THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30. 1890.

ALL matter for publication in the HERALD should be in this office by noon on Tuesday. Persons wishing their advertisements changed must advise us Saturday forenoon.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

Hon. Neil McLeod delivered his first Budget Speech in the House of Assembly last evening, and certainly he seemed to be quite at home with his subject. Judging from the mastery of details which he exhibited and the applause which greeted him at the close, he made a most favorable impression.

He began by saying that although some changes had taken place in the Administration, the present Government might be said to be the same as that which had conducted the affairs of the Province for the past eleven years.

He compared the conduct of public affairs under the present government as compared with the Davies' administration, and showed what immense savings had been effected in the last eleven years. All this was done by economy in the public service; the reduction of salaries and amalgamation of offices. At the same time the people had been saved large amounts by exemption from taxation. During that time about one hundred thousand dollars had been collected on account of our claims against the Dominion; claims which the Opposition never looked after. During this period, also, the amount to the credit of the Province at Ottawa had largely increased.

Regarding the revenue to meet the estimates of expenditure, already tabled, he said the Government expected to obtain it, principally from the following sources: Subsidy from the Dominion Government, $183 571 30; Land Office, $35,000; Registry Office, $6,000; Ferries, $5,000; Prothonotary's Office, $2,000; Hospital for Insane, $1,600; County Courts, $1,700; Provincial Secretary's Office, $1,100. From various other sources small amounts would be realized.

To make up the balance it was hoped an amount would be obtained from the Dominion Government, on account of our claims. The Federal authorities held out every hope to the delegates who waited on them a short time ago, and so long as there was any possibility of obtaining these claims, taxation would not be resorted to. As we have not time to-day to pursue this question at greater length, we shall probably be able to give our readers the speech in full in a future issue.

CANADA'S CONSTITUTION.

THE Toronto Empire of a late date contains an editorial in reference to the adoption, by the Republic of Brazil, of a constitution similar to that of the United States. The article proceeds to point out the many weak points in the constitution of the last named country, and in support of its views it quotes from the Chicago Herald, a leading paper of the United States. The views set forth in this article are worthy of careful perusal by the people of this country, and should be taken to heart by those who seem anxious for the annexation of the two countries. It closes as follows:

"In view of these and other objectionable features in the constitution of the United States, the Chicago Herald advises the people of Brazil to ascertain what portions of it are satisfactory before they adopt it in whole or in part. It cites the constitutions of the late Confederate States the Swiss Republic and Chili as worthy of careful study and concludes with an observation which Canadians will do well to lay to heart. 'In the opinion of many,' says our Chicago contemporary, 'the articles of Confederation adopted when the Dominion of Canada was formed contain more desirable provisions than the constitution of any republic in the world.' We thank the Herald for this generous expression of appreciation, which we have no doubt is as sincere as we believe it to be deserved. But it is only just to say that our statesmen were aided in drawing up the articles of Confederation by the study of the constitution of the United States and the history of its working; and it would not have been to their credit if they had not improved upon it in some particulars, seeing that they had the light of nearly a hundred years of eventful history to guide them."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FURTHER supplementary estimates for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1890, were presented in the Dominion House of Commons on Friday last. They only contain 13 items amounting in all to $87,878. The only maritime provinces item is $8,000 for dredging in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and P. E. Island.

THE exports for the nine months of the current fiscal year reach the splendid total of $73,208,731, as compared with $65,541,095 for the previous year, showing the grand increase of $7,667,636. The value of imports for the nine months was $82,552,887, as against $72,246,116, or an increase of $10,306,777. The duty collected amounts to $17,394,499, or against $17,151,007 last year.

THE bill incorporating the King's County Exhibition Association passed through committee in the House of Assembly yesterday afternoon. This will be a great advantage to the people of King's, in connection wit their Exhibition. About fifteen hundred dollars have already been subscribed, and the promoters of the bill hope they will be able to give about three thousand dollars in prizes. Such enterprise is commendable.

A BILL was introduced in the U. S Congress on the 22rd, by Senator Fry, providing that it shall be lawful for citizens of the United States engaged in foreign trade and residing abroad, to own vessels built in the United States and have them registered as United States vessels. Foreigners connected in business with citizens of the United States are given the right to own no exceeding one quarter share in vessels belonging to the United States.

CITY Marshal Jones, of Halifax received a despatch from Detective Power on the 22nd, dated Sand Beach, Mich., as follows: "Have Cromer under arrest. He is going to return without any fight." When the detective left Halifax he went to Edmundston, where is located the agency of the Peoples Bank from which Cromer is alleged to have taken money. Then the detective went to Bangor, and on his arrival he got trace of the man through the railway ticket agent.

THE will of the late Mr. Donald Chisholm, M. P., leaves the whole of his estate, personal and real, to his niece, Miss Annie Chisholm, who for so long lived with him and attended to him, and who nursed him so tenderly and lovingly through his last illness. The estate is valuable and is worth probably $100,000. It is chiefly in real estate in New Westminister, Vancouver, and throughout the district. Miss Chisholm is consequently one of the richest women in British Columbia.

