The Weekly Mail.

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DEPARTMENTAL SALARIES AT OTTAWA.

THE return to "an address for a list of "employees of certain of the Public Departments at Ottawa, with statement "showing the salary of and bonus to "each," &c., which was moved for on the 9th March last, has been received. For the purposes of comparison and of enabling one the better to understand how "Reformers" disregard their professions, it is simply invaluable. The following is a table of its contents with the corresponding totals (including bonuses) in the Public Accounts, 30th June, 1873, the last of the Accounts of Sir JOHN MACDONALD's regime:

	1873.	1876.
Governor General's Secretary's Office	$ 8,240	9,325
Privy Council Office	8,909	11,250
Department of Justice	7,967	12,700
Secretary of State for Canada	28,054	28,730
Secretary of State for Provinces, now Department of the Interior	18,112	37,030
Militia and Defence	29,375	33,750
Receiver General's Department	14,418	16,825
Finance Department	41,789	52,050
Customs Department	21,037	24,550
Inland Revenue Department	15,878	20,830
Public Works Department	37,124	45,534
Marine and Fisheries Department	16,436	23,060
Department of Agriculture	22,440	26,455
Post Office Department	65,743	85,430
Total	$335,922	$427,519

The salaries of the heads and deputy-heads of Departments are omitted in the return for 1876. So we omit them also from the totals of 1873, which will be found to differ from those of the last column of this year.

In two years and a half, therefore, the Party of Economy has increased the Departmental salaries in aggregate by $92,000!

PARLIAMENT SQUARE.

WHEN MCKELLAR was king at Parliament Buildings and hobnobbed there with the messengers and caretakers, it was not remarkable that he extended to them extraordinary privileges. Now that the clown has been shelved in a shrievalty, and consigned to the congenial society of bum-bailiffs and turnkeys, it is matter for surprise that the favours with which he regaled his "pals" have not been cancelled by his successor. In 1871 and '72 the expenditure on the grounds round Parliament Buildings was merely nominal, but an opportunity for favouritism was quickly seized by that unprofitable public servant who quartered himself and family on the country, and terrified their locality. Items of a McKELLAR dormitory. In 1873 we find the following, which we commend to taxpayers for reading and recollection:

	1873.
Fencing	$1,892
Filling in earth and drains	1,095
Gravel	440
Trees	1,000
Pay list (buildings and grounds, chiefly latter)	3,277
Total	$6,921

	1874.
Fencing	$2,850
Filling earth	500
Gravel	367
Trees	1,000
Pay list	560
	$4,227

	1875.
Expenditure this year nominal.	
Paid to meet over-expenditure in 1874	$955
Estimate for grounds and buildings	$2,000

SUMMARY.

1873	$6,921
1874	4,227
1875 (for 1874)	955
1876 (say)	2,000
Total	$13,123

That's the way the money goes, and what end has been reached! Have we fine gravel sweeps, pretty *parterres* and plain parterres, sylvan glades and bowery vistas, lawns and bowling greens with verdure clad! Scarcely. Those who choose to visit the locality will discover a mere cabbage garden, a ravine filled at enormous expense for tillage by the caretakers and serviceable Parliamentary plunder! Sweet and delightful as a little *rue in herbe* may be, we can scarcely imagine the Ontario taxpayer wishing to present his chums of McKELLAR with a farm constructed at the price above given. Nor can we imagine any sensible man voting the grounds in the square to the purpose of raising vegetables for the public institutions, though that purpose has been allowed off on a too easy Legislature and has been made to do service till it is "played out." What private institutions can do the people of Ontario can afford to do. The grounds round the new Metropolitan Church in this city are not turned into a vegetable garden for the sexton, verger, and pew-opener. They are laid out to be a decoration to the building and ornament to the city. The Parliament Buildings Square is most improperly exempt from municipal taxation, and as long as this iniquitous law is in operation, the least the ratepayers here can expect is that the grounds be laid out in a manner to reflect credit on the city, and not to excite the contempt of every visitor whose eye lights upon the handiwork of the plunder-bund. It is not enough to have got rid of McKELLAR if that unexampled boor's past raids on the Treasury are to continue to bear fruit for the profit and gratification of his quondam allies.

A NEW DEAL.

