THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1886.

The Budget Speech.

THE Budget Speech delivered by Hon. A. W. McLelan has been the subject of a great deal of favorable comment during the past week. It has completely silenced the noble army of Grit prophets, and even such chronic grumblers as the Toronto *Globe* have shown their inability to explain away the unenviable position in which they are placed. Mr. McLelan gave a clear and comprehensive statement of the financial affairs of the Dominion in remarkably few words. After paying a high compliment to his predecessor, he reviewed the progress made by the Dominion during the past eighteen years, showing that in 1867 we were four Provinces with an area of 338,000 square miles; since then we have increased our area to 3,500,000 square miles, and nearly doubled our population. Our commercial, social, political and industrial ties have been strengthened; the barriers of 1867 have been removed, and a great inter-provincial highway spans our country from end to end, which secures to Canadians geographical independence and enables them to travel in every pursuit through their own territory. Sir John A. Macdonald had pursued this aim at all hazards until in 1886 he saw it crowned with success. Turning to the Public Accounts he gave a very satisfactory explanation of the past year's operations. Sir Leonard Tilley had placed the receipts at $33,000,000; the amount was $33,200,000. Taxation from Customs last year was 18 per cent. of the goods imported for home consumption; in 1878 it was $16.45 per cent., so that taxation in 1885 was less than two per cent. higher than in 1878—not a very large sum when we consider the extent of public improvements carried through by the present Government. Mr. McLelan, in shewing the rate of taxation upon articles of luxury, completely shattered Grit misrepresentation. Tea and coffee are free; silks, velvets, spirits, wines, and jewelry last year yielded $1,250,600 more revenue than in the year 1878 under Cartwright's tariff. Then the present tariff gives employment, shuts out poverty, and encourages enterprise and industry. The raw cotton imported in the five years of Cartwright's period was 25,000,000 lbs.; in five years afterwards it amounted to 104,000,000 lbs. In 1867 we were paying $1.40 per capita interest on public debt; now we are paying on the account $1.63—an increase of only 23 cents, notwithstanding the enormous expenditure on public works, and the progress made in every other respect. Although loans were effected in 1876 at a loss of over 11 per cent., Canadian bonds stand higher to-day than those of any other British colony. The expenditure of the present fiscal year up to March 20th was $25,958,481, of which amount the war expenses were $2,502,936. The receipts were $24,030,000, showing a surplus over ordinary expenditure of $574,515; but it was also estimated that owing to other expenditures there would be a deficit of $1,450,000 at the end of the financial year—June 30th, 1886. For the fiscal year 1886-7 Mr. McLelan estimated the revenue at $34,500,000, and the expenditure at $33,124,550, leaving a surplus of $1,375,450. This is a great showing, but there is something of greater moment to be taken into account. We refer to the repayment by the C. P. R. Company of their loan of $20,000,000, which they have arranged to do before the end of June next. Our exchanges from all parts of the Dominion bring the cheering news of reviving trade, and unusual business activity at this season, which means employment for every man who is willing to earn an honest living. The outlook for the Dominion is, therefore, assuring, and we think all will agree that our destinies are safe in the hands of our present rulers.

The City Council's Last Act.

AT an emergency meeting of the City Council held on the 31st ult., Councillor Douse submitted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That before any agreement be entered into by this Corporation with any company, communication be had with Col. Waring, of the United States Army, asking him his charge for visiting Charlottetown, and making such report as is hereby desired; and

Further Resolved, That the time for receiving tenders by this Council for the service of hydrants be extended until such report be received, or until the 10th May next.

These resolutions were lost by the casting vote of the Mayor, who voted in favor of an amendment extending the time to the 10th April, instant, at noon.

This practically excludes all competition from abroad with the Montreal Company, represented here now by Mr. Turnbull.

The old and misleading argument that the vote of the City Council was merely to supply water for fire purposes is now found to be untenable, and therefore abandoned by the advocates of this company. It is admitted by themselves, and generally understood by the public, that once water is introduced it will become only a question of time, and that a very short time, when the whole city will have to depend for its water supply on the Company. No case is known of a city where waterworks and wells continue in use for any length of time, simultaneously. The waterworks in every instance close the wells; and without sewerage our wells, at present not the best, will become in a year or two positively unfit for man or beast. This being the case, the problem that stares us in the face is a simple one. We are to give our water supply into the hands of a Company without a single guarantee as to its cost. That is to be left to the conscience of a soulless corporation. Air, water, bread, meat, are essentials of life. Of all these why should the supply of *water* be entrusted to a company of monopolists? Other cities that have committed this mistake have as we have often pointed out, invariably tried in self defence to regain, if possible, control by the city of the water supply, and more especially where they have committed the folly of neglecting to fix, by law, the rates.

