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Veritas sumendum est optimum. - Cic.

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Provincial Parliament.

House of Assembly.

DEBATE ON THE ELECTION LAW.

Mr. Boyd said—"That long previous to the meeting of the Legislature, it was trumpeted over the length and breadth of the land, that an opposition was getting up to overthrow the government. Meetings had been held in various Counties in the Province, attended by gentlemen who had tasted the sweets of office, and were longing to taste them again. Luscious indeed must be the flesh-pots of New Brunswick, when such scrabbling is resorted to in order to obtain them. Now, sir, as to the Bill brought in by the hon. Attorney General to revive the old Election Law, if I could be brought to think for one moment that it was intended by the hon. mover to allow that Bill if it passed, to become the law of the land to regulate elections in future, I should oppose it. I am not for going backwards; progress is my motto, and I shall never consent to any Bill that does not embrace Registration, the Ballot, and a sufficient residence of the voter. Universal suffrage I will oppose, but I am perfectly willing to extend the franchise much further than the Law commonly called the Fisher Act, does. It is no use to go on flunking up the Election Laws year after year. The franchise has been broken in upon; and it is just as well to come to the point at once and extend the franchise to rate-payers on property, as far as it is prudent to go for the safety of the Province.

I have given the subject all the attention it deserves, and have come to the conclusion that no better course can be taken to give equal justice to all. The amendment moved by the hon. member from Westmorland will not do that; it merely provides for the Counties or Parishes which have not complied with the Law; that the Sheriffs and Clerks of the Peace may take up the assessment of last year and make that the list of voters; but that does not cure the evils of Mr. Fisher's Bill—it leaves it just as it is, with all its machinery and imperfections, and which never can be carried out. The hon. and learned member from Northumberland, complains of the conduct of the Sheriffs in several Counties for not carrying out the law by making Returns, and calls upon the Government to displace them. I can say for the Sheriff of Charlotte, that as he understood the law, he could not make the returns; and as some Parishes had not filed any lists with the Clerk of the Peace, consequently he did not feel himself at liberty to make a partial return. The same gentleman tells you that the Bill prepared to remedy the existing law is unjust in its nature; and if the Bill passes, it must be sent home with a suspending clause. If I understand the Royal Instructions, as read by the hon. Solicitor General, there will be no necessity for a suspending clause, but his Excellency can give his assent at once. It will then become the law of the land for a limited period; and satisfied as I am from the open pledges of the Government, that they will, as soon as the Bill passes, prepare and bring down a government measure, such a Bill as I have no doubt will be adopted by a large majority. We are told, Sir, that if that Bill passes, it will interfere with the rights of those enfranchised by the Act of 1855. That I take to be a fallacy; how can a man lose what he never had. Had any elections taken place under that law, the case would have been entirely different; but the privileges given by the late law to a certain class of voters, has never been acted on, consequently there is no infringement of their rights. The hon. and learned member from Westmorland has made a most patriotic appeal to those who support the government, and others whom he styles medium men, not to consider the introduction of the Bill as a matter that would affect the position of the government—that they would not be called upon to resign if the Bill was lost. Oh Sir, let me tell that most hon. gentleman that the supporters of the government know their duty and will do it. It is true, they have not been drilled and marshalled as the Opposition have been, but they will be found there shoulder to shoulder; and we may have another 20 to 200. That I expect, is the calculation of the Opposition; but would they not look very funny if we had an acquisition from their number? I think we will. Sir, I believe that if the present administration was composed of gentlemen as pure and upright as the angels in Heaven, there would be found in the halls of the Legislature evil spirits enough to oppose and thwart, if possible, any measure introduced by them. I feel confident, Sir, that a large majority of the people of this

Province would rather see the Fisher Law swept from the Statute Book, than suffer it to remain there any longer. My honorable colleague from St. George asks me if I did not vote for this Bill. I did; I took it as an instalment of something better than the old Election Law, and urged the necessity of going much further, as ultimately the Legislature would have to agree to a further extension of the franchise. I am now satisfied from experience that there are imperfections in the Bill; that the people have not equal rights under it. I could not help noticing the remarks of the hon. and learned member from Northumberland, and I took his words down at the time, and they run to the effect that the Sheriffs paid more attention to the wishes and desires of the government, than to the protection of the people. Did the hon. gentleman really mean that the government had tampered with the Sheriffs? for if the Sheriffs had been tampered with, I for one would desert them in a moment. I have too high an opinion of them to believe any thing of the kind. The Opposition talk of the manoeuvring of the government and their supporters; that comes from them with a very bad grace. Such a course of conduct is only applicable to themselves, and there I leave them.

