"A Word To the Wives Is Sufficient."

For Rendering Pastry Short or Friable.

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Because it has none of its disagreeable and indigestible features.

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CROUP, WHOOPING COUGH, COUGHS AND COLDS.

OVER 40 YEARS IN USE. 25 CENTS PER BOTTLE.

ARMSTRONG & CO., PROPRIETORS, ST JOHN N. B

NOTICE.

Any person having any claims against the estate of Elia Fitzpatrick, widow, late of Chatham, deceased, are requested to present the same duly attested within one month from date, and any persons indebted to said estate are requested to pay the same immediately to the undersigned.

THOS. CRIMMEN, Administrator.
W. C. WINSLOW, Proctor.
Chatham, N. B., Jan. 24, 1894.

9 CORDS IN 10 HOURS

BY ONE MAN. Send for free illustrated catalogue, showing testimonials from thousands who have saved from 5 to 9 cords daily. It saws down trees, folds like a pocket-knife, weighs only 4½ lbs., easily carried on shoulder. One man can saw more timber with it than two men with a cross-cut saw. 75,000 in use. We also make larger sized machine to carry 7 foot saw. No duty to pay, we manufacture in Canada. First order secures the agency. FOLDING SAWING MACHINE CO., 341 to 349 S. Jefferson Street, Chicago, Ill.

F. O. PETTERSON,
Merchant Tailor
Next door to the Store of J. B. Snowball, Esq
CHATHAM - - N. B.
All Kinds of Cloths,
Suits or single Garments.
pection of which is respectfully invited.
F. O. PETTERSON.

GEO. W. CUTTER,
GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT FOR
FIRE, LIFE AND ACCIDENT COMPANIES
REPRESENTING:
Travelers' Life and Accident, of Hartford, Conn.
Norwich Union, of England.
Royal Canadian, of Montreal.
London and Lancashire Life Assurance Company, of London, England and Montreal, Que.
OFFICE—CUNARD STREET OPPOSITE E. A. STRANG
CHATHAM, N. B

5,000 HIDES!
Five Thousand Hides Wanted,
I will pay cash on delivery for all the hides I can procure; also, I will buy one thousand calf skins either for cash or for exchange.
Parties in any part of the County needing plastering hair can be supplied by sending in their orders to me.
5.15 WILLIAM TROY
Chatham, May 15th, 1893.

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION
—ON—
Piano and Pipe Organ.
Miss Carter, organist of St. Luke's Church, Chatham (Graduate of the Toronto College of Music is prepared to receive pupils for instruction in the above, in primary and advanced grades.
Terms on application at the residence of E. A. Strang, Esq., Duke Street, Chatham.

NOTICE.

Application will be made at the next session of the Legislature of New Brunswick for an act to authorise the issue of debentures for a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars, payable in twenty years, for the purpose of building and maintaining a Fire Engine House in the Town of Chatham and otherwise improving the facilities of said town for protection against fire, the site of said engine house, plan and other particulars of same to be subject of the approval of the Municipal Council of Northumberland as a condition of the issue of said debentures.

LAND FOR SALE.
The subscriber offers at private sale that valuable lot of land situate on the east side of the Station Road, and known as the Sadler field, containing 4 acres more or less.
If not sold by the first May next it will on that day be offered at Public Auction in front of the Post Office, Chatham, at 12 o'clock noon.
For furthur particulars apply to the subscriber.
JOHN ELLIS
Chatham, 28th March 1894.

Gas Works for Sale.
The Chatham Gas Light Co'y offer for sale their whole plant, including ground, dwelling-house and buildings. If not previously disposed of, will be sold by auction, on Tuesday 3rd July in front of the Post Office at 12 o'clock noon.
Also a quantity of 1 to 4 inch iron pipes, brass couplings, brass stop cocks, etc etc.
For further particulars apply to
JOHN FOTHERINGHAM.
Sec'y Chatham Gas Light Co

HOUSE TO LET.
The house at present occupied by Mr. Wm. Troy. Apply to
JAS. NICOL.

POTATOES.
100 barrels of potatoes for sale at J B Snowball' —Price one dollar per barrel.

Miramichi Advance.
CHATHAM, N. B., - - MAY 3, 1894.

The Gloucester Co. Election.

Nomination of candidates in the pending by-election in Gloucester to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons caused by the resignation of Hon. K. F. Burns appointed to the Senate, took place last Saturday and passed off quietly. There were several speakers besides the candidates, Messrs. Theotime Blanchard and Laman R. Doucet. Mr. Doucett seemed to talk of everything but Dominion issues, his speech being largely directed against the local government. Mr. Blanchard showed that he had had much experience in the work of legislation and demonstrated the fact that the electors would make a mistake in sending an experienced person of Mr. Doucet's record as an official failure to Ottawa.