We have contended over and over again for city ownership. This would mean that rates would be directly under the control of the ratepayers; and waterworks being a *productive* work, the profits from them should be utilized to cover cost of a system of sewerage, a *non-productive* work which must necessarily accompany our waterworks here, as in other cities. No one now denies that sewers must follow waterworks.

The demand of the resolution submitted by Mr. Douse and supported by four other Councillors asking for the services of a Sanitary Engineer in the interest of the city and set aside by the Mayor's casting vote, was surely a reasonable one. With plans, specifications and estimates upon which tenders could be received for the construction of the work by Contractors, and for the city, there would be no difficulty in selling City Water Bonds provided the water rates were secured by law, and funded for the payment of the interest. Then just as our City schools are governed by a Board of Trustees, some appointed by Government and some by the City Board, so might Water Commissioners be from time to time appointed. Owing to the position of parties in the City Council, at present, the responsibity rests with the Mayor to plunge the city into the reckless and ruinous scheme now proposed. We are confident that those Councillors who, in the interest of the citizens, submitted the resolutions to extend the time for receiving tenders till the 10th of May, cannot be cajoled to support His Worship in a measure calculated to overreach the best interest of their constituents. Surely the Mayor will hestitate before voting $60,000 of the people's money to this Company.

To the Charter-holders we would appeal and ask them to pause before handing over the trusts invested in them to any Syndicate, acting independently, and under no control of the citizens whose interests are so deeply involved in the matter. The intention of the Provincial Government in granting that Charter was for the benefit of the city, not for the benefit of any given number of individuals who applied and obtained it, still less for the benefit of a number of non-resident gentlemen, whose only object will be to make money out of the transaction. We have faith in the majority of the gentlemen who hold the Charter that they will weigh the merits of the whole matter before handing over the trusts reposed in them by the citizens and the Legislature, to a Company whose interests would clash with those of the citizens.

The "Protestant Union" and St. Patrick's Day.

WE observe that the newly inducted Editor of the *Protestant Union* has contracted quite a dislike to some of our Civic holidays. The recent one of St. Patrick's Day has annoyed his mental repose and set him seriously thinking, and as a result of his meditations we are informed that it is his firm conviction that it was a serious wrong inflicted on our fair city to place St. Patrick's Day among the list of Civic Holidays. In proclaiming his convictions, the writer gives the assurance that he is actuated by the noblest feelings of regard towards the Benevolent Irish Society, and also of respect for the character of St. Patrick, for which all admirers of Ireland's Patron Saint will no doubt feel deeply thankful.

But still it seems a little singular that this violent antipathy to a Civic holiday assumes such a character of rabidness when the celebration of the Benevolent Irish Society was placed on an equality with that of other societies. While those other societies were enjoying the "privilege," there were no righteous souls in Israel to arise to declare their "firm convictions" on the subject of holidays. Silence prevailed, and peace reigned. It was only when St. Patrick's Day was proclaimed by the authorities that a few small souls in the community became disturbed, and yielding to the promptings of an ignoble spirit of intolerance, these individuals could not rest, and we have them petitioning the School Board against granting a holiday to the children attending the city schools.

The reverend Editor under review, is convinced that whatever grounds other societies had to ask for a holiday, the Benevolent Irish Society had none at all. With all due deference to his "convictions" we entertain the opinion that its claims are not one whit inferior to those of any society granted the privilege. It is not, as is stated by the *Union*, under denominational control, and has no spiritual directors, and we can inform such timid souls as the reverend Editor that many of its prominent officers in the past have been Protestants, and further, that one of that denomination filled the position of President last year without being required to compromise an iota of his creed, and we can assure him that no man's religion will either in the future debar him from filling any position in the Society. This statement cannot, we think, be made of some of the Societies, whose names we read in the *Union's* article—and notably the Orange Society, as from what information we have of its constitution we are "convinced" that a Catholic would not prove a very eligible candidate to preside over its deliberations without doing violence to his religious convictions.

The Benevolent Irish Society is not denominational, its members are bound by no oaths of secrecy or otherwise; its meetings are open to the public, and for over sixty years it has been engaged in quietly fulfilling its mission of charity, and giving offence to none.

In the dispensing of charity it knows neither creed, color nor nationality, and it asks not the needy and the hungry, to whose wants it is required to minister, whether they marched under its banner on St. Patrick's Day.

There is yet another serious charge which we presume is the *gravamen* of the indictment, and this charge is that "the Anniversary Celebrations always begin with religious services in the Roman Catholic Cathedral." We are indeed surprised to see a Christian Minister give expression to so much illiberality. Seeing that the writer in the *Union* has such a high opinion of St. Patrick, we are not sure but an arrangement might be made by which he himself would have an opportunity of doing justice to the memory and personal merits of Ireland's Apostle.

