THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1886.

The Budget Speech.

Hon. Mr. Sullivan delivered the Budget Speech on Tuesday evening of last week; we trust, in our next issue, to be enabled to lay it before our readers in full. It will be found to be a very clear and comprehensive review of the financial situation of the Province, such as, we think, must convince the people that the Island is not only not irretrievably involved, as the Opposition would have them believe, but that its position is vastly improved compared with the period when the present Government assumed the reins of power.

So frequently have we instituted comparisons between the respective administrations of Messrs. Davies and Sullivan, that it is possible some will say that what Mr. Davies did is a thing of the past, and that Mr. Sullivan and his colleagues should be judged by their own deeds. Doubtless this is very true; but we must remember that the present Opposition, who are clamoring for power, are the very men who supported Mr. Davies in his grinding taxation and reckless extravagance. They share with him the responsibility of his acts, and were they returned to office to-morrow, it is only reasonable to expect that they would revert to that policy which, nine years ago, they initiated—it is hardly probable that, after their unceasing denunciation of the policy of the present Government, they would adopt it.

But Mr. Sullivan and his colleagues are perfectly willing to be judged by their acts of the past seven years; there is nothing in their record, during that period, that should cause them to fear the verdict of an impartial electorate. Their first act, upon coming into office, was to institute a system of rigid economy, commencing it with the reduction of their own salaries as heads of Departments, and continuing it down through the various grades of officials, amalgamating offices where prudent, abolishing others where possible, extending their retrenchment through every branch of the Public Service where a saving could be effected. The repeal of the Assessment Act was a step not likely to meet with much objection on the part of those to whom it had proved so obnoxious, while the attempt to abolish the Legislative Council, although unsuccessful, was another proof that they were anxious to curtail expenditure in every direction. They not only applied themselves to the collection of sundry amounts which they satisfied the General Government should have been paid out of the Dominion Exchequer and not from the Provincial Treasury, but they arranged that, forever here after, the Province should be relieved from the maintenance of certain Public Works which had annually cost from $12,000 to $20,000. The amounts which have been so received aggregate over $100,000, or equal to about three years' taxation! Where was Mr. Davies that he did not look after these matters during the two and one-half years of his reign? Busily engaged earning (?) his $15,000 on the Halifax Fishery Commission.

From figures quoted by Mr. Sullivan in his speech, we observe that the average expenditure during Mr. Davies' administration was $332,882 and that during the past six years it has been $263,572, or an average annual decrease of $69,310. But as is well known the cost of Education has rapidly increased within the last seven years. The average annual amount paid during Mr. Davies' administration was $73,181—for the last six years it has been $100,968, or $27,786 of an increase. In making a comparison of the expenditures of the two Governments this item should be taken into consideration, for had Mr. Davies paid as much for Education as the present Administration have, his annual expenditure would have footed up nearly $100,000 a year more than that of Mr. Sullivan.

Had the Davies Government remained in power and repealed the Assessment Act at the close of 1881, as the present Government did, their average annual receipts for the past six years would have been $255,851! At their annual average expenditure of $360,669, their total deficit at the end of 1885 would have been $628,904. There would have been a deplorable condition of affairs, indeed. On the other hand, had they continued the Assessment Act and collected $30,265 a year, they would in the six years have received $181,590. From this, however, must be deducted $57,711 which the present Government collected, and therefore $123,879 would represent the increase of taxation under a Davies Government. How far would this latter sum go to decrease the enormous deficit of $628,904—it would reduce it to $505,025—bad enough still.

Mr. Sullivan was happy in his references to the increasing prosperity of the people, and the improved condition of the Island generally. He referred to the fact that on the 30th June, 1876, the deposits in the Savings Bank amounted to about $500,000, while on 30th April last they were $2,045,844, or an increase of over a million and a half! Instead of wringing taxes out of the people at a cost of some 18 per cent., the present Government have very wisely allowed the money to remain in the farmers' pockets, and applied themselves to the collection of debts due the Province. As we have already shown, the amount so collected is equal to about three years' taxation. When the Davies Government went out of power they had to their credit at Ottawa $906,872—that amount is now $1,027,896, or an increase of $121,024. The value of the other Assets of the Province in Public Buildings, Stock Farm, Ferry Boats, &c., is not clearly defined, but is estimated to approximate three millions of dollars. Mr. Sullivan also referred to the improved state of the Stock Farm, as well as to the increased interest which of late has been taken in the Exhibitions.

