

POOR COPY

THE GLEANER, FREDERICTON, N. B., THURSDAY, APRIL 4.

TRI-WEEKLY CIRCULATION FOR WEEK ENDING March 23rd, 1889.

Tuesday	1,021
Wednesday	1,106
Thursday	1,433
Total	3,560
Average	1,187

The Gleaner.

AS. H. BUCKLE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1889.

AMENDING THE ELECTIONS BILL.

The assembly has at last given some little evidence of some little independence. It has taken the grip with Mr. Blair and amended his election bill. It has taken the advice of the Government rather than that of Mr. Blair's friends and interests. It has practically erased that very objectionable section of the bill permitting the government to pass over the sheriff of a county and issue the writ for election to any person they may wish to select, and substituted a section making it binding on the government to issue the writ to the sheriff, and to none other, except in cases where that officer is mentally incapacitated, or interested in the election by way of relationship with the candidates. We congratulate the house on the position it has taken. Had the bill passed as drafted by Mr. Blair, the government would have had at their command a powerful lever to defeat the will of the people in elections. Sheriff, for instance, with a high sense of duty and a determination to do the right, might readily be passed over and the writ issued to a being of the reputation of John R. Dunn, of Queens. The will of the people could thus very easily be defeated, as was the case in Queens. No government, however honest, should have such power as this bill would have given had it not been amended; a corrupt man as Mr. Blair would have been a very serious matter to the people of this province.

It will be remembered that when Mr. Blair, a few years ago, proposed assent to the Liberal party, he was very loud in his condemnation of the dominion government for making just such a provision in their elections act as he endeavored to induce the assembly to pass in this. It was positive evidence of corrupt intentions. But then Mr. Blair has since sacrificed the interests of the Liberal party in York and taken a variety of twists and turns beside.

SCOTT ACT ELECTIONS TO-DAY.

Elections on petition held for the repeal of the Scott Act are being held to-day in fourteen electoral districts in Ontario, viz: Peterborough, Lincoln, Victoria, Ontario, Kent, Northumberland and Durham, Frontenac, Wellington, Lennox and Addington, Hastings, Glengarry, Carleton and St. Thomas City. Telegraphic advice this morning are to the effect that tremendous efforts are being made in all of these places to defeat the Act. The liquor element, with all its corrupting influence, has been into the contest since the early hours of the morning, and it is quite confident that to-day it will add largely to the series of defeats sustained by the Act in Ontario last year. On the other hand the temperance people are doing good work, and though not expelling victory in all of the contests, they seem to be quite sanguine that at least a good majority of the districts will declare in favor of the Act. The temperance people, however, are laboring against great odds. The machinery of the Ontario government has been in motion against them; leading Tory electioneers are into the contest with all the energy at their command; and the government have gone so far as to appoint as a returning officer for Carleton a strong friend of the liquor party. We have not heard that Mr. Foster is in motion against them; leading Tory electioneers are into the contest with all the energy at their command; and the government have gone so far as to appoint as a returning officer for Carleton a strong friend of the liquor party. We have not heard that Mr. Foster is in motion against them; leading Tory electioneers are into the contest with all the energy at their command; and the government have gone so far as to appoint as a returning officer for Carleton a strong friend of the liquor party.

LAST EVENING'S MOTIONS.

The discussion in the assembly last evening on Dr. Stockton's motion declaring it to be the opinion of the assembly that the franchise should be extended to widows and spinners, and on Mr. Wilson's amendment thereto, will excite much interest in view of the fact that nothing can be accomplished in passing either. Had the substance of the motion been made an amendment to the elections bill, and pressed to a vote, when there was the possibility of accomplishing something, then the expressions of opinion could have been very differently viewed, and been of some interest. However, we presume the motion will be read; and in another issue we will have something to say about them.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Laurier's statement to the franchise bill. Ottawa, April 2.—In the commons to-day, Hon. Mr. Laurier, in answer to Sir Richard Cartwright, admitted that the sinking fund of the last loan in purchase of bonds unless such bonds were held at an unreasonable premium or at a price produced by artificial combination. Sir Richard Cartwright, after the answer received he deemed it his duty to move the government of the probable effect of such a course as that proposed. In his budget speech the finance minister stated that the terms on which the last loan was effected were exceedingly favorable. He (Cartwright) had stated that there was no sinking fund attached to that loan; that statement was correct. In June last, the high commissioner had effected a loan at 1 1/2 per cent, payable in 60 years, without any sinking fund. An examination of the loan and prospectus disclosed that a clause had been inserted which involved serious loss to the country. In their prospectus the government had stated that with a view of rendering the government sinking funds more effective than formerly, that fund was to be devoted to the purchase of bonds then about to be issued. Sir Richard Cartwright believed that this arrangement would compel the dominion to apply \$250,000 sterling a year in repurchasing the government bonds and the practical effect would be that instead of a fifty year loan, the government had effected one repayable in 10 years in addition to about \$400,000 such and they were further bound to re-purchase Canadian securities, at the current market rate, which was considerably above par. He asked if Mr. Foster could explain this extraordinary arrangement.

MARRIED.

At the marriage, Fredericton, March 29th, by Rev. J. C. O'Connell, Mr. Henry Hart, of the station, to Miss Cora V. Mink, of the same place.

FROM THE COUNTRY.

News from the Districts About Us.

As Reported by Our Active Correspondents.

Accidents, Personal Intelligence, and Things in General.

BLACKVILLE.

The Biggest Loss Ever Sustained—Property Destroyed—Fire.

BLACKVILLE, April 2nd. David Coughlin claims to have out the biggest loss about here this season. It is said \$200,000. Coughlin, while walking up the road yesterday afternoon, was overtaken by a fire which was sweeping down the road and ran over him. His injuries are pretty serious, and he is now in a hospital. The fire was caused by a lightning bolt striking a tree near the road. The fire spread rapidly and destroyed a large number of houses and barns. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

CANTERBURY STATION.

Dead in his Night—Death—Death—Death.

Mr. John Moore, who lived with his son John, and who had been in ill health the past week, for several days had been in bed. He died last night at about 10 o'clock. He was about 60 years of age. He was a well-known man in the community. He was buried in the cemetery this morning.

DEARER EVERY DAY.

Four gentlemen engaged in commerce in an eastern city were lately unfortunates in the common way.

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THE EASTERN INCIDENT WHICH FURNISHED THE BASIS OF A SCOTTISH SONG.

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MONEY TO LOAN.

FRED ST. JOHN BLISS, BARRISTER.

Office—Queen Street, Fredericton, opposite Post Office.

London and Lancashire FIRE INSURANCE CO'Y.

Risks accepted at lowest rates.

Claims promptly and equitably settled.

FRED ST. JOHN BLISS, AGENT, FREDERICTON, N. B.

March 23rd.

HANDSOME NEW DRESS GOODS.

AND New Jacket Cloths.

AT JOHN J. WEDDALL'S.

For Sale or To Let.

Do You Want a Watch?

IF SO, GIVE US A CALL.

We have Waltham Watches, Elgin Watches, Springfield Watches, Hampden Watches, and the Celebrated Rockford Railroad Watches, WHICH WE CAN PUT UP IN Solid Gold, Gold Filled, Solid Silver and Nickel Cases at the Very Lowest Prices. Try us and be satisfied.

TO RENT.

FARM FOR SALE.

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