Hon. Senator Burns took occasion to thank the electors of Gloucester for the confidence so long reposed in him and gave them good counsel as to their duty in the pending election. Mr. P. J. Veniot made quite a speech, and, as many said, one would think he and not Mr. Doucett was the candidate, Mr. Veniot appearing to be willing to talk enough for himself and everybody else. Mr. F. J. McManus was also a speaker and showed up some of Mr. Doucet's absurdities. One of the peculiarities of the discussion was that poor Mr. Doucet was so cornered in reference to his attempts to sit on the political fence that he stated he would support the government, if elected. What he really meant, no doubt, was that he was willing to say anything provided it would save him from the defeat which seems a foregone conclusion.

We understand that Mr. Turgeon, a former candidate for the Commons in Gloucester, is now canvassing there in the interest of Mr. Blanchard.

The Proposed New Engine House.

The Board of Street and Fire Commissioners for Chatham are understood to have recommended the site of the present engine house on the corner of Wellington and St. John streets, adjoining the lock-up, as that for the new steam fire engine house proposed to be erected. The decision, as is natural to expect, creates much local interest not to say feeling. The town is comparatively large, and one engine house cannot, in any case, fully meet the requirements, and no matter what site might be selected, the wishes of a large number of ratepayers must fail to be met. The selection of a site by the Board, however, by no means determines the matter, finally, for the Municipal Council, before authorising the issue of debentures, will very properly want to be satisfied that it is the best, in view of all the public considerations involved, that could be chosen, and that the money authorised to be expended will be sufficient to provide the building and other facilities contemplated. A good supply of water is a requirement of paramount importance, and no site can be finally approved unless the Board places itself in a position to prove, beyond doubt, that they have secured that. Another important consideration is that the engine house be placed so that water may be thrown the most easily by an engine standing in it, over the widest area embracing the most valuable properties subject to destruction by fire. We hope the ratepayers will discourage the excitement, which is said to be promoted by a few persons who, doubtless, think they are doing a public duty, and assist in having the subject considered on its merits. It is fair to the board to assume, meantime, that, having given the matter some consideration, they have good reasons for arriving at the decision they have reached. We do not know, nor have we heard anything of, their plans for securing an adequate water-supply. There is, as is well known, a good vein of water within easy reach, but it is possible that when hey co me to make estimates on the cost of laying pipes and building an adequate reservoir under the building or on the site, toge,her with the building itself, they may find that they will not have money enough to do it all with. In that case, some other site may have to be chosen.

While it is true that there is need of having our fire-extinguishing facilities improved with as little delay as possible, that fact and the other fact that an act has been passed authorising the issue of debentures for the purpose, need not make us unduly hasty in expending the money. It is the duty of those who stand between the ratepayers and the expenditure to be satisfied that the site has been wisely chosen, the plans prepared on an economical and effective basis and other steps taken to show that the board knows exactly what it is doing, before they cause the debentures to be issued. So far as we can judge, this duty is fully recognised and understood by the parties responsible in the premises.

"Provisions" for Gloucester.

The Moncton Transcript is standing high upon its hind legs in the interest of Mr. Doucet in Gloucester, who, it says, "is an independent Liberal candidate and "is running as such and any Liberal who "votes for Mr. Blanchard or remains at "home is unworthy of the name Liberal." The Transcript claims that its article would not appear but for what the ADVANCE said last week about the common bond of sympathy between Mr. Doucet and some other disgruntled persons, whose grudges against the local government had united them in opposition to Mr. Blanchard.

We admit that the Transcript ought to know whether Mr. Doucet is a Liberal or not, but believe that gentleman will hardly thank it for saying in so square a manner that he is, for Mr. Doucet, himself, doesn't pretend to be a party man at all in most of the localities where he canvasses, while many of his friends claim that he is as strong a conservative as Mr. Blanchard—and we believe he is.

The Transcript's information is, however, rather from an Ottawa than a Gloucester source, as one can readily understand by reading its article and knowing also the fact that the editor of that paper has just returned from Ottawa, where, like Count Mercier, he has been closeted with Mr. Laurier. It, no doubt, takes money to sustain Mr. Doucet's candidature in Gloucester, and it is natural that so eminent an authority as Mercier on the supplying of cash for such emergencies should have a finger in the pie, which was doubtless one of the objects of the Moncton editor's pilgrimage to the opposition shrine at Ottawa. The Transcript ought not to lose sight of the fact that there are several kinds of Liberals, and that all who are Simon Pure fail to understand why Mr. Laurier and other leading men of the party find it necessary to keep in touch with Mercier and his methods. Mr. Hawke comes fresh from the inner circle of Mr. Laurier's confidantes at Ottawa, as is shown by quite a labored article in the Transcript taking back something it said a day or two before about a photograph that had been sent by Mr. Laurier to Dr. Doherty's baby at Memramcook, which was named after the Liberal leader. Mr. Hawke, editor of the Transcript, avers that Mr. Laurier invited him to his room—to his very own "private room in the House of Commons" and there entrusted to his care the photograph of himself to be delivered to Dr. Doherty for Dr. Doherty's baby. Pleasant memories of that episode and also, no doubt, of the magnificent urbanity of "provisions" Mercier, are what inspired the editor of the Transcript, in referring to alleged support of Mr. Doucet by a portion of "the protestant minority in Gloucester," to say of them:—

"It shows a broadness of spirit, a freedom from sectarian prejudice, which is highly commendable, going to Ottawa as Mr. Doucet will if elected to support a French-Canadian leader as against an English speaking one."