In reply to this charge we would mention the following facts: The Militia force of the Dominion does not belong to any particular section of the community; its maintenance is defrayed out of the general revenue, and so far as religion is concerned, would be expected not to compromise itself as a body with any particular sect. But have we not seen our city companies have their yearly parades on Sunday to attend religious service; and we would ask the Rev. writer, who is so alarmed at a "Roman holiday," to what church do our Militia Companies direct their steps? Invariably to a Protestant one. And we would further ask him has he seen those who attend the Anniversary Celebrations in the Roman Catholic Cathedral rising up to exclaim against this proceeding as being contrary to the principle of equal justice to all, and demanding that parades of the City Militia to Protestant Churches be stopped?

Death of Judge Mousseau.

THE Hon. J. A. Mousseau, Judge of the Superior Court of the Province of Quebec, died in Montreal on the 30th ult., of congestion of the lungs, after an illness of six days. Judge Mousseau was born in Berthier, P.Q., in 1838, and received his education in the Berthier Academy. He studied law with the Hon. Messrs. Olivier, Ramsay, Drummond and Belanger, all of whom afterwards became Judges. He was called to the Quebec bar in 1860, soon attained considerable eminence in his profession, and was created a Queen's Counsel in 1873. During these years he was a constant contributor to the press of his Province, and through his instrumentality two new journals were established. He was a strong advocate of Confederation, and in 1867 published a pamphlet in which he said he "would ever labor to have British North America erected into a grand empire under the auspices and with the institutions of the Mother Country." He entered public life in 1874, having been elected a member of the Quebec Legislature. In 1879 he was the mover of the resolutions condemning Lieutenant Governor Letellier's action in dismissing a government which had the support of a majority of the Assembly. He entered the Federal Cabinet in 1880, and was appointed President of the Council. He was subsequently appointed Secretary of State in Sir John Macdonald's Government. The latter office he held until 1882, when he resigned, and was immediately sworn in Premier of Quebec, taking the portfolio of Attorney General. On the resignation of his government in 1884, he was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of the Province of Quebec, a position which he filled with the highest credit until his death. On the morning of the 2nd inst., his remains were borne in procession from his late residence on Dubord St., to the Church of Notre Dame. The hearse was followed by his relatives and intimate friends, the Judges and most distinguished members of the bar, and the leading citizens of Montreal. After a Solemn High Mass of *requiem*, the funeral *cortege* proceeded to Cotes des Neiges Cemetery.

Doings in Dublin.

ON the Thursday preceding the Feast of St. Patrick, Dublin witnessed a somewhat unusual spectacle. In the great Round Room of the Mansion House—a room capable of accommodating some two thousand persons—a meeting was held for the purpose of devising some way of alleviating the distress that is at present pressing so cruelly on the laboring classes of the city. Presiding over this meeting was Mayor Sullivan, and at his right hand sat the Lord Lieutenant—Lord Aberdeen. Never, perhaps, before, in the history of Ireland, did a Viceroy attend a public meeting of the people, and Lord Aberdeen is thought to have made a most excellent selection of the time for presenting himself publicly to the people, and also to have made a rare use of the occasion for gaining, by kindly words and warm sympathies, the good will of the people of Dublin. There cannot be a doubt but that this act of the Viceroy has made a deep impression. By coming to a public meeting of the citizens, presided over by the Mayor, he cast aside every precedent of his predecessors, and he mingled and acted with men who were noted for their Nationalist spirit. His speech was earnest and practical, and was listened to with respect. And to cap all, after having moved a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, he requested to be introduced to Mr. Davitt. Lord Plunkett, the Protestant Archbishop of Dublin, moved the first resolution, and said some very kindly things in regard to our common christianity, and thanked the Mayor for giving him an opportunity of meeting his fellow-citizens on a platform where there were no divergencies of creed or politics. His speech overflowed with expressions of amity and good-will, and he even ventured to forecast that the great struggle now pending would be fought out without rancor. It is very much to be regretted that these views did not impress themselves on his Lordship's predecessors some centuries ago. Much bad government, and consequent human misery would have been obviated. At the accession of George II., some one proposed that the Catholics of Ireland should present the new Sovereign with a congratulatory address. Primate Butler opposed the suggestion, and said, "The very presentation of such an address would be an acknowledgment of the existence of a people whom the Protestant constitution ignored in every shape and form." Let us be grateful for a change of sentiment that seems to augur a fairer future.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Premier, Hon. Mr. Sullivan, arrived home last evening, after his mission to England; quite a number of people met him at the station. Hon. Mr. Ferguson, his colleague, remained in Halifax awaiting the arrival of stock purchased for the Island. Of course, until the House meets, we can make no explanation of the result of their visit to England.

MR. LANDRY, M. P. for Kent, N. B., has thrown a bombshell into the Grit camp at Ottawa, which it is hoped will result in a great saving of public money. A few days ago he asked for a return showing the expense of bringing down and printing papers ordered by the House last session on motion of certain prominent members of the Opposition.