FREDERICTON, March 24th.

The amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill relating to the office of Registrar of Deeds and Wills were not agreed to by Lower House. Bill consequently lost.

Hon. Mr. Wilnot introduced a Bill to continue the Parish School Act, stating at the same time that in case a dissolution should occur, it was necessary to make provision whereby School Teachers could receive their pay.

Provincial Secretary charged the opposition with a determination to obstruct the business.

Johnson retorted, denying the charge, and another war followed.

Attorney General charged the opposition with being an oligarchy. Harding warmly replied, calling the Government an oligarchy and stating that the Government had not the confidence of the country.

Debate kept up with spirit until adjournment for dinner.

Opposition defended by Smith, Gillmor, Johnson, Harding and others.

Both sides seemed to agree that a dissolution was the only remedy for present state of things.

Speaker declared that the whole debate was irregular.

The Bill to revive the Parish School Act having received a second reading, the Provincial Secretary moved that the House go into committee of the whole in consideration of the Bill.

Several members opposed on the grounds that Government promised new measures in the speech.

Mr. McMonagle declared himself opposed to the revival of the old School Law and expressed it as his opinion that the Government should *non resiga*.

Hon. Mr. Wilnot said he would not have introduced the Bill but for the speech of Mr. Johnson last evening, motion finally withdrawn.

Progress was reported on the Bill relating to the Court House in the County of York.

Mr. McMonagle introduced a Bill to authorize the division of King's County. House adjourned 5 1/2.

ST. JOHN'S, N. B., March 24th.—Any man who can bound out of bed as soon as he wakes of a mid-winter's morning, is worth something; no fear of his not making his way through the world creditably, because he has the elements of promptitude, decision and energy, which guarantee success. To invalidate we make a comfortable suggestion worth knowing. If you have force of will enough to keep you from taking a second nap—and it is the "second nap" which makes its baneful influence felt on the multitude—it is better for you to lie awake and think about it, until the feeling of weariness passes out of the limbs which you so commonly feel. But to sleep soundly, and to feel rested and refreshed when you wake up of a morning—four things are essential—

1. Go to bed with feet thoroughly dry and warm.
2. Take nothing for supper but some cold bread, and butter, and a single cup of weak warm tea of any kind.
3. Avoid over fatigue of body.
4. For the hour preceding bedtime, dismiss every engrossing subject from the mind, and let it be employed about something soothing and enlivening, in cheerful thankfulness.—*Hall's N. Y. Journal of Health.*

DEATH OF VETERAN MISSIONARIES.—The Rev. Drs. Medhurst and Smith, the for-

mer of China, and the latter of Syria, have recently departed to rest. Dr. Medhurst was the colleague of Morrison in the translation of the Scriptures. Dr. Smith was the oldest missionary in Syria, and has been engaged for years in translating the Scriptures into the Arabic. The former died in England, the latter at Beirut.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Standard.

ST. STEPHEN'S 24th March, 1857.

MR. EDITOR.—The completion of the Railway from St. Andrews to Woodstock may now be considered as a fact. The doubts and fears of the most skeptical are rapidly vanishing before the energetic progress now making on the works under the present management.

As the undertaking proceeded to assume the aspect of certainty, the St. Stephen people began to enquire about the branch so ordered to them by act of Assembly, and to discuss at what particular part of the Town the Iron horse should make his entry.—When lo! and behold, what a discovery was made. St. Stephen had no branch line to expect, a change had been surreptitiously made in the act of Assembly relating to this branch changing the terminus from St. Stephen, to a very indefinite locality, viz: to the St. Croix River, at or near the Ledge.

It is not at present my intention to enquire into the motives that influenced this change, yet with much propriety might the enquiry be made, for in the whole history of our Provincial legislation it would be difficult to find a parallel case, where local representatives have dared to change a legislative enactment in which the interests of their constituents were so deeply involved, without consulting the wishes of those constituents. An act of *Liberalism* by the way, which perhaps the *Patriot* can reconcile with the hackneyed professions of regard for the wishes of the *dear people*.

Under the amended, or rather distorted, act of Assembly, the Railway Company is bound to build a branch line to the St. Croix at or near the Ledge. Will it be for the interests of the Company simply to comply with the conditions of the act, in the least expensive way, touching the St. Croix as described—at the shortest point from their line, or will the interests of the Company not be further promoted by running their branch as direct as possible to St. Stephen, and thence to the Ledge, or would it not be more advisable to lay aside all local prejudices, and take a more extended and patriotic view of the question, and by an arrangement with the Provincial Government—which no doubt can be easily effected—locate this branch that is my part of the European and North American line.

