Legal Notices.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Dominion Telegraph Company intend to apply to the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada at its next session for an Act to amend its Acts of Incorporation, whereby the Directors may be empowered to lease its lines or any portion thereof and generally for such other amendments in relation to the mode of conducting the Company's business as may be deemed expedient.

By order of the Board,
F. ROPER,
Secretary.

Toronto, 19th Dec., 1878. 355-tf.

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ATTEMPT TO SHOOT THE CZAR.

Four Shots Fired Without Effect.

ARREST OF THE ASSASSIN

The Assailant Supposed to Be An Internationalist Agent—One Person Slightly Wounded—Enthusiastic Reception of the Emperor—Congratulations from European Sovereigns.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 14.—While the Czar was taking his usual morning walk early to-day, near the palace, four shots from a revolver were fired at him, but fortunately none of them took effect. The man who fired was arrested by a crowd which the firing attracted. The city is now being decorated in token of thankfulness for the Czar's escape.

The would-be assassin of the Czar is now undergoing examination. The full official account of the affair says:—Towards eight o'clock this morning, as the Emperor was taking his customary walk, a respectably dressed man, wearing a military cap with a cockade, advanced toward him, and as the Emperor approached nearer drew a revolver from the pocket of his overcoat and fired four shots at him. The assassin, before submitting to his captors, fired another shot, slightly wounding in the cheek a person in the crowd. A great throng of people which had assembled, enthusiastically cheered and congratulated the Emperor, who thanked them for their proofs of fidelity on such a painful occasion. He said he knew he had the support of all respectable people. He hoped God would grant that he might complete his task, which consisted in promoting the welfare of Russia. The Emperor, after the foregoing speech, drove to the palace without an escort. He has not suffered the least ill effect from the attempt upon his life. He afterwards drove, still without an escort, to the Kasan cathedral to return thanks for the preservation of his life. When receiving the congratulations of the officials of the empire at noon, the Czar was so much overcome by his enthusiastic reception as to be unable to speak for some minutes. On recovering from his emotion he said:—"This is the third time God has saved me." It is supposed the Emperor's assailant took poison before his attempt, as he vomited after his arrest. Poison was also found under his finger nails. Antidotes were administered. It is thought the man was an employé of the Ministry of Finance and an agent of the International.

The Sultan and all of the European sovereigns have telegraphed congratulations.

LONDON, April 14.—A St. Petersburg despatch says:—The Emperor's assailant gives his name as Skoloff. He is a retired functionary of the Ministry of Finance, and is about thirty years of age. He fired at the Emperor within two paces. After the first shot the Emperor approached Skoloff who fired again and then ran. The various accounts given as to the exact number of shots fired are conflicting. An officer of the Gendarmerie with his drawn sword pursued Skoloff and three more men then joined in the pursuit. Skoloff fired at them, shattering the jaw of a detective. Finally a gentleman knocked Skoloff down, and held him until he was secured by the officers.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 15.—The name of the assailant of the Czar is now ascertained to be Zolowjeff. The city is again illuminated to-night and flags are everywhere displayed.

ROME, April 15.—The Pope has sent his congratulations to the Czar on his escape from the assassin.

LONDON, April 15.—A St. Petersburg despatch says on Tuesday morning Zolowjeff was insensible but was expected to rally. No papers were found upon him. Throughout Monday night all suspected houses were searched. Last week the Revolutionary Committee issued a proclamation threatening the life of the Emperor and a second St. Bartholomew. Telegrams were received on Friday and Saturday last from the Berlin secret police giving warning that during Easter an attempt would be made to assassinate the Emperor, the Czarewitch or some member of the Imperial family. In consequence of these telegrams, the usual entrance to the Winter Palace was closed and the Czarewitch went at midnight to the Easter eve reception of the Czar escorted by four Cossacks.

NIHILISM IN RUSSIA.