A DUBLIN despatch of the 27th says: Davitt's efforts have failed to remove the deadlock between the railway men and their employers. Traffic has been stopped, and passenger and mail trains are giving erratic service. The company is offering good wages to outsiders. The signal men who struck will be prosecuted for endangering the public safety. people are irritated by the losses of trade and the diversion of the American mails to Southampton, and no sympathy is felt for the strikers.

THE election held in Ottawa on Saturday for the seat in the Commons, made vacant by the death of W. D. Parley, resulted in the return of C. H. McIntosh Conservative by a majority of 858 votes The vote stood: McIntosh 2,454; Hay, Equal Rights, 1,596; Chrysler, Straight Grit, 1,242. As will be seen the Grit canditate was at the foot of the poll, barely saving his deposit. The Grits are greatly dumfounded, as they were in great hopes of victory. This is doubtless, another sign of that Grit re-action of which we sometimes hear.

THE Vice-Admiralty Court of this Province meet on Monday forenoon—Chief Justice Sullivan presiding—for the trial of an action for damages sustained by the collision of the schooner Sparrow Hawk, owned by Henry C. Outerbridge, of Hamilton, Bermuda, with the schooner Sarah P. Ayer, owned by Louis Leard, of Crapaud. The collision occurred off Cariboo last autumn. The action is brought by the owner of the Sparrow Hawk, and the amount claimed is $150. We understand this is the first case for damages resulting from collision tried in the Vice-Admiralty Court here. Messrs Stewart & McNeill, solicitors for plaintiff; Arthur Peters, solicitor for the ship Sarah P. Ayer.

MR. GLADSTONE, resumed the debate on the land purchase bill in the House of Commons on the 24th. He said he was opposed to the bill under an overwhelming conviction that it was complicated with undertaking to solve the difficulty. Regarding Parnell's plan, it was new in principle and its general purpose clear, but he was not certain he comprehended the details (Conservative laughter). In conclusion he said "I feel it my absolute duty to protest against the principle of so flagrant a character, so tending to embark the country in immence pecuniary risks, while making the Land purchase not an aim in the settlement of the general Irish problem, by means to further dopose us into the deepest of political embarrassment.

THE only totally blind member of the present British House of Commons is Mr. Macdonald, of Ireland. He is brought into the lobby by Mrs. Macdonald every night, and given over to the charge of his colleagues. She returns almost nightly to lead him home to dinner, and restores him to his Parliamentary work when he is needed at ten o'clock There is something infinitely touching about the devotion which is exhibited between the couple, and one cannot help pitying Mrs. Macdonald for the many weary hours she spends in waiting on the inhospitable flag of Westminster while her husband is attending to debates or divisions which she does not think it his duty to escape. She is always ready for him, and her figure is as familiar at St. Stephen's as that of the First Lord of the Treasury himself. Mr. Macdonald is a man of rare charm of conversation, and of extremly retiring manners, but of burning nationalism. He has not, however, much political reputation. He has hardly attempted to gain the ear of the House. When he does speak the House listens with kindly attention.—*Exchange.*

THERE was a fleet of a dozen American fishing schooners in Canso on the 24th, waiting to obtain modus vivendi license. These had not arrived from Ottawa, and most of the vessels will proceed to Newfoundland. Among the fleet is the Gloucester fishing schooner Abbie M. Deering, Capt. Jeremiah Goodwin, of Yarmouth. He put into Canso on Monday of last week from the Grand Banks for the ostensible purpose of landing a sick man. He had a cargo of fresh fish. He landed a sick man in daylight, and at night a quanity of small fish was smuggled ashore by the crew and sold. This was done, however, it is alleged, with the Captain's consent. The Captain also purchased some bait. The facts were communicated to the Collector of Customs and he telegraphed them to the Department of Marine, Ottawa. The sale of fish and the purchase of bait was decided to be a violation of the treaty and the Ottawa authorities gave orders for the release of the vessel on payment of a fine of $800. This was paid under protest and the vessel released. The authorities will make a thorough investigation, and possibly the fine will be remitted if the facts do not show a flagrant violation of the treay.

ADVICES from Newfoundland say that the government have decided to allow all foreign vessels to take out licences for the purchase of bait in Newfoundland for the ensuing fishing season. Licenses will be obtainable at the usual ports of entry, on the payment of a fee of $1 per ton, which will be good only for three weeks from date. On subsequent entry into our ports for bait supply, a new license will have to be taken out and the same fees paid, and so on throughout the fishing season. Light dues will also be payable as usual, by all vessels entering our ports. The instructions provide that any party applying for a license must make an affidavit setting forth all the particulars required to be stated in the license. All vessels are restricted to the purchase of one barrel of bait per ton. A second license shall not be granted within three weeks of the date of the first license. When a license is granted to a vessel, all custom officers in Newfoundland are to be notified by telegraph of that fact, so as to prevent the vessel obtaining a second license within the three weeks. When a foreign vessel puts in for bait, special officers are to be employed to watch that she does not get more than the quanity named in her license.—*Exchange.*

SESSIONAL NOTES.

