THE HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1884.

Opening of Parliament.

THE Parliament of Canada was opened in due form on last Thursday, the seventeenth inst., by the Marquis of Lansdowne, the new Governor General, and the regular business of the session commenced the day following. The Speech from the Throne will be seen in another place, from which it will be observed that nothing very novel in the way of legislation is to be introduced, if the programme outlined in the Speech be carried out, which is, however, not always the case—which is not even generally the case, as it is well known the "best regulated affairs of men and mice gang aft aglee." The most prominent topics introduced in the Speech are the Pacific Railroad and the government guarantees in its aid, emigration, and the negotiations with British Columbia. Whatever may have been thought of the wisdom of commencing the great railroad by the opponents of the Government a few years ago, it is now tacitly agreed on all sides that the work must go on, for that it is a great national undertaking to which Canada is committed. Indeed it is even committed through the Government, as to the time of completion, and the great enterprise may be said to be nearing its termination, for this is 1884, and Sir Charles Tupper has promised railroad communication between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans across Canadian territory in 1886. This being taken for granted, it is nothing but the merest hypercriticism to censure the Government for guaranteeing the bonds of the Pacific Railroad Company. Impartial men—independent politicians—and there are more of them in Canada than is generally supposed—will look with disfavor on any attempt of Mr. Blake and his friends to hamper the Government in the matter of the guarantees. As regards the railroad itself, they were perfectly justified in opposing it at the start, but once aware that the voice of the country had spoken in its favor, that the honor of the country was involved in its construction, it goes for the saying that the guarantees were a necessity that presented itself as the work went on. Whether they take this view of it or not, there is little doubt of the result on a division.

Immigration is another important subject mentioned in the speech. Nothing like the number of people who crossed the ocean last year to make Canada their home, has ever been known before in connection with this country. And it is more than probable the volume will increase, judging from the Emigration Statistics of the United States. Canada received 170,000 permanent emigrants last year from the various European nations, and it is anticipated the number for 1884 will be still larger, and that it will go on increasing until the largest returns for the United States shall have been equalled. And why not? Competent statists pronounce that the great Northwest alone will yet accommodate 300,000,000 of a population!

As regards the negotiation with British Columbia we are too far removed from our Pacific (?) sister to be as keenly interested in her affairs as we are in those of our neighboring Provinces. We trust, however, they may be arranged to the satisfaction of those mostly concerned. The British Columbians have received much, and they want more. We hope they will obtain their rights and more, if possible, but while conceding to them everything just and proper, we would remind the General Government that Prince Edward Island, though less clamorous, has also a treaty, of which the articles have not yet been fulfilled. They say too far east is west, and if that is so, it is to be hoped when the Government has complied with all the demands of British Columbia, it may push still further on in its righteous way, and strike Prince Edward Island, and give her Winter Communication according to the articles of agreement. This is a demand as just as it is moderate. We trust that in dealing with the question at Ottawa our Island members will ignore party politics for the nonce, and stand shoulder to shoulder like the members from British Columbia, who, in matters affecting their Province, are as united and firm as a rock, as well they may be, seeing what results union has achieved for them in the past.

AMONG other gentlemen lately appointed to the Senate is the Hon. Donald McMillan, of Guelph, described as a Scotch Catholic. The *Globe* objects to the appointment on the ground that Mr. McMillan is a Scotch Catholic, though it is more than likely he was appointed like others on account of his fitness, whereupon "One of Them" writes a strong and forcible letter to the *Mail*, (it was refused insertion in the *Globe*), showing what manner of men those Scotch Catholics are, how numerous they are, how brave, how loyal, and how, in dark days when English, Irish and Scotch Protestants fought against Britain, the ancestors of these Scotch Catholics fought and bled for the crown, how they left comfortable homes in the revolted colonies and preferred to live under the old flag under less favorable circumstances at the time, and how they are now too strong and prosperous in Prince Edward Island, in Nova Scotia, and other Provinces, to be ignored. Every line in the letter of "One of Them" falls like a sledge hammer.