These are questions not only of local, but of provincial importance, as well as of vast moment to the New Brunswick and Canada Railway Company.

Taking for granted that the European & North American line will be extended from St. John to Calais, as undoubtedly will be the case in the next Railway schemes, an impartial observer would at once reply to the question involved, locate the branch that it may form part of the European road. It would appear to require no argument to sustain this conclusion. If by a timely understanding and arrangement between the Provincial Government and the Railway Company the necessity of building 12 or 14 miles of road can be obviated, at a cost of from forty to fifty thousand pounds, surely such an arrangement should be immediately made.

St. John wishes a Railway connection with Woodstock. I doubt if this can be effected by any shorter route than by connecting with the St. Andrews road. This junction would at once place St. John in connection with Woodstock, and by a proper location of the St. Stephen branch from the continuous and desired line from St. John to the State of Maine.

What say you to the suggestion, Mr. Editor? Use your influence to bring the subject into notice, and to secure the co-operation of all concerned.

Your Obt. Servant, G.

FALSE PRETENCE MARRIAGE.—The New York Mirror says that Mr. John G. Baker has commenced a suit against his ex-coachman, and would-be son-in-law, John Dean. It is an application on behalf of his daughter Marianna Petrinella, interested to avoid her alleged marriage with John Dean. Mr. Charles Edwards has received instructions from Mr. Baker to proceed with the case. It is a question whether the marriage is valid, when the parties go to the clergyman with a lie on their lips. Mr. Hatfield was told by the coachman Dean, that Miss Baker was a servant girl in a neighbouring family; and so the parson consented to tie them in his kitchen. Whereas, had there ever been any

false pretences in the case he never would have married the parties. Miss Marianna Petrinella (such a name is enough to make any girl ridiculously romantic) already begins to see her folly.

Latest from Europe!

New York, March 24.

Steamer Africa from Liverpool, morning 7th, arrived this forenoon. It is reported that Sir John Bowering has been recalled from Canada.

Notice has been given in both branches of Parliament of a dissolution in May. In the meantime only necessary measures, requiring immediate action, will be attended to. Lord Palmerston has been invited to become a member for the City of London.

The proposition to partially reduce the Income Tax has been carried by 62 majority. The Treaty between Persia and England is officially announced.

A Treaty of Commerce between Persia and the United States has been ratified by the Shaha.

The Conference on the Neuchâtel difficulty between Prussia and Switzerland has commenced at Paris.

Nothing late from China. Markets generally remain dull, showing a continued decline in Breadstuffs.

ASSAULT ON MR. BUCHANAN.—Mr. Buchanan was insulted in Baltimore city by a gang of rowdies, who hissed and shouted as the carriage in which he was seated passed by; and such as the people of Baltimore may wish to deny it, the allegation can be proved by numbers who were present. That stones were repeatedly thrown among the procession, and several members of the Faculty injured thereby, is a fact too well known for denial.—*State of Maine.*

ANOTHER MURDER IN NEW YORK.—On Thursday night a desperate fight occurred in a brothel in James street, New York, between a German named Schiek, placed a pistol to the breast of one of the party, James Martin, and fired. Martin fell dead on the spot. Schiek was taken into custody.

A POOR RAIN THAT WON'T WORK BOTH WAYS.—A countryman once went into an Ordinary's office and inquired if that was the place where people got licenses to get married. Upon being answered in the affirmative, he said he'd "take one." After "taking one," he inquired the price. The obliging official said—"Well, the legal fee is one dollar and fifty six cents, but gentlemen generally give whatever they please." "Well," says the countryman, "that's kind of you" at the same time throwing down a quarter. That Ordinary was "sold."

THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS.—The following is an extract from a letter in the New York Express, dated Paris, Feb. 19th.—The Rev. Mr. Kirk, of Boston, has purchased the English Church in the Rue d'Aligre.

As soon as the English found that the Americans were going to buy it for an American Church they were very anxious to get it back, and Mr. Kirk was strongly urged by Lord Cowley to that effect.

But Mr. K refused, and the English are in a great hreeze about it. He has not obtained possession yet, and commenced service last Sunday in the Chapelle Taibout, which as the object is to have a church in which all the Americans can unite, he has decided to use the American Common Prayer Book, and make an *ex tempore* prayer before and after the sermon. We heard an excellent sermon on Sunday. None of the Masons were there, as they should have been, to sustain the national character of the enterprise, but there was a presentation at Court on the same day, and twenty Americans were presented. I think it is a disgrace to the country that Americans will go in such crowds on Sunday. It is said that the Emperor adopted the Sabbath day in hope of getting rid of the swarm of Americans, and there was no wonder he should wish to, but he has not succeeded.