Horrible Cruelty to Political Prisoners.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 12.—A Kieff correspondent gives the following account of the outbreak among the political prisoners last month:—The persons under arrest in Kieff prison resolved some time ago to tunnel under the walls and escape. The scheme was betrayed when the tunnel was completed, and the prisoners entered, intending to come up through the opening beyond the prison precincts. Soldiers posted at the opening shot the escaping prisoners as they came up. When the bulk of the prisoners, terrified by the noise of the firing, remained in the tunnel, soldiers were sent in from behind, and the unfortunate wretches, caught between two fires, were all shot down. The proceedings seemed to give the officials much amusement, and the Director of Kieff prison has been praised and decorated. Quite in keeping with this, is a statement published by the Russian chaplain in the Central Prison of Charkoff. He declares that of 500 persons detained in that prison, two hundred died within four months. One of the heaviest charges made by the Nihilists against the Russian official administration was the brutal treatment of prisoners, the consequence being that many are dying and some are being driven mad.

GARIBALDI ON UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.

ROME, April 15.—Garibaldi has published an energetic letter in favour of universal suffrage and called a meeting of Republicans for the 21st inst., to take measures for the agitation of the question.

LONDON, April 15.—Garibaldi's letter in favour of universal suffrage says he considers it the duty of the Republican party to rally in the field for legal action to secure progressively that liberty which is their undoubted right, but which now depends on the whim of a Minister or the programme of a Ministry. Universal suffrage is the basis of reform. The people to whom it is denied were considered capable of founding Italy with their arms. Even the presence of Clericals in Parliament would be desirable if it would dispel the languor which now renders it impotent.

A Berlin despatch says:—An apparently semi-official communication, referring to the despatch of an American ironclad to Samoa, points out that the German ships Ariadne and Albatross are still there, and fully suffice for the protection of foreigners. A despatch from Berlin states that Germany, though entertaining no idea of annexing the Samoan Islands, intends to protect German interests and prevent the Americans from establishing themselves there to the detriment of other nations.

NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

Cetewayo Making Overtures for Peace.

A RUSE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION.

The Ekowe Relief Column on the March.

COMPOSITION OF THE FORCE.

Thirty-Five Thousand Zulus in Ambush.

CAPE TOWN, April 1, *via* St. Vincent.—The colonial secretary of Natal has telegraphed to the Colonial Secretary of Cape Colony that Cetewayo has sent messengers to Lord Chelmsford with overtures for peace. It is thought, however, that this is merely a ruse to obtain information of the movements of the British troops.

The Ekowe relief column started on the 28th of March. It is composed of six thousand men, two Gatling guns, two cannon, several rocket tubes, 113 waggons and 56 pack mules. Col. Law commands the advance-guard, consisting of the naval brigades from the ships Shah and Tenedos. Two companies of Buffs, five of the 99th Regiment and the whole 91st Regiment. The waggons are escorted by two companies of mounted natives and a battalion of native foot. Major Pemberton commands the rear-guard, composed of 200 men from the Boadicea, the 57th Regiment, a battalion of the 60th Regiment and the mounted natives. Lord Chelmsford and staff are with the rear-guard. All was well up to the 30th of March. Col. Pearson on that day signalled from Ekowe, that he could see the head of the column entrenching on the Amatudala river. Col. Pearson signalled on the 27th of March that 150 of his garrison were ill and 50 wounded, and that only 500 of his men would be able to assist the relieving column, for which 35,000 Zulus were lying in wait. Adjutant Davidson, of the 99th Regiments is dead.

Col. Wood attacked Umbelini's stronghold on the 28th of March, and captured a quantity of cattle. Subsequently 2,000 Zulus retook the cattle and on the 29th attacked Col. Wood's camp. The Zulus were repulsed after four hours' fighting, but the British loss was heavy. Seven officers and seventy men were killed, including Capt. Campbell and Piet Uys, the leader of a detachment of mounted Boers, who has several times been mentioned in despatches for distinguished services.

There was fighting in Basutoland on the 21st and 23rd of March. A son and two grandsons of Moirasi and eighty Basutos were killed and a number of cattle and horses captured. The British loss was insignificant.

The Boers at their meeting almost decided to never rest satisfied with less than their independence. It is thought they will adopt a course of passive resistance. Sir Bartle Frere has not yet reached Pretoria.

LONDON, April 16.—A correspondent with the relieving column for Ekowe telegraphs from Inyoni River, March 30th:—"The relieving column, after its first day's march, is entrenched here, nine miles north of the Tugela River. On mustering to proceed the following morning, March 29th, our captain was missing. It is supposed he went behind the guards and was cut off by the Zulus during the night. They have been seen watching the advance from a distant hill, but no fighting is expected until April 1st, as Col. Pearson signals that the Zulus are concentrated near Ekowe. It is intended to relieve the present garrison at Ekowe with a battalion of the 60th Regiment. The garrison will have ample provisions to hold out till the grand advance is made on Undini.

