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THIRTEENTH YEAR — WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 12 1893. — ONE CENT

HARCOURT'S BUDGET SPEECH.

TIMBER LICENSE SALES AND THE SUCCESSION TAX.

Little Interest Taken in the Annual Statement of the Provincial Treasurer —Mr. Clancy Makes a Vigorous Reply Criticising the Budget Speech in Detail.

Ontario Budget speeches are usually as dry as dust, and that delivered by Hon. Mr. Harcourt yesterday was no exception to the rule. The Provincial Treasurer was received with applause when he rose at 4 o'clock to read his speech, but from the opening sentence until he resumed his seat at 6 o'clock not once was he accorded even the ghost of a cheer nor even a "Hear, hear," from one solitary member. This was all the more remarkable from the fact that Mr. Harcourt made a capital speech, emphasizing his points in straightforward and lucid language. Perhaps his opening sentence, to the effect that he had nothing very exciting or unusual to say touching the finances, was the douche that did the business; whatever it was the members were most apathetic, accepting the Budget as a mere matter of course. The leader of the Opposition was not in the House, Mr. Clancy of West Kent having been selected to reply to the Provincial Treasurer.

Ontario, said Mr. Harcourt, is in a singularly strong and healthy state contrasted with the condition of many other provinces and states across the line. In citing the fact that the total receipts from the Crown Lands Department were $2,252,972.27, the largest sum ever received from this source, the speaker gave some interesting figures and made a 30-minute defence of the Government's policy in this respect. The woods and forests item of $2,174,591.38 was explained by the phenomenal sale of October last. Since Confederation, he said, there had been 11 timber sales—four of these took place during the term of Sandfield Macdonald's Government, the average price realized per mile being $380, the total mileage sold 635, and the highest price realized $640 per mile.

During the 20 years' premiership of Sir Oliver Mowat, since 1872, there had been six sales, the total mileage sold being 4234, the average price $1412 and the highest $17,500. All the sales have been satisfactory and the last one phenomenally so, no less than 632 miles being sold at a total of $2,315,000, an average of $3650, the highest price being $17,500. The best previous average was $2852 and the highest price previously realized $6300, the average of last year thus exceeding the best previous average by $798. When it is remembered that the purchasers must pay ground rents and government dues, the magnitude of the sale can be appreciated. The Commissioner is to be congratulated on the unprecedented success of his sale, which vindicates in every respect the wise policy of his department. He ridiculed the claims of the hon. gentlemen opposite that the extinction of the pine forests of the country was near at hand, and ridiculed the gloomy pictures they painted of the remotely possible consequences. The pine forests of this continent were amply sufficient for the present generation at all events. He claimed that in anticipation of extensive railway construction and the resultant development of the country, the Government was in duty bound to sell the timber, as a single fire might devastate a valuable area. If not put under license, a large portion might have been wiped out. Even now two rival railways are promoting lines to the territory placed under license last year. Touching upon the claim of the Opposition that no licenses should be issued, except on the understanding that all timber cut should be manufactured in Ontario and not exported; he pointed out that such a proceeding would injure the lumber trade by preventing the export of the coarser grades of timber, and the lumber business could only be productive of the best results when the coarser as well as the better grades found a ready market. Besides, the cost of taking out and driving the timber was fully 50 per cent. of the total sum expended. Most of the lumber must be manufactured in Canada, and this renders restriction unnecessary. Fully 70 per cent of the total sold last October was bought by Canadians. During the past five years the Government had realized from timber licenses $5,095,000 and had expended in grants to railways $5,433,000, education and schools $10,950,000 and for the maintenance of public institutions $11,277,000, not to speak of others, thus practically performing municipal work. It was both prudent and necessary to draw upon the timber resources of the province to increase the grants referred to as well as to aid in railway construction and avert forest fires. He contrasted the policy of the Ontario Government of putting up the limits at auction with that of Quebec and with the plan purposed by the Federal Government of disposing of its timber by private sale.

The License Revenues.

After briefly referring to the fact that the revenue from law stamps, $91,617.56, was the largest in the history of the Province, Mr. Harcourt stated that the revenue from licenses, $294,757.98, had fallen $6000 below the estimates. This might be explained by the fact that last year was the first since 1882 that all the counties were under the License Act. Since 1889 the receipts from this source had gradually diminished, due to the decrease in the number of licenses issued. If this decrease is a sure indication of the growth of a strong temperance sentiment no person need deplore it. During the past year local option had only cut off 17 licenses in the whole province. In 1882 the number of licenses issued was 4163, and in 1892 there were issued 3414, a reduction of 749. Incidentally he pointed out that while Ontario had only 207 retail licenses the city of Montreal alone had 470, and the receipts of Quebec Province from licenses for the year ending June 30 last totalled $533,000—a greater sum than Ontario received in two years.