Oh! the soothing effects of that private room, of Mercier and of the photograph, for the Memramcook baby! Other Liberals, however, do not think very much of the association together of Messrs. Laurier & Mercier. The Ottawa correspondent of the St. John Record—a truly independent Liberal paper—says:—

Ex-premier Mercier of Quebec, has been a noticeable figure here on the streets this week and of course he has been doing his usual amount of talking. He seems to be just as thick with the liberals as ever, and it sometimes seems difficult for an honest Liberal to explain how he can, in the house, be talking against what he claims to be corruption while outside he is found associating with a man who cannot be styled the leader of everything that is pure. Mr. Mercier has been asked all kinds of questions by newspaper men, and it would be impossible to give all this politician says. His remarks, however, when asked to state his opinion with respect to the political outlook in lower Canada and the prospects of the two parties at the coming election for the house of commons may be of interest. He said:

I am satisfied that Mr. Laurier will obtain even a larger support in our province than he did in 1891, when Quebec gave him a majority of eleven. Two or three men elected to support him have since gone over to the party controlling "the provisions," the people who elected them are not to blame for that. Not only has Mr. Laurier gained in our province, but the conservatives have lost ground. It is true that the liberals will not in the next contest have the help of the local government as they had in 1891, but on the other hand, the conservatives will be handicaped by an unpopular local government, and its odious taxation policy, while the present federal ministers are impotent and unpopular."

These remarks all coming from Mr. Mercier are most amusing, especially those in regard to the odious taxation policy. The ex-premier might have gone a step further and mentioned what had been the cause of this odious taxation, so called.

The Transcript doesn't make any statement about "the provisions" sent from Ottawa to supplement "the broadness of spirit" awakened in Gloucester in Mr. Doucet's interest, but no doubt, it could tell a very interesting story on the subject, were its editor disposed to be as specific and enthusiastic as he was over the photograph given to him by Mr. Laurier for that gentleman's little namesake at Memramcook. In such matters, perhaps, "silence is golden." All the same, it will be a revelation to many persons in Gloucester to learn from an authority so recently in Ottawa, and shown to have been, while there, in Mr. Laurier's own very private room ("in the house of commons") that Mr. Doucet is an out and out liberal, and that all electors in Gloucester who do not vote for him "are unworthy of the name Liberal." For this cause are the "provisions" from Ottawa dispensed in Gloucester. Seriously, brother Hawke of the Transcript has let a very large cat out of the bag, and we await the effect of the "provisions" in that County to-day with a new interest.

REVISING BARRISTER:—N. A. Landry, Esq., has been appointed Revising Barrister for the County of Gloucester, in the place of the late T. Swayne DesBrisay deceased.

An Unbiased Opinion.

The Montreal Witness, referring to the recent Quinn scandal investigation, says:—"Mr Blair, the premier of New Brunswick, has been declared innocent of the charges of trafficking in offices by a majority of the Assembly, composed strictly of his own political supporters. The organs of the Dominion Government declare that this is nothing more or less than 'a mere whitewash' by the provincial Liberal party of its leader. It is very curious that when the members of the Ottawa Government were declared innocent by a similar party vote these same organs were found declaring it to be 'a complete vindication.' Honest independent-minded electors will take neither the decision of the parties nor the judgments of the party organs in such matters, but will come to their own conclusions from the evidence laid before the investigating committees in such cases. In this instance we do not see what other decision the committee could have arrived at in view of the evidence of which there was none connecting Mr. Blair with the transaction at all."

Hon. Mr. Adams.

Everybody in Northumberland will regret to hear that our Dominion representative, Hon. M. Adams, has been advised by his physicians to leave his parliamentry duties at Ottawa and seek a change of climate—that of Colorado, we believe, being recommended. Our advices from those with whom he is in correspondence here indicate that Mr. Adams, himself, does not think his health will be such as to justify him in again offering for his present position. It does not, of course, follow that he is in great danger, for a change of climate may bring about restoration to health, but it is regrettable that one so comparatively young and ambitious to serve his native county in parliament should be obliged to practically abandon a promising career through physical infirmity. Mr. Adams may not have come up to the standard set for him by even many of his friends as an Ottawa representative—no man could be expected to do that—but everybody will sympathise with him when they realise that he has had a constant struggle with ill health ever since he was elected to parliament, and those who know what it is to suffer from bodily ills may realise how greatly his misfortune in that regard has marred and defeated his plans for benefitting his constituents.