A despatch from Pietermaritzburg says the force which recaptured the cattle from Col. Wood was 20,000 strong. In the fighting on the day on which these cattle were retaken Wood's column suffered considerable loss, which is not included in the estimate given in a previous despatch. Nearly all of the natives deserted. The loss of the Zulus in the subsequent attack on the camp was immense. The official report of Wood confirms the statement that the Zulus who attacked him numbered 20,000. The British loss was 77 killed and wounded when the camp was attacked. The Zulus in this attack were entirely defeated and pursued a considerable distance. The Ekowe relief column is moving by a road which passes through open country.

Another despatch from Pietermaritzburg announces that martial law has been proclaimed in consequence of the exorbitant charge for means of transportation.

Lord Chelmsford telegraphs:—The latest reports say the Zulus refuse to assemble by regiments but will defend their own districts. The number of the enemy around Ekowe is estimated at 150,000.

A Cape Town despatch states that Lord Chelmsford detained Cetewayo's messengers, promising to send his terms from Ekowe.

A strong force of Colonial troops has crossed the Orange river to punish the Griqua chief.

THE CRISIS IN EGYPT.

The Porte Ready to Fall in With the Views of the Powers.

LONDON, April 11.—A correspondent at Paris telegraphs that the Sultan on Tuesday addressed a telegram to Lord Salisbury formally condemning the proceedings of the Khedive as dangerous to the whole East, expressing his willingness to cancel the firman regulating the Egyptian succession, depose the Khedive, and send Halim pasha to Alexandria in a Turkish man-of-war as the Khedive's successor. The Sultan's telegram has been communicated to France. It has already formed the subject of numerous conferences between M. Waddington and Lord Lyons, and will be discussed at a council of Ministers on Saturday. The correspondent thinks France cannot hesitate to act in accord with England, and accept the Sultan's offer, as she would thereby punish the Khedive without risk.

The Vienna *Presse* publishes a sensational report from Cairo that the Khedive is making warlike preparations.

The Porte is prepared to sanction the provisional *regime* in Egypt until an understanding is arrived at with the European Powers as to changing the order of succession, and increasing the preponderance of Ottoman power in Egypt. If England and France should demand the deposition of the Khedive the Porte would consent on condition it be allowed to revoke the firman granting direct succession in the family of the Khedive.

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Hon. Wm. M. Evarts will accompany the 13th Brooklyn regiment to Montreal on May 24th.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

EUROPE.

Trichinosis has appeared for the first time in Italy at Brescia and Piacenza.

Snow fell on Saturday in England and the northern parts of the United Kingdom.

A vastly productive petroleum spring has been discovered near Pechelbrown, in Alsace.

A despatch from Rome says Queen Victoria will probably visit the King and Queen of Italy at Monza.

Private advices from St. Petersburg state that, 140 revolutionists have been arrested in Russia within the last fortnight.

The petroleum spring in Pechelbroun, Lower Alsace, has flooded a bitumen mine there to the extent of 1,750 cubic metres.

A French man-of-war has captured and conveyed to Granville two Jersey fishing boats for poaching on the French oyster beds.

It is stated that Belgium is considering the advisability of a Customs Union with France, in opposition to the German protective system.

Both of the Queen of Portugal's lungs are pronounced by the royal physicians to be affected. They nevertheless hope to save her Majesty's life.

M. Waddington, the French Premier, has informed the Council of Ministers that the Matacong affair is in process of settlement. France withdraws the eight men who landed on the island.

The Vienna *Tagblatt* says a shell buried in the road exploded near Prince Milan while he was walking at Nish on Tuesday. His aide-de-camp was wounded. It is not known whether the explosion was the result of a plot to assassinate the Prince.

The United States Consul at Barcelona, Spain, reports that in view of the prevalence of trichina among hogs in the United States, the Portugese Government, in accordance with the opinion of the Board of Health, has prohibited the importation of meat and other hog products from that country.

MADRID, April 14.—Two bombs were yesterday thrown into the church of San Antonio at Seville with the object, it is supposed, of creating a panic and stealing the valuable sacramental plate belonging to the church. Several persons were injured by the explosion.