One day last week, when Mr. Bell had, for the hundredth time or so, inflicted on the House some sneering remarks regarding Georgetown, Hon. A. J. Macdonald struck him on the vulnerable spot when he told him that those who understood the worth of property set a higher value on real estate in Georgetown than those acquainted with Mr. Bell's legal qualifications set upon the law dealt out by that gentleman.

When the House went into committee on Thursday morning on the representation bill, Mr. Hector C. Macdonald occupied considerable time in referring to how the time of the House had been taken up by members in useless talk. Hon. Mr. McLeod retorted that the hon. member should have acted up to what he had just been saying, and not occupy so much of the time of the House talking nonsense. Mr. Macdonald said that during the election campaign different people in his district had got flour in various quantities as an inducement to vote. Hon. Mr. McLeod said it was not fair for the hon. member (Mr. McD.) to discriminate in the distribution of flour; but should have made an equitable division.

Mr. James R. McLean had considerable to say about letters that had been written to people in the country at the time of elections. Mr. John McLean said he was sorry his colleague (Mr. James R. McL.) had not told the whole story about the letter business. He knew that Mr. L. H. Davies had written many letters to people in his (Mr. McL's) district before now, in order to induce them to vote against the Government. His colleague was well aware of this fact, and he (Mr. John McL.) could produce these letters.

Mr. James R. McLean made some silly remarks about the Land Office being used as a canvassing bureau. Hon. Mr. Ferguson showed that the statement was without the shadow of foundation, and that in making such an attack, the hon. member must have only been giving expression to what he himself would do were he only afforded an opportunity. It remained for Mr. Shaw to excoriate Mr. J. R. McLean on the Land Office question He quoted from the report of the commission appointed to inquire into the workings of the Land Office, found in the Journal of the House of Assembly for 1877, an extract showed the nature of Mr. McLean's transactions with that office. Here it was seen that when Mr. Wightman, Mr. McLean's fatherinlaw, was in charge of the Land Office, Mr. McLean had obtained thirteen hundred acres of land on Lots 44 and 45 at a price which, according to the Government valuation, involved a loss to the Province of no less than $1,370. One would suppose that any member whose transactions with the Land Office were of such a shady character, were he guided by ordinary prudence, would be a little delicate about making any charges against that office.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

Hon. Mr. Colby gives notice of a bill in relation to public harbors, the object of which is to give power to harbor commissioners to enforce regulations for the preservation of their harbors within the limit assigned them, thus preventing the depositing of ballast and rubbish where it is not wanted.

Private advices received at Ottawa from Washington state that Secretary Blaine has, at the request of the Secretary of the Interior, forwarded to Congress a message asking that legislation be enacted to prevent sale of liquor to Canadian Indians when they cross the border into the United States. This action has been taken at the instigation of the Dominion government.

A deputation of representatives of the leading gas companies in Canada, including Mr. Baxter of Halifax, Mr. Harris of Moncton, and Mr. Sheffield of St. John, interviewed Hon. Mr. Costigan a few days ago to protest against the provisions of the Government bill, requiring more frequent inspection of meters and fines for not extracting sulphurated hydrogen. Mr. Costigan said the Government were desirous of making the gas inspection service pay expenses, but in view of the representations he would carefully reconsider the bill. Messrs. Kenny and Skinner accompanied the deputation.

The Government have still under consideration the tariff on the Intercolonia Railway. The other day, in response to Mr. Skinner's efforts in having some important changes made to meet the wishes of the Maritime Provinces, Sir John Macdonald informed him that the Government had decided to change the present tariff and allow the old rates on lumber to again come in force. This concession will be welcome news to this important industry of the Maritime Provinces and will no doubt satisfy the lumbermen at least. The other changes asked for by Mr. Skinner are still under consideration of the Government.

The bill which Secretary of State Chapleau has introduced, amending the Dominion franchise act, provides that the occasional absence from home for less than six months of a farmer or property owner's son, shall not disqualify him. The Indians in Manitoba, the Northwest or British Columbia shall not be entitled to be registered as voters unless they are occupants of district tracts of improved land, and no person found guilty of corrupt practices at a Dominion election shall be entitled to be registered for seven years after the time he has been so declared guilty. It also extends the time of receiving the revised lists of voters of 1889 from December 31st until May 1st, 1890.

