POOR DOCUMENT

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH

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Write plainly and take special pains with names.

Write on one side of your paper only.

Attach your name and address to your communication as an evidence of good faith.

Write nothing for which you are not prepared to be held personally responsible.

This paper has the largest circulation in the Maritime Provinces.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph.

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 26 1899.

THE WORK OF PARLIAMENT.

The Conservative cause is certainly in a very bad way. The Brockville election followed close upon the vote of Tuesday evening. After wasting five weeks of time the opposition consented to allow a division on the address. After all their furious talking and sweeping allegations, they did not succeed in converting a single Liberal member to their view; but on the other hand, Hon. John Costigan voted with the government, and one or two other Conservatives abstained from voting at all. If the opposition can look back over the past five weeks and feel that they have acted a proper and dignified part, they are to be pitied. It is quite an open secret now, that at the Conservative caucus just before the Easter adjournment the members were almost unanimously opposed to the introduction of an amendment; but Sir Charles Tupper and Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper were received to force an issue, and at last a reluctant consent was given to their plan of campaign.

It was a case of the Tuppers against the party, and the Tuppers came out ahead. A good many of the Conservative members now feel ashamed of what has taken place, although they scarcely care to acknowledge that they were dragooned into such a humiliating attitude. But they got even with the Tuppers in another way. The main features of Sir Charles Hibbert's attack, as well as the chief grounds of his father's fierce denunciations, were the immoralities alleged to have been committed by Major Walsh, and the culpability of the minister for the irregularities of government officers in the Yukon. On the former subject, the two knights were particularly vociferous, scarcely being able to find words strong enough, or mean enough, to express their feelings; but the official debates will be searched in vain for a single syllable against Major Walsh by another Conservative member in the house. The same might almost be said of the remarks of the Tuppers respecting the minister of the interior. So that, if the baronet and the knight tyrannised over the caucus, the Conservative members did not permit themselves to be similarly coerced in the house.

The chief organ of the Conservative party keeps up the demand day after day that "Sifton must go." That was the key-note of the speeches made in the house by Sir Charles Tupper and his son, Sir Charles Hibbert. It is both senseless and useless to reiterate a cry of this nature unless some one is willing to assume the responsibility of making a charge against the minister of the interior, upon which a motion for an investigation could be founded. The minister himself has stated his position to the house in clear and unequivocal terms. He said: "I challenge the leader of the opposition, I challenge the members of his party in the house, I challenge the press of the party outside of this house, to produce their private detectives, to come here upon their own responsibility and press their charge. I challenge the member for Pictou, or any other man in this house, to lay upon the table of the house the charges that he has to make and declare his ability to substantiate them by evidence, and he will get his investigation." The only answer made to this manly challenge has been a repetition in the Hansard and Empire of the miserable insinuendoes which marked the violent and abusive speech of Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper.

It is very much to be regretted that each session sees some of the Conservatives more and more disposed to lower the tone of parliamentary debate by indulging in coarse and senseless personalities. This is, perhaps, one of the natural results of having a bad-tempered leader, who has all through his life ridden rough-shod over everybody who dared to stand in his way. Hector McDougall, Sir Charles Tupper's colleague from Cape Breton, made himself particularly offensive in this regard a few days ago, when making references to ex-members of the house now holding appointments under government. One would think that it had come to be a high crime for a member of parliament to be called to a judgeship or any other public position for which he was qualified; but such a suggestion comes with particularly bad grace from a member of a party which filled scores of the best offices in the gift of the government with Conservative members of the house, who still enjoy their comfortable places. To lay stress on such matters is to tacitly confess the weakness of the party on important public issues.

On Wednesday the house took up the exceedingly bulky order paper which had been developed during the long-sustained debate on the address. It contained 187 questions and page after page of motions for returns. Some of the questions were quite remarkable. Mr. Powell, for example, wanted to know if any shovelling was done on the Intercolonial Railway just before the provincial elections in New Brunswick. What a feeble memory Mr. Powell must have! Can it possibly be that he has forgotten that one of the heaviest snow storms in the recent history of New Brunswick occurred within a few days of the election? Of course, the Conservatives were struck by a terrible blizzard on election day; but that was a disaster which gave no trouble to the railway authorities. What does Mr. Powell suppose was done with the snow that blockaded the stations and tracks at the time referred to? Does he imagine that the station masters ran steam pipes through the drifts and melted them away, or that the platforms were cleared by some miraculous process? No, Mr. Powell, the snow was shovelled away.