Mr. Plimsoll has already probably saved the lives of many poor seamen by his energetic action in securing the passage of the Merchant Shipping Act in 1876. A return has just been issued in England of vessels ordered to be detained by the Board of Trade, under the Act, by reason of alleged defects in hull, equipments, or machinery, from which it appears that out of 293 vessels detained, only five were reported safe, and only two were considered to have been improperly held. Thirty-seven of the ships were complained of by the crews, and of these thirty-five were found unseaworthy. Seventy-eight vessels were detained for over-loading or improper loading, and all were found to be unsafe.

UNITED STATES.

Wm. R. Smith, a religious enthusiast of Hartford, Conn., who insists on fasting for forty days, has been sent to an insane asylum.

Jas. Keeter ploughed up an iron chest at Deep Creek, Va., containing several thousand dollars in gold coin. It is believed that it was buried during the war.

An earthquake was felt at Norfolk, N. Y., on Monday morning. The sound was from the west passing east. It lasted about thirty seconds and was very distinct.

The Supreme Court of Rhode Island has rendered a decision making perpetual the injunction restraining the city treasurer of Newport from paying the cost of the ball given to the officers of the British fleet last year.

It is now alleged that the naturalization of Mayor-elect Jacobs, of Cincinnati, was fraudulent, and that he cannot hold office. Jacobs said he must have been 21 years of age when naturalized, but does not know when he was born.

A court martial of Fort Sill of Capt. P. L. Lee, of the 10th Cavalry, for challenging Lieut. Whittall to fight a duel and disorderly altercation with Lieut. Whittall, found Lee guilty and sentenced him to the forfeiture of $50 of his salary.

An operation for the transfusion of human milk into the veins of a sick patient was done for the first time, it is said, by Dr. Howe at the charity hospital at Blackwell's Island, New York, on Saturday. The operation was not considered a success.

The New York *Commercial Advertiser's* Washington special says:—"Information received at the Treasury Department from various official sources is that the disease known as pleuro-pneumonia among cattle in this country is slowly disappearing, owing to the prompt action of the Federal officers working in connection with the State authorities.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 14.—A terrible cyclone struck the town of Collinsville this evening, demolishing ten buildings, ruining thirty others, and damaging more or less some seventy-five residences and business houses. Only one person was killed, a little girl, and two or three others badly injured. The greatest excitement and confusion prevailed for some time

A new York despatch of Saturday says:—It is stated to-day that Julia McCarthy, 25, of this city, who has been employed as a cook, and is now in Canada, is a claimant for thirty millions, a fortune left by Major O'Keefe, quartermaster in the British service, who had served in several Anglo-Indian campaigns, and who died six years ago. It is said Miss McCarthy's claim is well supported.

It is stated that 4,000 repeating rifles and a million rounds of ammunition were purchased and shipped from New York last week by Major Tuxen, a supposed agent of the Russian Government. But intimations were given that they were really to go to Delagoa Bay, a Portugese settlement north of Zululand, and will be sold to Cetewayo and his tribe. They were shipped as canned meats and hogsheads of machinery on the steamer Rhein.

The jewels of Mdme. Bonaparte were appraised at the request of the executor, by Joseph Gale, jeweller, Baltimore. Gale expressed an opinion that while the jewels cost about $70,000, they would not sell for that. The most expensive article is a necklace and pendant, composed of 500 diamonds. One of the greatest curiosities in the lot is a bracelet, made from gold found upon the arm of a skeleton discovered in the ruins of Pompeii. The jewel will be preserved in the family.

A correspondent of the New York *Tribune* at Leadville, the new mining camp in Colorado, writes that the miners are flocking to the rich carbonate fields in that region at the rate of 800 a week. Ore is taken out worth three dollars a pound. It is thought the locality of the present camp will yield thirty-six million dollars of precious metals per year, and there are valleys and ranges adjacent to the camp enormously rich in minerals which have not yet been fully explored.

AFFAIRS IN AFGHANISTAN.

Bad Feeling Among the Frontier Tribes.

Yakoob Inciting Them Against the British.

LONDON, April 13.—A correspondent at Lahore says Major Cavagnari will probably go to Cabul with a small escort, to endeavour to convince Yakoob Khan of the futility of resistance. Major Cavagnari is hopeful of success. He is a good authority but perhaps over sanguine. It is certain that Yakoob is inciting the frontier tribes against the British.