IN to-day's issue we publish Mr. Turnbull's letter, in which he undertakes to correct the HERALD respecting a statement in our last issue in reference to Mr. Perry's utterances regarding leaden pipes, &c. We do not believe Mr. Perry will himself venture to deny the truthfulness of our assertions. If, however, his memory should so far fail him as to do so over his own signature, we shall be most happy to refresh it to his entire satisfaction.

"As the Toronto *Globe* has insinuated that Mr. Davies' speeches are more effective locked up in his desk in the House of Commons than delivered, the member for Queen's may be disposed to follow the example of Mr. Blake in the case of *Grip*: "Stop my paper." But probably Mr. Davies is not so supersensitive as his leader."—*Ottawa Citizen.*

WE feel it our duty to inform our Ottawa contemporary, that Mr. Davies is not one whit behind his leader, Mr. Blake, in sensitiveness. It is not long since his mandate, "Stop my paper," reached the HERALD office.

Answers to Problems.

On March 24th we published a Problem, the answer to which was 76 pieces of 18s. 6d., 18 of 23 shillings, and 6 pieces of 30 shillings. The answer to Enigma in same issue is the letter H. The following persons have given correct answers to Problem and Enigma:

Michael McKenna, County Line.
Michael Connolly, Charlottetown.
Ida McDonald, West St. Peter's.
Thos. M. McMillan, Eldon, Belfast.
Blue & Co., Oyster Bed Bridge.
Jeremiah H. Blaquiere, Rustico.
Georgina Cecily Lannon, Summerville.
Minnie Edmunds, Summerville.

Solutions of Problem only, received as follows:

John Allen McDonald, Rock Barra.
Michael McCaughy, Bonshaw.
Agnes McCarvell, Freetown.
Francis Murphy, Charlottetown.
Peter D. McGuigan, Skinner's Pond, Lot One.
John G. Ellis, Summerside.
Kate E. Williams, Lawrence, Mass.
F. Gresham, Freetown.
James Deveraaux, Charlottetown.
James Landrigan, Charlottetown.
Frank Murphy, Little Pond.

Answers to Enigma:

Wm. Cain, Summerville.
F. Gresham, Freetown.
Katie McDonald, North Lake, Lot 46.
James A. Clarke, Charlottetown.
P. P. Murphy, County Line.
Mary Ann Trainor, Charlottetown.
Emma Edmonds, Elliot Vale.
Angus McLellan, Narrows Creek.
Angelina Doiron, Charlottetown.
Margaret Jane Pate, Charlottetown.
Christina McIsaac, Charlottetown.
Lizzie Gill, Elliot Vale.
George McGillivray, Seal River, Lot 50.
David Jenkinson, Sturgeon.

Enquiry into the History of Prince Edward Island Prior to British Dominion.

NO. V.

In previous papers I have given a sketch of the social state of the French before the fortune of war placed this Island in British hands, and now draw on my notes for some account of their religious condition.

Ecclesiastically the Islanders formed five parishes of the Archiepiscopal See of Quebec, namely the Parish of Port la Joye, extending from Charlottetown westwardly, Pointe Prime extending eastwardly, St. Louis the northeast, St. Pierre the north, to which, when the influx of Acadians swelled the number, was added the parish of the Holy Family, comprising Malpeque, Bedeque, and all to the northwest. Tradition speaks of chapels with bells, but poverty seems to forbid that the edifice of prayer could have been other than the humblest. The bell of St. Peter's will be afterwards mentioned. Each parish was under the care of a resident Cure, whom we may assume to have been like Evangeline's Father Felician:

"the children
Paused in their play to kiss the hand he extended to bless them.
Reverend walked he among them; and up rose matrons and maidens,
Hailing his slow approach with words of affectionate welcome."

By the privilege of the Gallic Church the clergy of the Church of the Colonies combined in a measure the functions of temporal as well as spiritual referees to their people. Undisturbed by the politico-religious differences of Jansenism and Jesuitism these self-denying missionaries were content to live with and for their people as primitively as themselves. Planted in a country entirely of forest, and without roads—for there was only one track through the woods from the north shore to Port la Joye,—they yet managed to bring the ordinances of religion and morality within the reach of the scattered sheep of their flocks. It is to these faithful ministers we are indebted for the records that have come down to us of the early Islanders of St. John. When the day of exodus came the rude forefathers of the hamlets,—victims of international ambitions with which they had nothing to do—left no trace to show that they ever had been, excepting from eight hundred to a thousand deserted clearings in the forest and some remains of meadow dyking as at Tryon. The forty years of their separate existence was a tame and uneventful idyl. Not distracted by outside issues; their religion cared for; their labor, fishing or farming; their commerce the harvest of the soil and sea; in worldly goods poor, these Islanders, from the sketches the good fathers and their records have left, present a not unpleasing picture not only of Acadian but of Arcadian simplicity. Thus it will be seen that the Island at the time of the conquest contained within itself all the elements of material prosperity had it been let alone or given the guarantees acceded to the Province of Quebec.