A desperate effort was made recently to bring Sir Mackenzie Bowell and the bolters together during the bye-election in Brockville. Sir Mackenzie is well known to be a strong partisan, and it was thought by some of the Conservative members that, under the circumstances of a hot bye-election in his old district he might be induced to forget the smart of his wrongs; but the treachery of Foster and Haggart was not to be compromised in this way. Sir Mackenzie has not spoken to either of these men since 1896 and he probably never will. On this occasion, rather than go upon the same platform with the men who stabbed him in the back in December, 1896, he declined the invitation to visit Brockville, and merely wrote a letter endorsing the candidature of Hon. Peter White. This is not the only instance in which attempts at reconciliation have failed.

The strength of the government, as revealed by the division on the address, will be entirely satisfactory to Liberals throughout the country. It represents a normal majority of fifty-five, and with a backing of such proportions the government is safe against any petty combinations that might be formed during a crisis. Since last session the Liberal ranks have been swollen by the addition of two or three members who succeeded Conservatives in bye-elections, and there would seem to be a fair chance of further gains in the same way. The Conservatives moved heaven and earth to save Brockville, which was gerrymandered into a Tory stronghold by the bill of 1882, but the magnitude of their defeat was in proportion to their mighty efforts to hold that constituency.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE BRIDGE CHARGES.

The action of Mr. Hazen in the legislative assembly on Saturday, in repudiating the idea that he intended in the charges which he had made in regard to the construction of permanent bridges, to impute personal dishonesty or corrupt motives to the premier and chief commissioner of public works, opened the way for that gentleman to advise the house to consent to a withdrawal of the charges, and to the committee being discharged.

We think that Mr. Emmerson was quite justified in construing the language of the charges as reflecting on his personal integrity. No other meaning could fairly be taken from them. The house clearly so understood them, and a careful reading of the resolution for the appointment of the committee will show that they were to determine whether the chief commissioner had knowingly and wilfully been a party to the province being defrauded. This being the case, the premier very properly declined to allow the committee to be discharged, or to have any delay in the investigation, while a charge of so grave a character, reflecting on his intergrity as a public man, remained hanging over him.

The statement of Mr. Hazen above referred to, completely removed such an imputation, and leaves the issue between the chief commissioner and himself simply one of policy, as to whether it is better to have the work of building steel bridges done within the province, and so give employment to our own people, in the hope that before very long such a number of manufacturing concerns will go into the business, that there will be active competition, which with improved plant, such as would necessarily be introduced, would result in the bridges being built here as cheaply as anywhere else. Such a result would not only established in our province permanent and valuable industries, but would render the department independent of a few outside firms, who, as past experience has shown, have not only required the government to pay the highest prices—higher than better bridges since built within the province have cost—but also endeavored to skight the work and to sell the iron to a lighter weight than the specifications called for.

As the prices paid to the New Brunswick builders are all shown in the public accounts, and the chief commissioner, while always disputing the contention that bridges of the character constructed within the province, could have been obtained under the tender system, by contract, from outside builders, at prices very much below what he has paid, has admitted that he was paying a slightly higher price for the sake of encouraging home industries, the discussion of this question, which, as before stated, is only one of policy, separated, as it now is, from any question involving the integrity of the chief commissioner, may without impropriety or injury to the public interest be discussed on a later occasion.

The action of Mr. Hazen, in his responsible position of leader of the opposition, in absolutely withdrawing all charges of a personal nature against Mr Emmerson, while quite as satisfactory to that gentleman as an acquittal by a committee of the house could possibly be, was also, as we think, highly creditable to the leader of the opposition. Not intending, as he frankly said, to charge personal dishonesty or corrupt motives to the chief commissioner, he acted the manly part in so stating to the house, and in withdrawing all portions of the charge which could have that meaning. His words: "I FURTHER STATE THAT IN THE CHARGES WHICH I MADE TO THIS HOUSE ON THE 18TH DAY OF APRIL INSTANT, I DID NOT INTEND TO IMPUTE PERSONAL DISHONESTY OR CORRUPT MOTIVES TO MY HONORABLE FRIEND THE PREMIER AND CHIEF COMMISSIONER, AND IF THE WORDS USED BY ME CAN BE CONSTRUED AS HAVING SUCH MEANING, I HEREBY WITHDRAW THEM," are alike creditable to his head and heart. It did not require Mr. Hazen's disavowal of any intention to impute personal dishonesty or corrupt motives to Mr. Emmerson in the administration of his department, to make the premier secure in the confidence of the vast majority of the people of the country, who thoroughly believe in his integrity, but the legislative incident of Saturday was nevertheless of a pleasing character, showing, as it does, that our public men are capable of rising to the higher levels of political life and doing justice to their political opponents.