Senator Kaulbach drew the attention of the Senate the other day to the fact that the Newfoundland Government had passed an act recently charging a license of one dollar per ton on all fishing vessels every time they entered a harbor of the colony to purchase bait. He had gone to the fisheries department about the matter and presumed the dominion authorities had taken some action upon a matter affecting so nearly the fishermen, and the Maritime Provinces. Hon. Mr. Abbot replied that there was reason to doubt the correctness of the report, but the Government being fully alive to the importance of the subject, had communicated directly with the Newfoundland Government. Of course the Dominion had no control over Newfoundland. We can possibly exercise legitimate influence there and elsewhere to prevent an injustice to our people.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

MONDAY, April 21.

House met at 3.30 p. m., and a quorum for the transaction of business not being present counted out.

TUESDAY, April 22.

The whole day was spent in committee on the bill respecting the election of members of the Legislature. Among the amendments made to the bill, by the Leader of the Government, was one doing away with mortgage votes. This amendment evoked considerable discussion. The members of the Opposition, generally, were in favor of permitting mortagees to vote on their mortgages. The clause was finally struck out.

WEDNESDAY, April 23.

The consideration, in committee, of the bill respecting the election of members of the Legislature was continued.

In answer to Mr. H. C. McDonald, Hon. Mr. Bentley said that the wharf at Little Sands would receive the same attention from the Government as the other wharves.

In answer to Mr. Bell, Hon. Mr. Bentley said a petition had been received from the inhabitants of Sea Cow Head at Lot 26, asking for the opening of a road from the Sea Cow Head road to Lower Bedeque schoolhouse; that it would be laid on the table, and, if the House would approve, it would be considered by the Government.

Mr. Sullivan presented a petition from certain inhabitants of Morell and vicinity, asking for the extension of the telephone to that vicinity.

Mr. Richards asked the Commissioner of Public Works what action the Government intend to take with regard to the opening of new roads from Victoria West to the Main Western road; also what action the Government intend taking with respect to the opening of a new road from West Devon, Lot 10, towards Beaton's, by way of West Devon Railway station; also if it is the intention of the Government to widen a part of the road from McPhee's corner, Brae, Lot 9, passing Benjamin Henry's and leading towards Lot 8.

Hon. Mr. Bentley said, in respect to the first question, that he had visited the locality while the snow was on the ground; he would try to visit it again at an early day. The proposed road from Western road towards Beaton's was under the consideration of the Government. The widening of the road from McPhee's corner, Lot 9, was necessary and would be attended to.

Mr. Farquharson asked the Commissioner of Public Works if it is the intention of the Government to repair Rocky Point Wharf this spring, and when the steamer Southport will be put on the West River and Rocky Point ferries.

Hon. Mr. Bentley replied that workmen had already begun to repair the wharf, and that the steamer would be running to Rocky Point and West River in the course of a week or two.

During the evening session Mr. Yeo asked the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, &c., to lay on the table of the House a statement showing all payments made on account of the public service since the 31st December, 1889, up to this date,—such statement to show what part of this amount was due up to 31st December, 1889; also, what amounts are due or owing to the several departments of the public service up to 18th April, 1890.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson said that the statement asked for by the hon. gentleman would be prepared and laid upon the table at an early day

House, in committee, resumed consideration of the bill respecting elections. After some time, progress was reported.

Mr. Bell asked a long string of questions in respect to the Department of Public Works.

Hon. Mr. Bentley replied that a great deal of the information sought by the hon. gentleman was contained in the annual report of Public Works, and that the rest would be brought down as soon as possible.

THURSDAY, April 24.

The day was mostly spent in committee on the bill respecting the election of members of the Legislature. Some sharp encounters took place across the floor of the House.

After progress was reported, some private bills were advanced a stage.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25.

In answer to Mr. Bell, Hon. Mr. McLeod said it is the intention of the Government to appoint some person to the vacancy in the Prince of Wales College, and they were now considering such appointment. He said there were a great many applicants for the position but, a man was wanted who could teach agriculture as well as the other branches required. The Government, however, have not yet arrived at any conclusion respecting the matter, but will do so shortly.

Mr. McLellan asked the Commissioner of Public Works to lay on the table a detailed statement of $1055 shown in his report of 1886 as the cost of Little Tignish Bridge, also a detailed statement of $1284 charged in his report of 1889 for Tignish Little Bridge; also a copy of all tenders received for the construction of the above named bridges.

Hon. Mr Bentley replied that the returns would be brought down as soon as possible.

Mr. McLellan asked the Commissioner of Public Works if a petition had been received, during the past year, from the inhabitants of Horse Head and Skinner's Pond, asking for a road from the Horse Head Road to the shore; and if so, what the Government intend doing in the matter.

Hon. Mr. Bentley replied that the petition would be laid upon the table of the House.

Consideration of the bill relative to the election of members of the Legislature, was then resumed in committee. Progress was reported.

A message was received from the Legislative Council stating that that body had passed the Summerside Incorporation Act, and the bill respecting the redistribution of the wards of Charlottetown; and offered suggestions to the bill respecting the profession of medicine and surgery, and the bill to amend the Public Schools Act.

During the evening session Mr. Bell introduced a resolution providing for the introduction of a bill amending the Land Purchase Act of 1875, so as to extend its provisions to those small proprietors who had not yet sold the lands to their tenants.