REFERENCE was made, a few days ago, in an Ottawa despatch, to a contemplated change of policy by the MACKENZIE Administration with reference to the building of the Pacific railway. We have received some further information on the subject; and we have good reason to believe that it is literally correct. There is to be a new deal. Abandoned contracts, "magnificent water stretches," the insatiety of political hacks, the serious difficulties encountered on the section between Fort Garry and Red River, the hitherto peddling and pottering which have been pursued, the financial incapacity of the Administration, the prospect of new loans whose products would fast go into the sink of useless branches—these and numerous other considerations have begun to make themselves felt on the somewhat unimpressionable mind of the Premier. Why, it was asked, is the gun, or will he adopt a radical change of policy? Will he continue to build the road, or rather useless branches of it, some of them leading from nowhere to nowhere, directly from the Public Works Department? or will he seek the intervention of a company or companies? These are the questions over which Mr. MACKENZIE has seemingly been pondering, and on which he appears to have come to a conclusion at last.

The British Canadian Press correspondent came into power in November, 1873. In the course of two short months he laid down the programme he was to follow, the principles he was to be guided; and he announced it when, following up his determination to make the memorable "mild but firm attack," he appealed to the country in January following. During his contest he asserted that the property belonged to the Pacific railway, not by a company or companies, but by the Government. Whatever profit there might be in the work, he said, should go into the people's pocket. The intervention of companies would be discarded, and Mr. MACKENZIE would build the road himself. Well, we have seen with what success he has carried out this boldly-uttered and would-be patriotic policy. To-day he is the laughing-stock of every practical man in the community. To the north he selected a route which was found impracticable, and now the country is paying his friend, Mr. A. B. FORTIN, for useless surveys. The North-West he is pottering away at a section here and a section there, not knowing whether to abandon the wretches or attempt to utilize them, and with the strong probability staring him in the face, that he will never be able to connect them; or, if he should, it will be at an alarming cost.

Out of all these difficulties Mr. MACKENZIE hopes to drag himself by the "bout face." His intention is, we are assured, to advertise for contractors who will undertake to build the railway entire, or in sections, the Government giving a bonus of $10,000 a mile and a land subsidy to an extent not yet mentioned. The Premier's intention is, we understand, to advertise in the Canadian press to this effect immediately, and in England, and to give until January next for the reception of tenders by the Department. The first thought which occurs to one is the deep humiliation which the adoption of such a policy must bring to the Premier. What Adonis of masses of building the railway which he and his Party had so "vehemently denounced! Fall back upon the much-abused, roundly-denounced policy of Sir JOHN MACDONALD's Government! Can it be that we are to come to this! Are the people of this country to be treated to such a spectacle!

Our information—which comes to us on excellent authority—will prove to be very much at fault if this change of front by the First Minister be not shortly announced. We await the event before making further reference to it.

HOW FOREIGN LOANS ARE SPENT IN ENGLAND.

TOUCHING on the subject of foreign loans raised in England, the London *Daily News* is candid enough to let out some wholesome truth, which it would be wise for Governments and people in Canada to give heed to whenever the temptation to "place" a few millions more on the English loan market comes before them. Our contemporary first speaks of those semi-civilized defaulters, Turkey, Egypt, Peru, and others, and truly enough says that while English investors have lost by them, the money furnished has done them good service. Then it proceeds to the heavy burden of debt imposed on them in return. The greater part of it was "appropriated" by the various grades of swindlers through whose hands it passed, and the small balance left was uselessly rather than usefully spent. But the *Daily News* has a word for other borrowers too—for borrowers of a class that may be held to include ourselves. The disposition to borrow money rather than to practice economy, or to appeal to the national spirit for necessary sacrifices, it says, has been indulged far too much by Governments that have many titles to respect, and should be discouraged if mischief of the kind lately seen is not to spread. And now we come to the interesting bit of truth-telling above alluded to. Our contemporary continues: "The indulgence of the Turkish Pashas is popular among us. As soon as it is known that a Government has made a valid arrangement, it can raise, say, a ten or ten millions in Lombard street, a thousand English brains are busy contriving really profitable projects of what the money is to be spent. The borrower will want steel rails and locomotives for railways, gunpowder and cannon for his military