Louisburg capitulated in 1758. In 1761 no vestige of French sovereignty remained in what is now British North America. The Treaty of Paris in 1763 confirmed to England that magnificent Dominion of Canada, of which our Island is so minute a part. Thereafter on the 1st of May, 1769, a British Government was organized in the Island of St. John, and the history of the few remaining French merged in that of the other inhabitants of the Province.

Three or four years since I addressed to Rev. Dr. Walker, Incumbent of Rollo Bay, some inquiries respecting a bell now used in the church at Rollo Bay, and which was said to be the bell of the old French Chapel at St. Peter's, left behind them by the people when they were either deported or fled hastily from that settlement. I apologise to the reverend and obliging gentleman for giving an extract from his letter without having obtained his formal sanction, but plead the interest of the subject as an excuse:

ROLLO BAY, &c.

"Some time ago I received a letter from you respecting the history of our bell, in which you expressed a desire to have any further information available regarding the church in which it was used, and the early history of our Island in general. I knew there were important authentic documents of the kind required in the possession of the Bishop of Charlottetown, and I took the trouble to get permission to see them and examine them. The principal document is a few volumes of the records kept by the officers of the French Civil Service during the French domination. Therein it is stated that the bell was sent for to France by the then Intendant, *i. e.* Governor, and further on it is stated that the bell arrived. The bell itself tells the rest of the story. It was used in a chapel in the ancient village of St. Pierre, and its being left there shows that the village or settlement must have been broken up suddenly * * * * I can do nothing more than point out where some information can be had, viz.,—1. In the Records of the Nova Scotia Historical Society. 2. In the Archives of the French and English Governments. 3. From the Bishop of Charlottetown. His Lordship has three large volumes of very important and interesting documents all relating to Prince Edward Island, which ought to be translated and printed at once, or the translation printed with the original French. * * * * 4. From many old people now living in whose memories alone a chief part of our Island's history exists, and which will be lost to us if their knowledge be not now committed to paper."

Dr. Walker's letter is of much value. Were his Lordship the Bishop to consent to publish these very interesting records of his See, nothing would give myself and others greater pleasure as far as leisure would permit, than to assist in preparing them for the press, and surely no exertion whatever need be required to find the means of publication in the manner that booksellers call "by subscription."

J. HUNTER DUVAR.

To the Editor of the Herald:

SIR,—My attention has been called to an editorial in your paper of the 31st of March, upon the Water Works Question, wherein you state: "Mr. Perry, while here, unreservedly announced as a part of his plan in the construction of the Works, to use *leaden* instead of iron pipes, lined with asphalt." As this statement is most unfair to Mr. Perry, and is likely to mislead your readers, allow me to assure them and the citizens of Charlottetown, that no lead pipe is specified, or was ever intended to be used by Mr. Perry, the only lead required in his work being that used in the joints of the mains, having no contact with the water. All the piping used is specified of the "sort tested fast iron, coated outside and inside with Dr. Angus Smith's Patent Solution—a specification required in every first-class Water Works construction, and which will be strictly adhered to in the building of the Charlottetown Water Works, if I am associated with their construction.

I will feel obliged if you will publish this communication, so that there may be no misunderstanding.

I have sent a contradiction to the daily papers, so that those interested in this city may be at once notified regarding the true quality of work intended by me.

I remain, sir, yours truly,

THOMAS T. TURNBULL.

IN accordance with previous notification in the city papers, and by posters, a quantity of liquors were sold to-day by public auction by the Customs authorities, at the Appraiser's office. We should like to know why such an open violation of the Scott Act was permitted.

WE understand that the inhabitants of Upton, Dundas, Lot 55, have forwarded a petition to the Postmaster General asking for the establishment of a Post Office at the above named place. The establishment of a Post Office would be a great convenience to the people of that locality, and we hope the prayer of the petition will be heard and the request granted.

DR. SMITH'S GERMAN WORM REMEDY, or Wormerine, speedily removes all kinds of worms, cleanses the bowels of all impurities, cures biliousness and indigestion. Try it. Sold by all druggists. Price 25 cents per box.

