary made the announcement that in reply to the Amnesty resolutions passed at a recent Hyde Park meeting, Mr. Mooney, the chairman on that occasion, had received a letter from Mr. Gladstone, in which the Premier stated that the question of the treatment and detention of the remaining Fenian prisoners had been repeatedly under the consideration of the Cabinet, and that the Government could not regard them in any other light than as ordinary convicts. I am sure the loyalty of Canada will admire the firmness the present Government has manifested in the matter of the Fenians, in opposition to the great pressure brought to bear upon it on their behalf, and its refusal to purchase Irish popularity at the expense of propriety.

The redoubtable Odger has sadly come to grief in his contention with the *Figaro*, the popular satirical bi-weekly. It was decided that as an avowed traitor to the constitution, he had laid himself open to the severest criticism; and indeed deserved all he got. The *Figaro*, in a recent issue "term for him" more severely than ever; and in the fact of its being sunk for heavy costs shewed, very sensibly, that there was not much sympathy with the Republican Shoemaker.

CANADIAN.

The Victoria *Standard* says the leading barristers of the Province are to be dubbed Queen's Counsel according to new Dominion regulations.

In accordance with the wish of many old friends, steps are being taken to erect a public monument to the memory of the late Dr. Ardagh, one of the earliest settlers in Orillia.

A by-law will be submitted to the freeholders of Mitchell, on Monday, June the 2nd, asking their consent to raise, by way of loan, the sum of $15,000, for the construction of a proper system of fire protection.

A Stratford paper says that there are no less than eighteen persons in that town expecting the $75,000 prize from Omaha on the 28th. It adds, "Blessed are they who don't expect anything, for they rarely get disappointed."

Professor Kaderly had returned from an exploration of the range of hills lying north and east of Esquimalt harbour. He found traces of silver in several places, great quantities of quartz and volcanic rock, and any amount of iron—specimens of which he had.

Nanaimo has six general stores, three butcher's shops, two millinery shops, four hotels and bowling alleys, one boot and shoe shops, two bakeys, one blacksmith shop, one tin shop, one Mechanics' Institute, two Masonic Lodges, three churches, two schools, and a newly-born baby weighing nine pounds. Nanaimo supplies have crushed those there at Mills. Mr. Bonsfield, the young Bacon Hostile de Montreuil is about to marry the old Countess of Richemont, the owner of the Bonsfield vineyards of Brandenberg.

An ingenious attempt at smuggling tobacco has been frustrated on board the Rotterdam steamer *Waterloo*. A customs officer, noticing some loose screws in the capstan, had the head removed, and discovered eight pounds of tobacco concealed therein. The owners were fined £2 and £3 respectively.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily News* says that, according to telegrams from Constantinople, the Sultan of Turkey and the Sultan has become subject to fits of furious irritation, and it is feared that his brain is affected. The correspondent says that it is a fall in official circles, and the dismissal of the Grand Vizier is daily expected.

The Chinese Commissioners of Customs at Paris have resolved to offer the gold medal of the Society to the manufacturer who shall produce the best work of art at the Universal Exhibition of 1873 the best collection of specimens of art and, subject to the engineering purposes. The specimens exhibited must include a complete illustration of the operations of the varieties of tea and silk exhibited.

John Kirby, seventy-two years of age, who had served twenty-one years' faithful service, has been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment at Clerkenwell prison for obtaining money by false pretences at Wisbech, England. Seeing carts without owners have been allowed to wander about by themselves, the Government inspector, reminded the parties of the Act of Parliament, and, on their failure, seized some of their effigies.

Lord Shaftesbury told in a recent speech of his having whitewashed and painted one of the dark lanes and courts in Whitechapel, in one of the foul districts of London, and of finding it a short time after worse than ever. He said:—"What could I do? I did this, the reply was, "Please your honour, the lanes looked so dreadfully dirty and dreary, I sent for a sweep and asked him to give us a few warm touches."

One of the porpoises at the Brighton, England, Aquarium, is dead. The keeper of the survivor seem unabated. His appetite, he says, is as voracious as ever. He is daily devours about 8st. worth of smelts, taking 160 of these fish from his attendant's hand. The survivor is about 7 feet long, and his pulse is 120 to the minute. The keeper says he is pulled into them by machinery from the bottom of the tank, and the hatch of the trawes, which supplies fish with the necessary.

Some five or six weeks ago a couple of gentlemen, one of them a young man of eighteen years of age—suddenly disappeared from the neighbourhood of Ballinrobe, Ireland, in a most mysterious manner. No trace of them could be obtained, although diligent enquiries and searches were made. A few days ago their corpses were found floating in the River Clare, near Meelerard; evidence that they had been murdered. The young men were last seen in company with a well-dressed lady, who had lately taken a small allowance. The lady thought the young men were in very bad company, and had left Ireland for the purpose of weaning them from their evil associates. Its possible that the young men recognized, and threatened to expose, the lady on the spot, and that she, in a fit of passion, drowned them in the River Clare. The young man