Having reviewed the financial situation of the Province, Mr. Sullivan proceeded to shew the ways and means by which he proposed to meet the expenditure for the current year, which he estimated at $277,287. This amount is larger than the expenditure for last year, owing to the fact that the Government will have to pay a considerable sum for expenses incurred on account of the small-pox epidemic, as well as on account of increased appropriation for repairs to the Provincial Building and the erection of a new Court House in Georgetown. The receipts from the ordinary sources of revenue Mr. Sullivan estimated at $235,727, and he further stated that the Government anticipated receiving from the Dominion Government the sum of $125,000, which would pay off all the indebtedness and leave a surplus besides. We observe that the Leader of the Opposition scouted the idea of Mr. Sullivan building his estimates upon the expectation of receiving any such amount, but it is not so very long ago since Mr. Yeo used the same language regarding the sum which the Government estimated receiving for the piers. The Opposition and their press ridiculed the mission of the Government delegation to Ottawa upon the subject and tried, by every means in their power, to throw obstacles in the way of a satisfactory disposition of the question. Although not yet finally settled, we know that a very large amount has been received for those piers, as well as the Province relieved of their future maintenance. From their experience of the last seven years, we think the people can rely upon the present Administration that they would not lend themselves to deceit and would not place in their estimates an amount which they had not a strong and well founded expectation of receiving.

We do not think that any reasonable man will be found to say that the affairs of the Province are not as well managed now as they were in 1877-8. Large sums are spent for Education and on Public Works—every claim against the Government is settled promptly; there is no Suspense Account to be found, neither are there any little plaintive notes in circulation, begging the Supervisors to draw slowly. Neither are there any tokens of discontent among the people; could as much be said seven or eight years ago? No, but from East Point to North Cape the people were unanimous in proclaiming their dissatisfaction and disgust with the Administration of which Mr. L. H. Davies was the Leader, and of which the present Opposition were the devoted followers and supporters. Meetings there have been at various intervals since the last General Election—meetings at the polls, where the people had the opportunity, in a constitutional way, of expressing their opinions, and at every one of these the Government came off victorious, rescuing at least two seats from the Opposition. The Opposition may indulge in the cheerful pastime of whistling to keep up their courage—no one can object to such innocent amusement.

Mr. L. H. Davies' Confusion.

Evidently the Grits think there is a prospect of a General Dominion Election, and having no policy to go to the country with, they are endeavoring to make capital by charging the Government and its employes with all and every sort of corruption and villainy. Our readers will remember the discovery which the Grits made early in the winter, and which they denominated the "Inch Arran Scandal," wherein they asserted that Mr. Schreiber and other officials of the Intercolonial Railway, who were known to have an interest in the Inch Arran Hotel, a favorite summer resort at Dalhousie, N. B., had passed their servants over the line free. The management of the Intercolonial promptly denied the charge, yet it was reiterated in the Grit press with the most impudent assurance. Mr. L. H. Davies, upon his arrival in Ottawa, seems immediately to have taken this "scandal" under his protection, resolved to work it for all it was worth. An investigation took place the other day, and a number of the Intercolonial officials examined, which resulted in the total collapse of the whole affair. The story is so well told by the correspondent of the Montreal *Gazette*, that we take leave to transfer it to our columns:

"The sudden collapse this morning in the public accounts committee of Mr. Davies' charge in connection with the granting of tickets over the Intercolonial Railway to persons proceeding to the Inch Arran Hotel, has been the subject of great merriment among Ministerialists, and the very fresh member from Prince Edward Island has been chaffed unmercifully by his friends at his discovery of a mare's nest. 'That's a pretty thin scandal,' said one Ontario Grit, as he emerged from the committee room. 'Did you hear the fall? asked another of a fellow member of the Opposition, referring facetiously to the collapse of the case, and, indeed, a more utter failure than Mr. Davies made could not be imagined. He labored, it is true, under the disadvantage of having undertaken to champion the cause of a railway clerk dismissed for drunkenness, among other causes, and who sought to revenge himself by uttering calumnies against the chief officials of the Intercolonial, but he thoroughly deserved the ignominy with which he has covered himself because of the manner in which he conducted the case. He acted throughout as a lawyer for the prosecution, not as a member of Parliament, striving to bring out evidence against prominent Government employes that would reflect on the Conservative Party, badgering Mr. Robinson, whose evidence exposed the untruthfulness of the charges, putting words in witnesses' mouths which they did not utter, and generally conducting himself as a police court lawyer, and a very undignified one at that. Much of Mr. Davies' usefulness as a parliamentarian is destroyed by his intense partisanship which betrays itself on every occasion and he has been particularly conspicuous in the proceedings of the Privileges and Elections Committee and in the Public Accounts Committee. The desire of a member of Parliament one would suppose would be to have prominent Government railway officials cleared of even a suspicion of wrong-doing in the discharge of their duties, yet Mr. Davies, by most unfair treatment of witnesses and distortion of language, appears to aim only at blackening the character of those he deems politically hostile. The evidence of Mr. Robinson, the Intercolonial Railway Agent at Montreal, disclosed all the facts of the case, which are briefly these: That in October, 1884, a free ticket was issued to a journalist, who visited summer resorts on the Intercolonial Railway for the purpose of making their attractions known, that four half-rate tickets were, the same month issued to servants of the Inch Arran Hotel, and that in June and July, 1885, some twenty half-rate tickets were also issued to servants of the house. This concession was made by the Grand Trunk Railway also, and has been granted from time to time by the Intercolonial since 1876, the servants of the St. Lawrence Hall at Cacouna always obtaining a half fare. At the close of the season the account is presented by the railway company to the hotel, and paid, just as was done in this case, the money being paid over in the beginning of December last. It will be readily understood that the interest of the Intercolonial is promoted by the establishment of hotels at the watering-places along the line and that everything should be done to encourage the erection of these. Railways in the United States are in the habit of building hotels and operating them in order to attract and secure travel, and in Canada the practice of Railway and Steamship Companies has always been to grant out rates to employes of these summer hotels, but not a single tourist to Dalhousie and Inch Arran Hotel obtained a free ticket or concession of any kind over the Intercolonial!"

