

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., SEPTEMBER 7, 1893.

Canada on Top.

Bank deposits have decreased to the extent of about \$200,000,000 in the United States since May 1st. Canadian banks are leaving that country and coming home as fast as possible. There is no doubt of these facts. Canadian bank deposits—chartered and savings—for 1893 have increased by \$13,300,720 over those of 1892. This is also a fact; so with all the cries we hear of Canada being so miserable a country, it seems to be the most prosperous, as it is the biggest, on this side of the Atlantic.

A Telling Answer.

The last paragraph in the report of Mr. Gladstone's speech on the Home Rule Bill, which is in another column, contains a most logical answer to those who have claimed that the people of Ireland are unfit to be entrusted with the responsibility of managing their own local affairs. It shows that the general public in Ireland are not the least capable of the most prudent and patriotic action of the most important parliamentary debater can use.

The Crown Land Sales.

We have in preparation a statement showing the mileage of lands bought and sold up to date for each purchaser in the counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Westchester, at the crown land sales in Fredericton last week, but for the sake of securing greater accuracy we defer its publication until next week.

It is both interesting and amusing to read the comments of the papers opposed to the government, in connection with the Crown Land sales. On the morning after the first day's bidding, when it seemed that speculative buying threatened to inflate prices, and that an unduly large sum would be realized, the comments of those papers paved the way for the charge against the government that its land policy was bearing with crushing pressure upon an already struggling industry. When, however, owing to better understandings on all sides, the sum total realized by the sales was only a little more than might be reasonably expected, the opposition organs labored to show that it ought to have been much more. They thought they had got it down fine. They assumed that the sales of last week were the sales for the year, and they figured out, by a process of calculation of their own, that \$15,000 more ought to have been realized. The trouble with such critics is that they have had no more lumber policies in their time—as proclaimed by their different leaders—that the public mind is sure to be confused over the subject, should it attempt to take them seriously, so it is hence to be said that every new declaration of the Sun and the lesser opposition organs, on the subject of the Crown Land sales, are read for amusement only. We are sorry for the Sun's sake, that it has gone from one extreme to the other in a very short time. The echoes of its cries against the government's policy being the means of robbing the treasury of the money which it had hardly died away when we find it as vehemently denouncing the same government for taking a step in the direction advocated by it and in line with the policy of the other great lumber provinces of the Dominion. All who are acquainted with the subject realize that the change made in the Crown Land policy of the government is a good one; that while it has secured the province more revenue than has heretofore derived from its lands, it also gives a character of permanency to the tenure of timber-lands which is a guarantee of safety to those who invest their capital in our lumbering enterprises. No business can be considered on a satisfactory basis that is not protected from the guerrilla-like attacks of those who are always in line to profit by the honest industry and efforts of others. These carping newspapers, for the mere sake of keeping up their denunciations of the government and promoting the cause of the opposition, would have their readers believe that the great staple industry of the province should continue to be handicapped by the policy which they themselves condemned but a short time since. They cannot succeed, however, in misleading the people in reference to a subject so vital to their interests and now so well understood. The many who are dependent upon the lumber business will not fail, however, to note on which side of provincial politics the wreckers are and avoid both sympathy and association with them.

(From the Fredericton "Herald.") The sale of leases to cut lumber and timber of all kinds of the crown lands of the province, took place during the week. There were large attendance of lumbermen from all parts of the province. The sale took place in the old Legislative Council room of the parliament buildings which had been cleared out for the purpose and afforded ample accommodations for the large number present. The surveyor general, with his staff, was present to look after the sale, while assistant Wetmore did the talking in his usually happy manner. The competition, particularly for the more valuable blocks of land, was keen from the start, and the bidding in these became quite exciting. The large tracts of land held by the bank of Montreal seemed to be in general demand and brought large prices. Ernest Hatcher's was bound to have his share of them at any price, while Geo. A. Hughes, the dark horse of the sale, who is believed to have been acting for some American capitalists, chased the big financial concern up into three figures every time a block came up. Timothy Lynch came in for a hard pounding, and had to pay a big price for all the land he purchased. For one block he paid \$221 per acre, and for yet another he was forced up to \$301 per acre. J. B. Sowball paid well for his land which he had a large quantity, the greater part of which he is ready to ship.

