POOR COPY

New Advertisements

L.S.L.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000.

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Quarterly Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with facsimiles of our signatures attached, in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early
Commissioners.

We the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in The Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

J. H. OGLESBY,
Pres. Louisiana National Bank.
J. W. KILBRETH,
Pres. State National Bank
A. BALDWIN,
Pres. New Orleans National Bank.

UNPRECEDENTED ATTRACTION!
OVER HALF A MILLION DISTRIBUTED.

Louisiana State Lottery Company.

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes—with a Capital of $1,000,000—to which a reserve fund of over $550,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 2d A. D. 1879.

Its Grand Single Number Drawings will take place monthly. *It never scales or postpones.* Look at the following distribution!

193rd Grand Monthly
AND THE
EXTRAORDINARY QUARTERLY DRAWING
IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS.
Tuesday, June 15, 1886.
Under the personal supervision and management of Gen. G. T. BEAUREGARD, of Louisiana, and Gen. JUBAL A. EARLY, of Virginia.

Capital Prize, $150,000.

Notice.—Tickets are Ten Dollars only. Halves, $5. Fifths, $2 Tenths, $1.

1 CAPITAL PRIZE OF	$150,000	$150,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	50,000	50,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	20,000	20,000
2 LARGE PRIZES OF	10,000	20,000
4 LARGE PRIZES OF	5,000	20,000
20 PRIZES OF	1,000	20,000
50 "	500	25,000
100 "	300	30,000
200 "	200	40,000
600 "	100	60,000
1,000 "	50	50,000
APPROXIMATION PRIZES.		
100 Approximation Prizes of	$200	$20,000
100 " "	100	10,000
100 " "	75	7,500
2,279 Prizes mounting to		$529,500

Application for rates to Clubs should be made only to the Office of the Company in New Orleans.

For further information write clearly, giving full address. POSTAL NOTES, Express money Orders, or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express (at our expense) address

M. A. Dauphin,
New Orleans, La.
or M. A. DAUPHIN,
Washington, D. C.

Make P. O. Money Orders payable and address Registered Letters to
NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK,
New Orleans, La.

ATTENTION!

THE Advertiser wishes to ascertain whether any newspaper in Canada has within a year two advertised for heirs of Jeremiah Smith, formerly of Lesemahagow, Lanarkshire, Scotland who settled in Granville, Nova Scotia, about the ear 1777. Any information concerning this estate or heirs will be thankfully received by

JAS. NEILSON.
Chatham, Miramichi, N. B.

F. W. RUSSELL

is now offering
PORK, FLOUR, MEAL, MOLASSES, TEA SUGAR
and a full line of choice family Groceries, Crockery Glass and Earthenware, Boots and Shoes, Hats, Ties and Scarfs, and ready made Clothing.
At owest cash prices.

FOR SALE.

The Lot of Land Cornering on Duke and Cunard Streets and known as the

Wesleyan Church Property.

This lot has a frontage of 93½ feet on Cunard St. and 50 feet on Duke St., and will be sold with buildings &c. as they now stand. This is one of the best business stands in town. The buildings are in good repair and suitable for Warehouse or Factory. Possession Given on the first of June next. Price Low and Terms Moderate.

J. B. SNOWBALL.

HAGYARD'S
YELLOW OIL
CURES RHEUMATISM

FREEMAN'S
WORM POWDERS.

Are pleasant to take. Contain their own Purgative. Is a safe, sure, and *effectual destroyer of worms* in Children or Adults

Steam Tug for Sale.

STEAM Tug ALIDA, (now running in Halifax Harbor,) built in Philadelphia; Hull, Boiler and Engine in good condition, having been thoroughly overhauled in October. Engine 20x20 Also one Steam Pump with Steam Hose, 25 feet Suction Pipe of Galvanized Iron and Metal Flanges and Strainer complete, having been used but once. One small Vertical engine, new.
Apply to
R. J. CHETWYND, Halifax.

JUST RECEIVED.

10 BARRELS
Maaga Grapes,
1 CAR LOAD
CHOICE WINTER APPLES,
1 MIXED CAR
CANADIAN APPLES
ONIONS,
CHESE,
ETC. ETC.
BOTTOM PRICES.
D CHESMAN

SAMPES' DOMINION
Horse Liniment.

THE BEST EXTERNAL REMEDY before the public for Lameness, Spavins, Sweeny, Sprains, Swollen and Stiff Joints. Scratches, Cracked and Greasy Heels, Harness Galls, Cuts, Sores of long standing, Fistuls, Poll Evil, Warts, Swellings and Bruises of all kinds.

Also, will eradicate Lumps on the Head and Neck of Cattle; will cure Cuts and Burns upon the Human Body; also, Frost Bites, Chilblains and Salt Rheum.

Sold wholesale by J. D. B. F. Mackenzie and he retail trade.