It is a pity that Mr. Davies could not find something else to do than make a fool of himself in matters which do not concern him. Where were the members from the Mainland who are more interested in the management of the Intercolonial? Let them do the dirty work, for Mr. Davies' share in the proceedings does not seem to have reflected much credit upon him.

But that is not the only scandal which has "exploded." A Mr. Landerkin, an Ontario Grit seems to have a like *penchant* with Mr. Davies for washing dirty linen. He undertook in the course of a speech the other day to accuse several members of Parliament of being interested in Railways for which they sought or were receiving aid from the Government. The following is an extract from his speech:

Mr. Landerkin—For instance, there was the hon. Minister of Customs, he being a Director of the North Hastings Railway.

Mr. Bowell—I have had nothing to do with it for eight years.

Mr. Landrekin said there was also the Member for Centre Toronto (Mr. Hay), for whom he had a great respect, because he was brought up a good Reformer. He was a Director of the Credit Valley Railway.

Mr. Hay—That was a long time before I was a Member of Parliament.

Mr. Landerkin, continuing, said there was the hon. Member from Richmond and Wolfe, he was a Director of the International Railway, and obtained $107,000 from the Government in one year.

Mr. Ives—I don't want to spoil your story, but I never was a Director of the International.

Mr. Landerkin—Then there was the hon. Member for Ottawa, President of the Gatineau Valley railway. He got $320,000.

Mr. Mackintosh—I never got a dollar.

Thus are the scandals which the Grits diligently work up during the recess, only to be exploded when a Parliamentary investigation takes place.

Cartwright and Canadian Prosperity.

From time to time Mr. Blake has been vainly besought by his followers in the Canadian Parliament to formulate a definite platform by which they may be led out of the wilderness into the promised land. They murmured against Mr. Mackenzie, and set up the mighty Blake as an idol in the place of their first guide. But matters seem not to have improved much. The Grit host are again murmuring, and the demand for a platform has been loud and urgent, so loud, indeed that Mr. Blake was in imminent danger at one time of having a "notice to quit" served upon him. The charge brought against the Liberal leaders of having no policy is familiar to all. Although we think Mr. Blake's Grit friends have good grounds for complaint, and are deserving of sympathy, still we think the Liberal leader is judged too harshly. However unsettled he may be in reference to the great and important questions that force themselves to the front, there is one point on which he and his lieutenants are always consistent and that is when they come to speak of the decline of Canadian prosperity. Mr. Blake may take a solo on the Landry motion and kindred subjects, but when he sings in a gloomy strain of the decadence of the Dominion, and of the dark future which is to be the terrible fate of this infant country, then is it that the sad refrain is swelled by the united and powerful chorus of Grit voices. To decry the credit of Canada, and lower it in the estimation of the world is the congenial employment of Grit public men—from Sir Richard Cartwright down to our own local celebrity, Mr. Farquharson, which is quite an extensive range. It will be thus seen that Mr. Blake and his *aides-de-camp* have really a common platform, which, narrow though it be, must shield them from the charge so often made against them. If among Grit politicians anyone is to get any special credit for the construction of this peculiar platform, we think the palm should be awarded without hesitation to the gentleman whose name we have coupled above with that of Mr. Farquharson.

No man in all Canada has done more to injure this country in the eyes of the world than Sir Richard Cartwright. Either in office or out of office he is true to himself. How he jeopardized the credit of the country when he had its finances under his control is a matter of history, over which future historians of Canada will at least have no controversy, so unmistakably has the fact impressed itself upon the minds of all. Where anyone else, not blinded by stupidity or passion can see nothing but growth, and prosperity and inspiring hope for the future, Sir Richard sees only ruin and decay, and a future which would cause the most courageous to quail, yet we are sagely informed by those who look up to this wonder of Canadian public life that no financier superior to him exists within the wide bounds of the Dominion. It is indeed a humiliating statement for any Canadian to make. These same admirers pronounce his financial criticisms something which has been unsurpassed and that it is a fearful thing to contemplate, that there is no adversary worthy to confront one so eminent in the Department of Finance. In wild and extravagant statements and reckless assertions reviling the name of Canada and lauding to the skies that of other countries, we acknowledge that no Grit politician can approach him. It is a field peculiarly his own. He has of course many imitators, but their efforts lack the finished excellence of the Knight of the double shield. It is needless to remark that in Canada where he is well known he is powerless for evil, but it is not so abroad. In foreign countries to which his utterances through the medium of the press may find access, his denunciations of Canada may make some impression, and of the truth of this observation we have before us some evidence.