Ontario's receipts from the Education Department were $9000 in excess of the estimates, while the revenue from public institutions, $136,406.44, was the largest ever received, and twice as much as in 1880.

Succession Duties Act.

Mr. Harcourt made an able defence of the recent Succession Duties Act. The receipts from this source had only been $758.53, but this was no criterion of what it would be. There was now no diversity of opinion as to the wisdom of the expenditures for charities, and with the growing demands on the province it was necessary to erect a new series of buildings. The maintenance of these institutions required a yearly expenditure of nearly $900,000. The Government is actually expending $1 out of every $11 of the Dominion subsidy for charitable institutions. At a time when the revenue is stationary, unelastic and circumscribed the Government felt it was fully justified in resorting to the succession tax, a new and fair source of revenue. Learned jurists, able writers and sound political economists agreed that the act should be taken advantage of to a much greater extent than it had ever been. The succession tax is the virtual payment back to the state for the services rendered by the state to the individual. The experience of all other countries in the matter of succession duties is encouraging and such as leads us to expect satisfactory results.

The speaker then reviewed the law since it first came into effect in England as far back as 1853, showed how successfully it worked in New York and Pennsylvania, and pointed out that thousands of estates pay duty in the last two states which would not come under the Ontario act, which exempted all estates under $10,000, and also exempted legacies to near relatives unless the estate exceeded $100,000. The Ontario law was therefore a fair and reasonable one. What the probable receipts of this province will be cannot be judged from the short test the act has had, but if Ontario receives enough yearly to meet the grants to hospitals and charities alone we need not be disappointed. The general verdict is that the succession tax is a fair expedient of finance and as little burdensome as any scheme that could be devised.

Referring to the cost of education Mr. Harcourt stated that the policy of that department was thoroughness in the rudimentary branches, four out of every five dollars of educational expenditure being expended on Public schools. He also congratulated the Government and the Province in possessing so many facilities for the professional training of teachers.

Public Institutions.

In the maintenance of public institutions $818,435 had been expended. This was an increase, it was true, but this was to a certain extent uncontrollable and automatic. In the last seven years the patients in these institutions had increased 31½ per cent., but with the building of the new asylums at Brockville and Mimico the Province would have overtaken its present needs. Mr. Harcourt then quoted statistics showing the ratio of insane people in England, Ireland, United States and Ontario, which last, he stated, had the smallest proportion, with an average of one insane person to every 476 mentally sound. The number of patients in the deaf and dumb and blind asylums, he was glad to say, was stationary and even decreasing. After giving some statistics with reference to the Agricultural Department Mr. Harcourt concluded with a panegyric on the new buildings, on the integrity of the Commissioner of Public Works for putting none of the appropriation in his own pocket, and on the sterling qualities of the Premier, who has so long administered Ontario's affairs.

In the estimates submitted by Mr. Harcourt for 1893 the sum of $1,734,000 is mentioned as the probable receipts from timber licenses, $178,700 from public institutions and $300,000 from licenses.

Mr. Clancy's Reply.

Figures are always monotonous and Mr. Clancy's address necessarily bristled with these thought tangles. Mr. Meredith was in his place in the evening. Mr. Clancy's line of attack was the comparing of the expenditure of the present with 10 or 20 years ago, to the evident disparagement of the former. Taking '73 and '83 as his mile posts Mr. Clancy stated that in that decade the total expenditure of the Province had increased some 2½ per cent—a reasonable and natural increase—but from '83 to '92 the increase had been 34 per cent. This increase, he pointed out, was entirely disproportionate to the natural enlargement of the business of the Province. He then went industriously through all the Government departments, dissecting comparatively the detailed expenditure of each in his three criterion years, and in all cases accusing his honorable friends of making the worse appear the better reason. He was especially severe on the maintenance cost of the Agricultural College, Guelph, which, with an increased outlay for apparatus and salaries, had nevertheless decreased in attendance and results. The policy of the Education Department in increasing the expenditure for higher education for the few came in for a scathing.

He pointed out that while the expenditure for higher education in high schools and collegiate institutes had increased that during the last ten years there had been no enlargement of the grants to the public schools, which were by far the more important. Too much attention was being paid to the æsthetics and too little to the foundation of education.

Colonization Roads.

On the subject of colonization roads Mr. Clancy spoke at some length. These, he said, were in many cases a useless and extravagant expenditure. The roads were built in districts where they were unused and where there was no prospect of their being used for some time.

The timber policy of the Government was improvident in denuding the lands of timber wealth that was daily increasing in value. It was spending the capital of the province. Although the Government argued that such cleared land was valuable for settlement purposes, they did not support their contention by any extensive free grants to settlers. The sales were not conducted as they should be, and the timber lands were disposed of at ridiculously small prices to those whose political influence would count most.

The liquor licensing system was only one instance of the centralization of power in the Government's hands. This Mr. Clancy characterized as an infringement on both the power and revenue of the municipalities. There was a growing indignation among the municipalities that the revenue from this source should go into the provincial money box instead of into their own.

