

General Business.



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND RAILWAY.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS. QUALIFIED TENDERS to be submitted to the undersigned...

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Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., JULY 26, 1900.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is acting for Mr. Blair as Minister of Railways and Canals, during Mr. Blair's absence in Europe.

Hon. Mr. Bernier is acting Minister of Marine and Fisheries in the absence of Sir Louis Davies, who with Messrs. Blair and Fielding are visiting Great Britain and the Continent.

On 15th August, the great Acadian Convention, which takes place every ten years, is to be held at Arichat, N. S., and Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier will be one of the distinguished men in attendance.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is to address several public meetings in the Maritime provinces in the latter part of August.

Senator Burpee has resigned his seat to become a member of the Canadian Parliament in place of Mr. Gillmor, and it is said that Mr. Ellis, M. P., of St. John, is to succeed Mr. Burpee in the Senate.

General O'Grady-Haley sailed last Thursday from England, on route for Ottawa, via the steamer "Tunisian," under the command of the Dominion Militia force.

The time of holding the next general elections for the Dominion House of Commons is a subject of much speculation. The indications favor the conclusion that it will be, at all events, not earlier than the middle of October.

The Chinese situation. The situation in China, according to the view of President McKinley and his cabinet, as advised by experts of the State Department, shows "four provinces, aggregating a population of 87,000,000 and covering territory aggregating 112,700 square miles, are in revolt against what has been hitherto recognized as the government of the empire, and against all foreigners."

Other provinces, aggregating a population of 236,000,000 and covering 1,200,000 square miles of territory, are apparently neutral and under the complete control of the viceroys in charge of the respective provinces."

As long as this condition obtains there will be no general war against China. Such exchanges of views as have taken place between the powers favor confining all operations to the northern part of China, or that part in which there has been actual hostility against foreigners. While this of course, means actual hostilities and, in a broad sense, war, technically none of the powers has yet declared war against China or in any way formally acknowledged that war actually exists, navy, perhaps Russia. Indeed, the tendency on the part of all the foreign governments is decidedly against a general war in China, notwithstanding the terrible outrages which have been perpetrated. For the time being hostilities are being pursued solely for the protection of foreign life and property. This situation, however, may be altered at almost any moment.

It will be seen by the latest available despatches from China that the general massacre of the foreign ministers and all other whites at the Peking legations, reported to have taken place on 6th inst., is doubtful. Indeed, unless there is a conspiracy in which all the Chinese officials are banded together to mislead the Powers, it seems most probable that the reported massacre did not take place.

The C. P. R. and I. C. R. The standing difficulty between the Canadian Pacific and Intercolonial Railways is again being agitated, and it is asserted in some quarters that unless the I. C. R. submits to the demands of the C. P. R., the latter will cease to do any winter port business at St. John. There does not seem to be any good reason to believe that the C. P. R. will go to the extreme stated, but some of its demands are we think unusual. For instance, the C. P. R. says that when the Intercolonial railway receives goods for Montreal and other western points, it should not itself carry them to that city, but hand them over at St. John to the C. P. R. This is itself foregoing the right of earning the freight for the long haul. We confess that we cannot see any justice in such a demand. It is said on the other hand that the I. C. R. refuses to deliver to the C. P. R. freight at Montreal beyond public service in affording Mr. Raymond opportunity to collate these valuable papers.

An Important Town Case. The law proceedings taken by the Town of Chatham, Treasurer of the Mayor and Aldermen, against Mr. John D. Creighton for violation of the town by-laws relating to the erection of public buildings terminated at St. John, on Tuesday.

It will be remembered that Mr. Creighton was brought before Police Magistrate Connors of Chatham, on a charge of infringing the by-laws in connection with the improvements he was making on the site of the new building (formerly the Cyrus Brown) building on Water Street, immediately west of the Nicol shoe store. He was adjudged guilty and fined \$28, or in default of payment to be imprisoned in the county jail for three months.

Mr. Creighton, appealed from this decision through his attorney R. A. Lawlor, Esq., Q. C. and the argument was made Monday last week before Judge McLeod at Chatham. St. John, W. C. Winslow, Esq., Q. C. appearing for the Town of Chatham, and Mr. R. A. Currie acting with Mr. Lawlor.

The points on which the defence relied for the reversal of the decision of the Chatham court were: 1st.—That that court had no jurisdiction. 2nd.—No power was given of the by-laws of 1900 of Chatham. 3rd.—Chatham Town Council has no power to make by-laws respecting repairs or alterations of wooden buildings existing before the incorporation of the town. 4th.—No offence, against any town by-law was proved. 5th.—The court had no power to adjudge the defendant to be imprisoned for the space of three months.

It appears, according to a telegram of Monday from Mr. Currie, that Judge McLeod reversed the decision of the Chatham police magistrates on all the points taken.

The Rife. The Provincial Rifle Association matches will be shot at Sussex, beginning on August 21. The executive has decided not to make any changes as regards position or range, but to confine the competitions to residents of New Brunswick.

About Herring Ones. The Telegraph was considerably out of its way a short time since to refer to the recent action of "the conference of the important religious body" in the province, which restores to its position a clergyman who had been "expelled" for indulging too freely in stimulants. The Telegraph makes a great parade of its approval of the action of the conference and of endeavoring to set up the idea that those who do not display the special license had been "expelled" for indulging too freely in stimulants. The Telegraph makes a great parade of its approval of the action of the conference and of endeavoring to set up the idea that those who do not display the special license had been "expelled" for indulging too freely in stimulants.

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Shanghai, and says: "Fortunate that Minister Cong's telegraphic reply has come. Imperial decree of the 22nd this moon (corresponding to July 18) stated that all ministers were safe. Insurgents are fighting and killing each other. Li Hung Chang is proceeding northward to suppress the riot. Will find it difficult to go." The second telegram from Li Kai Yi, Viceroy of Nankin, dated the 21st of July and received by Minister Cong at 10 o'clock the same day. It is as follows: "According to edict of 22nd of this moon (July 18), with the exception of the German minister, who is still held by assassins, with regard to which rigorous measures are being taken to investigate and punish the guilty parties, all the other ministers, for whom great efforts are being made for their protection, are fortunately unharmed." Li Kai Yi, the Viceroy of Nankin, is one of the great officers of China and stands next in rank among the diplomats to Li Hung Chang.

Paris, July 21.—Yu Kuek, the Chinese minister here, today handed to the minister of foreign affairs, M. Delcasse, an imperial edict, dated July 18, giving the assurance that all the foreign ministers in Peking, except Baron von Ketteler, the German minister, were then safe and sound