Hon. Mr. McLeod showed that it would be absurd to pass such bill as this resolution called for; as the legal machinery necessary to operate it would be altogether too expensive. Besides it was unnecessary, as the Government was negotiating with these proprietors regarding the buying of their estates, and were in a fair way of succeeding.

Hon. Mr Ferguson pointed out how the Davies Government had, shortly before an election, bought out one of these proprietors, at exorbitant prices. It so happened that this proprietor lived in the district represented by the seconder of the resolution before the House (Mr. Farquharson) This fact had had a good deal to do with preventing the Government from coming to satisfactory terms with these proprietors

Hon. Mr. Bentley felt sure the resolution was uncalled for, as the Government were doing all they could in the matter of buying out the proprietors

Mr. McKay said this was a matter of importance to quite a number of his own constituents, and he was glad the Government were making progress in it. He had every confidence the Government would succeed in arriving at satisfactory arrangements.

After some further debate Hon Mr. McLeod said that, although he did not wish to prevent this matter from coming before the House, the resolution was plainly out of order, as it proposed to deal with a question involving an expenditure of public money. All such matters should be introduced by the Government. Mr. Speaker ruled the resolution out of order. The House then adjourned.

SATURDAY April 26.

Hon. Mr. Gordon submitted a bill to incorporate the King's County Exhibition Association. The bill was read a first time and referred to the Private bills Committee.

Mr. Shaw asked the Commissioner of Public Works what action the Government intend taking to have the wharf at Dundas repaired this summer; also what action the Government intend taking in answer to the prayer of a petition forwarded to the Executive Council last year, praying for the opening of a new road on the south side of the Montague River, from the county line to Montague Bridge.

Hon. Mr. Bentley said that the wharf would be put in repair as soon as possible. The road would be visited, and he would see what was best to be done about it.

Mr. McLeod asked the Commissioner of Public Works what action the Government intend taking with respect to granting the prayer of a petition from the residents of Murray River, Hopefield and Pleasant Valley, asking that the course of the Murray Harbor Road between Floating Bridge and Murray River be changed.

Mr. Farquharson asked the Commissioner of Public Works to lay upon the table of the House a statement of a survey or return, showing the quantity of land taken by the Government from Stewart Burns for right of way and for which the sum of $250 was paid; also to lay upon the table a detailed statement giving the names and residences of the persons to whom was paid the sum of $304 52 for inquisition on new roads for 1889.

Hon. Mr. Bentley replied that the returns would be prepared and submitted as soon as possible.

Mr. John McLean asked the Commissioner of Public Works if it is the intention of the Government to open a road on the line between Peter MacDonald's and Allan MacDonald's on the north side of Lot 45; also, if it is the intention of the Government to open the road from Main Post Road to Little Harbor beach, petitioned for several years past.

Hon. Mr. Bentley replied the proposed roads referred to would be considered as soon as possible.

Mr. John McLean asked the Leader of the Government what action the Government intend taking with reference to the petitioner of Michael Foley, Patrick Grady and others, asking for an expenditure of $300 on Terrentum Road during the coming summer, so as to make that road passable for carriages.

Hon. Mr. McLeod replied that the Government had not yet arrived at a conclusion about the matter. But if the Government could see their way clear to grant the request of the petitioners they would do so.

Mr. Shaw asked the Leader of the Government what action the Government intend taking in answer to the prayer of a petition from certain persons at Montague Bridge, asking that steam communication be resumed between that place and Georgetown for the ensuing summer.

Hon. Mr. McLeod replied that the matter was under the consideration of the Government.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson presented petitions for a survey of a bridge over the Hillsborough River.

House, in committee, resumed consideration of the bill respecting elections After some time progress was reported.

House adjourned until Monday.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons on the 21st, in answer to Mr. White of Cardwell Mr. Chapleau said the labor legislation promised in the speech from the throne would be introduced this session. Mr. Ferguson brought up the case of certain laborers for a sub-contractor on the Canada Atlantic bridge at Cateau who had been defrauded of their pay He thought the men should be paid out of the government subsidy in such cases.

Sir John Macdonald pointed out that this could not be done by law as the government agreement was with the railway company and not the contractors or sub-contractors.

Mr. Laurier held that the necessary change in the law should take place. Mr. McDougall of Cape Breton advocated the abandonment by the government of its preferential lien so that the laborers could have the grant as security for their wages.

General Laurie moved for correspondence between the Imperial and Dominion governments with reference to abrogation of such articles in the various treaties of commerce between Her Majesty's government and the government of foreign nations as preclude preferential fiscal treatment of goods of British and colonial production by the government of the Dominion. He spoke at considerable length in favor of the facility for intercolonial trade and the possible consequence of such abrogation. Canada, he held had had much to expect from an extension of trade with the West Indies, Australia and New Zealand and South America much more than from any scheme of commercial union with the United States.