That Woodstock Bridge.

The Woodstock bridge seems to be as sweet a morsel to roll upon the tongues of the opponents of the present provincial government as the Cocagne bridge was some twenty years ago. The more the former matter is discussed, however, the clearer becomes the fact that instead of there being anything calling for censure upon the government, it is deserving of credit for having, under many difficulties, steadily kept the public interest in view, even to the ignoring of interests which, too often, are improperly made of paramount importance. In other words, the government has resisted the importunities of influential adherents, whose support it has been willing to lose as soon as it discovered that it could be retained only at the sacrifice of public duty. It has happened, as is often the case, that the opposition has welcomed to its councils and eagerly espoused the cause of those who have failed of success in their personal schemes in connection with the Woodstock bridge, which accounts for the great cry made over the matter.

When the amendments to the bill for facilitating the construction of Public Works was being discussed in the legislature on the Thursday before prorogation, Chief Commissioner Emmerson said the money to be raised by bonds—$36,000—was to complete the Woodstock bridge, and the work to be done would include the cost of building a sheer boom pier, should one be thought necessary in order to keep the logs in the channel. For the present year a boom would be attached to one of the old piers in the river and this might be found sufficient. He did not, he said think that the whole $36,000 would be required, but he had placed that amount in the bill to avoid the necessity of again coming to the house.

It was thought by many members that the experience of the opposition in taking up the cause of disappointed office-seekers and other government ex-friends of the parasite class, would have discouraged them from a general reopening this Woodstock bridge question, but it seems that experience which is a teacher of even the lower animals, is thrown away upon such persons as Mr. Stockton and Mr. Phinney. The leader of the opposition put up Mr. Pinder of York to say things which he, himself, seemed afraid to say, but Chief Commissioner Emmerson soon disposed of that worthy by challenging him to account for several hundred dollars of public money which he had received for alleged work on the Nashwaak bridge and opening a drain which he never opened.

Hon. Mr. Blair showed that engineer Brown, who was highly recommended to the government through Hon. Mr. Mitchell, had been entrusted with the duty of selecting the site of the bridge and afterwards with the superindence of its construction; that Brown turned out to be unreliable and that the government, as soon as it was informed of his having allowed departures from the specification stopped the work until an outside engineer had been procured to go over the whole matter, and upon whose report Brown was dismissed.

Dr. Stockton promptly espoused the cause of Mr. Brown and read a letter from him which appeared in the St. John Sun a year ago to show that the government had practically fixed the site of the Woodstock bridge and if a site other than that he had reported upon had been chosen there could have been a saving to the province of $60,000.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell said that the only report Mr. Brown made was presented to the House last year and appeared in the journals.

Dr. Stockton said he had no doubt if Killam had been Chief Commissioner, the bridge would not have been placed at its present costly site. He would like to know what was to be done with the money now asked for and what accounts if any were yet unpaid on account of the bridge—including inspection of piers.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said although authority was asked for $36,000 of bonds it was not thought that all that sum would be required to be expended, in addition to the amount already voted. This whole matter had been thoroughly threshed out in 1892 and again last year, the cost of the piers had been greatly increased in consequence of Brown having changed the specifications, which change had resulted in part of the piers being washed away. Brown having been dismissed for his improper conduct while in charge of the work, had written a letter not in accord with the facts and entirely at variance with his own (Brown's) report as presented to the House last year. As against Brown's letter, we have not only his report, but also the statement made in the house in 1892 by the Chief Commissioner (Hon. Mr. Ryan); that statement was made in answer to Dr. Atkinson with regard to the proposed Queen street site. It was that the depth of water at Queen street "was from 10 to 15 feet; that there was a mud and quicksand foundation, and that a bridge erected there would not be in the public interest." Considering that Mr. Brown was smarting under his dismissal when he wrote his letter to the Sun the public would place very little confidence in what he then said, more especially in view of his report which was of an entirely different nature. All the accounts in connection with the bridge had been before the public accounts committee for their most thorough examination and he had already this evening told what further expenditures were necessary.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell said Mr. Brown was selected as engineer in charge of construction upon his (Mitchell's) urgent recommendation. He had certainly made a great mistake in so doing. He had also in the fall of 1891 made a mistake, in selecting Mr. Brown as the engineer to choose the site of the bridge. At that time he (Mitchell) was well known to favor the old site as the only one which recommended itself from Bull's Island to the old bridge site; the cost of a bridge on the old site would be about three quarters that on the Bull's Island location, but the latter was far superior in point of public convenience. There was no question but that Mr. Brown was a good engineer; his plans and specifications were excellent. He (Mitchell) was completely thunder-struck when Mr. Blair placed in his hands the complaints he had received. When he went to Woodstock it was some time before he could find Mr. Brown. On examining the pier that had been undermined he could see no cement, no proper backing and no piling. Under nine of the piers according to the specifications piles should have been driven. When asked about it Mr. Brown said the gravel beach seemed to be solid enough and he did not think the piles were necessary. As to why he had allowed the specifications to be departed from, Mr. Brown could give no reply. When the chief commissioner visited the work and made a report to council stating that he had dismissed Mr. Brown, he (Mitchell) then stated while he was satisfied Mr Brown had been entirely unworthy of trust, but as it would be difficult to make Mr. Brown's friends believe it he urged that Mr. Brown should not be dismissed until an inspecting engineer was employed to report upon the work. Mr. Murpby, chief engineer of the Nova Scotia government, had been engaged to inspect the work done and his report showed the culpable neglect of Mr. Brown. The latter's letter to the press was the work of a man who was exceeding sore at his dismissal. Mr. Mitchell said he was sorry to be obliged to criticize Mr. Brown, but he had been obliged to make this statement in self-defence. Hon. members had referred to this bridge as a political bridge. So far as he knew, and other members of the government knew, they had selected the present site because it was in the public interest. Every engineer, as far as he knew, who had ever examined and reported upon the subject, had strongly favored the present location. He had never heard the name of an engineer of standing who had recommended any other site.