Mr. Gibson met with more or less comment for his valuable lands but retained them all. K. F. Burns did not go above the upset price. The Fairleys and some operators represented by A. S. Murray, were forced to pay well for their land. Messrs. Wm. Richards and James Robinson were also large purchasers, but got their lands without much competition. The general result of the sale was most satisfactory, and shows that the crown lands of the province are a valuable asset whose value has been materially enhanced by the policy of the government. At the close of the sale F. E. Wetmore, the bank of Montreal's agent, arose and, as one of those largely interested in the sale, expressed his satisfaction at the fair and impartial way in which the sale had been carried on. He wished also to convey his thanks to the surveyor general and his staff for the kind and courteous treatment he had received. He had found all the clerks of the department most obliging, and willing to attend day or night to give any information asked for. He had met with competition in the purchase of his lands but he expected and was satisfied to pay the increased price. He had much pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to the surveyor general and his staff for their uniform kindness and courtesy during the sale. This motion was seconded by E. Hatcher who, as one of the largest purchasers was well satisfied with the way the sale had been conducted.

Hon. Mr. Sowball then took the floor and in a brief but pleasant speech spoke of the pleasure he felt in the sale, and in the bidding for the crown lands. As one who had had a large amount of valuable lands he had expressed his pleasure in the new regulations recently passed by the government. He had been expecting to meet some competition when called upon in open contest with others to pay a high price for his lands or else then he had paid the increased price. He was well satisfied with the result. He also expressed his gratitude to the surveyor-general's department for the obliging way in which the clerks had answered all questions, and given all the information in their power to assist the purchasers in their inquiries concerning the lumber lands. The sale had been a fair one, and he believed all so recognized it. Mr. K. F. Burns, the chairman, put the motion, which was carried with cheer, and in felicitous language he conveyed the thanks of the large assembly to the surveyor-general representing the department. The surveyor-general coming to reply was cordially received. He made one of his usual witty and many speeches, in the course of which he took occasion to explain and uphold the policy of the government of which he was a member, and to give the crown lands of the province. The lumbermen have all left for their homes and the great sale is over. The total receipts from all sources will be the vicinity of \$80,000,000.

Shall We Ever Reach Independence?

VII. Before Confederation, the provinces now composing the Dominion of Canada were isolated colonies, having few or no interests in common. Owing to this, they were weak and without power or influence in Imperial councils, and the consequence was that the arrangements of matters that were of vital importance to their several interests were invariably settled by Imperial diplomats, who, considering colonial rights and interests of little or no value, invariably sacrificed them to the advantage of Great Britain. But with confederation there was a great change for the better in the political as well as in the commercial affairs of the country, owing to their having been united under one government, which made the rights and interests of one the common cause of all. The result has been that as Canada gained in political strength she obtained an influence in Imperial councils and was able to command that consideration for her interests which was denied the different provinces in the days of their infancy and weakness.