The Provincial Treasurer had not said much about those outstanding accounts of Ontario's with Quebec and the Dominion. His manipulation of this matter Mr. Clancy indicted as a glaring piece of financial jugglery.

Then Mr. Clancy took up the matter of Government patronage and appointments. He criticised the creation of a Minister of Agriculture, which office he stated might have been covered by some other of the over-paid and under-worked departments. To find places for urgent friends the Government had created a variety of public offices with no other reason than political exigency.

Mr. Clancy closed a two hours' speech by indulging in a trenchant review of a campaign pamphlet, entitled "Twenty Years of Honest Government." The said honest Government was Sir Oliver Mowat's, to which the speaker took most vigorous exception.

It was 10 o'clock when E. J. Davis, North York, rose to make a few remarks in reply to Mr. Clancy. He talked for half an hour, at the end of which time Mr. Whitney moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Davis congratulated himself and the Government that Mr. Clancy had made no charge of embezzlement against the Ministers of the Crown, nor any specific charge of unnecessary expenditure. He defended the timber policy of the Government, and cited the late N. G. Bigelow's remark, that one settler was worth six lumbermen. He denied that there was any sentiment, in his municipality at least, against the license system. If Mr. Clancy would include the grants to poor schools, which were certainly public, his statement that the public school grants had not been increased would be untrue. He repudiated the charges that there was any recklessness in the distribution of public offices. As for those accounts between Ontario, Quebec and the Dominion, there was a conference going on between the three interested parties, and a speedy arbitration would soon settle the matter. He alluded to the succession tax as a beneficial measure, and stated that the financial statement, as presented by Mr. Harcourt, was encouraging and hopeful to farmers, business men, manufacturers and in fact all classes.

Notices of Motion.

Mr. Clancy—Resolution that in the opinion of this House the practice which prevails of making living and other allowances, in addition to their salaries, to officers employed in the public institutions, is objectionable in principle, unsatisfactory in practice and has led to abuse and extravagance and ought to be discontinued and if and where the salaries are without such allowances inadequate, additions should be made to them and the full amount of the remuneration of the officer be voted by the House and appear in the public accounts.

Mr. Preston—Return showing the dates of all crown timber sales from 1871 to 1892, inclusive, as follows: The date of sale, the number and extent of the different timber berths in square miles and the prices obtained at each such sale per square mile.

A Liberal Caucus.

The Liberal members held a caucus yesterday afternoon, and appointed a nominating committee to select the delegates to the coming Reform convention at Ottawa. The committee will report to-day.

They Want a Subsidy.

The Commercial Mining Company of Algoma will wait on the Attorney-General at 2 o'clock this afternoon and ask for a subsidy to enable them to erect a customs smelter in the District of Algoma and Nipissing. The proposed smelter will cost $300,000 and the company ask for a bonus of one-half that amount.

RE-ARMING THE MILITIA.

Martini Rifles To Be Called In and Reissued With Metford Barrels.

OTTAWA, April 11.—It is learned that it is the intention of the Militia Department to convert the Martini rifles, which it is proposed to call in at an early date, into the "Martini-Metford." That is, that the Metford barrel will be placed upon the Martini stock and action. The new barrel is the same as that with which, in combination with the Lee action and magazine, some of the English regulars are armed. Some cavalry corps in England have also had their carbines changed into Martini-Metford. A Lee-Metford rifle was tested at a D.R.A. meeting on the Rideau range two years ago.

MR. LANE LOST HIS GRIP.

A Canadian Tourist Encounters an Adroit New York Thief.

NEW YORK, April 11.—Guileless Michael Lane arrived in New York yesterday from Canada on his way to Philadelphia. In his satchel he had property worth about $40. In the waiting room at Desbrosses-street ferry he laid the satchel down for a moment while he lighted a cigar.

At this juncture, Charles Colwell, who has several aliases, accosted Lane, and after a chat the two adjourned to a restaurant. Before their meal was finished Colwell excused himself for a moment and vanished. Then Lane missed his valise. He could not find it where he had left it at the ferry and appealed to the police. The officers found the valise in Colwell's possession last night in South Fifth-avenue, and locked up both at the Prince-street station.

LONG TIME FOR DRINKS.

What the Governor of South Carolina Has to Say.

[Pittsburg Times.]

The State of South Carolina is going into the liquor business, and Governor B. R. Tillman and State Commissioner D. H. Traxler are in Pittsburg looking after a stock of "rye" and bottles. They arrived from Cincinnati last night and registered at the Monongahela, and to-day will call on the leading glass and liquor men, who are to quote prices for the "stocking" of a big state saloon.

