THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1885.

Louis H. Davies and Others.

When, last week, we reviewed some of the remarkable statements which Mr. Louis H. Davies addressed to his Charlottetown constituents on his return from Ottawa, we were but performing a duty which, as a journalist, we owe to the public. We have been reproved in some quarters, for having used language unnecessarily strong regarding Mr. Davies and his actions to which we reply. Mr. Davies is the leader of his party on the Island—to him his followers look for instruction and information as to the politics of the Dominion. They have raised him to a highly responsible position and they have a right to expect that he will faithfully report to them the facts as they exist regarding the welfare of their country. He of all others is in a position to acquaint himself with the truth and therefore, when we find him misrepresenting the state of public affairs and saying the thing that is not, our duty is to challenge his utterances and to call him to the proof. This we did last week on three points of great importance to the people of this Island. Mr. Davies made, what we consider, very erroneous statements of the financial position of the Dominion—of the cost of the Pacific Railway, and he also misrepresented the effect upon this Island of the Franchise Bill. We corrected him and in doing so, accused him of a predilection for inaccuracy. The *Patriot* has come to his relief in a brief article in Monday's issue, but as it has not attempted to dispute one of our statements, nor to show that we did Mr. Davies any injustice in our remarks, the conclusion is plain that we were right, that Mr. Davies was wrong and his statements indefensible. We are not going to repeat what we said last week, but to avoid any misapprehension, we here distinctly charge Mr. Davies with having, for immoral purposes, wilfully and maliciously mis-stated the truth, in the points to which we then took exception, and if there be any stronger language in which to express our meaning, we desire Mr. Davies and his friends to understand it as having been applied.

Apart from the criticism of his inaccuracies we had a few words to say regarding Mr. Davies' conduct before the Halifax Commission. We denounced it as base and treacherous, and we believe that, in so stigmatizing it, we echo the sentiments of the vast majority of the people of the Island. It is significant that the *Patriot*, the only mouthpiece of the Grits in the Province, has attempted no vindication of Mr. Davies in reply to our charges. The only line of defence it seems inclined to adopt is that, as other parties in times gone by are said to have made a good thing out of the Government, it is Mr. Davies' turn now. Here are its words:

"Even if it be no exaggeration that Mr. L. H. Davies has drawn, as a representative of the people, as Solicitor for the Land Purchase Act under the Conservatives, as Counsel for the Dominion at the Halifax Commission, &c., in all about $50,000 since 1873, we boldly affirm that it is greatly to his credit."

We have no desire to disparage Mr. Davies' abilities as a lawyer, and his services to his clients are worth all that he receives for them. But we have a right to complain when Mr. Davies takes a retainer from both sides, when, as the Premier and principal Law Officer of Prince Edward Island, he becomes Counsel for another party whose interests, if not antagonistic, are not akin to our own. So long ago as 1872, when Mr. Davies was Solicitor General under the Haythorne-Laird Government, that administration had an understanding with the Imperial Government that, in any proceedings taken to determine the value of the Fishery privileges handed over to the United States, this Island should be represented. That understanding was a mattter of history, recorded in the Journals of our Legislature and of its existence Mr. Davies was not ignorant. Yet, in the full knowledge of it, he not only allowed this Island to be unrepresented before the Commission but he himself, who should have been the first to take care that her rights were properly guarded, accepted employment from another party to the arbitration. Is it surprising then that we object to fall down in adoration at the feet of this modern Grit god? Why should we unite in singing the praises of a man who, for greed of gold, bartered our rights and sold us to the enemy?

We are actuated by no spirit of envy against Mr. Davies on account of the amount of money which he has received for his public services. Had he been as successful in pleading our suit before the Halifax Commission as he was the cause of the Dominion, we should never have begrudged him a like fee to that which the courts have lately awarded. But Mr. Davies and his friends would have us believe that the sole principle which has animated him in his political career has been the welfare of his native Island and the patriotic desire to rescue her and her sister provinces from the sway of the corrupt Tories, and therefore they must not complain if we shew the true state of the account between him and the people of the Island. It has ever been his aim and those of his party to represent the Conservatives as swindlers and spendthrifts of the public money, expending it in wild-cat schemes that served no other purpose than to feather their own nests and those of their friends. We need go no further back than the building of our own railway to adduce proofs of the vile language that was hurled by a ruffian "gang," with Mr. Louis H. Davies at their head, at such men as Pope, Haviland Howlan and Brecken, and at others who favored the Railway enterprise. He and his friend, Mr. David Laird, tramped the Island from North Cape to East Point traducing the characters and vilifying the names of men whose memories will be honored in Prince Edward Island when those of Laird and Davies shall be recalled only to be execrated. Ever since, in the years that the Conservative party have ruled, whether in the Dominion or on the Island, the course pursued by Davies and Laird and the rest of that "gang" has been the same. Foul invective, personal slander, low insinuations, and vile falsehood have been the weapons employed against the men whom the popular voice has placed and retains at the head of affairs. But the people are no longer to be gulled—while all over the Dominion the Grit party is badly discredited, in this Island the very name stinks in the nostrils of the electors. Laird has been tried and found wanting, and Mr. Louis H. Davies who, three years ago, was returned at the head of the poll for Queen's County, the largest constituency in the Dominion, less than twelve months since received a significant intimation in the election of Dr. Jenkins, that a great change had come over the minds of the voters since they chose him to be their representative. Let Mr. Davies take warning and not trifle with a people whom he little understands. He had an excellent opportunity of displaying his devotion to his native Island before the Halifax Commission. It was there not only his privilege (for it was a privilege a statesman might well seek and be proud of) but his duty to have espoused her cause and fought for her rights—but this opportunity he deliberately cast aside for reasons of which his fellow Islanders are too painfully aware.