LONDON, April 14.—A Lahore correspondent telegraphs that there is no doubt bad feeling growing against the British amongst all the tribes interested in the Khyber Pass. They complain of the British acting as though they intended to keep the Pass. Our intentions must be explained, and frontier affairs placed in the hands of most capable officials; otherwise we may have an inconvenient combination against us.

THE BURMESE DIFFICULTY.

A Declaration of War by the King Expected.

RANGOON, April 13.—The King of Burmah has lost all influence, and his Ministers are again supreme.

LONDON, April 13.—A despatch from Tyrto says:—Three steamers are in readiness here to carry troops beyond the frontier should the King of Burmah suddenly declare war, as it is generally believed he intends to do.

WAR IN SOUTH AMERICA.

Hostilities Commenced Between Chili and Bolivia.

War Declared by Chili Against Peru.

LIMA, March 19.—The special Envoy of Peru has laid before the Chilian Government the basis on which Peru desires to mediate between the belligerents. Judging from the tone of the Chilian press, the proposal, which is that before entering upon a discussion Chili must evacuate Bolivian territory, will be rejected, and then Peru will be obliged to assume a decided stand. The Government here is actively preparing for any emergency.

PANAMA, April 5.—The latest news just received from the South states that the Chilian forces have occupied Cobija and Calama. The latter port is a strong strategical point on the river Loa, about sixty miles south of Caracoles. Here were stationed small detachments of irregular Bolivian troops, but according to the despatch only a slight resistance was offered.

From the latest mail received from Santiago there appeared to be a certain indecision on the part of the Chilian Government respecting future operations, and the possible interference of Peru in the struggle was regarded with evident concern. In Bolivia the war enthusiasm is unabated. Troops were being massed in different towns, and the first detachment was already *en route* for the seat of war. But any general movement on the part of Bolivia will probably be delayed until the position of Peru is perfectly and definitely defined.

VALPARAISO, April 6.—Chili has formally declared war against Peru.

U. S. INDIAN POLICY.

Complications in the Case of Sitting Bull.

HOSTILE MOVEMENTS IN DAKOTA.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The Indian question was under consideration in the Cabinet yesterday. Secretary Schurz took the ground that, to promote the best interests of both whites and Indians, it was necessary that the Indians should be kept upon their reservations and out of the way of bad white men, who would incite or provoke them to acts of violence. The entire Cabinet did not, however, wholly coincide with these expressions. In regard to the case of Sitting Bull it was admitted that there were many complications. If he came south on an avowedly hostile errand, there could be little question as to the responsibility of the Canadian Government, but the presence of so large a body of consumers has nearly depleted the locality of game, and it is upon that they depend for subsistence. Other food must be brought them or they must go where there is other game. The latter is the only available alternative for them, and it is believed they will be forced to a movement shortly. In the event of such a movement in a peaceful manner it might change the present aspect of affairs as regards the Canadian Government. The question whether our Government should permit such a movement as long as the Indians remain quiet, or treat them as the hostiles they were when they crossed the border, received consideration.

NEW YORK, April 13.—The *Herald's* Bismarck, D.T., special telegram from Fort Buford, the nearest post to the British lines, says the Indians are becoming restless and beginning to move. The Yanktons are dissatisfied and scarcely controllable. The scarcity of food at Poplar river and Wolf Point is the main cause. Runners from several hostile camps have made overtures to the Grosventres and other peaceable tribes with offers of presents, asking them to join their hostile movements. Unless more provisions are granted they will nearly all unite, and the various tribes once cemented, the Indians of the country will make a bloody campaign.

SPRING FAIRS.

ST. MARY'S, April 16.—The South Riding of Perth Agricultural Society held their spring fair here to-day. The attendance was very large, the number of entries being about the same as last year. The exhibition of horses was fully up to if not better than previous years. While the horses were being shown in the ring, a young lad, son of Wm. Coleman, was kicked on the head and knocked down by one of the horses, receiving an ugly cut across the temple. He was carried to Dr. Ford's office and had his wounds dressed, and is now doing well.