During the 26 years that have elapsed since the consummation of confederation, Canada has been growing and expanding until her territories extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. Her four original provinces have become seven and her territory has been created in four territories covering 750,000 square miles. In addition to this, she has been pursuing a course of industrial development which is now making its influence felt over half this continent. Although this development has not been as rapid as many of us had been led to expect, still it has been sufficiently so to warrant us in looking with hopefulness and confidence to the future. It is true that our farming, manufacturing and other industries are at present suffering from serious depression, but that need give us no reason to despair of our country's future, as few countries in the world could produce so great a record of progress and advancement at the time their population did not exceed 5,000,000. At confederation it has been estimated that the realized wealth of British America, exclusive of railways, canals, public buildings, etc., was in the vicinity of \$1,136,000,000. Calculated on this basis, a later writer says that the gross value of our farms, buildings, ships, capital and other wealth cannot be less than \$3,363,750, and the value of our total annual production from field, forests, farms, fisheries, mines, etc., may be roughly estimated at \$1,000,000,000. Mr. George Johnson, the head of the statistical bureau at Ottawa, says that our exports of agricultural products have reached the value of \$51,000,000 in a single year, and he estimates the total value of the production of Dominion farms at about \$500,000,000 per annum. The three great natural resources of Canada are her forests, her fisheries and her shipping. The former are unrivalled in extent and value and the country has exported lumber and timber to the value of \$23,500,000 in a single year. The value of the registered shipping of Canada in 1891 was nearly \$30,164,250 and there were upwards of 65,000 men engaged in our fisheries. The products of the fisheries exported and sold amounted to \$18,978,078, besides an estimated home consumption of \$13,000,000. The marketing products of the fisheries have been under the control of the people for their decision, and it may be said that the cause will not fail for want of leaders. They are to be found in every part of the country and there is hardly a public man in Canada, who, after studying the question thoroughly, has expressed his opinion in favor of shipping being very little surpassed by any except Liverpool, London and Glasgow. From the following statistics of the shipping of the world which is taken from the statistical year book of Canada, it will be seen that the Dominion occupies a highly creditable position among maritime powers in regard to registered sea-going tonnage.

Great Britain, 17,978,533 tons. Sweden and Norway, 7,978,533 tons. Germany, 1,320,721 tons. Canada, 1,005,473 tons. 346,936 tons.

A late writer in commenting upon this return says:—"Counting in vessels engaged in the river and lake trade, the United States would be entitled to the second place, having 4,084,739 tons. But taking registered sea-going shipping alone, Canada stands before the United States, Italy, France, the Netherlands, Austria, Turkey and Spain—in third, has now the fourth, and will, in all probability soon have the third largest amount of marine tonnage in the world."

Thirty years ago there were scarcely any railways in what is now the Dominion, but in 1892 there were about 14,088 miles. Our railway development has been nearly all since confederation and during the same period the paid up capital has increased from \$109,471,100 to \$844,914,740. From 1875 to 1889, a period of fourteen years, the earnings of our railways increased from \$19,000,000 to \$42,000,000. The latest returns show that Canada possesses 17,489 miles of telegraph lines and 22,000 miles of telegraph lines, the latter being surpassed only by six of the larger nations.

During the last few years some of the ablest writers in the United States have devoted both their time and talents to the writing of the varied and inexhaustible natural resources of Canada. My belief is that extensive improvements will be made in the tariff, both as to matters of principle and administration. But I can not speak more precisely until my colleagues complete their investigation of the whole subject, and until I know their views. I say this because I have all proper deference for the great knowledge they possess respecting their respective departments. Personally, I entertain a very strong desire that the legislation on this subject shall keep pace with the changes which are being made in the tariff, and that the tariff be adopted owing to the changing circumstances of the country. No one can doubt that such changes are going rapidly forward as the country progresses and as the various interests become developed.

At the same time it is only proper to state that we have no idea of adopting the notion that the industries of the country should be completely sacrificed to the doctrines of the opposition in favor of a tariff based professedly on revenue requirements only.

A Great Event.

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When Ireland should be a national unity, it would include finally in the general sense of the term. Mr. Justice accepted the measure as a final settlement of their long-continued struggle.

Joseph Chamberlain, leader of the Liberal Unionists, while disclaiming all intentions of questioning Mr. McCarthy's sincerity, said he could not forget how another speaker had said that we have brought to a settlement of the demands of Ireland, and declared it was accepted only as a temporary expedient.

"If this bill," continued Mr. Chamberlain, "is passed, it will be a landmark in the history of the Dominion of Ireland, and it will be a landmark in the history of the Dominion of Ireland, and it will be a landmark in the history of the Dominion of Ireland."

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