Mr. Phinney regretted to hear Mr. Brown's reputation attacked. He was a man admitted to be a good engineer and his specifications were approved.

Mr. Dibblee—Then why didn't he stand by them?

Mr. Phinney—Whether he did his duty or not, he did not know, but he did not believe he would allow the work to be done unless some other person was concerned in it.

Mr. Dibblee—There was some other person concerned.

Mr. Phinney said even though Brown might have been smarting from disappointment he did not believe he would make false statements in the public press.

Mr. Tweedie—If he's a truthful man his letter to the press should agree with his report.

Mr. Phinney said that Mr. Brown had stated (and he had every confidence in his truthfulness) that he had received a hint from a member of the government that the present site should be selected.

Hon. Mr. Blair—Mr. Brown never had a single communication with any member of the government until after he made his examination and report.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said the criticism of the opposition was not a fair one. Was it fair criticism to put forward the statement of a man who had been dismissed by the Government for improper conduct? Was it reasonable for the hon. member for Kent to say that he believed Mr. Brown rather than the members of the government on this subject? The hon. member was so biased that he would believe the idlest street rumor rather than the deliberate statement of responsible men. It was absurd to suppose that the Provincial Secretary would wilfully traduce the character of Mr. Brown for he belonged to his own constituency and had been strongly recommended by him and there was every personal reason for him to desire to retain his friendship. He (Tweedie) had personally felt a preference for the old site, but the government had to be guided by the report of competent men. Mr. Brown was sent there by Mr. Mitchell, and he was admitted by the opposition to be a competent man, and he selected the King street site. Every transaction of the government in connection with the Woodstock bridge would bear the fullest light of day. There could not be the slightest doubt that Mr. Brown had most culpably neglected his duty, and Mr. Brown slunk away when Mr. Murphy proceeded to inspect the work. It was to be expected that Mr. Brown should seek to defend himself in the newspapers. His fault in making false statements in the press was much less than his breach of faith with the government. The government had acted in perfect good faith throughout the entire matter and were not open to criticism. The fact was that the old bridge cost about $5,000 or $6,000 a year for repairs—a sum that would more than pay the interest on the total cost of the present bridge. He regretted the mistakes of the engineer, but the government should not be held responsible. It was not fair for the opposition to manufacture statements and put forward false communications in the press as facts.

Mr. Russell said he had recently examined the Woodstock bridge and he believed the location was the best and most convenient that could be found in the vicinity. Those who said it was a political bridge had a good deal of political bias. The bridge was a good job, in a proper location and would be a credit to the government and the province.

Hon. Mr. Blair said he was astounded that the hon. member for Kent should declare that he placed more confidence in Mr. Brown's statement than that of the Provincial Secretary—a man who had never betrayed a public trust—or those of the other members of the government. It spoke little for the character of the hon. member for Kent. It shows that he does not know what it is to stand upon the level of honorable conduct with honorable public men. He does not know what is due from one gentleman to another, when, having received the emphatic denial of the Provincial Secretary he should still assert that he knew Mr. Brown and his character for veracity and he believed what he said. If the hon. member wants to be treated on the footing of a gentleman he should show the elementary instincts of one. I trust that he did it without reflecting that his conduct was unworthy of a gentleman, and without realizing fully that when he makes such a statement he lays himself open to grave doubts as to whether he could be depended upon himself in regard to veracity.