WHAT IS IT?

By a special arrangement with the publishers of *Farm and Fireside*, we can for a short time offer a free gift in connection with our paper. It is a MAGNIFICENT ENGRAVING entitled "HAMLET and OPHELIA." Our offer is as follows:

The price of Peck's Sun one year is	$2.00
The price of Farm & Fireside one year is	.50
The value of the Engraving is fully	2.50
	—$5.00

We give all the above, worth $5 00, for only $2 Subscribe for Peck's Sun at once and secure them all

Address PECK'S SUN, Milwaukee, Wis

Removal.

The ADVANCE office is removed from the old stand Upper Water Street, to the building next (east) to Messrs. Guy, Bevan & Co's Office, Lower Water Street Chatham.

Miramichi Advance,

CHATHAM, N. B. - - - MAY 13, 1886

The Temperance Question.

It cannot be long before we are again visited by the Temperance question in some of its phases, with the ever-recurring and inevitable conflict of opinion and resulting failure in theory with which it is rife. It is a pity, and a source of prejudice that between the extremes of prohibition on one side and vested interest in the liquor trade on the other, that some *via media* cannot be found which may be just, without being arbitrary, and meet the moral side of the matter without the demoralizing pretence of a law that is considered by too many "more honored in the breach than in the observance." In a country such as this, where laxity in obedience to a statute is in proportion to the weakness of an executive, whether federal or local, that cannot be popular without compounding with much that is on the shady side of righteousness, it is necessary before all things that any regulation touching the traffic in spirituous liquors shall have the general consent of the people and shall be so framed that it will appeal to their reason as well as their interests. Local option as in England and the "Scott Act" of Canada fail in the fact that they create antagonism by being imposed on a minority, which will endeavor to make up by evasion or contempt the freedom that is lost at the polls. The virtue of the license system is destroyed by its being too often and too easily used in the shape of patronage for political purposes, and the qualification for holding a license is made nil because of the limited number of people who can or will invest in the necessary establishment. The advocates of prohibition have a tiresome, if not hopeless battle to fight against the enormous amount of capital invested in the manufacture and trade in spirituous liquors, and so long as the state relies on this source for such a large proportion of its annual income, we can see no daylight ahead as the dawn of their radical expectations.

While the state is busy sowing what the prohibitionist thinks are tares, his industry in weeding, in the meantime, looks like zeal without knowledge. In view of this condition of things and the demand on the part of a vast number of the people for a supply of spirituous beverages, which they will have in one form or another—good, bad or indifferent, and by "hook or crook"—would it not be the wiser course to meet this insuperable difficulty on terms where there would be the least physical and social damage? Would it not be more prudent and practical to vest the sale of all intoxicating liquors in the municipality and make it not alone unlawful but unprofitable also for the individual to attempt to make a fortune or a living in the business. The profit derived from the legitimate consumption of all kinds of malted or distilled liquors would then become a source of revenue to the municipality and go far towards reducing direct taxation for local purposes.

The system known as the "Gottenborg" suggests itself as meeting this view of the subject, and may briefly be described for illustration—

The town of Gottenborg, the second in importance in Sweden, had the bad reputation of being the most intemperate one in a not teetotal country. The good people of it, in order to redeem their moral credit—with an eye to making it pay as well—devised a scheme, to enforce which they secured an act of the legislature. The municipality was empowered to buy out the liquor-selling interest within its jurisdiction, by treaty, arbitration, or by gradually making it unprofitable for those who might prove obstinate. The latter, left to the natural effect of the growth of the system, were eventually obliged to abandon what failed to afford profit or even a living. When this was effected a certain number of places, sufficient for the reasonable wants of the town, were established, where liquors could only be had and at fair prices in wholesale or retail quantities. These had to be of the purest description, having to pass the inspection of a board—say, of health. If some people will drink, they seem to say, let the fountain be pure and the supply moderate while the profits shall belong to all and enrich none. The places for sale are opened and closed at stated hours and are under the surveillance of the police, and anyone creating a disturbance therein, aggravates his offence in consequence. Only adults can obtain admission. No child or person under the influence of drink or habituals are allowed entrance. Any one seen under the influence of drink indicates at once that the law has been broken. If it has been in one of these places the person in charge loses his situation and incurs, besides, whatever other penalty may attach. The people in charge have no interest in selling more than is lawfully asked for, adulterating, or otherwise breaking or evading the law, and as the establishments are situated in the more public and respectable parts of the town, they are under the eye and control of public notice. To these helps and checks in carrying out the system are added the power to refuse the privilege of procuring liquer, on any terms, to persons who are habitual or casual inebriates, or who, in any way, abuse their freedom. This, in itself, is a useful auxilliary to penalties imposed by the police jurisdiction on offenders against public peace or social order. The profits accruing from this municipal monopoly of the trade are a considerable item of revenue, paid voluntarily by all who chose to exercise their freedom to contribute in a lawful way. The amount is divided yearly in equitable proportions between the town proper and a certain area of the surrounding country, the people of which are supposed to have contributed their share, but their localities must conform to the law to enable them to participate in the benefits.