Notes from Ottawa.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

The event of the week has been the Budget Speech. The new Minister of Finance created a favorable impression. On rising he modestly suggested his unfitness to succeed the eminent knights who had been his predecessors, and paid a touching tribute to his immediate predecessor, Sir Leonard Tilley, who had through ill health been forced to retire. He ably reviewed the period that has elapsed since Confederation, and maintained that in Canada could be found more marked evidences of substantial progress than in any other country. Referring to the Customs receipts Mr. McLelan proved by a comparison of the tariffs of 1878 and 1879, that the National Policy benefits the workingman. He said:

The sum of $18,913,000 was collected last year on a gross importation of $102,716,109, being 18 decimal 43 per cent. of the taxation upon the imports. I find from a return for 1885 that the percentage upon imports into the United States that year reached 31 decimal 45 per cent., or 13 per cent. more than the percentage in Canada under the National Policy. The hon. gentlemen opposite will, no doubt, take the Canadian tariff of 1878 as the basis upon which to make their criticism. But the tariff of 1878 as entered in our books shows a taxation of 14 decimal 03 per cent. upon the total imports of $91,199,577. This is only 4 per cent. lower than our percentage of taxation, and I hold that that 4 per cent. does not warrant the hon. gentlemen opposite in the remarks they have made as to the grinding nature of the tariff under which we are said to be now laboring. Now, in 1878 14½ per cent. of the whole imports into Canada were breadstuffs, passing not altogether into consumption, but in a large measure to the seaboard for shipment. That increases the total imports beyond the point which a fair comparison with the imports of 1885 can be made. Omitting then the $13,452,460 of breadstuffs from the total imports of 1878, upon which $12,795,693 were collected, we have a total taxation of 16-45 per cent., which brings the taxation of 1878 to within 2 per cent. of that of 1885. If, however, the imports of 1885 are closely examined, it will be seen that the collections are not based so much on the necessaries of life, and are not so heavy on that which is consumed by the poor man, as to justify us in saying that the poor man is injured by the tariff. I will not detain the House with a very close analysis of the importations; but I will take up a few special lines to show that the increases in the revenue are not impositions upon the laboring man. In 1885 the duties collected on silks and velvets were $1,020,627; in 1878 they were only $539,981. There was an increase in the receipts from these articles of luxury of $480,676. On spirits and wines the increase was $642,190, and on jewellery and gold the increase last year as compared with 1878 was $156,728. Here are three classes of goods which are considered to be luxuries on which we collected in 1885 $1,279,504 more than in 1878. If you take this from the gross revenue received in 1885 you will find the actual taxation for that year was less ¾ of one per cent. higher than that of 1878. I am sure that if investigation were pursued further I would be able to show, there being no duties upon tea and coffee and other goods largely consumed by the poor man, that the tariff under which we collected revenue bears much more lightly upon the working and middle classes than did the tariff of 1878. The hon. gentlemen opposite have been accustomed to rail against the tariff of 1878, because it is called a Protective one, but the tariff of Free Trade England is more grinding and bears more severely on the laboring classes than ours. Of the $96,000,000 collected in customs duties in England, Mulhall, a great statistician, places the proportion paid by the working classes at 55 per cent., middle classes 34 per cent., rich 6 per cent. We see from this statement that a Free Trade tariff does not necessarily bear lightly on working or middle classes. If I were to pursue the analysis of our importations, I could show that our tariff gives light taxation to the poor man, and we know moreover that it has been the means of supplying the working classes with employment.

He then dealt with the revenue and expenditure of 1884-5. The total receipts for that period were $33,190,619; the gross expenditure was $35,087,060. Of this amount $1,791,880 was paid on account of the Rebellion in the Northwest, and $92,375 as additional Indian expenditure. Deducting the exceptional expenditure incurred in quelling the insurrection in the Northwest, leaves a deficit of only $54,634; and if the additional outlay on Indians be taken out, there would be a surplus of $27,741. It will thus be seen that with regard to the ordinary expenditure, exclusive of the rebellion expenditure, the accounts about balance each other. After dwelling on the improved credit of the Dominion in the money markets, and the great reduction in the rate of interest paid, Mr. McLelan took up the question of our national debt. He said:

I suppose complaint will be made of the increase in our debt. I may say on that point that, unlike the United States, which incurred a large war debt and proceeded to liquidate it without feeling the burden, because of its vast resources of country and protection afforded to industry, we have for our indebtedness a visible public property. Of our net debt of $196,409,692, the sum of $103,358,699 represents debts of provinces assumed by the Dominion. The remainder, $93,048,993, was incurred since Confederation, in the prosecution of railway enterprises and public works. This amount, $34,655,22, or including the fishery award, $39,156,104 of debt was incurred by the hon. gentlemen opposite. The Reformers are thus responsible for an annual average increase on the debt during their five years in office of $7,831,220. The balance of $53,892,889 is chargeable to the Conservative party. That party has been in office since Confederation—13 years. The annual increase of the debt under it has, therefore, been $4,145,606, as against $7,831,220 by the hon. gentlemen opposite. Our debt of $93,048,933 is represented by railway and public works, which have cost us $142,550,875. We have thus expended on necessary works $49,500,000 more than we owe upon them.