In speaking of drinks last night, the Governor of South Carolina said to a Times reporter: "They will be fewer and 'longer between' than ever after July 1, at which time the new dispensary law goes into effect. Then there will not be a licensed saloon in the whole State of South Carolina. The wines, whiskies, beer, and in fact all beverages containing alcohol, will be sold only at state dispensaries by salaried and bonded officials.

"The new law," continued the Governor, "provides that every ounce of alcoholic liquors sold within the State shall be purchased by the State Commissioner, after having been subjected to a test and pronounced pure by the State Chemist. No liquors of any kind can be shipped into the state over the line of any railway or by any common carrier except the package bears a certificate signed by the State Commissioner.

"All liquors are bottled or jugged in packages from one-half pint to five gallons each, at the State dispensary under the direction of the commissioner. These packages are sealed and then distributed to the local dispensaries, one or more of which may be located in any town where a petition for its establishment is signed by a majority of the freehold voters. Any person over 21 years of age not an habitual drunkard can purchase liquors in any amount from half pint to three gallons by signing a written order for the same.

The purchaser need not state for what purpose he wants the liquor. The maximum profit charged by the state is 50 per cent., which is also the maximum profit allowed the legal dispensaries. The first profit goes to the Commonwealth, while the second profit is divided between the county in which the local dispensary is located and the municipality in which the liquor is sold.

"The new law will make a wonderful change in the State, and I think that it will finally be universally adopted as a solution of the liquor problem. For 40 years it has been in successful operation in Norway.

"In Charleston there are now 280 saloons where, after July 1, there will be but ten dispensaries. Even the drug stores are prohibited from selling any spirits except alcohol, and even that must be purchased from the state, and a sworn account of every ounce used must be made at the end of each month, stating just what medicines the article was used to prepare. There are six prohibition counties in South Carolina, where there will be no dispensaries."

Avoid bay water. To quench your thirst use Adams' Tutti Frutti. See that Tutti Frutti is on each 5 cent package.

Wish the Debate Closed.

LONDON, April 11.—Many Liberal members of Parliament have signed a paper requesting Mr. Gladstone to move on Friday the closure of the debate on the second reading of the Home Rule bill.

Steel Plate Hot Air Furnaces for heat, durability and economy. Wheeler & Bain, King East.

TERRIBLE MINE CALAMITY.

HUNDREDS ENTOMBED IN A BURNING WELSH COLLIERY.

Fire Damp Ignited By a Spark From the Engine—The Flames Imprison Three Hundred Miners—Seventy Escape After Fearful Struggles—Rescuers Secure Five of the Dead.

LONDON, April 11.—A frightful mining accident occurred to-day at Pontypridd, Wales. A spark from an engine ignited the gas in the coal pit near Pontypridd and caused the gas to explode.

Three hundred miners are entombed in the mine. The engine house is in flames and there is the greatest fear that hundreds may have perished.

The rescuers who went down were driven back without being able to bring up more than five of the dead, and the fate of the other miners is in doubt.

The most agonizing scenes are witnessed, and throngs of men, women and children, relatives of those below, are crowded about the mouth of the coal pit.

Later advices do not lighten the calamity and the worst fate is feared for hundreds of miners.

The pit is worked in sections, one seam being above another. The fire resulting from the explosion broke out in the eastern section. From this section 70 men succeeded in reaching the surface through the main dip working, led by a miner who knew the roads. They had a terrible struggle to get out, forcing their way through fire and smoke. Many of them were scorched and all were terribly exhausted when they emerged to safety. They brought no good news as to those who were left behind, but on the contrary expressed their dread that all those in the mine had perished.

Later—At 9.45 o'clock this evening it is still impossible to obtain more than meagre details of the accident.

The first alarm was given at 2.30 o'clock this afternoon. The sparks from an engine in a four-foot seam are supposed to have ignited a pile of cotton waste. The flames spread to the woodwork and finally ignited the inflammable gas in the seam. Flames and smoke gave to the 200 men at work in the seam the first warning of approaching danger. Comparatively few of the men who were in the seam at the time of the explosion reached the landing.

A rescuing party was formed by the pit surveyor. The party got as far as the landing at the seam where the fire started, but were driven back almost immediately by the dense smoke issuing from the seam. After a half hour's rest they went down again and forced their way 10 yards into the workings. They found four dead bodies, which they brought back with them. Attempts to go further into the workings were vain, as the woodwork was burning and large masses of ruins were falling incessantly from the roof. One of the rescue party who ventured too far was killed.

The men who saved themselves immediately after the fire broke out were too much confused and frightened to observe the positions of their fellow-workmen. They are unable to give any clear account of the distribution of the miners, and the work of rescue must therefore proceed under all difficulties of uncertainty. There are numerous volunteers to undertake the work of rescue as soon as it becomes possible. At present the flames and smoke would render any such undertaking vain.