Mr. Casey followed extolling the advantages of trade with the States.

Sir John Macdonald said that best results of the endeavors made to extend our trade with the West Indies seem to be that the Islands were willing to take all they could get but to give very little in return. (Laughter.) Canada had contemplated sending a commissioner to Australia, but it having been intimated that the legislatures would be in session at the time the commissioners would arrive, the trip had been abandoned for the present, probably until some conclusion was arrived at with respect to the attempted federation of the Australian colonies. He had now no doubt but that Great Britain would cordially assist Canada in any attempt made to extend her trade in whatever direction. After recess, the Keefer and Glover divorce bills were read a second time on a division. Mr. Brown having moved second reading of Walker's divorce bill, Sir John Thompson moved a six months hoist. He took the ground that no adultery had been proved or alleged in this case and that parliament would be stigmatized were it to grant the divorce for any other cause. Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Tisdale spoke in support of the bill and Sir John Macdonald, Davies, Weldon, of St. John, and Dickey supported the motion for the six months hoist, the house then divided and Sir John Thompson's amendment was carried by 70 to 35.

Mr. Wallace's bill amending the anti-combines act so as to re-enact the clauses impaired by the senate last year, and also to make it so as that the trades unions are not affected by the act was read a second time and passed through committee.

Mr. Purcell's bill for protection of railway laborers against frauds by sub-contractors was read a second time and referred to the committee on railways and canals. Mr. Purcell spoke in support of the bill which his thirty years connection with contracting showed him to be a necessity. The succeeding speakers warmly complimented him on the zeal he had shown in promoting the measure for the benefit of the working men.

Mr. Charlton's bill respecting reciprocity in wrecking and towing was dropped at the request of Sir John Macdonald, who said the matter was now the subject of correspondence between the Imperial and United States governments.

Mr. Dickey's bill amending the Canada temperence act so as to obviate a local difficulty in its application in Nova scotia was read a second time. Sir John Thompson said as the bill was already perfectly clear on the point involved, he would have opposed this explanatory bill were it not for the fact that a judicial decision, for which he could have no respect whatever, hampered its working in four or five counties in Nova Scotia. He was surprised that a judge could be found who held that the repeal of an act correcting ambiguities and errors revived those ambiguities and errors. The bill was adopted in committee and read a third time and passed. House adjourned at 11.15.

Mr. Blake having at Mr. Foster's request deferred his motion advising a reference to a judicial tribunal of vexed questions relating to disallowance, the house on the 22nd went immediately into committee of ways and means. Further modifications of the new tariff were announced by the finance minister, discussed and agreed to. The changes were as follows: All manufactures and not merely those of woollen and cotton goods are allowed the privilege of free importation of blood albumen, tannic acid, antimony, salts, tartar emetic and gray tartar. The item providing a duty of 20 per cent on building stone is made to read dressed building stone. Ginger wine is to pay 72 cents in place of 32 per gallon. Repairs made to ships are no longer to be dutiable. The skelp iron duty now $13 a ton or about 35 per cent. is to read thus, skelp iron, sheared or rolled in grooves not wider than eight inches nor finer than 20 guage until such time as it is manufactured in Canada, 30 per cent. Buttons of hoof, rubber, vulcanite or composition are to be 5 cents per gross and 20 per cent. ad valorem in place of 10 cents per gross and 25 per cent. Wire for the manufacture of toilet pins is no longer to be free. A discussion arising on the food duties, Foster reiterated his statement that under the terms of the general inspection act clear cut pork may be entered as mess pork at 1½ cents per pound, but said that in view of difference of opinion on this subject the government would consider the advisability of further defining the term mess pork. Mr. Weldon (of St. John) urged the abolition of the duty on lime, for fear that a larger duty might be put on in the McKinlay bill. Mr. Foster in reply said there was a standing offer by this government to the States to abolish or reduce the lime duty in accordance with whatever action might be taken by the States.

The committee having risen and reported the resolutions, Foster moved that they be read a second time and concurred in.

Mr. McMullen moved in amendment that the resolution be referred back for the purpose of reducing the duty on binder twine and cordage. The house divided and the amendment was lost by 44 to 85. Amendments, by Charlton that nursery stock be free, and by Platt that refined coal oil be free, were lost on the same division. An amendment by Taylor that cheese imported from the United States for export, be branded when in bond was declared out of order, but Foster said the government would give attention to the matter.

The resolutions were then read a second time and agreed to and a bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time.

The house then went into committee of supply, taking up several items of main estimates left over on previous occasions.

After the committee rose Wallace's bill amending the combines bill was read a third time and passed.

House adjourned at 12.50 a. m.