WOODSTOCK, Ont., April 16.—The annual stallion fair of the North Riding of Oxford Agricultural Society was held here to-day, on the fair grounds, and was about the average. Some excellent animals were on exhibition, showing that the farmers in this neighbourhood want to improve their stock. The attendance was fair. The following took the several first prizes:—Thoroughbred, Burgess and Boyles, Princeton; carriage, Mr. Vance's, Lucksall; general purposes, Mr. Beby's Pat; heavy draught, J. Dalziel's Marquis of Lorne.

AFFAIRS AT OTTAWA.

THE MANITOBA PENITENTIARY.

OTTAWA, April 15.—In the report of Mr. Moylan, the inspector of penitentiaries, the following paragraph occurs, which shows up in a clearer light than ever the exceedingly "practical" nature of the supervision of Mr. Mackenzie over the public buildings. In the report concerning the Manitoba penitentiary, Mr. Moylan says as follows:—

One of the serious disadvantages which has resulted from the inspector not having received the sanction of the Department to examine the building while in process of erection, is its shamefully defective condition. This might have been obviated, had the opportunity of seeing the defects and of pointing them out to the Department of Public Works in due season been afforded. The Warden, under my instructions, proceeded from Stone Fort, the old penitentiary, to the new building several months before it was reported as finished; and after having carefully gone through every part of it made a report to this Department. He mentioned the numerous and glaring defects that may be seen to this day. The attention of the Public Works Department was called to the subject, not only when the contractor had still charge of the work, and when he could be consequently compelled to finish it in a satisfactory manner, but repeatedly since that time to the end of the year under consideration. Nothwithstanding these reports, the building, with all its faults, was delivered over to and received by the Department of Public Works, whose officer handed it over to the Warden as in good order and suitable for a penitentiary. Anything more unsuited to the purpose for which it was intended, judging by the plan, it were difficult to conceive. The mode of heating is altogether inadequate. When the thermometer ranges from 10° to 40° degrees below zero during the winter, the idea of heating a penitentiary with a few stoves is simply preposterous. The stoves originally supplied were purchased by the Department of Public Works at a cost of $65 each and were worth less. Except one, they were second-hand and dilapidated. The stove-pipes supplied rotted completely through in a few months. The Warden has several times reported that the health of the convicts and officers had suffered severely from the intense cold of the building. The surgeon, too, has represented more than once the injurious effects produced by the cold. In the original plan provision was made for steam or hot air. An engine or furnace room has been constructed in the basement, but nothing has been done in the way of pipes, registers, &c., to convey the heat to the various parts of the penitentiary. The baths, water-closets, and sinks are quite useless through want of proper drainage. On the north side of the building a drain was made at a large cost, but the incline is in the wrong direction, although there was every facility for giving it the proper fall. The Warden was prostrated for nearly three months, two officers for a shorter period, and one of the children of the late steward died, the disease in each case being typhoid fever. The surgeon of the penitentiary and the physicians who attended the Warden from Winnipeg agree in their reports that the malady had its origin in the defective drainage. The surgeon fears that an epidemic may at any time visit the institution and spread among all its inmates unless immediate steps be taken to improve the sewerage. The penitentiary was delivered over to the Public Works Department without having attached to it an outbuilding worthy of the name. A wooden shanty used by the contractor while the penitentiary was building represented the quarters for the married officers, workshops, stables, fuel-sheds, root-house, barn, waggon-sheds, tool-house, ice-house, etc. There is no means of extinguishing fire should such a calamity occur. Within a very short time after the new penitentiary became occupied, an application was made to the Department of Public Works, for a certain quantity of hose to meet the requirements in case of fire. This was renewed over and over again. No hose had been provided up to the 30th June last.

All of which, one may add, is respectfully submitted to an admiring and appreciative public.

THE NEW LEADER.

From the events of the last two or three Parliamentary days it appears as if the excellent Sir Albert Smith were about to assume the leadership of the Opposition. Sir Albert is put forward as the giant who is to crush Mr. Tilley. And Sir Albert this afternoon took all the legal criticism of the Stamp Act out of the hands of even that distinguished legal student, the member for Bothwell. It is supposed to be thought proper that the Liberal party should have a knight for a leader to offset the oppressive dignity of Sir John Macdonald's title. It will be a very singular circumstance if Mr. Mackenzie, who protested most bitterly against Sir Albert's title, should consent to use it as an ornamental figure-head for "the party." Of course there is a joke set going by some wag, but Christopher Sly really did believe for a time that he was the Duke. It required a severe regimen to undeceive him. If Sir Albert pushes himself too far forward he will find that he has been unwittingly sitting in the seat of the scornful.