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The war in the Philippines is likely to become a political issue at the next presidential election. While a great many Americans were willing enough that their country should acquire these islands, if they could be obtained without fighting for them, very many even of the imperialists are becoming alarmed at the magnitude of the contest which they have on the hands, a contest which it is said may yet demand the services of an army of a hundred thousand men. One thing that is causing a great deal of dissatisfaction is the fact that volunteers who were enlisted in the first place for the war against Spain, now find themselves detained in a tropical climate and fighting the very persons whom they went to the Philippines to assist in escaping from the Spanish yoke. We have already published the protest of the relations of some of the western volunteers against their detention in the Philippines. These protests are likely to become general should the war be continued much longer. Again, many persons feel that the people of the Philippines have a right to their own country and that they should not be coerced into becoming subjects of the United States if they desire to establish a government of their own. Aguinaldo, who seems to be rather a clever person although wholly without principle, was far seeing enough to establish a provisional government and to appeal to the government of the United States for recognition before he took any hostile measures. No one perhaps believes that the people of the Philippines are capable of maintaining a very good government in their country, but the fact that they have never had an opportunity of making a trial of their ability in that direction will tell in their favor. In a previous article we pointed out that the coercion of the people of the Philippines is directly contrary to the principles of the declaration of independence, and therefore opposed to all American precedent. Although the government of the United States did not recognize the right of slaves to govern themselves there never was any question with regard to the rights of free blacks. Indeed, the government of the United States took an active part in the establishment of the Republic of Liberia, although the people of that republic were all negroes and most of them had been slaves. It cannot be pretended that the Malays of the Philippines are less capable of governing themselves than the negroes of the Congo, and, therefore, there is no argument which an American can use in favor of the coercion of the people of these islands which is not directly contrary to the principles upon which his own nation was founded. That is one reason for the growing unpopularity of the war and for the change of sentiment which has undoubtedly taken place among many of the American people in regard to the desirability of retaining these Eastern islands.

Another cause of the growing unpopularity of the war is that it seems to involve a great deal of cruelty to the unfortunate people who have been refused the right to govern their own country and to live under their own laws. There are no people more humane and more ready to relieve distress than the Americans, and therefore it is not pleasing for them to know that their soldiers are engaged in operations abroad which partake largely of the nature of butcheries. Every mail from the East is bringing hundreds of letters from the soldiers in the Philippines describing deeds of horror revolting to humanity. The towns of the Philippines are being looted by the American troops and the people slaughtered, in some cases without regard to age or sex. Some of the stories that are told would be really incredible were it not for the fact that the names are given and that there is therefore no doubt of the letters being authentic. The New York Evening Post devotes a lengthy editorial to these horrors, which is entitled "Our Savage War for the Cause of Humanity." It quotes a great many letters in which the soldiers boast of the large amount of plunder which they have obtained. One soldier of the Washington Regiment, writing of the battles of February the 4th and 5th says, "We burned hundreds of houses and looted hundreds more" and "we have horses and carriages and carts galore and enough furniture and other plunder to load a steamer." A soldier of an Iowa regiment after describing the abandonment of a village by the inhabitants says:—

"The soldiers made short work of the whole thing. They looted every house and found almost everything from a pair of wooden shoes up to a piano, and they carried everything off or destroyed it. Talk of the natives plundering the towns; I don't think they are in it with the Fiftieth Iowa."

If the soldiers stopped at plunder not much is perhaps would be said, but it appears in many cases the rule has been that the troops should take no prisoners. A soldier from one of the Kansas regiments in describing the part taken by it in the fight at Caloocan says:—

"Company I had taken a few prisoners and stopped. The colonel ordered them up into line time after time, and finally sent Capt. Bishop back to start them. There occurred the hardest sight I ever saw. They had four prisoners and didn't know what to do with them. They asked Capt Bishop what to do and he said, 'You know the orders,' and four natives fell dead."

Another soldier in the Washington Regiment, describing the battle of February 4th, tells of a terrible slaughter of the Philippine troops, and adds:—

"I don't know how many men, women and children the Tennessee boys did kill. They would not take any prisoners. One company of the Tennessee boys was sent into headquarters with thirty prisoners, and got there with about a hundred chickens and no prisoners."

Now if it be true that the war in the Philippines is being conducted in the savage fashion here described, the people of the United States will certainly have something to say to the men who are responsible for such a condition of affairs. Every nation must be held amenable to the public opinion of the civilized world, and there is no nation which would be less willing to be arraigned at the bar of public opinion for cruelty than the United States. It would seem as if President McKinley must lose much of his popularity if it comes to be understood that he is promoting a war which is likely to reflect discredit on the good name of a nation which has hitherto prided itself on its liberty and on its humanity.