It is idle for Mr. Davies to assure us, as he did the night of his arrival from Ottawa, that "politics is a jealous mistress, and demands all a man's time and ability." His own actions give the lie to his words. Not only does he not deny that, during the last twelve years, he has received the very handsome remuneration of fifty thousand dollars of public money for various services, but it is daily becoming more evident that the lust for gain is fast smothering in him all loftier aspirations which, at any time, have filled his soul. It is scarcely necessary for us, in proof of what we allege, to recall the attention of our readers to his conduct, last fall, when it was attempted to enforce the Scott Act in Charlottetown. How he then pretended to discover a conflict between the Scott Act and the Licence Law of which, although a member of the Parliament that passed the latter measure, he had no knowledge until a ray, reflected from a glittering retainer paid him by the liquor traffic, enabled him to perceive. Mr. Davies is not a man to hide his light under a bushel, yet it is astonishing to what a degree that light is capable of being magnified under a powerful golden lens. Within the last few days another instance has come to our notice, in which Mr. Davies' greed seems to have stifled all nobler feelings. An unfortunate man stands charged with the awful crime of murder—naturally he desires the aid of skilful counsel to assist him in his defence—he seeks Mr. Davies, who expresses his willingness to defend him provided, however, that he pays him a sum of Two Hundred Dollars! It is a glorious principle of British law that every man shall have a fair trial for any offence of which he stands charged, no matter how much appearances may be against him, or how bad his previous record may have been. But where is Gillis to get two hundred dollars? He has already confessed to a crime which lessens, to some extent, the sympathy that is always extended to a man in his unfortunate position. It would not be too much to expect that Mr. Davies, if only for the fame it would bring, would undertake his case, and, though it should be impossible to prove his innocence, at least make sure that no advantage is taken of him in his wretchedness. But gold, not glory, is what Mr. Davies thirsts for—it is not enough that he has pocketed fifty thousand dollars of public money, and that the ink is scarcely dry upon the receipt for eight thousand dollars which he had no certainty of ever receiving, but he must have Gillis' two hundred dollars! Should Mr. Davies refuse his services and Gillis be convicted, we do not envy that man his feelings as he listens to the awful sentence which deprives a fellow-being of his life—a life that, but for his blood-thirsty cupidity, might never have been forfeited.

The editor of the *Patriot* expresses his gratification at the amount which Mr. Davies has drawn from the public chest—we are not surprised at this. Mr. David Laird is another of those self-sacrificing zealots who have devoted themselves to the service of their country, and he has bled his mistress pretty freely. Fortunate as we may consider Mr. Davies to have been, the amount of his "haul" is insignificant compared with that of his co-patriot. In Mr. Davies' twelve years he received $50,000. It took Mr. David Laird only ten years to secure SEVENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS. His public life commenced in 1871, when he defeated the Hon. James Duncan in Belfast, and continued without interruption until the autumn of 1881, when he returned from the North West. Let us see what he received during that time:

Member House Assembly, 1872, 1873, &	320.00
Member Board of Works	45.35
Member Board Education (say)	43.35
Delegate to Ottawa, 1873	418.00
As Queen's Printer and for stationery, at least	2,575.00
For gold spectacles, gold headed canes, gold pens, gold pencils, and ivory-handled pocket-knives supplied Members House of Assembly by the Government of which he was a member in 1872	917.64
As M. P. and Minister of Interior 1873-76	23,427.93
As Lieutenant-Governor of North-West, 1876-1881	36,000.00
As Indian Superintendent	2,291.67
For travelling and other expenses	4,596.59
	$70,643.61

Our readers are free to make their own calculations as to how much little Prince Edward Island owes either Mr. Laird or Mr. Davies for the public services they have rendered. Meantime we ask them to bear in mind that the *Patriot* has not attempted to contradict one of the charges which we preferred against Mr. Davies. A bad excuse is better than none, but the *Patriot* has not even that to offer for its leader's conduct.

Our New Story.