Redistribution and the Franchise.

THE good understanding that was growing between Irish Nationalists and English Radicals is once more rudely broken. The Radicals are willing that the Irish should have the franchise, which is very kind of them, but it is upon condition that the Irish submit to a redistribution of seats, which would reduce Irish representation in the Imperial Parliament to eighty members. There is this to be said about a redistribution of seats in so far as it affects Ireland. When in 1841 the population of Ireland was eight millions and a-half, and that of Great Britain only seventeen millions, no one talked about redistribution, although according to population Ireland should have two hundred and odd members, but now when Ireland is reduced from one-third to one-sixth of the United Kingdom's population, the politicians—radicals, whigs and tories—cry out for a redistribution on a more equitable basis, and one having in view representation more in accordance with population. Several matters have to be considered before a redistribution militating against Ireland is affected. There are in England and Scotland about three millions of Irish, or their immediate descendants who, in a great many respects, are not represented in the Imperial House of Commons, and who have about as much chance, so scattered are they among the constituencies, of returning one of their number to Parliament, as they have of flying. Indeed it is next to impossible for either an English or Irish Catholic to be elected for a Great British constituency, although having among them men of great wealth and ability. Those three millions must therefore continue to look to Ireland for representation until the English and Scotch are disfranchised of their prejudice. Upon such an equitable basis there must be accounted eight millions of Irish instead of five, and twenty-eight millions of Great British only, meaning English and Scotch who, in five hundred and fifty odd members are amply represented. The cablegram says the Radicals are intensely bitter against the Irish Nationalists for their pronouncement against a redistribution of seats. Their anger is really unreasonable. Extending the franchise to Ireland is nothing but just, and that being so, why should such a great flourish be made over it? It happens, however, that the time has arrived when Ireland can afford to be careless about the franchise. Since 1848 the country has become nationalized, and even Ulster is being irresistibly swept into the national vortex. Extension or no extension, eighty Irishmen (not including West Britons) will be returned to Westminster, and it is not clear that they would have many more if the franchise were extended. In fact, the gift comes too late, like all English concessions to Ireland. The best of it is the Irish members can prevent the franchise bill if it is to be accompanied by any reduction of their numbers. Thrown in with the Ministry they swell the majority, but as with the Conservatives and recalcitrant Liberals, they are numerous enough to defeat any bill the Government may bring forward. It is really a Nemesis, a small one, but it will grow until Home Rule be the only satisfaction to both parties.

The City Annual Report.

WE have received the annual report of the City Council for 1883, and find it, on the whole, a well-written, handsomely gotten up, nicely printed report. But it is not entirely satisfactory. Indeed few reports are. What we object to is the meagreness of the information furnished about the school funds, which, it will be at once admitted, is an important item in the city's expenditure. From Appendix No. 4 of the report we are enabled to learn several things connected with the schools, but not everything. We learn, for instance, that the receipts for the school year up to 30th June, 1883, were $9,962.77, of which $56.14 were for fees, $382.16, balance on hand since last year, $9,300 from the city of Charlottetown, and $224.47 from income account; all of which sums were expended. What we would like to see is from whom the tax from which the school fund is drawn, is collected. If that can be done, the report will be considered more satisfactory. There is a vague impression abroad that the tax on real estate bears too harshly on the payers, some of whom, though they may own a plot of ground, or a lot and house, are the merest of wage-earners, and often very poor, while others who pay little or no taxes are rich. We do not, of course, in this sense, include tenants. If this feeling were correctly entertained, the result would be, speaking in general terms, that the poor man, along with paying for the education of his own children, was paying for the education of his wealthy neighbors' children as well, than which nothing could be more unjust or further—we are confident—from the thoughts of those who framed the city laws governing taxation for school purposes. Why not publish the names of the real estate holders who pay taxes as well as the names of those who pay taxes for dogs, horses and trucks, in order that the public may see those who are exempt—if any—and be satisfied they are not imposed upon. The extra cost would not be much, it would not be anything in fact, if some present item in the report were omitted. We hope to see this suggestion, offered in so friendly a spirit, acted upon for 1884-5.