It will be seen at once that those who did not sell out at first to the municipality and to whom the full power of the law was not applied must soon be driven out of the business by a strong, decent and lawful competition, so that in a short time the system had complete control of the liquor trade of the town. The result is that Gottenborg, from being a bye-word, has become proverbial for its sobriety and order, and the system has demonstrated itself to be effectual and most successful in accomplishing every object aimed at of economy, social order and temperance, combined with legitimate freedom.

True liberty, which, if prohibited, will evade, is not trammelled, while temperance is assisted. It is the handmaid of local revenue and under its provisions vice itself loses much of evil by losing all its grossness.

The law is obeyed because it is reasonable, besides, there is no advantage gained in breaking it, and thus it cultivates subordination and obedience, without which all laws are dead, or only alive enough for contempt. The system is based on the rational principle which commands universal consent, that if social order is involved in the liquor trade, the trade shall be vested in the community and not in the individual or any partnership of individuals! that as all are not teetotallers, some will use intoxicating beverages, therefore it is politic and wise that the liquor consumed shall be unadulterated and be had lawfully and without reproach.

The sphere and function of temperance societies are not invaded by this system, but advanced. They can still preach and practice total abstinence and, thereby, prove to those who remain moderate in their habits, as well as those who are sober by compulsion, the physical, moral and economic advantage of teetotalism, which may ultimately even make the Gottenborg system superfluous, by creating a teetotal world. Till this is accomplished Prohibition, Local option laws, Scott Acts and License Systems will only prove mock sabbaths of rest in the treadmill of their benevolent labors. They will be discounted and discredited by hypocrisy, evasion, open contempt because unworkable laws are in the hands of weak executives, bad liquors sold in worse dens by the worst of men, opiates, narcotics and all sorts and forms of stimulants compounded by the science of chemistry, turned to money-making, for which drugs, worn, weary and degenerate human nature with depraved appetite craves and will have them though the heavens should fall.

But, like all laws, the Gottenborg system requires a certain moral tone and consent in the community where it is applied. Still, it is one that trenches least on personal liberty, though it limits it, but in reasonable directions, and is, therefore, more likely to commend itself to popular favor, offering, as it does, at the end of each year a handsome bonus as a reward for obedience in the shape of a reduction in assessed taxation. The revenue derived would be indirectly secured and touch all alike, rich and poor in proportion as each exercised his liberty in the use of a luxury, while the teetotaler would receive an indirect benefit with the rest of the community as some reward for his self-denial or fortunate habits. Bismarck made an attempt to apply a similar plan to the German Empire, but the vested interests in the trade were too many even for the great Chancellor who can Germanize whole provinces by a decree. This fact is worth considering by Prohibitionists. But what Bismarck failed to do in the mass and on an imperial scale may be quite within the range of communities to achieve in detail and in smaller areas. Mr. Chamberlain's first efforts in legislation, after he became a member of the British House of Commons, was to introduce a bill to apply the Gottenborg system to the town of Birmingham, but it was thrown out by the liquor and uninovating interest, or we might now have the experiment in England to judge from.

If the system were tried in this country, under reasonable conditions favorable to success, it might be the beginning of the end of a burning question which will never be settled by the extremists on either side, but may be met and quenched on some base broad enough for a compromise between liberty and law where the moral consent of freedom will submit to the demands of a regulation for the good of society, from which all will derive an equal advantage, moral, social and financial.

The religious aspect of the question must be left to the various churches and the total abstinance platform to the temperance societies, but the legislative, executive and judicial functions of the state in its relation to all and as no respecter of persons or their crotchets, can only hope to enforce a law worthy the name that recognises things as they are, and a real and not an ideal condition of society.

The course of freedom may be directed by reason and the logic of self-advantage, but will refuse to be either diverted or blocked even by that autocrat of modern civilization, the ballot box, which, in the name and vesture of liberty would exercise corporate tyranny by the power of a soulless majority. The history of the world presents no record of a lasting reformation as the result of fear or compulsion. All true progress has developed in accordance with the law and analogy of nature. Almost anything in physics or morals may be accomplished by gently and wisely guiding the current which bears, but cannot be breasted, while all laws of "thou shalt not" are lost in the rebellious voice of "I will"—even those of the Medes and Persians, which pronounced their own sentence of death in their prohibitions.

More Jobbery.