In this issue is concluded "The Cash Boy; or, Frank Fowler's Inheritance." The first week in August we shall commence a new story under the title of "The Detective's Clew; or, the Tragedy of Elm Grove." Our stories have all been selected with much care, and, we are pleased to know, they have given general satisfaction. "The Detective's Clew," although of a somewhat different character from those previously published, will, we feel sure, enchain the reader's attention from the opening to the very last chapter.

Mr. Blake's Defence of the Rebellion!

The attitude of the Opposition, both in and out of Parliament, in the matter of the North-West rebellion has been such as to merit for them the gravest censure. It goes without saying that the rebellion was a perfect god-send for the Grits, who were only too ready to place the whole blame of the unfortunate occurrences upon the Government whom they charged, not only with having brought about the disturbances by mal-administration, but with not adopting efficient measures for their repression. Powerless the Grits had represented themselves to be, when they had the reins, to avert impending calamities—the unvarying success which had attended the statesmen to whom they had given place but inflamed them with jealousy, and Mr. Blake, "the best statesman and ablest man in the Dominion," (to borrow the words of Mr. L. H. Davies) gave practical exhibition of his statesmanship by using the rebellion wherewith to make capital against the Government. Our ideas of a statesman's duty to his country in the trying time of her adversity differ from Mr. Blake's views upon the same subject, but then Mr. Blake is a Grit statesman; let us thank Heaven we are not Grits. At first he and his party professed to be overcome with indignation against the rebels, and they slopped over with sympathy for unhappy Canada and for the white settlers of the North-West in particular. It was then that the "best statesman" lift up his voice and wept for the brave men who rushed at duty's call to the defence of their country—it was then that manly emotion swelled his breast for his relatives who stood heroically at the post of danger, although it subsequently turned out that Mr. Blake's kindred, deeming discretion the better part of valor, placed several hundred miles between themselves and the trouble. It was then that he cried aloud that he would hold Sir John Macdonald and his colleagues personally responsible for every drop of blood that should be shed in the efforts to suppress the insurrection. Our readers will be slow to forget the generous assistance which the Government received from the Opposition in the efforts to restore peace; they will remember how, far surpassing the patriotism of the lamented Artemus Ward, Mr. Blake and his friends were prepared to sacrifice all their own and their wives' relations, rather than see Canada imperilled. Though far removed from the scene of the troubles, our people will not fail to remember that, in bright contrast to the cowardice of the Grits, nine Conservative members of Parliament promptly responded to the call to arms and, in one or other capacity, served their country on the field of battle. Nor will this little incident escape their attention that, when these nine Conservatives desired to pair off on divisions with an equal number of Grits, the loyal and patriotic Opposition declined to meet their wishes and that, when Mr. Blake's influence was sought to obtain the pairs, he curtly declined to interfere. Such was the patriotic spirit which animated the Opposition. After the rebellion was over, when the first member who returned from the battle-field, Dr. Orton, entered the Commons Chamber, he was received with well-merited applause by his Conservative colleagues, but the Grits were silent as the grave. What was the meaning of such behavior? Had they any fault to find with Dr. Orton's conduct on the field?—if so they have never demanded an enquiry. No—the Grits are incapable of appreciating bravery and devotion such as Dr. Orton and his gallant comrades displayed—they were disappointed and soured at the successful termination of the campaign—their fond hopes had been disappointed, their bright dreams dispelled—success once more perched upon the banner of the Conservatives who, whether in peace or war, seem destined to lead Canada to victory.

While Mr. Blake was making long speeches and inciting his 'gang' to deeds of obstruction, Sir John Macdonald and his colleagues were patiently laboring for the repression of the rebellion which, by the arms of our gallant volunteers, they have been fortunate enough to accomplish. Now that peace has been restored, contrary to the wishes and prayers of the Grits, their tune is completely changed, and their sympathy is loudly expressed for Riel and his band of rebels. Last week in the Commons, Mr. Blake made a seven hours' speech in which, not content with attacking the Government on their policy, he entered into what can only be construed as a defence of Riel and of the rebellion. This is most extraordinary, nevertheless it is true. But while Mr. Blake and his party are endeavoring to impress the people with the idea that the half-breeds were goaded to rebellion by the injustice of the Government they prudently refrain from informing us whether, in their opinion, these half-breeds had any well-founded cause of complaint. It will not do for Mr. Blake to rail and scold the Government for having been the cause of the rebellion, if he cannot shew that the rebels themselves had just grievances which they were unable to get rectified. To Mr. Blake's speech Sir John replied ably and exhaustively, not only challenging the closest criticism of his policy in the North-West, but boldly carrying the war into Africa by charging upon Mr. Blake and his colleagues in the MacKenzie Administration, the responsibility for much of the discontent which prevailed in those territories. From Sir John's speech we make several quotations which we have no doubt, will be read with much interest. He said:

"The whole course of the Opposition has been with the object of injuring the Government irrespective of the consequences. What care they, though the prospects of the North-West be injured, provided they get a cry? They would rather rule a ruined country, than remain in opposition in a prosperous one. They would rather rule in hell than serve in heaven. There are, however, two things that will rise in the minds of all the auditors of the hon. gentleman's speech, and these are that he never alluded, except casually, to the course of events prior to 1879. Oh! how silent he was about the policy of the Government of which he was sometimes a member and sometimes not—and then in the next place, he has not ventured in the whole of his speech to say that the grievances of the half-breeds were just.