The motion for the second reading of the banking bill monopolized the attention of the house on the 23rd. Mr. Foster announced the changes made since the bill was introduced. In case of impairment or even the exhaustion of the circulation guarantee fund the banks will not be called upon to make up the amount immediately but will only be called upon for an annual payment of one per cent of their average circulation until the bill fund is restored. The proposed audit had been dropped and objections had been made to the provision that balances unclaimed for eight years should be paid over to the government to be by them paid to the proper owner if subsequently claimed. But this clause he would insist on as a vital part of the bill. Sir Richard Cartwright while reserving his criticism until the bill came to be discussed in committee, pointed out that no adequate precaution had been taken against what might occur if two or three worthless scoundrels secured possession of a bank and contrived to persue its notes to an extent far beyond what it was authorized to issue. Mr. Blake hoped that something would be done to guard against the danger suggested. He thought the proposed enactment that unclaimed balances should be paid to the government was not only unlawful and arbitrary but beyond the power of the Dominion parliament being a matter for the provincial legislatures. Mr. White, of Cardwell, urged the adoption of a system which would further secure the note circulation, and that if the clause providing for a five per cent guarantee fund were to be passed exemption should be given to such banks as secured their note circulation by deposit of Dominion securities. By means of borrowing abroad on the part of the government and of great corporations, a fund for the payment of our foreign indebtedness has been secured, but when these borrowings ceased the result will be a most serious commercial and financial crisis. We had to send abroad twenty-five million dollars annually to meet our liabilities there. Such a crisis as he referred to had occurred in 1875, when in February and March the banks could not meet the demands made upon them for the foreign exchange, whereas in 1868 the banks held 35 per cent of their liabilities in coal legal tender and government securities. This had been steadily reduced until to-day they had, all told, only 19 per cent. He thought it regrettable that the government did not at least insist upon adequate reserves under this new bill. The banks could go on emitting notes which would rest upon the security of every solvent bank in the country, and the position of affairs would be aggravated by anything. Mr. Wood, of Westmoreland, hoped the government would see fit to accept the suggestion made by Mr. White. He thought the five per cent fund was entirely insufficient to provide security in case of the failure of any of the larger banks. There was an element of injustice in the proposition, and there was also the danger of fraud in the over issue of notes The proposition now before the house compelled all the banks to ascertain the extent to guarantee the circulation of all other banks, but in case one of the larger banks were to be compelled to suspend any of the funds that had been drawn upon, it would be exhausted and a panic would ensue. He did not propose to oppose the guarantee section, because he believed there had been some arrangement whereby it had been agreed to by the banks, but he believed that it was against their own best interests. Sir John Thompson announced that the government had considered the possibility of an issue in excess of the amount authorized, and that a clause was to be inserted making such action a highly penal offence. He did not agree with Mr. Blake that to assume control of the unclaimed balance was beyond the power of this parliament, because he held that the Dominion had control over civic rights with respect to matters over which this parliament has jurisdiction. Sir Donald Smith did not see what satisfaction it would be to those who lost the money, through the guarantee of notes issued by any bank in excess of the amount authorized, to know that those responsible for such issues had committed a highly penal offence. He protested against the unclaimed balance clause. Mr. Kenny opposed the proposition that the government should appropriate the unclaimed balances. He praised the Canadian banking system, and hoped there would be no material alteration in it at 6 o'clock. After further discussion after recess the bill was read a second time and considered in committee of the whole. An additional clause was inserted requiring the majority of the directorate of every bank to be Canadians by birth or naturalization.

The committee rose and reported progress and the house went into committee of supply, taking up the main estimates. All the remaining items having been passed the house adjourned at 12.15.

On the 24th the house went into committee on the banking bill, adopting down to the 51st clause with a few verbal changes. The amount of reserve which must be held before a bank may pay a dividend exceeding 8 per cent. After recess the house went into committee on a bill of Chapleau's further amending the franchise act, Chapleau explained that its intent was to simplify the working of the act and to reduce the expense of its operation. He announced that there would be no expense this year and that the next general elections might be expected to be held on the lists revised between the 30th June and the 31st December 1891. These would be ready in ample time, as this house did not expire until 31st March, 1892. In order to save time and trouble the supplementary lists containing the changes made by the revising officers would be printed for the future at the local printing offices in place of at the government bureau. The lists would no longer be posted in three places in each electoral district, but would be otherwise made readily accessible to all desiring to see them. The work having become less onerous as the act becomes better known, the remuneration of the revising officers will be diminished or else their number will be reduced.

The bill was adopted in committee and the house adjourned at 1.35.

On motion of Sir John Macdonald on the 25th it was resolved that government business should have precedence on Mondays for the remainder of the session. The government already had all the other days.

Hon. Mr. Chapleau moved the third reading of the bill amending the franchise act. The amendments by Brien, reducing the income qualification from $300 to $2 0, and by Mills of Bothwell, that an elector should vote only in the constituency where he resides, were lost after division, and the bill was read a third time.

In speaking on Brien's amendment, Mitchell drew a gloomy picture of the condition of affairs in his constituency, declaring that the average working man there could not earn $300 a year, and therefore was not qualified as an income voter as the law stood at present.