People acquainted with the location of the railway along the north shore of the Bay Chaleur to Paspebiac and Gaspe, have wondered why the oft-made proposal—one which we strongly advocated some two years ago—to make its junction with the Intercolonial at Campbellton instead of Metapedia, has been so persistently ignored by the Ottawa Government. The explanation is given in the following Ottawa special to the Toronto *Globe*,—

Another disgraceful job and gross evasion of the Independence of Parliament Act has been discovered by the papers brought down showing the relations between the government and the Baie Des Chaleurs Railway Company. The Company is composed of Senator Robitaille, his brother L. A. Robitaille, Riopel, M. P., and McGreevy, M. P., all being supporters of the Government. Riopel is also a director in Beaty's Northwest Central Railway. On the seventh of November last, Messrs. Robitaille, McGreevy and Riopel, under thr name of the Baie Des Chaleurs railway company, made a contract with the Government to build twenty miles of railway from Metapedia to Paspebiac for $300,000 or $15,000 per mile. This contract, which is signed by Hon. J. H. Pope, on behalf of the Government, and Senator Robitaille and his brother on behalf of the company, was witnessed by Riopel, M. P. It sets forth: "Her Majesty agrees to grant to the Baie Des Chaleurs Railway Company the sum of three hundred thousand dollars for twenty miles of railway to be constructed payable out of the consolidated revenue fund of Canada." Now it is known that the Robitaille-Riopel Company has been trying to play Beaty with this contract. Having a large subsidy, $15,000 per mile from the Dominion government, and about $6,000 per mile from the Quebec government, they have been trying to sell out to advantage. They offered their contract and subsidies to one contractor for $25,000 cash, to another they offered to sell out for $800 per mile on all subsidies received from the Government, the conditions of this arrangement being that the contractor should use his influence on behalf of the tory candidate (Mr. Riopel himself) at the next election. All this can be easily proved. The fact is the government entered into the contract with these men, and in order that they would have something to sell the government spent about $5,000 on the Paspebiac Railway last year and Robitaille got the benefit of that expenditure.

What do the people of Campbellton and Restigouche, generally, think of the above? But such is Tory rule, and we presume there are a sufficient number of leading Restigouche tories in the Robitaille & Co. ring to satisfy the easy going electors of that County that they ought to again return a member to the commons who will support the Government that has been guilty of pandering to the above job.

The Lightship.

Messrs, M Adams, M. P. P., R. H. Gremley, R. R. Call and other gentlemen of Newcastle, with the steam tug, Laura, under the direction of John E. Miller, Esq., made an excursion down-river on Monday night, taking with them the old Lightship, which is now moored at the Bar. It was expected that a new lightship would have been provided by the Dominion Government for this service, but, for some unexplained reason, the departmental advertisements which called for tenders several months ago for a proposed light vessel, have resulted in nothing in the way of a much-needed change. The old American fishing schooner, seized fifteen or sixteen years since and made to do Lightship duty until now, is practically unfit for anything in the way of effective service. Such a vessel will, of course, afford emergency jobs for towage—as this one has already done in the navigation season—and thus meet the views of the gentlemen who are controlling Dominion patronage in Northumberland and enjoying trips down-river at Government expense, but it is only such rule as that now in vogue at Ottawa that can afford to so trifle with an important coast service, and only such men as those who have the ear of the Ottawa authorities that would be content to see the shipping service of the Miramichi so protected. Our millions are for the development of the new and scantily populated Western country, while even a much-needed lightship, suitable for the important Bar station at the mouth of our river, cannot be furnished, lest its construction might afford employment for our over-taxed ship carpenters. That kind of thing is what we are enjoying as the fruits of Confederation, and about all that our Dominion patronage-dispensers are able to do for us. They are an interesting lot as at present constituted.

American Fisherman Seized.

The Dominion Government steamer, Lansdowne, has seized the American fishing schooner, David J. Adams, on a charge of buying bait at Digby, N. S. This may be in accordance with treaty stipulations, but, as a matter of business, it seems absurd that our people of the coasts are to be debarred from selling bait or any other product of their legitimate toil to whoever will buy. The treaty under which this seizure has been made is that of 1818, but since that time a great many changes in the relationships of the peoples more directly affected, as well as in the means available for protecting our fisheries from those who would catch them in contravention of our treaty rights, have taken place. By all means let our fisheries be protected, but let it, at the same time, be so done as not to deprive our own people of the privilege of selling the fish they catch and upon which they so largely depend for a livelihood.

Repeal in Nova Scotia.

Hon. Provincial Secretary Fielding of Nova Scotia moved the following resolutions in the Assembly of that Province which were carried on Saturday last, only six members voting in the negative,—

That previous to the union of the provinces, the province of Nova Scotia was in a most healthy financial condition.

That by the terms of union the chief sources of revenue were transferred to the federal government.