He then went into details in regard to the receipts and expenditure of 1884-5, and satisfactorily explained the deficit. Dealing with the charge of increased taxation, the Minister of Finance said:

"As a further proof that the Government is not amenable to the charge so persistently made against it of largely increasing the taxation of the country, I will go back to 1867, when we had an expenditure of $13,486,000. The total expenditure for 1885 amounted to $35,037,060, but when we deduct from this expenditure on account of public works, working expenses of railways and canals, expenditure of post offices, subsidies to new provinces, increase in the sinking fund with discounts and exchanges, immigration and quarantine, protection and cultivation of fisheries and payment of fishing bounty, the expenditure on Mounted Police, Donnition lands and Indians in the Northwest and British Columbia (an entirely new expenditure,) and the expenditure for troubles in the Northwest, etc., all of which amount to $19,469,000, it leaves $15,567,000 for our ordinary expenditure, or only $2,081,000 more than in 1867, notwithstanding the increased area and the increased business of the country. Perhaps in the history of the world there has never been an instance in which a country has extended her operations so largely and has increased her responsibilities and the duties of the Government to such an extent and yet has increased her expenditure so little as the Dominion of Canada."

Coming to the fiscal year, 1885-6, which ends on the 30th June next, Mr. McLelan estimated the receipts on account of the Consolidated Fund at $33 550,000, and the expenditure at $38,500,000. Deducting from the expenditure $3,500,000 on account of the Northwest rebellion, leaves a deficit for the current year of $1,450,000.

The revenue for the coming year, 1886-7, was estimated at $34,500,000, and the expenditure at $33,124,500, leaving a surplus of $1,376,450. This, however, will be materially reduced when the supplementary estimates for the year are brought down.

The alterations in the tariff mainly consist of changes from specific to *ad valorem* duties, while the increase proposed will only affect what may be regarded as luxuries. As usual the Grit organs were wrong in their predictions. Before the opening of Parliament they loudly proclaimed that the Government had decided to re-impose the duties on tea and coffee, as under the tariff of 1878. The fact is, however, that they will not be re-imposed, and thus the price of those articles so largely used by the laboring class will not be increased.

The Minister of Finance announced that the Canada Pacific Railway had arranged to redeem the $20,000,000 of bonds held by the Government. It will be remembered that when this loan was made, the Grits proclaimed that it would certainly never be repaid. Fancy their surprise when the Hon. Minister made this statement.

The speech of the Minister of Finance occupied about five hours in delivery. It was replete with incontrovertible evidence of the progress of the country under the present regime, and of our present satisfactory position; it bore eloquent and convincing testimony of the wise and statesmanlike policy of Sir John Macdonald and his colleagues, and gave solid grounds for confidence in the future of our country.

At the conclusion, Sir Richard Cartwright arose, with that procrastinating smile of his, to give his opinion on the financial situation and outlook. He is a very pleasing speaker, and marshalls figures in terrible array, though if we are to believe the *Globe*, he is apt to "mix and muddle" them. Still he is an able debater and a good critic, and he relieves the wonted monotony of a fiscal speech by interpolating select poetic quotations. His speech, however, was merely a negative criticism. He, of course, objected to everything, and closed without propounding any policy by which more favorable results could be arrived at.

The debate was continued by Hon. Thomas White, Minister of the Interior, Mr. Patterson of Brant, Mr. Wood of Westmorland and others.

Closing Night of the Black Bush Literary and Musical Institute.

The above Society closed their proceedings for the season by a Grand Concert on Monday night, consisting of an orchestra, vocal and organ solos and duetts, addresses, and a chorus of six voices.

The following was the programme:

PART I.

Overture, Scottish Airs, (Orchestra) an Organ and 3 Violins, Miss Agnes McDonald, Messrs. McDonald, McVarish, and McDonald.
Vocal Solo, "Highland Mary,".....*Burns*
Miss Morrison.
Vocal Duet, "Kelvan Grove,".....*Lyle*
The Misses Leslie.
Vocal Solo, "Bruce's Address,".....*Burns*
Mr. J. A. McDonald.
Organ Solo, "The Campbells are Coming,"
.....*Anon*
Miss Agnes McDonald.
Vocal Solo, "Bonnie Dundee,".....*Scott*
Mr. P. Æ. McPhee.
Vocal Solo,.....*Lannehill*
Mr. Daniel McDonald.
Violin Solo, "Lord McDonald's Reel,"....
Mr. D. McDonald.
Vocal Solo, "Irish Jaunting Car,".....
Herman McDonald.

PART II.

Addresses, Messrs. Clement, McDonald, J. A. McDonald, and J. J. McPhee.
Vocal Solo, "My Love's Gone,"..*Hamilton*
Mr. Donald McQuay.
String Quartette, Highland music.....
Messrs. McDonald, McVarish, McDonald, and Miss McDonald.
Dialogue, "Lochiel's Warning," *Campbell*
Mr. and Miss Morrison.
Vocal Duet, "Huntingtower,".....*Anon*
Mr. McDonald and Miss Morrison.
Vocal Solo, "Annie Laurie,"....*Lannehill*
Chorus of Six voices.
Vocal Solo, "Stabat Mater,".....*Rossini*
Mr. Donald McDonald.
Vocal Solo, "The Birks of Aberfeldy' *Burns*
Mr. D. Leslie.
"Auld Lang Syne," Chorus of six voices, with Orchestral Accompaniment.