"Example is Better Than Precept."

It is not what we say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story. Thousands of testimonials are examples of what Hood's has done for others, and what it will do for you.

Dyspepsia — "I was weak and had fainting spells. Dyspepsia and indigestion in severe form troubled me. Five bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla made me well and strong." MRS. WILLIAM VANVALKENBURGE, Whitby, Ont.

A Good Medicine — "We have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla in our family as a spring medicine and used Hood's Pills for biliousness and found both medicines very effective. For impure blood we know Hood's Sarsaparilla is a good medicine." R. S. PELTON, publisher Bee, Atwood, Ont.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Never Disappoints

Hood's Pills cure liver ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

THAT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CANADA.

The Montreal Star must be very short of material upon which to attack the government when it makes the recent discrimination of Lloyds' underwriters against Canadian ports a cause of attacking the minister of marine and the government. We quote:—

St. Stephen and Calais are both thriving lumber towns and there is active rivalry between them. At the present time there is great excitement in the Canadian town because the new discrimination of Lloyds against all Canadian ports has the effect of giving the American town an advantage of about $2 50 a standard on deals.

St. Andrews at the mouth of the St. Croix with one of the finest harbors in the world is at a similar disadvantage as compared with Eastport on the American side with an inferior harbor, but being separated by the broad bay of Passamaquoddy the discrimination is not so striking as at St. Stephen and Calais.

If St. Stephen and St. Andrews were the only ports affected the Canadian people would sympathize with them and expect the minister of marine and fisheries to make every effort to get the discrimination removed, although, being only local ports, their grievance would not seriously affect the dominion at large, but the national ports of Montreal and St. John, in which the whole dominion of Canada is interested, suffer from the same discrimination and the apathy of Sir Louis Davies is extraordinary.

We do not think that either Sir Louis Davies or the government have shown any apathy in this matter. The persons who have been apathetic are those who were the most interested, the shipping and commercial men of Montreal and other parts of Canada. THE TELEGRAPH called attention to this matter months ago, but nothing was done by any commercial body here or elsewhere by way of protest against so outrageous a wrong. The St. John Board of Trade took no action, because the president could not believe the news to be true, although a St. John gentleman interested in shipping, who had just returned from England and had personal knowledge of the matter announced it. As the shipping and commercial men took no action what justification would there have been for the government interfering in the matter? In any case what could the government do to influence the policy of a private corporation with reference to rates of insurance? Let the merchants and shipping men of Canada take vigorous action and the government will give them its best assistance.

THE OPENING OF THE RIVER.

The opening of the St. John River, although less important than it was before the construction of railways in this province, is still an event of the highest moment to the farmers, for it brings them into contact with the market at St. John, from which, during the winter, they have been to a large extent debarred. Formerly Fredericton and Woodstock received all their supplies by the river and it became necessary for the merchants of these places to carry stocks of goods large enough to last them through the entire winter. Now these places have railway communication and conditions are entirely changed, but there are still seventy-five miles of the St. John River, the portion between Westfield and Fredericton, without railway communication. This condition of affairs is naturally unfavorable to the growth of the parishes bordering on the river, although they comprise some of the finest land in the province. These parishes in Kings, Queens and Sunbury which are without railways and depend wholly on river have a population of about 15,000 who are mainly engaged in agriculture, and to whom a ready means of getting to market is very essential. The river supplies this in the spring, summer and autumn, but during the winter a large proportion of these people are wholly debarred from the markets, so that their produce cannot be sold. To these people the opening of the river means everything, for the river counties are full of live stock and produce which the farmers desire to sell, and the first boats have far more freight offering to them than they can carry.

It is evident that the parishes bordering on the St. John can never attain their full development until they have a means of sending their produce to market at all times of the year, and this can only be effected by a railway. The time cannot be far distant when the construction of such a line will become an absolute necessity, and then the parishes bordering on the river will increase in population and flourish as they never did before.

Crushed at Dalhousie.