In the *Herald* of Los Angelos, California, of a recent date, there was published an article headed, "Canada and California." The writer was replying to an article in the Toronto *News* dealing with a writer who had attacked the climate and condition of Canada, and instituted comparisons between Los Angelos and Canada not at all complimentary to the latter. The *Herald* writes thus:

"It may be possible that a letter written by a gentleman in Canada, whose home had been turned into an hospital by the execrable and unhealthy climate of that country, to an intimate friend who was enjoying the sunlight of Los Angelos, would draw such strong contrasts between the two that a Canadian ignorant of California would pronounce them exaggerated. We receive hundreds of letters from parties in Canada condemning the climate much more bitterly than did Mr. Freeman; and many of the letters from farmers assure us that it is almost impossible for the average farmer to make both ends meet. It has very often happened that we have been able to discover in the very columns of papers sent to us containing attacks upon California, and praise of some frozen Eastern locality evidence to convict the writer of wilful falsehood. We know a good deal about the Canadian climate and the Canadians, but we let their own papers tell their own story, and let us see how the Canadians themselves compare their prosperity with ours. The Toronto *Globe* of 31st March contains the following speech of Sir Richard Cartwright in the Canadian House of Commons on the Budget on the preceding day."

Here follows the speech of Sir Richard on the Budget, which the daring projector in Parliament of the Inch Arran Scandal is industriously circulating in this constituency. It is enough to say that it is a speech admirably suited to serve the purpose of the Californian editor. Thus we see that a paper published by the distant waters of the Pacific, in the valley of Los Angelos, has a faithful ally in the great Grit financier in making a false and malicious attack on the climate, the social condition of its people, and on the prosperity of Canada, impudently asserting that its farmers "cannot make both ends meet." It is to be remembered that the weapon used for this purpose is the identical speech, over which the rank and file of the Grit party from Sarnia to East Point are shedding tears of joy pronouncing its author worthy of a very high place in the temple of fame, and lamenting that there is not in Parliament anyone with even the most mediocre talents to face so lofty a genius. We do not know if the average Grit voter is so submissively humble as to patiently bear these mud-balls which the Good Sir Richard has kindly and patriotically prepared for the Los Angelos editor to fling at him and Canadian farmers who cannot make both ends meet. If he is then we can only say that his humility must be of the most colossal description.

The barkentine *Brema*, owned by Peake Bros. & Co., arrived here on Monday.

Grit Obstruction.

True to the character the party bears all over the Dominion, the Grits of this Province have recently been trying on their little game of obstruction. This is no unusual thing for them—they attempt it at every opportunity. From the time when, in 1873, Mr David Laird and his associates endeavored to prevent Messrs Pope, Haviland and Howlan from securing better terms of Union, down to the period when the same gentlemen sneered at the efforts of the Government to obtain a refund for the Piers, their record has been the same. It is not for the good of the country that their peculiar tactics are employed, but in their own selfish interests.

The policy the present Government have enunciated and put into practice is to conduct affairs with the strictest economy, so as to avoid taxation, and to assist them in doing so, they have applied themselves to the collection of moneys due the Province. In this course of action they have been eminently successful, having collected since their accession to power over $100,000, equivalent to some three years taxation.

But the great minds of the Opposition would scorn to grovel hunting up such insignficant trifles—they deal only in figures and large ones at that. Put on taxation, they say; that is the only way of securing a revenue—you never can be sure of receiving these sums which you claim. The Government, however, consider that it is their first duty to collect what they can of the claims which they have against the Dominion Government, and of course the Opposition obstruct them in so doing. Last week the following resolution, in amendment to the motion to go into Committee of Supply was moved from the Opposition side of the House.

"*Whereas*, A delegation of two members of the Executive Council have lately visited London, for the purpose of supporting the address of the branches of this Legislature to Her Majesty the Queen, on the subject of the non-fulfilment of the terms of union in respect to winter communication by the Dominion of Canada;

"*And Whereas*, By the despatches and other documents laid on the table of this House, and from information imparted by the said delegates on this subject, there is no promise or assurance given on the part of the Dominion Government that any payment will be made to this Province as consideration for the non-fulfilment of said terms in the past;

"*Therefore Resolved*, That this House is of opinion that, in providing 'ways and means' for the expenditure of this Province for the current year, the Government is not justified in calculating upon $125,000 being received from the Dominion during the present year; and this House protests against the Government's accepting any monetary consideration in lieu of the non-fulfilment for the future of the terms of confederation by the Dominion Government, without first submitting any offer which may be made on this subject to the people at the polls."