Hand grenades, barrels of water and pipes attached to fire engines on the surface are being used to extinguish the flames in the mine. In two sections of the mine the fire was put out. The extinction of the flames has been followed in each case, however, by the accumulation of gas, and it is feared that explosions may follow shortly.

Another attempt to enter the seam in which the fire started has proved resultless. Although the rescue party saw six dead bodies they were prevented by smoke and heat from reaching them. Where the fire had been extinguished they were also unable to make any progress, as they could not remain in the foul atmosphere.

The number of men still in the mine cannot be ascertained. There is a little hope that some of them found refuge at such a distance from the burning sections that they are still alive.

At midnight the fire was again burning in all sections of the mine near the shaft. The service pipe which was used to pour water into the mine has burst. The difficulties in the way of quenching the fire have increased greatly, and the rescue of the miners below is regarded as hopeless.

DYING BY HUNDREDS IN RUSSIA.

In Some Villages People Have Stopped Trying to Bury All the Dead.

MOSCOW, April 11.—The famine in the European part of the Government of Perm is worse than ever before. The poor are dying by hundreds.

In the smaller villages the people have ceased trying to bury all the bodies. Relatives of the dead are often too weak to provide burial for their dead, and so leave the bodies lying on the roofs of the houses.

Despite the severity of the law against secret societies and the prohibition of the collection of funds save through officials private associations are forming to secure food and clothes for the sufferers. These associations, although quite inadequate, give the only relief which the peasants can obtain.

The State Committee has been dissolved and the provincial authorities have taken steps to reorganize it.

It is estimated that 252,000,000 pounds of grain would be required to alleviate the distress and keep the peasants in food until the next harvest.

Astor Buys a Duke's Estate.

LONDON, April 11.—William Waldorf Astor has bought the splendid estate of Cliveden, on the banks of the Thames, from the Duke of Westminster. The sum paid is stated to be $1,250,000. Cliveden is at Maidenhead, Berks, and is one of the ancestral seats of the Duke.

Sat in Secret Session.

PARIS, April 11.—The Behring Sea court of arbitration was in session for six hours to-day. The proceedings were strictly private. Even the secretaries were excluded.

Bandages of all description for male and female abdominal supporters in rubber, celluloid, cotton, silk. Suspendatories in 50 different patterns. Elastic hosiery in silk or cotton stockings, knee caps, thigh. Fresh goods in monthly. Crutches, 200 pair to select from. Trusses of all description, 92 varieties of spring trusses. All kinds of syringes. Charles Clothe, Surgical Machinist, 151 King-street west, Toronto. 6

Coach Courtney to Go To California.

ITHACA, April 11.—Coach Courtney has been engaged by the University of California to coach its crews. He informed a reporter to-night that he would leave for California about the middle of August, as they row there in October. It will not interfere with his coaching the Cornell crews. His compensation is to be quite large.

Another Half Million.

"Board of Trade" Envelopes, and they are better than the last, 85 cents per thousand. H. M. Blight, 51 Yonge-street. 246

WILL STICK TO THEIR LASTS.

Workers in Big Shoe Factories in Toronto to Strike for Just One Day—Difficulty About Wages.

Six hundred shoemakers in the big factories struck yesterday. Two years ago a scale of wages was arranged. The agreement terminated the first of this month. Since then a difficulty had been raised over some minor details of the old scale being changed before a renewal would be agreed to.

The difficulty grew into a big strike yesterday. A conference in the afternoon removed the difficulty.

"To-day the 600 men will resume work," said W. C. Harvey of Harvey & VanNorman last night.

It is understood that the minor details referred to the loss of time consequent upon keeping tan shoes untarnished while handling them in their manufacture, and that the men lost from $1 to $3 a week when changed from work upon black to tan shoes.

SKIPPED TO CANADA.

A Married Couple Take $40,000 of Other People's Money, But Left Their Own Children Behind.

GLOVERSVILLE, N.Y., April 11.—Stewart Skiff, agent for A. E. Weil & Brother, leather dealers, has disappeared. He and his wife left town Sunday, taking with them about $40,000 of the firm's money and deserting their two small children. It is thought they have gone to Canada.

PAUNCEFOTE AND CLEVELAND.

The British Ambassador Presents His Credentials and Exchanges Compliments With President Cleveland.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Sir Julian Pauncefote became dean of the diplomatic corps in Washington this afternoon by virtue of his reception by the President as ambassador from Great Britain. As Sir Julian is the first ambassador from any country to the United States the presentation of his papers to Mr. Cleveland was made a function of more than usual ceremony.

Sir Julian, with Hon. Michael Herbert and the other attaches of the British Embassy, met Secretary Gresham at the State Department shortly before 3 o'clock. All the British representatives were present in court uniform, Sir Julian's coat being of velvet, elaborately trimmed with gold lace.

At 3 o'clock the party proceeded to the White House and at once went to the blue room. Besides Secretary Gresham and the Britons, Assistant Secretary Quincy and Second Assistant Secretary Adee of the State Department were present.