That strong objections were taken at the time of union to the financial terms thereof, relative to the province of Nova Scotia, as being wholly inadequate to meet the requirements of the various services left under the management of the provincial legislature.

That an appeal was made to the imperial government for a repeal of the union, as far as it relates to this province.

That while they refused to assent to such repeal until a further trial of union was had the imperial government, in the colonial secretary's despatch of the 10th of June, 1868, to Lord Monck, requested that the government and parliament of Canada would modify any arrangement respecting taxation, or respecting the regulation of trade and fisheries which might prejudice the interests of Nova Scotia.

That on the 6th day of October, 1868, Right Honorable Sir John A. Macdonald, in a letter to the Honorable Joseph Howe, referring to the above despath, stated as follows: "The Canadian government are not only ready but anxious to enter upon a frank and full discussion of these points, and are prepared, in case the pressure of taxation should be shown to be unequal or unjust to Nova Scotia, to relieve that pressure by every means in their power. They are also ready to discuss any financial or commercial questions that may be raised by the Nova Scotia government or yourself and representatives of Nova Scotia in the parliament of the Dominion." And he further said: "You may remember that I suggested to a committee that Mr. Annand, financial minister of the province, or any other gentleman selected for the purpose, should visit Ottawa and sit down with the finance minister here for the purpose of ascertaining whether any inequality or injustice exists, the extent of such inequality and the best remedy, and I now reiterate the assurance I then gave that the government here will consider the question, not in a rigid but in a most liberal spirit, with a desire to do even more than justice for the sake of securing the co-operation of the people of Nova Scotia in working out the new constitution. We shall enter upon inquiry whenever it will suit your convenience, and the Canadian government engages to press upon parliament with all the influence they possess, legislation required to carry out any financial readjustment that may be agreed to."

That the dominion government and parliament have never carried out the request or desire of the imperial government and the promise of Right Honorable Sir John A. Macdonald as above quoted.

That after 19 years under the union, successive governments have found that the objections which were urged against the terms of union at first apply with still greater force now than in the first year of union, and the feeling of discontent with regard to the financial arrangement is now believed, by this house, to be more general and more deeply fixed than ever before.

That Nova Scotia, previous to the union, had the lowest tariff and was, notwithstanding, in the best financial condition of any of the provinces entering the union.

That the commercial as well as the financial condition of Nova Scotia is in an unsatisfactory as well as a depressed condition.

That it seems evident that the terms of the "British North America Act," combined with the high tariff and fiscal laws of the dominion, are largely the cause of this unsatisfactory state of the finances and trade of Nova Scotia.

That there is at present no prospect that while the province remains upon the existing terms of union a member of the Canadian federation any satisfactory improvement in the foregoing respects is at all probable.

That previous to 1867, negotiations were in progress for a union of the maritime provinces, but were interrupted by the negotiations for the larger union.

That it now appears, as it did then, that the interests of the people of the several maritime provinces now incorporated with Canada, are in most respects identical.

That the members of this branch of the legislature of Nova Scotia, are of opinion, and do hereby declare their belief, that the financial and commercial interests of the people of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island would be advanced by these provinces withdrawing from the Canadian federation and uniting under one government.

That if it be found impossible, after negotiations for that purpose, to secure the co-operation of the respective governments of the sister provinces in withdrawing from confederation and entering instead into a maritime union, then this legislature deems it absolutely necessary that Nova Scotia, in order that its railways and other public works and services may be extended and maintained as the requirements of the people need them, its industries properly fostered, its commerce invigorated and expanded, and its financial interest placed upon a sound basis, such as was the case previous to confederation, should ask permission from the imperial government to withdraw from the union with Canada to return to the status of a province of Great Britain, with full control over all fiscal laws and tariff regulations within the province such as prevailed previous to 1867.

That this house thus declares its opinion and belief in order that candidates for the suffrages of the people at approaching elections may be enabled to place this vital and important question of separation from Canada before them for decision at the polls.

The Chronicle truthfully says,—

"From the 1st of July, 1867, down to the present hour there has been nothing to modify the feelings of resentment which the people down by the sea have felt at their forced union with Canada. We were strangers then, and we are strangers still, so far as common interests and those feelings which inspire brotherhood are concerned. * * * * "Mr. Fraser in his admirable speech on Saturday presented some later and fuller tables than have hitherto been compiled. He demonstrated that we could go out of the union assuming a debt of $17,000,000, pay the interest, conduct all our services, both Dominion and local, on the same scale as they are at present conducted and still have a large surplus—over half a million dollars—at the present rate of taxation. No man was prepared to challenge the accuracy of his figures. They were startling and produced the same profound sensation in the house that they will in the country. This movement must go forward—those who oppose it must be mowed to the ground."

Our Post Office.