Mr. Phinney seemed to smart considerably under this deserved castigation and declared that he stood high in the house, that he despised the attorney-general, had long known and had large dealings with Mr. Brown and didn't care for the good will or favor of dishonorable men.

Then the bill under discussion passed.

Afterwards, it was remembered that Mr. Phinney and "the Browns" were very intimately associated in the matter of the Kent Northern Railway, but it was not remembered that Mr. Phinney was amongst the parties who were left unpaid for their services to the Browns. Between the Browns and the Quinns, with whom Mr. Phinney has been associated as paid counsel, that gentleman has not come out of the late legislative session in even as good form as he went in, and it will take "a refresher" in the fee line to induce him to again make the Woodstock bridge the subject of his special personal attention in the Assembly.

Our Ottawa Letter.

OTTAWA, 25 April.—Since the close of the Budget debate, the House has buckled down to business and some very substantial progress has been made. Tuesdays and Fridays only have been devoted to considering the tariff in committee of the whole, and the other three days have been given up to private business. Of this, quite a good deal has been finished. During the week just closed, seven bills have passed their second reading, and been referred to standing committees, five have been reported on by the standing committees, and are on the Order paper for third reading, and five have been read a third time, and have gone to the Senate. This is a very good showing for the fifth week of the session, and indicates that the business of the House is quite as far advanced as is usual at this period of the sessions. Another indication of the progress of private business is that Sir John Thompson has given notice that Thursdays will be taken for government business, so that there will be three government and two private members days in future.

Thursday's session was entirely wasted in a long discussion on the question whether committees should have the power to examine all witnesses under oath, or whether the committees should have to apply to the House for this power whenever it was thought advisable to exercise it. The trouble commenced in the committee on public accounts where Mulock made a motion to the effect that all witnesses should be sworn and Sir Chas Hibbert Tupper moved an amendment to the effect that permission should first be obtained from the House. When the report came up for adoption in the House Mr. Mulock moved the following resolution:—

"That in accordance with the resolutions adopted unanimously by the House in the sessions of 1891 and 1892, it is desirable that any witness called before the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts be examined under oath or affirmation touching any matters coming before them."

In support of this contention he argued, and a number of other opposition speakers followed in the same direction, practically, that because the House had given the public accounts committee a sort of a general "go as you please" authority to examine witnesses at the time of the Tarte, McGreevy investigation, therefore the committee should have the right to go on a fishing excursion for scandals whenever it pleased, without any respect whatever to the House. In other words, these gentlemen to use an expression of Lord Dundreary's "wanted the tail to wag the dog" instead of the dog wagging the tail, and to make the public accounts committee the vehicle for giving a few bulldosing lawyers an opportunity to threaten, brow-beat and coerce witnesses as was done during the session of 1891. It was held by the opposition that the committees of the English House had the power to examine witnesses under oath; but it was pointed out by Sir John Thompson that this power was very sparingly used, and that out of 18 witnesses examined before that committee last year, not a single one was sworn. The objection to the motion raised by the government was that it was a gratuitous insult to witnesses before an investigating committee to take it for granted in advance that they would not tell the truth unless they had the fear of prosecution for perjury before them. It was freely and frankly admitted that it was advisable to exercise the power sometimes but that it was not advisable to make the examination invariably under oath compulsory and applicable to all witnesses. After the question had been discussed all day the following amendment by Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper was carried near midnight by a vote of 110 for to 64 against.

"That all the words after "That" in the said motion be omitted, and the following inserted in lieu thereof:—

"While not considering it expedient to oblige the committees of the House to examine under oath or affirmation all persons who may be examined before the committees, the House is willing to grant to any committee the authority to examine witnesses under oath or affirmation whenever it may appear that by so doing the committee may be aided in the examination of the matters coming before the committee."

There were 12 pairs and it is noticable that Col. O'Brien for the first time put himself squarely in opposition and paired with Mr. Hazen. Mr. McCarthy, as is usual with him, was not in the House and neither voted nor paired.

WANTING SPECIFIC DUTIES.

The feature of the discussion in ways and means on the tariff has been the marked disposition to return to specific duties in place of the *ad valorem* to generally adopted by Mr. Foster in his proposed changes. The government, it is well known, was by no means unanimous in the abandonment of the specific duties, which are held to the keystone of protection, and although the opinion of the majority prevailed in Cabinet, still very strong pressure was being brought to bear on the government by a number of private members. The government has already given way in the matter of the duties on meat and other changes noticed elsewhere where specific duties have been substituted for *ad valorem*, and Mr. McLean, East York has given crystalised the feeling in favor of a more pronounced return to the old national policy line in the following notice of motion which he will move on the first opportunity when the House is again in Committee:

"That specific duties be substituted for *ad valorem* duties in the articles of woolens, yarns and hosiery and the smaller agricultural implements; that the relief of taxation will be best afforded to the farmer by a further reduction of the duties on sugar and cottons rather than on agricultural implements; and that provision be made empowering the Governor in Council to admit coal from the United States free if the United States admit Canadian coal free; and failing this, then to make the duty on coal entering Canada from the United States exactly the same as the duty imposed by the United States on Canadian coal; and also that it is in the interest of Canadian industries to increase the rebate of duties on material allowed to Canadian manufacturers of agricultural implements on their exports of the same."