The Great Incapable as a Traducer.

IT was with considerable reluctance we undertook, some weeks ago, to review a chapter in the public life of the editor of the *Patriot*. It was a task of no little magnitude and fraught with considerable danger—of magnitude because it was in the case of an individual whose journalistic career extends back for over a quarter of a century, whose political fortunes have been numerous and varied, and whose public reputation is blurred and blotted with ignoble actions, the offspring of a selfish, bigoted and mercenary nature. It was a work not unaccompanied with danger, for in the course of our research instances were numerous of the revengeful malignity with which he has pursued those who have crossed his path or thwarted his designs. We shewed plainly and convincingly that in every public enterprise in which he had been associated he was a conspicuous failure. Four weeks have passed by and never a word of denial of any our statements has yet appeared in the columns of the *Patriot*, for the very simple reason that no denial is possible. We knew whereof we spake, we appealed to facts and figures, and we now again challenge the editor of the *Patriot* to contradict a single one of the charges that we then made against him. Is his conduct that of a man conscious of his innocence? We leave the public to answer. Upon two occasions, however, we have been treated to a half column of low abuse, the last dish having been served up on Wednesday last, our publication day, when he knew that our tongue was tied for another week. This is just what we had been led to expect of him, and we would have been exceedingly disappointed in our estimate of his character had he adopted any other course. All the leading men in the Province have been libelled by him, and we would consider ourselves slighted did we not come in for a share of his venom. Foul slander is, and always has been, the political stock-in-trade of the editor of the *Patriot*—he is incapable of anything else, upon it he climbed into positions for which he was never fitted, either by nature or education. Upon his own merits he could never attain reputable notoriety; as editor of a canting, pseudo-religious journal, his services were thrice rejected by the people, and it was only by gross personal detraction, at a time of great excitement upon the railway question, that he managed to secure an election, for a couple of sessions, to the Local Legislature, and thence, assisted by the so-called Pacific Scandal, to a seat in the House of Commons. In 1872 he was a member of the House of Assembly, and in the course of his prowling, he came across vouchers furnished by the Telegraph Co. for telegrams sent upon the public service. Among the charges were several for messages from Hon. J. C. Pope, the leader of the Government in the previous year, to the mercantile firm of Clift, Wood & Co. of St John's, Newfoundland, which, as Mr. Pope explained, were in reference to slates ordered for covering the Post Office. The explanation was accepted by the House, but not by Mr. Laird who, in the columns of the *Patriot*, meanly asserted what he dared not say in his place in the Legislature, namely, that the telegrams were on Mr. Pope's private business, and that when they were sent, the Post Office building had been roofed for nearly a year. Upon the matter being brought to the notice of the House, a resolution was passed by a vote of 14 to 6 denouncing Mr. Laird's statement as "*untrue, and without a shadow of foundation.*" So reckless had he become, and so regardless of the truth, that his own political associates, Messrs. Henry Beer, Perry, Callbeck, Dr. Robertson, Scrimgeour, and J. R. McLean voted for his condemnation. So low had he fallen in public estimation, that the then editor of the *Examiner* was forced to descend from his editorial chair and administer a personal castigation to him upon the floor of the House of Assembly. The President of the Young Men's Christian Association publicly accused him of "lying, and slandering his neighbor," and of utterances that were "unjust, dishonest, and gravely deceptive," and he expressed the wish that there might be "one spark of manliness and real patriotism left to induce him to do the right, though the heavens fell." It is needless to say that the editor of the *Patriot*, possessing neither of the qualities referred to, persistently declined to do the right, and the next week the same gentleman wrote to him as follows:

"Your reply to my appeal (to do the right) is simply adding insult to injury. Instead of meeting the question candidly and fairly, you endeavor to blind the public by side issues, merely to cover your ignominious retreat. If this be a fair specimen of your mode of conducting public opinion, the morality of your press has reached so low an ebb as to cause the most serious apprehensions for the public safety. When the liberty of the press is so shamefully abused, is there any cause for wonder that editors are sometimes lynched, shot, deprived of ears, severely thrashed, or contemptuously spit upon? But do not be alarmed, I am not going to resort to either of the above, or any similar mode of cure; I shall adopt a far more reasonable and effective mode of treatment. I shall simply leave you alone *in your shame, in the public pillory, as an* OVERBEARING, UNPRINCIPLED, MALICIOUS DEFAMER. To continue a controversy under such circumstances would be tantamount to the pursuit of a certain animal which always tries when closely pursued to sprinkle its opponents with a fluid not very acceptable to olfactory nerves."

So much then for the statements of the editor of the *Patriot*, who boasts that he has never done discredit to any position which he has filled. This was the manner in which the chief officer of a Christian Association spoke of a man who had, with à hypocritical whine, called himself a "meek and lowly follower of the blessed Redeemer."

The editor of the *Patriot* reminds the public that while other newspapers have gone under through mismanagement and other causes, the *Patriot* has braved the battle and the breeze for half a lifetime and that it never has been a marketable commodity. We think the public will agree with us when we say that to the personal exertions and contributions, both literary and *pecuniary*, of the late Mr. Donald Currie did the *Patriot* owe the position which it once held in the community, and that with the severance of his connection with it dates the commencement of its decay. As to its never having been a marketable commodity, that may arise from its never having had any commercial value. The editor surely cannot mean that its ownership has never changed hands, for we were under the impression that when its present proprietor was elected to the House of Commons he sold the paper and plant to Mr. Henry Lawson, who, but a short year ago, was glad to get rid of it again at a very considerable loss, or perhaps the transfer was merely a dodge in order to enable the *Patriot* to enjoy public pickings.

When we entered upon the investigation of the public career of the editor of the *Patriot* we were little prepared for such a terrible revelation of political turpitude. Tired of his ceaseless denunciation of our local rulers as "unpopular and useless," we undertook to enquire as to the manner in which public affairs were managed while he was charged with their conduct, and what the people might expect were he once more entrusted with their confidence. Our enquiries have led us further than we anticipated, and if their result is not pleasing to the editor of the *Patriot*, he has only his own slanderous pen to thank for it. Our task is not yet completed.

Editorial Notes.

THE Canada Pacific Railroad is paying a yearly dividend of five per cent to its shareholders, thus falsifying the prophecies of melancholy Grits.

LORD LANSDOWNE'S speech at Toronto was one of the best ever delivered in Canada. He may be a bad Irish landlord, but he is certainly a fair Irish wit. Judging from the speech as it reads, he is a far better speaker than the Marquis of Lorne, and even excels Lord Dufferin.

THE Hon. Mr. Masson, of Terrebonne, has refused, on account of the state of his health, to accept the Premiership of Quebec Province, and the task of forming a ministry has devolved upon Hon. Dr. Ross. Great hopes are entertained that Dr. Ross will find a way to solve the difficult problem.

THE Imperial Parliament will meet on the 5th of February. A long, lively and important session is anticipated, and it may be the dissolution of the present Parliament and an appeal to the country on momentous issues. Bradlaugh will make another desperate attempt to take his seat, and then will the trouble commence.

A PRINCE COUNTY correspondent enquires whether the new license law is unconstitutional. The Dominion Government are not of that opinion, indeed they are taking steps to amend the Act so as to make it all the stronger. The Toronto case of Hodge *vs.* the Queen alters nothing, neither does Judge Belanger's decision.

THE Toronto *Mail* is once more pitching into the Archbishop of Toronto, and the Catholics of Ontario generally, because a Catholic has received the position of Registrar of Peterborough. The *Mail* is evidently of the opinion that it has not yet succeeded completely in destroying Conservative interests in the premier Province.