An example of Dominion Government management is afforded in the matter of the post-mastership of Chatham. There are so many scandals in the way of railway jobs, crooked contracts, patronage-prostitution and general corruption to be taken care of at headquarters in Ottawa that Chatham can be left for months without a postmaster.

It is an illustration of the Government's sense of what is right and decent in the administration of a most important public department.

It is a commentary on the ability of those who have control of Dominion patronage in Northumberland.

It is a hint of the Government's sense of the importance of a place like Chatham and its mercantile interests so far as they can be affected by its postal service.

It demonstrates the influence and unanimity of the Conservative party in Northumberland.

It proves that Sir John A. Macdonald's Government is so confident of the fealty of its followers here—is so certain that they can be pulled by the nose in any way desired by its patronage-managers at Newcastle—that our post-office may be left as it now is and has been for months, so long as the "happy family" choose to disagree.

It demonstrates the fact that the efficiency of the public service counts as nothing against the most careless public expenditure exigencies that ever disgraced a political party.

Leaving us without a postmaster so long, is an official assurance that the present Ottawa Government does not think it worth while to treat Chatham with even an approach to established usage in such cases.

The fact that no town in the Dominion of Canada approaching the importance of Chatham, was ever before—under either colonial, provincial or Dominion rule—left so long without a vacated postmastership being filled, should cause all friends of honest public administration to think over the problem of "whither is the Dominion Government drifting, and what is the calibre, capacity and influence of those who are, just now, standing between the people of this County and our rulers at Ottawa.

Home Rule.

On Monday night last Mr. Gladstone moved the second reading of his scheme of Home Rule for Ireland. The debate still continues and will probably be prolonged for a week or so. It is idle to speculate on the result, which will soon be reached. Whatever it may be, if we may judge from the strong and conflicting opinions that have been expressed on all sides, the measure, whether it reaches or gets through committee, is not likely to be the end of the question, if indeed it will not add more complications with a mere changing of fronts of the contending forces.

Strange rumors come from Ulster, the Province which has been the Waterloo on many occasions in the history of Irish struggles for an independent nationality—that vision of a state which wrecks so many hopes on the rocks of broken promises. Ireland has had enough of these to teach her that a bird in the hand is worth a whole flock in the bush. It is difficult for us here to appreciate the elements of passion, prejudice and distrust that enter into the difficulties that beset the political problem which Mr. Gladstone, with some what too much of a magician's role assumes to solve. With the best wishes for that degree of self Government which may lead to the content of Ireland, but consistent with the unity of the Empire, without which nothing will be either good or permanent, we are bound to say that we have more applause for Mr. Gladstone's heart and motives than confidence in his head and measure. If it is only regarded by those for whose benefit it is offered as a step in the right direction, it is absolutely necessary to know what that direction is before one foot is put before the other toward it. We believe that failure lies in want of sincerity and confidence, and a feeling that it is being only accepted with mental reservations which are ever the seeds of future disaster. Whatever may be in store, one thing is plain, that a great stride has been taken towards a larger share of the Government of the country being done by local bodies. This will relieve the Imperial Parliament of the glut and worry of municipal work, so that the greater questions of policy and administration that have suffered in the past will get the attention and discussion their importance demands. It is a pity that Ireland will not accept her place in this rational course of progress and have the honor in inaugurating a rearrangement of detail within the lines of the constitution, without which she might despair in the midst of ruin. The commercial world is the barometer of prosperity, and when we hear of falling stocks and shares, stagnation of business, refusal of loans and a decline in the consumption of the necessaries—not to mention the luxuries—of life there is a pressure on the sensitive and reasoning nerves of credit that bodes no good in the cause and suggests a provision of worse still to come in natural order.

A SOCIALIST RIOT took place in Chicago last week, a number of idle and murderous Nihilists from Europe taking advantage of a labor strike to make fatal use of dynamite bombs by which several policemen were killed and some thirty others wounded. The police fired on the wretches and drove them to cover, killing some and wounding others.

The Government Savings Banks

AND THE MISCHIEF THEY ARE WORKING IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

A correspondent of the Montreal *Herald*, writing under the name of Lower Provinces exposes the injury that the Government savings banks are doing to the Maritime Provinces. After a few introductory lines he says—

"Let us look into the working of these savings banks and try if we can discover how much we are being benefitted by them.

"There are just fifty of them altogether, and of the whole number no less than forty-five are situated in the Lower Provinces. Of the remainder there is one in Ontario, one in Manitoba, three in British Columbia, but not one in the Province of Quebec. And of the total amount collected by them is drawn from the

Lower Provinces	$15 269,695
Ontario	854,752
Manitoba	841,639
British Columbia.....	2,105,579
Quebec	000,000

It seems rather strange that the Lower Provinces should be so singularly favored, and how must we pity the Ontarians and our poor French fellow-countrymen who have been so sham-fully neglected!