This will bring the question of specific duties fairly and squarely before the House, and it is just possible that the government may find it advisable to adopt, at least in part, the principals contained in Mr. McLean's resolution. There are undoubtedly a number of supporters of the government who sympathise with the motion, and although neither they nor Mr. McLean would vote any want of confidence in the government, still they would, no doubt use all their influence in an endeavour to induce the government to abandon what they consider an unwise course and one not in keeping with the National Policy.

INSOLVENCY BILL.

The centre of attraction during this week, and perhaps some weeks to come, is likely to be tranferred from the Commons to the Senate, where the Senate Committee on the Insolvency Bill will commence its sitting at 10 o'clock this morning. The Insolvency Bill has been introduced in the Senate with the idea that its discussion could proceed there simultaneously with the tariff discussion now going on in the House, and that thereby a considerable amount of time might be saved. If the Insolvency matter is fully threshed out in the Senate, and the bill as finally agreed on in Committee. is found to give satifaction to the business community, it will undoubtedly save a great deal of talk when the matter comes up in the House, and will so tend to shorten the session. The Senate Committee is a very large one, consisting of 30 members, and practically contains all the leading men and lawyers on both side of that House. The Honorable MacKenzie Bowell has been elected chairman, and to-morrow a very large deputation from the boards of trade all over Canada will appear before the committee and present their views on the bill. It is not expected that there will be any opposition to the principal involved in the bill, but that there will be a good deal of discussion on its details, and that it will take a considerable time for the matter to be thoroughly considered. A story has been circulated several times, and is again revived, that the bill will not reach the commons this year at all, but that it will be passed in the Senate and then held over until next session so that the opinion of bankers and business men generally may be obtained on it before it finally becomes law. There is no just ground for this rumor, as the Hon. Mr. Bowell has several times stated that it is the intention of the government to pass the bill this year.

THE MANITOBA SCHOOL QUESTION.

Mr. Greenway is to have another opportunity of expressing himself on the Manitoba School question. Just before adjournment last Thursday night Mr. Tarte asked. "Is it the intention of the government to advise that communication be made to the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba and to his responsible advisers urgently requesting that the complaints set forth by the Roman Catholicsof that province before the Dominion Government in their petitions since 1890, be carefully inquired into, and that the whole subject be reviewed by the government and the Legislative Assembly of that province in order that redress be given by such laws or amendments as may be found necessary to meet the the just grievances and complaints of the said Roman Catholics?" Sir John Thompson replied. "It is the intention of the government to make representations to the government of Manitoba in the direction stated in the question with regard to some of the petitions which have been presented since 1890."

TEA AND COFFEE—THE RICE DUTY

An item in the tariff which has attracted much attention was the duty on tea. It was claimed that the change from the wording of the old tariff that proposed resolution now before the House would discriminate against Great Britain, so that the large quanity of tea which is now imported by way of that country would be subject to duty. This objection was removed by Mr. Foster adding the following paragraph to the free list:

"Tea and green Coffee imported direct from the country of growth and production free. This item shall include tea and coffee purchased in bond in any country where tea and coffee are subject to certain duties and providing that there is satisfactory proof that the tea or coffee so purchased in bond is such as might be entered for home consumption in the country where the same is purchased."

MINOR NOTES

Lt. Col. Turnbull, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, has been granted six months leave of absence, at the end of which time it is said that he will retire.

The drawing room, which is usually held in the Senate Chamber on the Saturday after the meeting of the House, and which was postponed this year on account of the death of Lord Tweedmouth, Lady Aberdeen's father, will be held next Saturday evening, and it is expected to be the most brilliant affair of its kind which has ever taken place in Ottawa, with the single exception, perhaps, of the drawing room of 1879, when the Princess Louise was present.

Madame Laurier held her last reception for the session at the Russell House on Saturday evening, when a number of Conservatives, including Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, were present, The interchange of social courtesies, which have already been referred to in this correspondence as a marked feature of the present session, still continues, and scarcely an entertainment of any kind takes place but leading members of the opposition are present, as well as members of the Ministry.

Replying to a question by Sir Richard Cartwright, as to what is the estimated loss of revenue under the French Treaty upon wine, dried fruit and soap, and what is the total estimated loss on all articles admitted under the Treaty, Controller of Customs Wallace said, that the total amount of duties collected upon the articles mentioned in the Treaty within the past year was $172,457.00. Under the proposed French Treaty the loss to the revenue on these importations is estimated at $86 732 62.