When the President entered the room Sir Julian stepped forward, and presenting his credentials said: "Mr. President, I have the honor to place in your hands a letter from the Queen, my august sovereign, accrediting me as her Ambassador to the United States of America. In raising her representative at Washington to the rank of an ambassador, an act which has met at your hands with gracious and friendly reciprocity, Her Majesty has manifested her constant desire to draw more closely together the bonds which happily unite the two countries.

It has been my privilege to serve Her Majesty for several years as Minister plenipotentiary to the United States, and I venture to tender my grateful acknowledgment of the courteous consideration and kindness which, during the whole of that period, has been extended to me in the discharge of my important functions. In the higher office of ambassador I hope that the same indulgence may be accorded to me, and I assure you that my utmost efforts will be devoted, as in the past to the maintenance and improvement of the relations of friendship and good will which I trust will never cease to subsist between the two countries.

"On the auspicious occasion of your being called upon once more to fill the exalted office of President of the United States, permit sir, respectfully to offer you my sincere wishes for your personal welfare and for the great nation whose mighty interests have been committed to your charge."

In reply, the President said: Mr. Ambassador, it affords me sincere pleasure to receive from your hand the letter of Her Britannic Majesty accrediting you as her ambassador to the United States of America.

On behalf of our Government and people I desire to express the satisfaction with which we interpret the action of Her Majesty in conferring upon her representative at our capital the highest rank known to the diplomatic intercourse of nations as a marked proof of the friendly consideration that tends to draw into the closest amity two peoples having common ties of blood, of speech and of history.

That we fully appreciate and cordially reciprocate this action of Her Majesty is already demonstrated by the prompt elevation of the mission of the United States in England to the same dignity with which yours is invested.

The esteem you have so deservedly won during your residence here as Minister-plenipotentiary, and the agreeable associations it has been the privilege of the officers of this Government to cultivate with you furnishes a pledge that in your new capacity you will in the future, no less than you have the past, efficiently promote the important interests of the two countries, and I beg to assure you that all times you will be met with our earnest co-operation towards strengthening and perpetuating the national friendship now happily existing. Desiring you to convey to Her Majesty the Queen, in my name and in behalf of the people of the United States, our heartfelt wishes for Her Majesty's welfare and for the continued prosperity and peace of the British people, I offer to you, Mr. Ambassador, my hearty personal congratulations."

SOUTHERN BICYCLE RACING.

Zimmerman and Wheeler in Good Form Riding Against the Wind.

SAVANNAH, Ga., April 10.—The second meeting at the Savannah Wheelmen's track was largely attended. With the exception of Zimmerman and Wheeler the entries were all local. There was a high wind and it was impossible to make fine records. Zimmerman and Wheeler accordingly abandoned their intention of establishing Southern records. Zimmerman's best time, though he is in admirable form, was 2.40 for a mile, 1.07 1-5 for one-half and 35 seconds for a quarter. Wheeler's time was: 1 mile, 2.43½; half, 1.08½; quarter, 35 1-5. He is also in fine shape.

The work of local riders was poor. Zimmerman leaves here next Friday for New York, to sail for Europe. He has agreed to race under Savannah Wheelmen's colors while abroad. The interstate meet will be held here the second week in May. Wheeler will probably accompany Zimmerman on his trip to Europe and race there.

Asbestos Cement.

Steamboat owners, engineers, etc., will find it to their advantage to see us regarding covering of boilers, cylinders, pipes, etc. We are prepared to do this work to satisfaction, or will supply cement by barrel. Good quality. Canadian Mineral Wool Co., Ltd., 122 Bay-street, Toronto. 6

THE McGONIGLE MURDER.

ROCQUE, THE MAN HANGED, SAID TO BE INNOCENT.

Two Cumberland Roughs Alleged To Be Guilty and the Truth Came To Light Through a Disagreement Between the Partners In Crime—A Strange Ottawa Story.

OTTAWA, April 11.—Certain parties in this city have spread the rumor of late that Narcisse Rocque, who was hanged at L'Orignal on June 4, 1891, for the ravishing and murder of the two McGonigle girls at Cumberland, was an innocent man. The guilty parties are alleged now to be two residents of the village where the unfortunate victims lived. They were English-speaking roughs and were addicted to drink, so it is said.

Immediately after the tragic affair they left the vicinity and went over to the other side of the Ottawa River, that is to say on the Buckingham side. Here they engaged as miners in the phosphate region, it is reported, and worked together, knowing jointly their terrible secret.

The other day the partners in crime fell out, and one in his passion "peached" on the other, alleging that he himself had been led into committing the diabolical deed through the party he was aggrieved at. Others of their fellow-workers heard this statement, which originated the rumor.

STOLEN FOR HAREMS.

Turks Boldly Kidnap Daughters of Armenian Christians.