Why did he not do so? Because the Government of which he was a member decided solemnly that they had no such claims. It was said that they had no claims at all more than the white settler, but whether the honorable gentleman was on that particular day in the Government or not, when the Mackenzie Administration brought in its policy in a solemn despatch, he (Mr. Blake) has had it in his hands and he has read a portion of it to-night, but he has not read the whole of it."

Here Sir John read a despatch from Lieutenant-Governor Laird to the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Mills) dated 13th February, 1878, enclosing the petition of certain half-breeds of St. Laurent, relating to several matters affecting the interests of their country. This petition Mr. Laird requested to have laid before the Governor General in Council "at an early day," and he further stated: "It appears to me they have a claim to some more speedy means of acquiring a title for settlement purposes than the homestead provisions of the Dominion Land Act. It is highly desirable that the survey of land should be prosecuted with all convenient speed. With respect to the prayer for assistance to procure seeds, implements, &c., it is similar to the request of the Blackfeet treaty, and which I commend to the favorable consideration of the Government." Mr. Mills' reply, containing the answer of the Mackenzie Government, and indicating the policy of that Administration on the subject, was read, from which we make the following extracts: "The propriety of passing an Act for some more speedy means of acquiring title for settlement purposes will be advocated—the survey of the land has been carried out to some extent, and will be prosecuted as rapidly as the funds at the disposal of the Government will permit." The Government, however, did not apply for funds, and consequently no surveys went on. The answer continues: "The application of the petitioners to be aided by the Government granting assistance to purchase agricultural implements, &c., I must confess I am not disposed to view favorably. I do not see on what grounds the half-breeds can claim to be treated different from white settlers in the territories. The half-breeds, who have, in some respects, the advantage over white settlers, should be impressed with the necessity of settling down in fixed localities and directing their energies towards pastoral or agricultural pursuits, in which case the land would no doubt be assigned to them as to white settlers, but beyond that they must not look to the Government for any special assistance in their farming operations. Your petitioners, in supposing that the Government would give seeds or farm implements, are mistaken. Money has been advanced to some settlers on the distinct understanding that it would be repaid to the Government by the parties to whom it was advanced. I may add that the result of this experiment was not such as to cause the Government to repeat it."

Sir John Macdonald then continued his speech:

"There is that despatch in which the Hon. Minister of the Interior, administering the affairs of the North-West, tells the half-breeds that they have no greater claim than the white settlers at that period; and what were the claims of the white settlers then? They were simply, that any man of eighteen years and upwards going there from the other provinces to settle down got 160 acres of land, and if he cultivated it for three years he could obtain 160 acres more and his patent. The hon. gentleman then declares that the half-breeds have no greater claims than those. The truth is that the dissatisfaction which has arisen in the North-West had other and deeper roots than the mere discontent of the half-breeds not getting their rights. From the very inception of the acquisition of this country by Canada from the Hudson's Bay Company there was discontent. In the first place the Company's subordinates living in the country, were very much discontented that the Hudson's Bay Company should be put off their throne. They were the sovereigns of the country, and everything they could do secretly and clandestinely they did for the purpose of keeping the Government from getting possession of this country. That discontent was spread amongst the whites and amongst the half-breeds, and perhaps in some degree amongst the Indians. The discontent continued and continues still. The half-breeds have never been satisfied with the transfer of the country to Canada. They were willing to remain in their semi-free condition under the Hudson's Bay Company, but they were not satisfied to come under the Government of the Dominion. You know that in 1870 this culminated in an outbreak that was subdued but the feeling still lingered, and in 1874 Mr. Gabriel Dumont was still a rebel. He never was satisfied under the Crown of Great Britain. Since that time this feeling has continued. The claim of the half-breeds is a mere pretext, but the real desire of men like Dumont was that the country should sever its connection with the old Dominion of Canada and should become independent in some way and in some form, and all the grievances that had been alleged are merely a pretext to cover that fixed principle that existed in the minds of the people there to secure that there should be an independent government established in the North-West. I have spoken about the action taken by the late Government. It has been alleged that the Government neglected the claims of the half-breeds. Those complaints were made before 1878, and the answer was given by the Ministry of the hon. gentleman, who stated that the half-breeds had no claims whatever. The hon. gentleman has quoted from a report from Mr. Matthew Ryan, formerly a stipendiary magistrate, in which he, speaking of the rights of the people of the North-West, says: 'In the discharge of my duty I found that a large number of the half-breeds had no claims under the Act, not being resident in Manitoba at the date of transfer. I could also see that the exclusion caused much discontent. I did not fail to urge from time to time that the proper remedy should be applied.' To whom did he apply to obtain possession? He was appointed in 1876, and from that time forward not a single step was taken by hon. gentlemen opposite to remedy the grievances of the half-breed claimants. How could they remedy them? The hon gentleman had declared that they had no right to any claims, and therefore he could not take any steps to consider them. From 1874 to 1878 not one single step was taken by hon. gentlemen opposite to relieve the discontent, if it existed, or remedy the grievances if they existed. Not one single step taken to have the claims of these poor people, for whom the hon. gentleman has so much sympathy, considered or their petition answered. The hon. gentleman read several communications, which he says were never answered, but the petition of February, 1878, claiming redress from the Government received not even an acknowledgment before that Government went out. Now, what was the condition of things when we took office in 1878? We found that the Government before us had taken no steps whatever, that they had not listened to or discussed the grievances, except in this despatch from the hon. gentleman, in which he declares that the half-breeds should be treated as whites only."