WE are likely to hear no more of Pipes and Fielding for awhile. They have sold the railroad from New Glasgow to Canso to the Dominion Government for $600,000 less than it cost. How extremely like one set of Grit politicians is to another the world all over. Of course the General Government could not refuse so good a bargain; but is it not hard on the Nova Scotia taxpayers?

HENRY GEORGE, author of "Progress and Poverty," has been received with enthusiasm by a section of the English Radical party; 400,000 copies of his book have been sold in Great Britain, and the cry for another edition is heard. His theory of the nationalization of the land is not making headway in Ireland, which would abolish landlordism but compensate the landlord, whereas Henry George would take the land and not give those gentry a single cent in exchange. The landlords now realize they may go further than Irish tenants and fare worse.

FRANK JAMES, brother of the infamous Jesse, and himself a rogue of no mean calibre, is dying at his wife's home in Missouri, of the interesting disease known as consumption. The news of his state of health is causing a flutter in the hearts of that class of human beings known as the maudlo-sentimental, and Frank is receiving presents of beautiful and costly bouquets every day. Now, had he been an honest man there would be no bouquets. Bring along your dime novels, therefore, and fire the hearts of the rising generation to deeds of burglarious daring.

Letter from Myles O'Regan.

Mr. Editor:

I cannot let the public into the secret of where the "Laird Bureau" is located for a while yet; but it is satisfactory to know we are working away with a will in the office on Queen Street. I think I shall be able to make something out of the Incapable before I have done with him, although I am free to confess the task I have set myself to is a difficult one. He has neither nerve nor backbone. It is true that he makes up for the lack of those essentials by a cheek I have never seen equalled; but it is very trying all the same for the person who has him in hand. And I must protest against the HERALD'S treatment of him from the start. It was all very well to lacerate him when he stood alone; but now that he is as much mine as the White Elephant is Barnum's, you must show him a little compassion for my sake. You may not think so, but he is really the most sensitive of creatures. The morning after your last flagellation appeared in print he appeared at the Bureau pale and dejected, "entirely broken up," as he expressed it in his own elegant language. As I pulled the paper out of my pocket to read it to him and accustom him to hard knocks, a wave of agitation travelled slowly over his form, and only subsided when he was thoroughly exhausted. His fearfully hollow laugh alarmed me.

"Why," said I, "What is the matter with you, any way?"

"Can't you see, my dear O'Regan," he replied, turning round, "that I have no backbone. That is exactly what is the matter."

And it was quite so; he really does belong to that class in the animal kingdom known as invertebrate. I am filled with compassion for the man, but at the same time at once recognized the fact that the loss of a dorsal column would enhance his value in a monetary sense to the Bureau. In fact, I told him so in order to cheer him up a little.

"It's all very fine for you, O'Regan," he said, with tears in his eyes, "but now can I bear up against the attacks of my enemies without a backbone?"

"But don't you find it more convenient to put on your shoes in that state?"

"Alas, I never take them off. I don't know the moment my evil genius may come along and send me off to Ottawa in the sombre stillness of midnight, and I must be always ready."

"Come," said I—seeing him in the vein communicative—"is it true you cut the blankets of the Indians in two at Keewatin?"

"It is a vile calumny made out of whole cloth. I never, never cut blankets in two."

"But did you cut them at all?"

"Yes, I made three divisions of them, but it was through philanthropic motives. You see the Sioux walk round during the winter in their blankets, and if they are wide and flowing they so swagger with pride as to become utterly unmanageable. Besides, by having them small and narrow, they are really more serviceable in keeping out the wind, as they have to pull them tightly around their persons; whereas if they were loose and long the blizzards of the Northwest would get under them and the benevolent intentions of the Grit government would have been frustrated.

"I learn from the *Patriot* that you are no longer a leader of the party. Is that a fact?"

"Why do you ask?"

"Dare you question me. Because you can be of no use to me except in a political capacity."

"But I am still editor of the *Patriot*—and if not a political leader am a political bravo. If my nerves are shattered and if my backbone is missing, I can still calumniate your enemies and mine."