The wording of the clause relating to coffee was slightly changed with reference to roasted or ground coffee. The words "without transhipment from the country of growth and production" being left out, so that the clause now reads "when not imported direct from the country of growth and production, 2c. per pound and 10 per cent. *ad valorem*." With regard to chickory, Mr. Foster added the following item, Chickory, kiln dried, roasted or green, 4c. per pound." He said that the composition of chickory had been undertaken in certain parts of Quebec, and that as arrangements had been made in that connection it was thought best not to disturb the present duty.

News and Notes.

The consideration of the Wilson bill by paragraphs was begun in the United States Senate on a Wednesday of last week.

A bill providing for an eight-hour working day for miners passed its second reading by 281 to 194 in the British House of Commons last week.

Commander Heyermann and Lieut. Lyman will lose their rank and pay, on suspension for one year, for the loss of the famous old United States frigate Kearsarge on Roncador Reef.

Andrew Ziloth, at one time valet to the King of Sweden, has been arrested, charged by Banker Benedict of New York with stealing $5,000 worth of silverware, Ziloth has confessed his guilt.

Word comes from Hayti that President Hippolyte has forgiven his old enemy, Legitime, and has invited him to return to the republic. It is said Legitime will be made President in 1897.

A Montreal despatch says:—"It is rumored here in business circles that the Gananoque Carriage Works are about to close down and it feared will not resume again."

Admiral Hopkins, of the British North Atlantic squadron, has instructed his commanders to aid in the destruction of derelicts in the Atlantic ocean.

Rev. Dr. McKnight, of Pine Hill Presbyterian college and ex-moderator of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church in Canada, died last Friday night at Halifax.

By the breaking of a cable in a coal mine near Mons, Belgium, on Saturday, sixteen men were precipitated to the bottom of the shaft. Thirteen were killed outright; the other three fatally injured.

The disease known as cow pox broke out in a herd of Jersey cows at Moore's Mills, Charlotte Co. The farm was quarantined.

We quote a section of the law in 1770, when the territory of the United States was governed by his majesty the king of England: "Any person who shall, by means of rouge, or blanc, or perfumes, of essences, of artificial teeth, of false hair, of cotton espagnol, of steel stays or hoops, of high-heeled shoes, or of false hips, entice any of his majesty's male subjects into marriage, shall be prosecuted for sorcery, and the marriage shall be declared void."

The premises of Laporte, Martin & Co., wholesale grocers, and the agency of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax were totally destroyed at Montreal on Friday morning. The loss is put down at $150,000 on the building and stock, of which $121,000 is covered by insurance.

The St. John Globe says:—Because of the failure of the steamer Stanley to do her work properly the Charlottetown Guardian is calling for the superannuation of the Deputy Minister of Marine, William Smith, Esq. Why not superannuate the Minister of Marine, also, as he has not prevented Halifax harbor from being blocked with ice?

The pedigree of Thomas A. Edison, the electrician, is purely Canadian. Among the New York loyalists who settled in and near Digby, Nova Scotia, at the close of the Revolutionary war were several of Dutch and some of German extraction. Among these loyalists was John Edison. His name appears first on the Digby records a few years later than those of Samuel and Moses Edison appear. It is believed, though there is no positive evidence, that Samuel and Moses were the sons of John. Samuel was the grandfather of the inventor. He, like many other Nova Scotians, was attracted by the fertile lands of Upper Canada, and moved there about 1811, His son, Samuel jr., went to Ohio, and there the inventor was born.

Englishmen and women are discussing to the extent of column after column of indignant letters in one of the great London dailies, the growing practice of women to to ride in the smoking compartments of railway carriages. All women-haters joined in the chorus of denunciation of the invasion, and argued that the sign "smoking" means for men only, just as the other compartments are reserved for women only. This is resented by the new privilege-seeking women, some of whom admit frankly their love of tobacco fumes, while others allege the superior germ-killing and sanitary advantages of the tobacco-laden atmosphere in the promiscuous company. Men retort that selfish women go among the smokers because they receive courtesies and attention they do not get from their own sex. The squabble is developing a heat and bitterness that is truly alarming.

Tons of Fish Condemned in New York.

The New York Herald of last Thursday says:—"About fifty thousand pounds of fresh water fish were taken to Barren Island yesterday after having been condemned by Health officers.

"The fish filled two freight cars, and arrived here from the West Monday. They were consigned Winant & Co., No. 133 Beekman street. When the fish arrived at the St. John's Park freight depot they were held for inspection. Board of Health officials condemned the fish promptly.

"A member of the firm of Winant & Co. told a reporter that for the past week the quantity of fish shipped to New York from the great lakes has been something enormous in anticipation of the Jewish holidays. The result is that the market is over stocked and much of it cannot be sold to dealers.

"Chemist Lederle has condemned altogether ten carloads of decayed fish, Mr. Lederle estimates the total weight at 200,000 pounds.