Sir John then proceeded to recite the circumstances under which the North-West territories were acquired, and Manitoba erected into a Province of the Dominion. He related that, in order to extinguish the Indian titles, 1,400,000 acres of land were reserved for settlement upon the half-breeds living in Manitoba. A census was taken by Lieutenant-Governor Archibald when it was estimated that there were 10,000 half-breeds with their families who had a right and a claim to land. Had that census been maintained there would have been no difficulties, but when the Grits came into power, in accordance with their general plan of discrediting the acts of their predecessors, and also for the purpose of finding employment for a lot of hungry followers, they declared the half-breed census incorrect and ordered a new enumeration. No action was taken until 1875 when a commission was despatched to the several parishes. The final report of this commission was submitted a year later, but it was so incomplete that the Agent of the Dominion Lands at Winnipeg was authorized to continue the enquiry. In consequence of the incompleteness of the examination, the actual number of half-breed children entitled to share in the land grant was grossly under-estimated, yet the Government preferred the work of their own incompetent enumerators to the carefully compiled census of Mr. Archibald. To make a long story short, the Minister of the Interior "slumped the lot," and to resume Sir John Macdonald's speech

"with a largeness of heart, unparalleled in their dealings with the half-breeds of Manitoba or any other section of the people of Canada, the Government decided that they would give to each half-breed child, entitled to share in the reserve, a free patent for 240 acres. This might look like liberality to the half-breeds but, if we take a peep behind the screen we find that, before that date, apparently despairing of ever receiving patents for their lands, the majority of the claimants had disposed of their rights, for a mere song, to speculative friends of the Government; and it was no doubt, for the benefit of cormorants of this class, that the hearts of Mr. Laird and his colleagues suddenly expanded. If proof be wanted of this, it is easily to be found in the manner in which the apportionment of the land amongst the rightful claimants was afterwards proceeded with. Not a solitary allotment upon this new and liberal basis was made until March 1877 and, when the present Government returned to office in 1878, they found that the half-breeds of St. Boniface, St. Norbert, St. Francois Xavier, Baie St. Paul and St. Agathe, containing more than one-half the half-breed population, among whom the reserve lands were to be distributed, had not only not received their patents, but the allotments had not even been made. Thus we see that the Government of that day cut down the number of the half-breeds, and handed over instead of 190 acres to the half-breed, 240 acres to the white speculators, who claimed to have bought from the Metis, and now what do we find? That the difference between the five thousand and the ten thousand half-breeds are now on the plains, and that they are claiming the land of which the hon. gentlemen opposite deprived them."

Next week we shall continue this subject, and give the remainder of Sir John Macdonald's speech.

Report of an Orange Grand Master.

We do not know how or where the Toronto *Tribune* became possessed of the Report of the Grand Master of the Island Orangemen to his brethren, but in a late issue of that paper we find the following purporting to be an extract from that document, and which we now reproduce as a contribution to any collection that may hereafter be made of "Gems of Island Literature." Grand Master Wise addressing the Grand Lodge in Charlottetown some time ago said:—

"It is gratifying to know that in spite of the hellish plots of Papists and dynamiters, the Crown and Constitution of our glorious Empire stand secure, and that British influence is still paramount in the councils of the world.

"We are still without incorporation. Priestly influence and Popish bigotry have obtained another victory in our legislative halls at Ottawa. At our last meeting I was in hopes that in our Local Assembly a bill to incorporate the Orange Association would have been submitted at the then coming session, but the matter fell through. Your Incorporation Committee appointed last year met, and, after consultation, waited upon the members of our Order, who are also members of the House of Assembly, but from them we received no encouragement.

"Last year I called your attention to the fact that our Local Government, to please their Roman Catholic supporters, had proclaimed St. Patrick's Day a public holiday. Last March a similar proclamation was issued; and I have no doubt but the same thing will be done this year. Last summer I waited upon the Lieutenant Governor, requesting that the same privilege be accorded to the Orange Society, and that the 12th of July be also proclaimed a public holiday. His Honor informed me that it would be necessary to forward a written requisition, and he would consider the matter. I accordingly did so, and in a few days I received in reply a letter, which I placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary. The request, I may state, was not complied with."