ANOTHER CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION.

The telegram announcing that the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia has thrown out the bill for the funding of the debt of the Province announces also another constitutional crisis in that Province. The Province of Nova Scotia is in a very bad state financially. The late Grit Government pursued so reckless a course in spending the Provincial revenues and in pledging the Provincial credit, that it speedily exhausted all the public resources and was cast out of power leaving an immense and scandalous deficit to be borne by the incoming Administration. The amount of this deficit and of the sums required for railway extension is very large, and no possible way of meeting the liabilities existed save the usual resort of borrowing. The Local Government is now in the position of having a hostile Legislative Council, composed largely of partizans and incapables who thwart all proposed measures of improvement. In the matter of the funding bill, however, two highly respectable Conservatives have voted against the Government which is most unfortunate. The question now arises, what is to be done? The Imperial Government have power to increase the number of the Council, and possibly a demand will be made with that object. If that should not be done or should fail the province of Nova Scotia would be in a most serious condition politically and financially. The policy of the Local Government has been so far wise and economical and popular. The solution of the present difficulty will be looked for with much interest.

THE PICTOU BOARD OF TRADE.

OTTAWA, April 16.—For some days past the Grit press have been commenting on the fact that the Board of Trade of Pictou, N. S., the county of the Minister of Justice and of Mr. Doull, has passed a resolution condemning the national policy. A good deal of force seems to have been given to the fact, but it appears to be the truth that the meeting of the board consisted of six Grit politicians and a chairman, who was the other way, and the resolution was carried by that charming combination. The free traders are welcome to all the comfort they can find in these remarkable circumstances. The County of Pictou has as much to gain from the national policy as any county in the Dominion, and the people are perfectly well satisfied.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

The first matter of interest this afternoon was a personal explanation by Mr. Doull, M.P. Mr. Doull had been accused in the *Globe* of having shirked the vote on the tariff in consequence of a vote of the Pictou Board of Trade opposed to the national policy. This is the resolution referred to above. Mr. Doull explained that he had not shirked the vote; that he was absent through illness, and that he would have voted for the tariff if he had been present. As for the vote of the Pictou Board of Trade, he was about to explain the value of that formidable decision when Mr. Mackenzie protested and Mr. Holton paternally rose to order. It was Mr. Holton's idea that a personal explanation should not be an explanation at all, only a simple denial without reference to circumstances. Sir John pointed out that as Mr. Doull had been accused of having shirked the vote on the tariff in consequence of the vote of the Board, it was open to him to refer to the Board. Mr. Doull then gave the explanation already given, namely, that there was not a quorum of the Board present, and that the motion had been carried by six Grits and was not to be considered as affecting either Mr. Doull's seat or the opinion of the people of Pictou. Mr. Holton wanted to know from the Premier if he thought that was a question of privilege. Sir John didn't know, but he could quite understand, now that the explanation had been made, why it was that Mr. Holton wished to prevent it—which reply seemed satisfactory to the House, though apparently was not so to Mr. Holton, who smiled a protesting smile but said nothing. The House is always liberal in interpreting the rule as to personal explanation, but it appeared as if Mr. Holton and Mr. Mackenzie had some inkling of the falsehood told against Mr. Doull, and wished to prevent the explanation.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

To-day Mr. DeCosmos renewed the discussion on the Chinese question which was begun by Mr. Bunster last session. He detailed the number of Chinese and their pursuits on the Pacific coast. He read striking extracts from the Californian reports and reports of Congress to show the feeling of the Americans in regard to the habits, morals, and manners of the Chinese and their influence on the society and civilization of the Pacific coast. He said that it had been contended that the Chinese, having permitted English people to go into China, we should not object to the Chinese coming into a British colony. But he read from the latest statistical authorities to show that the number of English or foreigners of any sort in China was insignificant as compared with the number of Chinese in California or even British Columbia. In the course of a few remarks Sir John Macdonald said that he was willing that a committee should be appointed to examine evidence on this question. It would be wise, he said, to discuss this question and settle it early and in time. It was evidently a subject that called for serious consideration. The members for British Columbia are evidently in earnest on the subject. Mr. Mackenzie first broached the subject of the brotherhood of man, and said that we should not declare any portion of the human race unfit to live in Canada. Then he remarked that he sympathized with much that Mr. DeCosmos had said—which was very inconsistent. But when he went on to remark that he thought the Chinese in British Columbia and California were on the whole more moral and less criminal than the whites, it became clear that the hon. gentleman was desirous of being logical. "One man is as good as another, particularly a Chinaman," was about the substance of Mr. Mackenzie's certificate of opinion. Mr. Mills treated the subject from the purely historic and philosophical point of view. He referred to the persecution of the Jews and the rules of international law and rules of political economy. Mr. Huntington dealt with the question from the point of view of labour. In the protectionist country over the border they wanted to protect the labour of the land, and Mr. Huntington in a somewhat insidious manner referred to the fact that this might be considered the thin edge of the wedge of protection to white labour in this country—an idea which seemed to shock the member for Shefford, who for five years past has certainly done his best not to protect the labour of the country.