What authority, we ask, had the Opposition for assuming that the Government intended accepting any monetary consideration in lieu of the non-fulfilment, for the future, of the Terms of Confederation by the Dominion Government? Is any hint of it to be found in the documents submitted by the Delegates? None, whatever. But their little game did not work. An amendment moved by a supporter of the Government was carried, which demonstrated that the administration enjoys the entire confidence of its supporters who believe in their ability to carry out honestly what they engage to do. That amendment was as follows:

"That all after the first word 'that' be struck out, and the following substituted in lieu thereof: It is resolved as the opinion of this House that the Government of this Province should insist that the Dominion of Canada carry out that part of the terms of confederation which guarantees that efficient steam service, winter and summer, for the conveyance of mails and passengers, be established and maintained between this Island and the mainland; and if the Federal Government fail to undertake and complete such a work as will fulfil the terms of union in the particular mentioned, that a sufficient consideration in lieu thereof be secured to this Province, such consideration, if intended as full compensation for the past, and as far as it shall apply to the future, to be subject to the approval of the people of this Province, constitutionally obtained;

"And it is further resolved that this House do now resolve itself into committee of the whole House to consider of the supply granted to Her Majesty."

It will thus be seen what the policy of the Government is in the matter of the fulfilment of that part of the Terms of Confederation which relates to Steam Communication. They are to *insist* upon the Dominion Government carrying out its guarantee, and in the event of their failing to do so, and of any indemnity being offered the Island in *full* compensation for the past, and *affecting the future*, it shall be accepted subject to the approval of the people of this Province constitutionally obtained. There need now be no alarm that the Government intend to sell our right to continuous steam communication for a "mess of pottage," as one of the Opposition members feared.

But the Opposition were not content. Although assured that the Government would preserve the Island's rights inviolate, they affected to fear that it was the intention to draw from Capital Account to supplement the revenue for the current year, and with a view to further obstruction, they yesterday moved the following resolution in amendment to the motion to go into Committee of Supply:—

That in the opinion of this House the Government of this Province should not, without first obtaining the consent of this House, by resolution therefor, apply to or accept from the Federal Government any part of the balance standing to the credit of the debt account of the Province, in the public accounts of the Dominion of Canada, excepting any part of the amount available for the payment of proprietary lands, should any be purchased by the Government of the Province.

To the foregoing an amendment was moved from the Government side of the House, and carried in the following words:—

"That all after the first word 'that' be struck out, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

"It is resolved that this House has confidence in the administration of affairs by the present Government, and is satisfied that the ministry will continue to collect from the Dominion the amount claimed by this Province.

"And it is further resolved that this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House for the further consideration of a supply granted to Her Majesty."

We observe that the *Patriot* remarks that, on this amendment, the Government narrowly escaped defeat, the vote being 14 to 12. It takes a small thing to please our contemporary; why has the *Patriot* not the honesty to tell the truth and say that three of the Government's supporters were absent, viz.: Messrs. Prowse, Bentley and John McLean, and that, had they been present, the full strength of the Government would have been represented. Had the Opposition gained any votes, the *Patriot* might afford to bounce, but the fact is that they are weaker now by two votes than they were two years ago.

What the next obstructive move on the part of the Opposition will be remains to be seen.

Senator Howlan Stands Up for the Island.

A Journal issued in Toronto—the *Railway Life*—having published an article deprecating the proposed subway and belittling the importance of the Island, Senator Howlan rejoined in the following spirited letter, which it gives us much pleasure in transferring to our columns:

To the Editor of the Railway Life, Toronto.

Dear Sir,—My attention has been called to an article in your issue of the 29th ult., headed "Communication with Prince Edward Island."

There are many erroneous statements contained therein, which, no doubt, arise from want of information on the subject.

The comparison of its population with Toronto is as entirely beside the question as if you were to compare London with any of the Counties in England having representation in the House of Commons.

You state the whole export of the Island is less than a million of dollars. In 1872—one year prior to its entry into Confederation, the export exceeded two, and is now estimated at four millions.

Again you state "that it receives in one way and another aid from the Dominion Government amounting in the aggregate to many times the amount of its contributions to the Exchequer, &c." In this you are entirely incorrect, as the Island pays the Dominion some $276,000 yearly, more than it receives, the details of which may be found in the enclosure accompanying this.

P. E. Island is not claiming anything more than was guaranteed her by the Terms of Confederation under which she entered the Dominion, namely, "Efficient steam service for the conveyance of mails and passengers to be established and maintained between the Island and the Dominion, winter and summer, thus placing the Island in continuous communication with the Intercolonial Railway and the railway system of the Dominion."

She did not make these terms; they were submitted to her for her approval in 1869. She did not accept them until 1873, during which time they were repeated over and over again, and the faith of the Dominion pledged that they would be faithfully carried out.

Referring to our Island Railway, you are pleased to say: "The Dominion Government already supplies the Island with a Railway." Such is not the case, as the Island built and paid for this railway.