In Newfoundland those whom he called murderers not having been convicted, in anguish of soul he exclaimed:—

"Brethren, it appears to me that it is almost useless for Orangemen to expect fair play either in our Legislative Halls or Courts of Justice."

The Tariff.

Some important excise revenue changes have been announced. Excise duties upon brandy have increased from $1.45 to $2 per gallon; Geneva gin has increased from $1.32 to $1.75; rum has increased from $1.32 to $1.75 per proof gallon; corn spirits are increased to $1.30; malt spirits to $1 32; molasses spirits to $1 34. The increase on each of these three latter brands in 30 cents per gallon.

Tobacco, foreign leaf, has had the duty increased from 12 to 20 cents per pound; tobacco manufactured from domestic leaf has increased from 2 to 5 cents per pound; tobacco made from imported leaf has increased from 20 to 30 cents per pound, and moist snuff when in five pound packages and over, was increased to 16 cents per pound. The increase in the tobacco duties now made is, we believe, less than the reductions rendered necessary last year by reason of changes in the United States.

The customs duty upon refined sugars is also changed so that a uniform duty is imposed of one cent per pound and 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, without regard to grade, saccharine strength or color. This is to simplify the tariff and to prevent injustice to the home trade.—*Times.*

Country dealers will find Choice Tea in half chests selling low at J. B. Macdonald's.

Imperial Federation and Home Rule.

We are not going to discuss the question, whether what is called "Imperial Federation" is desirable or necessary. We, however, notice the fact, that it is attracting considerable attention among men of thought and influence, so much so, that some of them advocate it with an enthusiasm and earnestness which is sure to make it one of the great questions of the future, calling for the serious attention of both people and parliament.

If by Imperial Federation is meant a closer union and combination of the vast colonies of the British Empire, so as to make one huge electorate, with a central government in Great Britain itself, in which every portion of England's great possessions shall have parliamentary representatives, we look upon the thing as unnecessary and uncalled for, and more than that, closely allied to impossibility; in no way desirable.

We believe that an identity of interests should tend to combine for mutual benefit, the masses of English speaking people. As to our own Canada, we are no advocates of annexation to the United States, believing that we enjoy a better government, in our own home rule, under the sway of England, and as one of her colonies. We are as nearly as possible independent, without being actually a separate power, compelled to keep up a standing army, and a mighty fleet to protect our vast seaboard. We enjoy the privilege of our own Local Parliaments at Ottawa and in each Province, and govern ourselves in every respect on all questions of interest to ourselves, and at a cost much less than if we were an independent power, or even federated as part and parcel of a great empire, in the sense implied by the advocates of Imperial Federation. If such be the case, we ask, why not then remain as we are?

There can be no question of the loyalty of Canada to Great Britain, and so long as England treats Canada as at present, revolution will be uncalled for. We are yet too weak to stand alone, and still require the protecting care of the mother land, and were we strong enough to stand alone, we imagine that it would still be better to remain in the family, and with increasing years, cement still more strongly the affection which binds us now. To us annexation and independence are alike distasteful; and Imperial Federation is as yet, only a fancy of the brain. As colonists and home rulers we have been fairly successful, and it would just be as well to remain content with that success, or any higher development of our present system which the necessities of future ages may demand. When a necessity for change arises, let us be convinced that it is a necessity, and not make changes from love of experiment, or mere desire to change.

There is, however, one idea before us, which Principal Grant gave utterance to the other day. It is quite possible that the day will come when "we must pay our share of the grandest fleet that ever ploughed the main." To pay our share of maintaining the force which protects us, would be thoroughly in accord with Canadian manliness, and we see no reason why England should not require her rich and prosperous colonies to bear their portion of the protecting expense. Her colonies have already shown every willingness to assist in the hour of difficulty, and notably so in the case of Australia and Canada, whose dead heroes sleep together in the deserts of the Soudan.

Home rule gives a spirit of contentment, and that is why we enjoy the Canada of to-day. But there is one country, at least, which is claimed as part and parcel of the British Empire, which has not the privilege of governing herself, or of making her own laws. With Ireland as she is, a federation of the British Empire is an impossibility; and all the force of "the greatest power the world has ever witnessed" would not be strong enough to realize the fondest hopes of Imperial Federalists, in face of the fact that a spirit of revolution inspires the vast majority of Irishmen—a spirit created by tyranny and misrule, and but little soothed by concessions, when the boon of home government is still refused. Dr. Grant is reported as saying "he believed in the sacred right of revolution, provided there were just and proper reasons for it," and we doubt not the correctness of his opinion, for Ireland affords an instance of its soundness. We do not believe in the revolution of dynamiters and cut-throats. The revolution of open and honorable warfare may, in some instances, be allowable, at the risk of being successful and being called patriots, or being unsuccessful and hanged as rebels; but bloodshed should be the last resort. There can, however, be no just denial of the sacred right of a bloodless revolution, such as Parnell and his followers are now engaged in, and it speaks little for the statesmanship of English ministers that they have not discovered, long ere this, a system of home rule for Ireland, such as has been granted to all her other possessions, and for which leading Irishmen are as eminently fitted as they are to hold the loftiest position in Church and State in every other portion of the vast Empire over which Victoria sways the sceptre. Ireland as a colony of England, governed as we are on this side of the Atlantic, would be a garrison of loyal strength near the shores of Imperial Britain. Home rule once granted, rebels and dynamiters should receive scant mercy and the link of common interest would bind the two countries in peace, prosperity and affection. Then, and not till then, will Imperial Federation become a possibility.