Burns took exception to this statement. He said that he knew a good deal more about Mitchell's constituency than did that gentleman, who lived 700 miles away and visited it only once a year, and he could tell the house that it was unjust to say the workingmen were incapable of earning $300 a year.

Mitchell in return charged Burns with improper action in connection with the Carsquet railway.

Burns in a warm speech in reply completely disposed of Mitchell's allegations, and reminded him that it might not be well for him to make a reflection which would call to mind the time when he did business in New Brunswick. He indignantly protested against Mitchell misrepresenting the workingmen of New Brunswick in order to make a point against the government.

In committee on the banking bill a long discussion took place on the clause respecting over issue of notes. It was contended that the informant should not be allowed to participate in the fines imposed in consequence of unintentional over-issue. The clause was, however, passed without alteration, save the addition of a provision that the fines imposed should not form a charge on the assets in event of failure until all other claims were paid.

Ellis moved to strike out the provision that the government should have a first claim after payment of notes in case of insolvency. He thought the crown should have no priority.

Sir John Thompson, Hon. Geo. E. Foster and Sir John Macdonald showed that the government were compelled to have government funds deposited so promiscuously in banks, large and small all over the country, that it was a necessity to have security such as that provided. The amendment was lost.

The committee then rose, the bill to be taken up again on Monday evening.

Charlton drew attention to the provision of the McKinley bill that the United States import duty on lumber was reduced to $1.50 per thousand feet, with a provision that lumber from countries imposing an export duty on logs should pay the old duty. He suggested, therefore, that the Dominion government should make a proposal to the government of the United States that our export duty on logs would be removed if the United States government would reduce their import duty on lumber to $1.

Sir John Macdonald held there was no knowing what changes might be made in the McKinley bill before it passed the house of representatives, but said Charlton's suggestion would receive consideration.

The house then went into committee of supply, taking up the supplementary estimates, and adjourned at two o'clock.

LOCAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

THE political campaign has opened with great energy in Nova Scotia. All the candidates of both parties are now in the field.

WE learn with regret that Mr. R. F. DeBlois, Provincial Auditor, has had a relapse of la grippe from which he was recovering. He is now under the care of his physician.

IN St. Dunstan's cathedral on Sunday last high mass was sung by Rev. J. J. Macdonald and an excellent sermon appropriate to the feast (the patronage of St. Joseph) was preached by Rev. J. C. McMillan.

THE Halifax City Council and Board of Trade are taking united action to urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity of providing additional terminal facilities for the railways at Halifax.

ON May 7th there will be a tea and fancy sale in the Lyceum in aid of the Notre Dame Convent. Doors open at 2 p. m.; tea ready at 6 p. m. Oysters, ice cream and refreshments of all kinds will be served. An agreeable evening is anticipated. Admission 10 cents. Tea 25 cents.

A special says: Yorkville village, a few miles southwest of Cotton Plant, Woodruff County, Arkansas, was entirely blown away during a heavy wind and rain storm on Saturday last. Hundreds of cattle and stock are reported killed, but no loss of human life has so far been ascertained.

THE barkentine Erema, Captain John Walsh, arrived from St. Michael's yesterday forenoon. The Erema, it will be remembered, left Liverpool for this port in October last, but owing to stormy weather she was unable to reach her destination, and had to put into St. Michael's in distress. She left St. Michael's for this port on the 22nd March, after repairing damages. The passage out, Captain Walsh informs us, was a very rough one, the vessel having to contend against several gales and immence quanities of ice. Captain Walsh's many friends are glad to have him once more among them.—*Ex.*

THE New Orleans Times-Democrat's Dallas, Texas, special says the most destructive flood ever known in the history of North Texas has just passed through the Trinity. The great rain of Friday last raised every tributary of it far out of their banks. At ten o'clock on Sunday morning it passed the highest water mark in fifty years in that place. On the north all residences from one hundred yards beyond Cochrane street were submerged, some to the second floor, and others to the attic, but no one was reported drowned. On the south the houses were submerged as far up as Ward street. North, South, and in front of the city the water was forty feet deep, and was still rising.

THE POPE AND HARBOR GRACE CATHEDRAL.

His Lordship Bishop McDonald of Harbor Grace, received from the Cardinal Prefect of the Propaganda, Rome, a letter dated March 17th, of which the following is an extract:

'The very sad intelligence reached me not long ago of the destruction by fire of your Cathedral, which had been built at so great a sacrifice on the part of your excellent people. To encourage them in the building of a new Church the Holy Father, in the generosity of his benevolent heart, would wish to contribute in large measure, but the many pressing wants of the Holy See has to provide for, and the straightened condition of its revenues prevent him from giving as largely as he would desire. He however, placed at your Lordship's disposal the sum of three thousand Italian francs for the erection of your new Church, and moreover blessed all those who in any manner co-operate in its erection.—*Antigoni Cooke.*

DIED

At Covehead road, on the 2nd of April, Thomas Reilly, aged 65 years. May his soul rest in