DALHOUSIE, N. B., April 22—Daniel Mercier, while removing a small building here today was caught between it and another. Dr. Crocket who was summoned found his head and chest badly crushed and the man profusely bleeding from the nose, mouth and ears. Mercier is a married man with a family. It is believed he will not recover.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. dw

DR. SPROULE'S BOOK

Do you understand the nature and action of Catarrh? Probably not. Not one in a thousand does. Yet in this climate no one can afford to be ignorant of it. Of course to know all about it would require a lifetime; and few could give that. But Dr. Sproule, the eminent English specialist, has just issued (for free distribution) a new book called 'Catarrh: Its Origin, Dangers and Cure.' From it you can get a clear comprehensive understanding of this obscure and stubborn disease. It tells in a strong, clear, and very interesting manner, of the way Catarrh begins and creeps along wherever a mucous membrane gives it a foothold. The book is divided into short chapters. Among the more important are the ones on Catarrh of the Nose and Throat; How Catarrh Comes On; Catarrhal Deafness; Catarrh of the Stomach; Chronic Constipation; Kidney and Bladder Troubles. At the end of each chapter is a list of the symptoms which usually accompany Catarrh in the organ treated of.

A large number of illustrations make the book so clear that even a child could understand it. Dr. Sproule has written it briefly, concisely, yet clearly; leaving out all that was not absolutely necessary. His aim was to produce a book which the most busy man, the most careworn woman could find time to read. He has succeeded. The book will be a revelation to most. It should be read by all. Dr. Sproule, though still comparatively a young man, has devoted many years to studying this special line. He graduated from Dublin University (Ireland) and was almost immediately appointed surgeon in the Royal British Naval Service. While he filled this post he visited many lands and studied deeply into the effects of climate on chronic diseases and the best methods of counteracting them.

When, on leaving the service, he adopted Catarrh as his specialty he found himself in a then unexplored field. His study and researches had to be on original and independent lines. But he entered into his work with all the devotion of a true investigator. He visited all the great hospitals of Europe and America. He studied keenly his private patients. He solved at last the mystery of Catarrh. He found for it a method of treatment that has never failed him.

The result of these seventeen years of research he now gives in the volume just issued. It will be mailed free on application to Dr. Sproule, 7 Doane street, Boston.

A SAD OCCURRENCE.

Young Child of Pilot Bart Rogers Badly Burned.

Helen, the five-year-old daughter of Pilot Bart Rogers, was probably fatally burned at her parents' home, 51 Britain St., Sunday night. The sad occurrence happened between 7 and 8 o'clock. Mrs. Rogers had gone from the room to another, leaving the child behind. The little one took up a pair of curling irons, and, in playing with them about the lamp, overturned it, her hair and clothing catching fire. Her mother hurried to her when she heard the child's cries and subdued the flames, but they had badly injured the girl. Her face, arms, neck and the front of her body were badly burned. Drs. Daniel and Sheffield were hastily summoned and did what could be done to relieve her from her sufferings. They recommended that she be sent to the hospital and thither the child was taken.

Fredericton News.

FREDERICTON, April 22—Miss Edith O'Leil, eldest daughter of the late Chas. O'Leil of this city, is to be married at the cathedral next Wednesday to Mr Gwilt of Montreal.

Mr. Geo. W. Allen is suffering from an affection of the heart, and his condition is serious.

Mr. J. W. Tabor, of Tabor & O'Neill, met with quite a painful mishap this morning, though very fortunately he escaped without severe injuries. He was standing in a doorway of the second story of the dry kiln at his factory and losing his balance fell backward to the ground, a distance of some 15 or 18 feet. He slighted upon his back but the force of his fall was somewhat lessened by a board which he held in his hand catching across the telephone wires.

Mr. Tabor was rendered unconscious by the shock for a few moments, and was assisted to his home suffering considerable pain. The doctor who was summoned did not think that Mr. Tabor had suffered any internal injuries nor were any bones broken.

Arrested at Brockville.

BROCKVILLE, April 23—Gordon Empy, of Brockville, was arrested yesterday for ballot stuffing at the recent bye-election for the house of commons. Antoine Wendling, a Brockville hotel keeper, was also arrested for being implicated with Empy. Both were bailed by prominent Liberals.

FREE! This lovely little Lady's Watch, with guard or chatelaine for selling 3 doz. of our full-sized Linen Doylies at 10c. each; Lady's Sterling Silver Watch for selling 5 doz. Doylies in latest and prettiest design. They sell at sight. Write and we send them postpaid. Sell them, return our money and we promptly forward your watch free. Unsold doylies returnable. LINEN DOYLY CO., Dept. 86 Toronto

740 Silk Fringe Cards, Love, Transparent, Reversible Aquatic, Floss Cards, LAUGHING CAMERA, Prize Puzzles, New Games, Magical Illusions &c. Finest Sample Book of Visiting Card Styles All for 2c. stamp. OHIO CARD CO., Cadiz, Ohio. CARDS Premiums Biggest Box of