This afternoon, in the Legislative Council Chamber, Chief Justice Palmer, on behalf of the citizens of Charlottetown, presented Warren A. Worden, Esq., the retiring U. S. Consul, with an address, expressive of their deep regret at his departure, and of their cordial wishes for the welfare of himself and his family. Mr. and Mrs. Worden return, we understand, to-morrow morning to New York. In taking leave of them we join with the many friends whom they have made in their brief residence among us, in wishing them health and prosperity wherever they may take up their abode.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The conduct of the firemen of every grade on Monday last was praiseworthy in the extreme, and therefore it is the more annoying that they should be compelled to work with such inefficient material. It does seem extraordinary that better hose cannot be procured than that which is invariably imposed upon us—new or old, it is all equally worthless when it is wanted. There is no sense in, year after year, throwing away money upon the purchase of such trash, and we wonder at the long-suffering of the men who, for no money reward, risk their lives and limbs, and destroy their clothes in trying to use it.

We are glad to see that, at last, a move has been made by our City Council in the matter of the Waterworks. At a meeting held on Monday evening it was resolved that, upon the introduction of an efficient system of waterworks into the city, the Corporation will contract with any company or person introducing the same, for placing and maintaining of hydrants for city purposes, at a cost of not more than $3,000 per annum. It is satisfactory to observe that the Councillors were unanimous in favor of waterworks, the only difference of opinion arising as to whether they should be constructed by the city or by a company. We are pleased to notice that the decision of the Council was in favor of a company.

England's Oldest Colony.

Rev. Moses Harvey's new text book of Newfoundland history has been published by Doyle & Whittle, of Boston, and Dawson Bros., of Montreal. It is a well bound, well printed volume of 200 pages. We can heartily recommend to the reading public this most interesting and latest addition to the literature of Britain's oldest colony. Mr. Harvey has long been held as the recognized authority on all matters connected with Newfoundland. His wide and extensive knowledge of the country, his large and careful study of its history, joined to his great ability, combine to give a preeminent value to this little work. As a school book it is admirable. The story of the Island is told in plain language, such as school children can understand; while, in addition, the work, by the aid of copious notes and appendices, is adapted to the use of high classes in academies, and by its graphic and attractive style of presenting facts in good English, it recommends itself to the general public. The aim of the author has been to connect the history of the island with that of the neighboring provinces. In this he has been highly successful, as the patriotic spirit which breathes through it appeals not only to Newfoundland, but to all British America. The battles of the early settlers for their rights; their great and never ending difficulties with France; the pluck and perseverance displayed under terrible trials and the triumphant progress of the country, are treated in a considerate, comprehensive and instructive manner. As a text book, or work of reference and general information in regard to all matters connected with Newfoundland history, it is complete, and really leaves nothing to be desired, as it contains every item of interest from the discovery to the scenes of 1884, only published two months ago. It is well illustrated, and contains an excellent map, clear and reliable. Altogether it is a success, and adds a gratifying addition to our knowledge of Newfoundland history, and another well-earned laurel to the literary reputation of Rev. Mr. Harvey.—*Halifax Herald.*

Cardigan Notes.

Crops in this neigborhood are looking fine. Early wheat is in head and potatoes and oats well advanced.

A meeting of the Commissioners for managing King's County Exhibition, 1885, will be held in the school hall, Georgetown, on Wednesday, 22nd July, inst., at 11 o'clock, a. m.

The semi-annual meeting of the King's County Liberal Conservative association promises to be of an interesting nature. Meetings for the purpose of appointing delegates are being held, and no doubt a representation of the whole County will assemble at Georgetown, on Tuesday, the 21st July, inst., at 4 o'clock, p. m.—Com.

Bloomfield Notes.

Some weeks ago, a middle-aged man (giving different names in different places) accompanied by a woman, whom he called his wife, was in this vicinity, pretending to repair watches and clocks. He repaired some seven or eight watches, which he cleverly managed to set running till he had made his escape with his pay, after which they stopped. Look out for him!