MANSLAUGHTER AT OTTAWA.

Trial of Bovill for Causing the Death of His Wife.

A Verdict of Manslaughter Returned—A Tragic End of Family Quarrels.

OTTAWA, April 14.—At the Assize Court this morning, the case of the Queen v. Thomas Bovill, for the murder of his wife, was called. The prisoner, on being brought into Court and placed in the dock, seemed to fully realize his position. Hon. R. W. Scott acted as Crown prosecutor, and Mr. A. Gibb for the prisoner.

MATILDA BOVILL, a daughter of the prisoner by his first wife and twelve years of age, was first called. Her evidence was similar to that given at the coroner's inquest and was to the following effect. On the night of Monday, February 24th, her father and stepmother had a row. They were both under influence of liquor, her father seeming to be the worst. It was he who started the row, assaulting her stepmother, and striking her over the head and shoulders with a stocking. She could not say whether there was anything in the stocking or not. She was sent on an errand after the first quarrel, and on returning found her stepmother in an insensible condition with her head cut. On the Tuesday evening her mother spoke a few words remarking something about her head. She then noticed that her face was bruised and blackened.

Mrs. MARGARET KILBY testified that she lived in a house adjoining the prisoner's and went into the prisoner's house on the Monday night in question about nine o'clock. There was no light in the house at the time. Witness called the prisoner telling him to come down stairs and let Mrs. Bovill alone. The prisoner said that deceased had got some whiskey and he wanted her to return some money he had given her. Witness heard a blow, but whether it was inflicted by the hand or with some instrument she could not say. The deceased on being struck cried out, "For God's sake don't strike me like that." Witness again asked prisoner to come down stairs, and he replied by telling her to mind her own business. Witness then left the house. Witness saw the deceased about four o'clock in the afternoon of the occurrence, when she appeared to be in her usual health. Witness afterwards saw deceased whilst she was being removed to the hospital. She was conscious. While the witness was assisting in removing the deceased, she said "It's a bad job, why don't you send for the police?" The parties had a row about three weeks previously, and the deceased was badly beaten. The deceased asked witness if she would allow her boy to go on an errand for the prisoner, and the boy on returning said, "Ma, it was for whiskey."

THOS. PATTERSON, a respectable-looking young man, some twenty-five years of age, was next placed in the witness-box. He stated that he was a son of the late Mrs. Bovill, the prisoner being his stepfather. On Monday, Feb. 24th, he was absent from home during the day, but in the evening returned and had supper. At that time his mother appeared to be sober. He left the house immediately after supper, and did not return until the following morning, when he noticed by the condition of the furniture that a disturbance had occurred. He found his mother up stairs in bed with her face bruised and blackened, and her head had been bleeding. On going down stairs he told his stepfather (the prisoner) that he was going to the police station to lay an information against him for assault, but his stepfather asked him not to, as it would only make matters worse. However, he started out with the intention of going to the police station, but on the way he changed his mind, and then took steps to have his mother removed to the Protestant hospital, which was effected on Thursday. The deceased told him that her husband had beaten her with a stick. His stepfather and mother did not live happily together. The prisoner was generally very kind to his mother, who used to drink considerably, as well as his stepfather. Liquor took a quick effect on his mother, who was very abusive when intoxicated. He had remonstrated with her in regard to the evil habit on more than one occasion, quoting the text, "No drunkard shall enter into the kingdom of heaven."

The jury, after a short consultation, returned with a verdict of "Guil