LONDON, April 11.—The question of the treatment of the Armenian Christians by the Turks is again assuming importance, and it is reported that Great Britain will propose a conference of the European powers to consider Turkish misrule. It is charged that it is common for Turks to kidnap Christian girls and dispose of them to the owners of harems. If friends of the girls attempt to regain them they are met with the statement that the girls have embraced Mahometanism, and that, as a rule, ends the matter so far as the Armenians are concerned.

The Christians are ridiculed and subjected to gross outrages, and if they object find themselves arrested on trumped-up charges and always found guilty.

Advices from Constantinople show that the British Consuls at Smyrna, Trebizond and other places in Anatolia (Asia Minor) have sent the British Embassy in Constantinople lists containing the names of 1800 Armenians imprisoned on various charges in the several consular jurisdictions.

Some travelers who arrived in Constantinople lately from Asia Minor related a typical instance of the kidnapping by Turks referred to in the foregoing cable despatch. A young Armenian girl was carried off by Musulmans in the town of Marasch itself. Her father, with the aid of his relatives, succeeded, after long inquiries and a protracted search, in discovering the place where the girl was detained, and also the names of the offenders.

Armed with this information he at once lodged a requisition with the local authorities asking for their assistance in recovering his daughter. His surprise was great when the authorities informed him that he had no right to demand the restoration of his daughter to her home, first, because she was not a minor, and secondly, because she had not been carried off at all, but had of her own free will left her home in order to embrace Islamism.

The father thereupon consulted the Armenian bishop, and, by his advice, pointed out to the authorities that under the existing law every Christian girl who adopted the Mussulman faith must make a formal declaration of her conversion before her relatives and the clergy of her former church. He consequently demanded that his daughter should be produced and called upon to make the required profession of faith.

The demand was acceded to, and on the day appointed the bishop, the relatives of the father and many Armenians assembled to see the girl and hear her declaration. The girl was then introduced, dressed in Turkish garments and thickly veiled. She made the prescribed statement, but the father declared that he did not recognize his daughter's voice and insisted that she should unveil.

The authorities, however, replied that to expose the face would be a violation of the Cheri law and directed that the girl should be taken away.

The Armenian citizens were greatly exasperated at this, and vowing vengeance, attacked the Musulmans in charge of the girl.

There was a fierce affray, in which many on both sides were wounded, and the military had great difficulty in restoring quiet. A large number of the Armenians were afterwards imprisoned.

During the riot the Armenian Bishop was terribly maltreated by the Musulman mob. His episcopal hat was filled with filth, and he was then stripped of his clothes and subjected to all kinds of insult and outrage. The mob, however, was still not content, and continued to attack the Armenians for several days, during which the disturbances continued with but little abatement, so that many of the Christians did not dare to open their shops and resume their ordinary vocations.

EARTHQUAKE IN SERVIA

Two Villages Totally Destroyed, But With Small Loss of Life.

NEW YORK, April 11.—The Evening Post special cable from Vienna says Servia suffered most from yesterday's earthquakes, but the loss of life appears small. Two villages in the province of Svilapinace were destroyed.

The chief judge was killed at Jagodina by his house collapsing. It is believed that these earthquakes are a continuation of the recent earthquake in Asia Minor, which was meagrely reported, whereby the town of Malattia with 3000 houses was destroyed and 130 persons perished.

Captain McMahon Dies Suddenly.

OTTAWA, April 11.—A cable despatch received at Rideau Hall announced the sudden death in London of Capt. McMahon, adjutant of the third battalion, Grenadier Guards, who came to Canada as aide-de-camp to His Excellency Lord Stanley of Preston, Governor-General, in 1888, and remained here for about two years. The cause of his death is not known. Ten days ago Lady Stanley saw him in London, and he then appeared to be quite well.

D. A. Macpherson Dead.

OTTAWA, April 11.—D. A. Macpherson, assistant secretary of the Public Works Department, died this morning. Mr. Macpherson had his right arm amputated Sunday on account of an affection of the elbow.

Drink Pure Water.

And no fear of contracting typhoid, scarlet fever or diphtheria. Sprudel, from the celebrated spring at Mt. Clemens, Mich., is acknowledged by leading experts to be the best known mineral water in the world. Every bottle is guaranteed to be put up at the spring. William Mara, sole agent, 79 Yonge-street, third door north of King-street; telephone 1708.

WANTS TO BORROW MONEY.

An Old and Clumsy Fraud Tried Repeatedly on a Well-known Resident of Scarboro.

Mr. James Humphries is the possessor of a considerable quantity of Scarboro real estate and is experiencing in a somewhat unusual manner some of the inconveniences of riches. Some months ago he received a notice from a well-known firm of brokers in this city informing him that his application for a loan had been accepted and asking him to call and sign the necessary mortgage papers. As he had made no application and did not want any loan he called at the brokers' in question, considerably mystified, to find that his name had been forged to the application by an individual who passed himself off as the owner of Mr. Humphries' property. Prompt enquiries were set on foot, but all efforts to find the guilty party were unsuccessful.