THE SUBSTITUTE FOR CHLOROFORM.—The new agent, amyline, for the prevention of pain during surgical operation, was used, for the first time, at the Bristol General Hospital, a day or two ago, and with complete success. The surgeons speak of the insensibility to pain under amyline as being permanent, and say that its anæsthetic effects are of shorter duration, than those of chloroform.

MARRIAGE OF A HINDOO WIDOW.—The first marriage of a Hindoo widow that ever occurred in Calcutta, took place on the 7th of December. This is better than burning herself on the funeral pyre of her deceased husband. The parties in this transaction are of the highest respectability, and this

will prove a marked event in the history of Hindostan.

In an attempt made by one of the boarders in a leading hotel at Washington, to destroy rats, which were very troublesome, several gentlemen, including Mr. Buchanan, J. Glancy Jones, and others, came near being poisoned to death. Mr. Buchanan was quite unwell for some days in consequence, and Mr. Jones was considered dangerously ill up to the first part of last week. The unfortunate event occurred about the middle of February. Poison was scattered about the house profusely, the rats ate, and repaired forthwith to a water tank, drank and died. The water being used for cooking, &c., produced the result as above.

THE LATE RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN CANADA.—The crowds of men, women and children, congregated at the different places were enormous. At the depot, thousands were to be seen, and all the streets leading to the bridge, as well as the depot, were crowded with persons going to and coming from these points. The excitement at the station house, and around the immediate place of disaster, was intense. The baggage building, where the bodies were deposited, was surrounded with an expectant crowd, many of whom presented a most melancholy appearance. Hundreds of anxious hearts found relief in loud sobbing. Every crack was occupied by persons peering in among the stiffened corpses, to see whether the familiar face of some dear friend was not recognizable among the horribly mutilated dead, who lay in two rows upon the floor.—A great many of the identified bodies had been removed by the friends of the unfortunate sufferers. The recognitions were characterized by the most awful and heart rending scenes. Some of the females exhibited the most agonising sufferings of the Hamilton (C. W.) *Banner* denies a rumour which had obtained circulation, that the accident was caused by the misplacement of a switch.

German Hot Beds.

Take white cotton cloth, of a close texture, stretch it and nail it on frames of any size you wish; mix two ounces of lime-water, four ounces of linseed oil one ounce white of eggs separately, two ounces of yolk of eggs; mix the lime and oil with a very gentle heat, beat the eggs separately, and mix with the former. Spread the mixture with a paint brush, over the cloth, allowing each coat to dry before applying another, until they become water-proof. The following are some of the advantages these shades possess over glass:

1. The cost being hardly one-fourth.
2. Repairs are easily and cheaply made.
3. They are light; they do not require watering, no matter how intense the heat of the sun, the plants are never struck down, or faded, or checked in growth; neither do they grow up long, sickly, and weakly, as they do under glass, and still admit an abundance of light.
4. The heat entirely arising from below is equal and temperate, which is a great object. The vapor arising from the manure and earth is condensed by the cool air passing over the surface of the shade, and hangs in drops upon the inside, and therefore the plants do not require so frequent watering. If the frames or stretchers are made large, they should be intersected with cross bars about a foot square, to support the cloth. These articles are just the thing for bringing forward flower seeds in season for transplanting.

For forcing early melons, tomatoes, &c., it is especially adapted, as the cloth can be tacked to boxes of any required size, and cut to fit them. Little rough square boxes, of the proper size and height, covered with the prepared cloth, can be placed over the hills in which tomato, melon, or other seeds are planted, and the plants allowed to stand, without transplanting, until all danger of frost is over, when the boxes may be taken off and packed away carefully for another season.—*Plough, Loon and Anvil.*

THE SULTAN A DRUNKARD.—The London correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune writes—"The Sultan, noble minded but weak, has, in his endeavor to become civilized, taken a fancy to wine, drinkings, and his health is now prostrate in consequence of habitual drunkenness. Should he happen to die, the succession might be contested between his uncle and his brother, both of them pretending to act as guardians of his son, who is a minor. A struggle might easily ensue, giving a handle to Russia, as well as to England and France for interfering. The condition of Europe is really not to be envied, since the continuance of peace all over the Continent rest upon such slender grounds as the health and life of Napoleon in France, and of the Sultan in Turkey."