Your sneers at this Province as being the most insignificant of the Dominion are unworthy, as its City of Charlottetown was the cradle of Confederation. Besides this, she is one of the best provinces in the Dominion, whilst in point of education her people stand second to none.

Referring to the Subway you say the distance is *ten* miles—whereas it is only *seven*. Again, that it has by no means been demonstrated that the idea is feasible, and there are strong grounds for believing that the engineering difficulties are almost insurmountable.

In this you are as incorrect as in your other statements. Such experienced and distinguished Engineers as Walter Shanley, A. L. Light, Sanford Fleming, and others of this Dominion, General Newton, Chief Engineer of the U. S.; Professor Bull, of New York University, as well as A. J. MacAlpine, late Chief Engineer of the U. S., and who also holds the "Telford Medal" from the Institute of Civil Engineers of England, have one and all pronounced it perfectly feasible in all its aspects, and without any "insurmountable difficulties."

I am glad you are in favor of "each Province receiving its just dues from the Dominion." We ask for nothing more, and we will be satisfied with nothing less. We know our rights, and dare maintain them.

Requesting you will give this a place in your next issue,

I am, yours respectfully,

George W. Howlan.

The Senate, May 3, 1886.

Arbor Day.

Arbor Day has become so settled an institution among us, that Saturday last was proclaimed a Holiday both by the Lieutenant Governor and the Mayor. The proceedings commenced early in the day. At 9.30 the children of the Public Schools, to the number of between seven and eight hundred, assembled on Queen Square, and thence marched in procession through some of the principal streets, accompanied by the inspiriting strains of the Brass Bands of the 82nd Battalion and of St. Peter's Boys' School. They then reassembled on Queen Square, where a very large number of our citizens had gathered. His Honor Lieutenant Governor Macdonald then addressed the assemblage, after which tree planting commenced in earnest, His Honor planting the first one at the corner of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Great George Street, from the Provincial Building to the river, the carriage way of which had previously been narrowed, was planted with elms from Dorchester Street to Queen Square. A large number of trees were planted in Hillsborough Park, and in the grounds of the Upper Prince Street School.

Captain Patrick J. Lendrell, of the Barkentine *Brema*, was the first arrival from Great Britain this season, making the passage from Plymouth to Canso in 25 days.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company last week paid to the financial agents of the Dominion Government in London the sum of ten million dollars, being the first instalment of the twenty million loan, the whole of which is to be repaid by the first of July next. If we mistake not this is the loan which Mr. L. H. Davies characterized as a free gift to the Company and scouted the idea of its ever being repaid the Government. Thus, one by one, the predictions of Mr. Davies and his Grit friends are being rapidly falsified.

The Nova Scotia House of Assembly, by a vote of 15 to 6 have passed a resolution declaring in favor of the secession of that Province from the Confederation. The vote is an exceedingly small one in a House of thirty-eight Members, and we cannot think that it can be accepted as an expression of opinion on the part of the people's representatives. The Government of Nova Scotia is clear Grit, and therefore it is not surprising that such a resolution was possible. Besides which it must be remembered that a general election is imminent, and as the record of the Administration is not the purest, they must find some war-cry to go to the country with. We observe that the resolution proposes to secure the co-operation of New Brunswick and of this Island in withdrawing from the Confederation and forming a Maritime Union.

We desire to direct the attention of the Postmaster General to the very great inconvenience which is caused our citizens, more particularly our business men, by the way in which the subsidized Mail Steamers of the P. E. I. Steam Navigation Company are performing their work. Instead of fulfilling their contract, they prefer carrying freight, and for the sake of making a few dollars, think nothing of delaying the steamers for two or three hours. Last Monday evening the mails did not arrive from the westward until 11 o'clock p. m., when they should be here at 8 o'clock, and last night they did not arrive until 10 o'clock. Is this going to continue we ask? Is the welfare of the community going to be made subservient to the greed of a Company? We trust Mr. Brecken will give this matter his attention and perhaps a recurrence of the grievance may be avoided.

The *Patriot*, in its local column yesterday, accuses the Hon. Mr. Sullivan of having asserted during the Legislative Council Election last spring, that the Government had no debt, but on the contrary, a credit in the Bank of Nova Scotia of $40,000, when the Bank returns, submitted to the Legislature, shewed that at the time, the Government owed the Banks, $47,869. It is hardly worth while to take serious notice of what someone of the numerous local jotters who have access to the editorial rooms of the *Patriot* may choose to send up as copy, but we may as well say that the charge made against Mr. Sullivan is utterly false and groundless. Mr. Sullivan's statement, of which we happen to have a personal knowledge, was that at the commencement of the year 1885, after paying off the balance against them for the previous year, the Government had a credit at the Banks of about $30,000, and this statement is capable of verification. The *Patriot's* untruths are intended to do duty, and we may expect from now until the election to see its local columns contain similar falsehoods which its Editor is too cowardly to father editorially and too dishonest to suppress.

Parnell Congratulated.