The programme was carried out most enthusiastically, several of the pieces being loudly encored. Previous to singing "God save the Queen," the following was moved by Mr. J. A. McDonald, and seconded by Clement McDonald, Esq., that a vote of thanks be tendered to the HERALD and *Examiner* newspapers for their courtesy and willingness in publishing the weekly reports of our meetings during the winter; to President McPhee for his impartial and able conduct in the chair, and also to the Secretary.

Enigma.

I'm gone—I'm passed, no more to come,
With my ancestors in the tomb;
The sun for me has ever set;
No star shall gem my coronet,
Nor moon again her light display,
That oft illumed my closing day.
Now sightless, in eternal space
I'm doomed to hunt my wand'ring race
No more on me shall beauty's eye
Light up in love's festivity!
'Tis history hence will give a glance
Of my past, perish'd existence;
Now evanescent, wan, and weak,
Like roses on the dying cheek.
Hark! the midnight bell is tolling,
Dark oblivion's round me rolling,
My heir is come—I buried lie,
Part of the dead eternity.

Problem.

In the Vale of Ovoca there lives a rich drover,
Who rents from his landlord a field of good clover.
To graze 40 cows for just 20 days,
Or 20, for just 20, if you please;
But he wished to keep 20: the growth being the same,
What time did it keep them to nourish their frame.

Premier Sullivan and Provincial Secretary Ferguson, of Prince Edward Island, returned by the *Parisian*. They expressed themselves highly satisfied with the result of their mission in connection with continuous communication between the Island and the mainland. They had several satisfactory interviews with Earl Granville. It will be remembered that Lord Granville was the Colonial Secretary who suggested the special terms upon which Prince Edward Island was admitted to the Canadian Confederation.—*Halifax Herald, 5th April.*

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhœa, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP," and take no other kind.

DIARRHŒA AND DYSENTERY are perhaps the most common of our every day ills, and every person nearly has some special cure of their own. Ours is Perry Davis Pain-Killer, and having used it for many years we can confidently recommend it.

General News.

There is great and sudden activity in the British Foreign Office.

Philadelphia collected $35,000 in aid of the Irish Parliamentary Fund.

The expenditure on account of the Northwest rebellion up to the 15th, ult. was $4,129, 237.

Hon. John Costigan has been elected an honorary member of L'Institut Canadien Francais of Ottawa.

Despatches from Annam report massacres at the Catholic missions in the province of Quanbing. The number of victims is said to be 442.

Advices from Newfoundland are to the effect that the seal fishery is very successful. In some districts the catch has been unprecedentedly large.

Sir A. T. Galt, of Montreal, who has just returned from England, evidently kept his eyes open while he was over there. He says Ireland is bound to get home rule.

The leading French newspapers take a gloomy view of the situation in the east. Two French iron-clads have been ordered to be in readiness for immediate despatch to the Mediterranean.

The Allen steamer Parisian, Capt. James Wylie, with the mail from Liverpool, G. B., arrived at Halifax on Sunday afternoon. She had 91 cabin, 69 intermediate and 780 steerage passengers.

The Archbishop of San Francisco gave the Catholics of that diocese permission to eat meat on St. Patrick's Day, provided they fasted the day previous. If it made no difference with His Grace many of the boys would prefer to fast the day after.

Hanlan has cabled the *News of the World*, London, to post with the *Sportsman* one hundred pounds forfeit for a five hundred pounds match against Beach on the Thames. Hanlan thinks he is yet able to win back the championship of the world.

A riot occurred at St. John's, Newfoundland, on the 30th March. A mob demanding labor and railroad extension assembled around the Parliament building with flags, stormed the assembly house, routed the police and broke into the Council Chamber, planting their banner on the table of the house.

Certain wine dealers of San Francisco, in order to bring about wine instead of whiskey drinking, have opened an establishment where good native wine is sold at five cents a glass. The trade is growing, and it is said that men who have hitherto drunk strong drinks are patronizing the wine shop, to the advantage of both buyer and seller.

A labor-saving Yankee of Chapinville, Conn., has rigged a crank attachment to a wheel of his wagon, connecting it with a churn that he places in the wagon; and when the cream is all ready he dumps it into the churn, hitches up his horse and takes a ride, returning home in due time with a nice mess of butter that has indeed "come" very easily.

The New Brunswick parliament was prorogued on Friday last. The session has been a warm one. A large number of bills were assented to, including one to allow unmarried women and widows to vote at municipal elections. The house has also been dissolved and elections will take place this month. Nomination on 19th and election on 26th.

The report of the