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But as we investigate further we begin to open our eyes, and before we have gone very far we conclude that there is good reason for not extending such bounties to the upper provinces; and the reason, if carefully looked into, will be found to reflect very little credit on the intelligence and public spirit of the lower provinces. The plain fact is that the Government dare not extend such institutions in the Upper Provinces, and they know it. It is out of no kindness to the laboring and poorer classes of the lower provinces that such efforts have been made to scatter these so-called savings banks throughout the length and breadth of the country. It has been done simply with the idea of getting possession of all the money obtainable on the easiest terms, and where there would be the least fuss made about it; so that the Government would have its wants supplied without appearing to borrow. With this end in view the usual scope and functions of a Government savings bank are soon forgotten. The limit of money to be taken from any one individual is raised to $3,000. One would think that even a laboring man with $3,000 to invest could be trusted to take sufficient care of himself, and might be left to find investments as other people find them—in the ordinary channels of commerce and industry. But the limit of $3,000 is practically no limit at all. This is so well known that it is said to be a common thing for one depositor to have that amount in three or four different offices or he deposits $3,000 in the name of each member of his family. Privileges originally intended for the laboring classes have been gradually widened until they have been seized upon by that class best able to take care of itself, namely, the wealthy class. Retired merchants, lawyers, bank directors, senators, trustees for estates, rich farmers and storekeepers all make use of this most convenient machinery for saving them the trouble of finding investments for their wealth.

An excuse for establishing the system seems to have been found in the fact that at the time of confederation a Government savings bank existed in Halifax although with very different conditions and limitations. Under cover of this excuse it has been extended to such a degree that there is now hardly a town or village in the three Provinces without its Government Savings Bank, and the limitations and conditions originally placed on the business and considered necessary wherever such institutions exist have been so widened and simplified that practically the Government have gone into the business of deposit banking in competition with the chartered banks.

* * * *

The result has been that money which should have remained in the banks to quicken the wheels of industry has been drained off into the Government vault—a kind of bottomless pit—where it is as effectually lost to the commerce of the country as if it had been buried in the sea. In all progressive communities there is a natural growth of bank deposits; and, as banks must use those deposits in order to avoid loss, there is a continual stimulus to trade going on by the constant accumulation and cheapening of money. In our highly favored provinces nothing of the kind can take place, for our beneficent Government is on the watch and stands read by with its forty-five scoop-nets to haul in every dollar that is saved throughout the country and every dollar that can be drawn from the chartered banks and the channels of commerce.

At the end of 1883 the deposits at interest in the chartered banks of the Lower Provinces were..... .... $7,117,976
By the last Government statement they were..... 5,941,205

Showing a reduction in little over two years of..... $1,176,771 or 16½ per cent. During the same period the Government Savings Bank deposits in the Lower Provinces increased from $10,846 348 to $15,269,695. Not content with the enormous increase which their command of all the new savings of the country is giving them, the Government seem to witness with complacent satisfaction the drain of money from the chartered banks to their own coffers at such a rate as to cause even the best managed of these institutions considerable uneasiness.

By the last Government statement the liabilities of the Ontario and Quebec banks to their depositors and others amounted, after reducing the notes and cheques of other banks, to $121,655,585. Against this total they held a cash reserve of $16,455,576, or 13½ per cent., which no doubt they thought sufficient—sufficient, that is for the banks of Ontario and Quebec. But if they were liable to have a drain on them to the extent of 16½ per cent. of their interest-bearing deposits within two years, and that drain caused by the arbitrary and reckless action of the Government they might have reason to change their opinion. $1,176,771 in the hands of the banks of the Lower Provinces two years ago, and available then for commercial purposes, have been withdrawn from the support of commerce through the artificial and excessive rate of interest paid by the Government savings banks, while at the same time the country has been denuded of all fresh accumulations of savings.

And what are the results? One result is that we have some fifteen half-starved banks instead of two or three good ones. It was stated not long ago by the chief officer of one of the strongest of these institutions, at a meeting of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, that there was hardly a bank in the lower provinces that was as well off to-day as it was ten years ago; and he seemed to indicate that the trade of the country was unprofitable and declining, because it was fettered and handicapped by the protective tariff. A country peculiarly fitted by its situation and productions for trade with all the world was denied profitable trade with anywhere but Ontario and Quebec.

It is to be hoped that the gentleman's statement of fact may have been exaggerated, but if he had pondered a little more deeply on the subject, he would have found that there are worse evils than the national policy at work and a more potent cause for the mischief he discerned. How can banking be profitable or successful if it has to compete on shamefully unequal terms with the Government itself? Would it improve the West India trade for those already engaged in it, if the Government were to go into that business? Perhaps the sugar refining industry would be made more profitable by the Government taking up the now defunct Richmond concern and running it regardless of cost? This is precisely what they are doing with their savings banks,—running them regardless of cost, in competition with the chartered banks.