On behalf of the Irish Conservative representatives in Parliament the following telegram was forwarded by the Minister of Inland Revenue last week.

Ottawa, May 3rd, 1886.

Parnell M. P., London, Eng:

"As mover of the Irish resolutions in the Canadian parliament in April, 1883, and on behalf of the Irish representatives in parliament, I desire to convey through you to our fellow-subjects an expression of our deep sympathy in their struggle for home rule. We reaffirm the sentiments contained in those resolutions and, without presuming to pronounce an opinion on the details of any particular measure propounded, we desire to declare to the people of Ireland our gratification at the general recognition of those views which has taken place since 1883, and to express our hope that the time has come when, without injury to the interests of the United Kingdom or to any section of it, such a system of self-government may be given to the Irish people as will meet their reasonable demands and fulfil the anticipations which have been so highly cherished in their behalf by many of Her Majesty's subjects in this portion of the Empire."

"Costigan."

A sad accident occurred yesterday afternoon, by which three men lost their lives. Michael Dooley, Francis Coyle, Arthur O'Neill and Thomas Donovan proceeded in a sailboat to the Harbor's Mouth for the purpose of catching lobsters, when a sudden squall striking the boat, it was overturned, precipitating the four men into the water. Coyle sank at once; the other three started for the shore, but O'Neill and Donovan soon returned to the boat, to which they clung until rescued by parties from the shore. Dooley swam bravely until within some 50 yards from the shore, when he went down. Sad to relate, soon after reaching the land O'Neill died from exhaustion, but Donovan rapidly recovered and returned to town late last evening. Neither Dooley nor Coyle's bodies have been recovered. An inquest was held to day, which returned the verdict that the upsetting of the boat was accidental, and that O'Neill died from exposure. Dooley leaves a wife and six children, Coyle a wife and two children; O'Neill was unmarried.

St. Vincent de Paul Sewing Circle

CLOSING EVENING.

Quite an enjoyable affair was the closing evening of the Ladies' Aid Society this year. Since the latter end of October the ladies of St. Dunstan's congregation have been meeting together in the Hall of the Notre Dame Convent on Wednesday evenings between the hours of two and five p. m., to work for the poor and to devise ways and means of coming to the assistance of the sick and infirm. Under the direction of Rev. Father Burke and a staff of officers composed of Mrs. Judge Reddin, President; Mrs. Caven, Treasurer; and Mrs. Walker, Secretary—an immense amount of good has been done this year. Owing to the outbreak of small pox a much larger call for charity than usual was not to be wondered at; and it was to be able to respond to this call that Father Burke and the ladies of the Cathedral congregation have been working so cheerfully and persistently during the winter months. To give an idea of the amount of relief afforded, we must lay before our readers the report of the lady Secretary:

The Society of women for the relief of the poor, under the patronage of St. Vincent de Paul, was inaugurated by the Rev. Father Burke on the 28th October, 1885. It numbers forty-six members, and up to date the following articles of clothing have been distributed, namely:

30 pairs pants,	29 coats,
3 full suits,	33 shirts,
43 pairs boots,	1 pair rubbers,
15 caps,	1 pair stockings,
2 pairs socks,	1 pair mitts,
15 petticoats,	10 dresses,
1 child's dress,	2 pinafores,
10 under garments,	2 shawls,
4 basques,	1 jacket,
7 boots,	3 hats,

besides a quantity of old clothing, &c., &c.

The Treasurer received cash to the amount of $59 10 in members fees, and contributions of useful materials, such as grey cotton, tweed, dress stuff, shawls, boots and socks; also a sewing machine for the use of the Society from the Rev. Father Burke.

Rev. Fathers and Ladies,—You will perceive from the quantity of made clothing disposed of, that other resources must have been attainable that are only known to our Reverend Director, who has been most successful in inducing the possessor of some private charitable article well, who does not wish "the right hand to know what the left hand doeth."

Barbara Walker,
Secretary.

The closing evening for this season was devoted to the entertainment of the members and some friends. The programme opened with a musical and dramatic *soiree* prepared by the pupils in the Music Hall of the Convent, which was as follows:

PROGRAMME.

Inst. Duet—"The Graces" ..... Misses McDonald and Kickham.
Chorus—"All Together" ..... Convent Choir.
Inst. Selection—"Music on the Waters"—4 Pianos—The Misses Benoit, Blake, Halloran and Payne.
Song—"The Little Singer" ..... Miss Bessie Frazer.
Vocal Duet—"The Midnight Moon" ..... Misses Blake and Benoit.
Dialogue—"Stolen Pickles" ..... The Pupils.
Song—"Summer Roses" ..... Miss Mamie McLeod.
Inst. Music—"Jennie the Flower of Kildare" 4 Pianos—Misses Blake, Benoit, McDonald, Halloran.
Vocal Duet—"In the Starlight" ..... The Misses Owen and O'Connell.
Inst. Music—"The Harp of Tara"—4 Pianos Misses Blake, Payne, Halloran, Kickham.