Some months later Mr. Humphries had a similar experience and became aware of what was being attempted in very much the same way. Last week it was tried again, and he does not know what morning he may wake up and find his hitherto unencumbered property mortgaged by an individual whom just now Mr. Humphries is exceedingly anxious to meet.

Though frauds of a similar character have been perpetrated it is difficult to see how these clumsy attempts can hope to succeed. Only an entire stranger to the neighborhood could be deceived, as the slightest enquiry would reveal the swindle. At the same time, real estate agents and money-lending corporations should keep a sharp lookout for attempts of this kind.

REJECTED UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.

Belgian Chamber of Deputies Rejects a Motion for a Universal Franchise—Socialists Disappointed.

BRUSSELS, April 11.—The Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 115 to 26 rejected the motion of Deputy Jansen in favor of universal suffrage. The result is a great disappointment to the Socialists.

In consequence of the rejection of the Universal Suffrage Bill by the Chamber of Deputies the General Council of the labor party will at once order a general strike. A thousand Socialists paraded the streets this evening shouting for universal suffrage.

The civil guard was called upon to disperse them. After a slight skirmish the parade was stopped. All the coal miners in the Borwage and the frameries and downpits have quit work.

FILED A CLAIM FOR $42,000.

The Sum N. G. Bigelow's Widow Says She Advanced Him.

The master in chambers yesterday afternoon made an order for the administration of the estate of the late N. G. Bigelow, Q.C. The application was made by the Trusts Corporation of Ontario, the administrators of the estate of the deceased. The estate is estimated to be worth from $35,000 to $40,000, and Mrs. Bigelow (now Mrs. McDougall) has filed a claim for some $42,000 for moneys lent to the deceased and advanced for necessaries and household expenses. The administrators wish the direction of the court as to the disposition to be made of this claim.

The Church of the Messiah Troubles.

Messrs. A. J. Parker, Wigmore, Finch and others, upon whose affidavits an injunction was granted restraining the Rev. Mr. Gillespie from holding the annual vestry meeting of the Church of the Messiah until what is known as the parochial tribunal is restored, have for some days past been under examination before Examiner Gwynne. The action is really a cross-examination on the affidavits of these gentlemen. Proceedings commenced last Friday and were concluded with the examination of Mr. A. J. Parker yesterday afternoon. The cross-questioning was sharp and brisk and conducted by Mr. Barwick of the firm of Moss, Barwick & Franks, acting on behalf of Rev. Mr. Gillespie and the rest of the congregation of the Church of the Messiah. Mr. Meek represented the Wigmore-Parker party and stated yesterday afternoon that his witnesses had remained unshaken in their testimony except in regard to certain small dates which were of no consequence.

Mr. Meek also said that there had been an attempt to bring in the dispute the libel suit now standing between Rev. Mr. Gillespie and Mr. Parker, although it had nothing to do with Wigmore's injunction.

There seems to have been a good deal of dirty linen washed again in Mr. Gwynne's little room and Mr. Parker was called upon to produce his letter book and account books, but at present matters remain in statu quo until the evidence taken by the examiner is placed before the master at Osgoode Hall.

"SUNDAY SPORTING ITEM."

A Splendidly-Illustrated Paper, Brimful of All the Latest Sporting News.

Do you want the brightest and best sporting paper in America? If you do you ought to buy The Philadelphia Sporting Item. All the latest sporting news and gossip fully illustrated and prepared in the most entertaining and interesting manner. The leading sporting editors of America are regular correspondents, including the famous "Macon," "Bantam," "P. J. (Donohue)" and "Slick" and others equally prominent. For sale at John P. McKenna's, eighty Yonge-street. These letters are a great feature and have given The Sporting Item a national reputation.

The Kacheyn Revolt.

RANGOON, April 11.—The Kacheyn revolt, which was supposed to have been crushed, has been revived and is spreading rapidly. The natives attacked the British outpost at Nkrang and were repulsed only after several hours' hard fighting. An expedition is to be sent against the rebels and is being fitted out in Bhamo.

1892, "The Cream of the Havana Crop.

"La Cadena" and "La Flora" brands of cigars are undoubtedly superior in quality and considerably lower in price than any brand imported. Prejudiced smokers will not admit this to be the case. The connoisseur knows it. S. Davis & Sons, Montreal. 120

Fetherstonhaugh & Co., patent solicitors and experts, Bank Commerce Building, Toronto.

Balfour's Extradition Demanded.

BUENOS AYRES, April 11.—The Argentine Times says that Great Britain has demanded the extradition of Jabez Spencer Balfour, the fugitive president of the Liberator Building Society.

It is guaranteed that no one who uses Mt. Clemens Sprudel water regularly will su