It is, I believe, a canon in banking science, that to make the business even moderately successful, deposits must bear a very large proportion to capital. With a small amount of deposits successful banking is all but an impossibility.

[The writer here quotes a table showing the magnitude of Scottish and Australian Banks in comparison with those of the Maritime Provinces and continues as below.]

These figures show only too clearly that our banks are small and poverty stricken compared with those of Scotland and Australia where the system of banking is similar, and are even markedly poorer than those of the Upper Provinces. When the Government are giving 4 per cent for money, practically in any quantity, while the market rate for deposits is 3 per cent. and under, the result need not be wondered at. The direct effect is to dwarf the banks and limit their usefulness. In the whole of Scotland there are only ten banks with an average of $41,519,568 of deposits for each. In Australia and New Zealand the average for eighteen banks is $22,500,000 each, in Ontario and Quebec with twenty-seven banks the average is $819,919, while in the Lower Provinces with fifteen banks the miserable average is only $580,702. The contrast is as great in the matter of dividends and rest as in deposits, as the above statistics unmistakeably show. That the Government competition for deposits is largely responsible for the unfortunate results here visible there can be no doubt whatever. The very life-blood of the banks is deposits, and the Government like some huge vampire has fastened itself on those unfortunate institutions and is fast draining the life from them.

But this is not all. The Government is not only draining from the banks their means of living, but they use the banks themselves as a most efficient aid to their own destruction. A banking friend thus describes the process;—

"Wherever there happens to be a chartered bank agency there is usually a "Government savings bank almost next "door. If the chartered bank happens to "be a strong, reputable concern, it will "at the present time be paying only 3 per "cent. for deposits. The Government "savings bank offers 4 per cent. The "security of no joint stock bank can be "better than that of the Government, "and the latter's rate being 1 per cent. "higher, they, of course, get the bulk "of the deposits. How do they dispose "of the money? They do not keep expen-"sive safes and vaults at their numerous "country offices as the chartered banks "are compelled to do. They simply de-"posit the money with the agency of "the chartered bank in the neighborhood "to the credit of the Assistant Receiver "General. That bank has to remit the "money at its own expense to Halifax or "St, John. By and by the party, pro-"bably a trader, who deposited the "money in a Government savings bank, "wants a draft on Halifax or St. John "to pay a bill. He goes to the agent of "the savings bank and gets a cheque on "the Assistant Receiver-General at Hali-"fax or St. John free of expense. Or he "may want a draft on Yarmouth or Pic-"tou, or Truro or Moncton, or Frederic-"ton or Campbellton, or any other town "in the province where there is an "agency of a chartered bank. He does "not go to the chartered bank in his "neighborhood for his draft, for he would "have to pay them a small commission "for it, and that is out of the question. "A parental Government has rendered "that unnecessary. He gets from the "Government savings bank agent a "cheque as before on the Assistant Re-"ceiver General which the chartered "banks have to pay at par at any of their "agencies. In fact he is furnished with "a travelling credit on any bank in the "province, for which he pays nothing."

"The situation may be summed up thus;—The Government first steals the "deposits from the banks. Then they "compel the banks to transmit those de-"posits from them to Halifax at their "own expense. Then the banks must "keep funds at every one of their agen-"cies—not for their own use, but for "the Government to draw on."

Is it any wonder that banking does not pay and is not successful in the lower provinces, or that we have a crowd of miserably attenuated banking institutions living a hand to mouth existence on the verge of starvation? It is safe to say that there is no other civilized country in the world whose government has taken such pains as ours has to strangle its banks and paralyze its industries.

The mischief done to the banks, of course, does not end there. While they suffer to the extent we see, it is impossible that they can suffer alone. And it is obvious that if this great injustice is not speedily remedied there will be such a crisis produced in these provinces as no part of Canada has, happily, ever seen. What is the state of our industries? Every one sees that we are passing through a period of very great depression and suffering. The same complaints are heard on all hands—lack of business and lack of profits, but no lack of losses. These last have become chronic and perennial. Our ship building industry is extinct. Our West India business is little better than a delusion and a snare, tempting people into it to their almost certain ruin. Our fishermen may almost complain of getting the poorer the more fish they catch—so little do they get for them now that the United States markets are virtually closed against them. While the pampered creatures of the National Policy—our cotton and sugar refining industries have been literally protected to death, The freedom these have enjoyed from outside competition has only produced still fiercer competition from within, and the result is a wholesale waste of capital, sadly impoverishing the people, and freezing up the springs of enterprise. Real estate falls till one would think there is no bottom to it, and there is a continual stream of the agricultural and lumbering population to the United States. Now we do not blame the Government for the whole of this. Every one must admit that under any fiscal system there will be periods of industrial depression. But what