It is needless to say that the entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed, and that the little ones were at home in their respective pieces. During the entertainment the reports of the President Treasurer and Secretary were received, and Father Burke reviewed the work of the society, and thanked the ladies for their devotedness and generosity towards the poor, and the Sisters of the Convent for the use of their rooms, and the assistance so readily rendered at all times. After the *soiree* all repaired to the recreation hall, where an immense table groaned under its load of good things. When ample justice had been done to the sweetmeats, the bell rang all down to the pretty little chapel of the community, where Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament brought the proceedings to a close. Besides the members of the society and the religious of the house, there were present Fathers McIntyre and Burke, Hon. Mr. Sullivan, the Sisters of the Hospital, and the St. Joseph's Convent Nuns. All connected with the sewing circle will preserve a pleasing *souvenir* of the closing evening of a society which has been doing a work of charity to which the "reward a hundredfold" is most assuredly attached.

BIRTHS.

At Hartland, W. T. on the 21st ult., the wife of A. Campbell, formerly of P. E. I., of a son.

MARRIED.

At Summerside, on the 22nd ult., by Rev. B. Chappell, A. M. Carey W. Steeves, to Ellie, eldest daughter of Thomas Brehaut, of Summerside.

At Tyner, on 29th March, 1886, by Rev. W. Mullins, assisted by Rev. C. Macnamara, N. Franklin Briggs, of McConnell, Dak., to Margaret Ann Beairsto, daughter of G. Beairsto, formerly of P. E. Island.

On the 3rd ult., by the Rev. R. McLean, Mr. Angus S. Nicholson, to Kate daughter of Mr. Norman McLeod, all of Valleyfield.

At the Church of the Messiah, Boston, Mass., on the 28th ult., by the Rev. Henry Allen, William H. Croskill, of the P. E. I. Railway, Charlottetown, to Jennie A., youngest daughter of the late James Malcolm, of Halifax.

DIED.

At Montague Bridge, on the 19th ult., after a short illness Alice, relict of the late Kenneth Martin, in the 77th year of her age.

At Garfield, Belfast, on the 22nd ult., after a lingering illness, Colin Samuel, beloved son of Alexander and Margaret C. Gillis, aged 29 years and 6 months.

At North Lake, on the 20th ult., after a long and painful illness, Alice, in the 28th year of her age, second daughter of Peter Rose, Miller.

Near Darnley, on the 19th ult., Helen McGougan, beloved wife of William B. Donald, aged 66 years.

At Walworth, Wis, on April 6th in the 48th year of her age, of disease of the heart, Harriet the beloved wife of Rev. Alexander McLaren, and daughter of the late James Coffin, of St. Peter's Harbor, P. E. I. She leaves a sorrowing husband, two sons and two daughters to mourn their loss.

At New Glasgow, at the residence of Mr. R. Bullman, on the 4th inst., William H. Bagnall, Esq., aged 70 years.

At Mount Stewart, April 30th, Mrs. Ann Beaton, in the 77th year of her age.

At Toronto, Murray Harbor, on the 29th ult., after an illness of four years of consumption, Charlotte, beloved wife of David Bull, aged 38 years and 9 months, leaving a sorrowing husband, five sons and three daughters to mourn their irreparable loss.

At Lot 16, on the 5th inst., Peter McLaurin, in the 66th year of his age.

At North Wiltshire, on the 3rd inst., Barbara, relict of the late George Godfrey, aged 72 years.

On the 8th of April, of inflammation of the lungs, Jane, dearly beloved wife of James Roche, in the 34th year of her age. May she rest in peace.

At Lyndale, Kinross, on the 25th April, Mary Jane, dearly beloved wife of Mark Carver, in the 24th year of her age.

At Orwell, on the 14th April, Mrs. Ephraim Gay, in the 55th year of her age.

At Orwell Head, on the 12th March, Mary Ann, dearly beloved daughter of Mary and Alexander McDonald, aged 34 years. May she rest in peace.

At South Lake, Lot 47, on the 14th March, after a lingering illness which he bore with christian patience and resignation to the Divine will, Alexander McDonald, in the 66th year of his age. Deceased will be long remembered as an affectionate husband and father, and a good neighbor. He was one of the few who kept 'Father John's pledge,' which he took about forty years ago, and although he was fond of the social glass, still he never after he took the pledge tasted intoxicating liquors of any kind. He died leaving a grand example of what a man can accomplish by a firm resolution. May his soul rest in peace.

At Souris, on Wednesday, 5th inst., after a short illness, borne with christian resignation to the Divine Will, Penelope, dearly beloved wife of Alexander Gillespie in the 74th year of her age. During her illness she was frequently visited by the good Sisters of the Convent de Notre Dame, and by the Rev. D. F. McDonald who administered to her the last consoling rites and Sacraments of the Holy Catholic Church, of which she had ever been a most devoted and zealous follower. Despite her advanced years and the hardships and trials incipient able to the wife of a