The semi-annual examination of the Woodstock school was held on Friday, the 27th ult. A goodly number of parents and other visitors were present. The subjects on which the pupils were examined were: Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, History and French. The manner in which the pupils acquitted themselves in the different branches reflects great credit on their energetic and painstaking teacher, Mr. J. H. Blaquiere. Indeed, thoroughness seems to have been his one great aim. At the close the trustees and parents expressed themselves as being very highly pleased with the progress made in the school, and congratulated Mr. Blaquiere upon his success.

Morell Advancing.

Sir,—It is with great pleasure I beg to inform you of the great advance made in Agriculture in Lots 39 and 40 within the last ten years. The country around looks most beautiful; crops never looked better and our Irish friends are a match for the most skilled farmers in the production of the soil; comfortable dwellings, well laid off farms, a beautiful church situated in the most lovely position I ever beheld in view of the St. Lawrence and surrounding country. I had a friendly chat with their respected parish priest, Father James McDonald, and am happy to say that no priest in the diocese is more beloved by his parishioners and well he deserves it. I happened to be there when the nuns of St. Joseph's were giving instructions to the little ones. God bless them, their reward will be exceedingly great. I shall pay a visit to Prince County next week where I hope to have the same good account to give.

Patrick D. Cox.

July 13th, 1885.

Some of our local sports are having excellent luck with the rod and line, and there is a superfluity of *fish* stories. Mine host of the Rankin relates an experience which happened him at the Dunk the other day when, having dropped his line to the bottom, he drew ashore an immense clam which had taken the hook. Last Saturday we were shown a magnificent string of smelts, the largest fully three and one-half inches long, which an enterprising angler had presented to his pastor. He tried hard to persuade us that they were trout, but neither the minister nor ourselves could see it in that light—probably had they been fed with a little bone-dust they might have developed.

LOCAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

His Lordship Bishop McIntyre left for St. John on Monday morning last, to attend the silver jubilee of Bishop Sweeney, of St. John. Church dignitaries from all parts of the Dominion and of the United States are present. Archbishop O'Brien consecrates the magnificent new Cathedral, and the Bishop of Richmond, Va., preaches the sermon.

The Messrs. Mullin Brothers, of this city, have fitted up a neat express for the purpose of supplying the citizens with fresh meat five days of the week. They will call on customers on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings, and on Saturday afternoons. This will, no doubt, prove a great convenience to the public, and we trust that the enterprise will be suitably appreciated.

Remember the Tea Party at Fort Augustus to-morrow. The steamer *Southport* leaves Ferry Wharf at 9.30, a. m., returning at 6 p. m., or excursionists can remain till the following day. Having had practical experience of the hospitality of the good people of Fort Augustus, we can confidently recommend our friends, if they wish a pleasant day and good entertainment, to go to to-morrow's Tea.

Geo. Tweedy, Esq., the enterprising owner of the imported horse "Oak's Heart," offers the following very handsome prizes for colts sired by "Oak's Heart":—Best colt or filly, $25; 2nd do, $15; 3rd do, $10. We trust that others interested in stock raising will announce their intention to do as Mr. Tweedy has done, and thereby give an impetus to this most important department of the P. E. Island Exhibition, 1885.

John Hughes, a brakeman, received serious injury on the excursion train last week returning from the Cape Traverse Tea. As he was adjusting the signal ropes, his head was caught by the telegraph wire which crossed the track, and he was thrown from the car, his head striking a pile of stones and receiving frightful wounds. He was subsequently removed to the City Hospital and, under careful treatment, is doing well.

The examination of candidates for entrance to the Normal School will be held on the 3rd day of August next, commencing at 9 o'clock a. m., at the usual places. The examination for Matriculation to the Prince of Wales College will be held at the same time and at the same places. Candidates for either or both of these examinations must forward their applications, addressed to the "Education Office," on or before the 25th inst.

The Grand Jury last week found a true bill against Alexander Gillis for the murder of Patrick Callaghan. Upon being arraigned, Gillis pleaded "Not Guilty." The time of his trial has not yet been determined. No new evidence of any importance has transpired since last week. Mr. E. J. Hodgson, Q. C., has been retained to assist the Attorney General in the prosecution. The Supreme Court has been engaged for the past week on several cases, involving the right to close roads.

The Halifax *Herald*, in making a correction of a previous report as to the New Glasgow races, says:

"Long John" was driven by his owner, J. A. Leaman, of Truro. 'Long John' hails from Colchester. The race between 'Long John' and 'Helena,' the New Brunswick fast one, was the really exciting race of the meeting. Mr. Leaman won, by having, we are told, the better horse of the two. The staying powers of 'Long John' and his perfect answer to his driver on the turns make him a hard one to beat in his class."

'Long John' hails from P. E. Island, not from Colchester. This is not the first time that we have corrected a misapprehension as to 'Long John's' place of nativity. Mr. Leaman has some good stock, but he gets it on the Island.

Mr. Corbin, Agent of the Harden Star Grenade, gave an exhibition of its fire extinguishing qualities last evening, on the Market Square. Boarding was erected some fif