I really don't know what to do with such a scribe, Mr. Editor. He is too eager to villify, which is right and proper; but then he is just as eager to apologize, and that is where the trouble comes in. Perhaps, however, I may be able to teach him. He seems docile enough. But I shall see. I shall see. Meantime the Bureau is paying expenses.

Perhaps you are not aware, Mr. Editor, that my sympathies are all with the Irish landlords in their struggle for existence against their oppressive tenants. Patrician as I am, my candid opinion is that the soil of Ireland was created to give the institution of landlordism full play for development. When I was young and when Parnell was "creeping with snake-like pace unwillingly to school," landlordism flourished and the country was quiet. The tenants went in a body caubeen in hand to the land office with the rent in their pockets, and numerous other rents in their clothes, and lived contentedly on potatoes and salt (when they could get them), until next Michaelmas day. The rent was sent over to London, or Monaco, or Paris, or Baden-Baden, and the young lords had a gay old time of it circulating the cash through the gambling houses of Europe and other delightful places too numerous to mention. Could you ask for a better state of things? Law and order flourished, and if the people starved it was their own fault. According to the political economists—blessings upon them—it is necessary some classes should starve, and who so accustomed to it as tenants? But the times are changed, and all because Parnell has not been hanged. The tenants now wear good clothes, and eat three square meals per diem, which is all wrong, as we are told by the political economists. I have a cousin, a retired landlord, who is now out here in Charlottetown. It was I brought him out. His tenants refused to pay their rents and he had to march right through the Insolvency Court. Excuse me for laughing, but it is funny to see a landlord going into insolvency. He is not used to it. But about his coming here. I used to write him every month telling the O'Regan I was making piles of money, and that I owned half Prince Edward Island, which was a little excusable exaggeration, and Theodore thought he would try his luck. (Queer name is Theodore O'Regan, isn't it?) I said in my letters that the people of this Island owned the land themselves, but that they were discontented and unhappy on that account. They were dying to have landlords receive their rents, and would receive an Irish landlord, especially, over them with much enthusiasm. If he brought a few agents and bailiffs with him all the better; for they really did not know what to do with their surplus cash, and were besides anxious to follow in the footsteps of their ancestors, who had all paid rents in their generation. Theodore at first suggested that he would be only too happy to act as their landlord in London, to which place they could send their rents; but to this I objected that the *ci-devant* tenants would like to see his face, so that they might pay him homage, after which he might live where he pleased like other absentees, though they would prefer his residing at Baden-Baden. Well, what do you think but my bold Ted arrived last week in the *Northern Light!* I was thunderstruck.

"Well, Myles, my boy, where is the land?" cried Theodore after the first salutations were exchanged.

The question nonplussed me somewhat at first, but after a little meditation I took him down to the river, and pointing out that vast tract of land running between here and Southport and east and west for miles, I told him the government had reserved that for him.

"I see you have been planting trees on it," said Theodore.

"Yes, just a few little spruce plants, which will be very tall when they grow."

"My tastes should have been consulted," he remarked with displeasure; "and who gave those low people the right to drive their sleighs across my lands. Let it be stopped at once; and I want it ploughed immediately and spring wheat sown upon it. I suppose my tenants are lazy beggars who don't like work, but they will have to look pretty sharp while I'm around."

I confess to you, Mr. Editor, that I grew prouder and prouder of my aristocratic cousin as he went on and gave instructions that the people should be evicted from Southport, that a dozen foxes should be at once procured, and other improvements effected. It is so like an Irish landlord. Truly, he has not degenerated. But I am in a fix about planting spring wheat. As a general rule wheat—fall or spring—does not prosper on salt ice. I must consult the Laird Bureau; a man that can cut blankets in two is capable of doing something more.

Yours, &c.,

MYLES O'REGAN.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

At three o'clock on Thursday afternoon His Excellency the Governor General arrived at the Senate Chamber, and opened the second session of the fifth parliament of Canada with the following Speech:

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In fulfilment of the important trust committed to me by Her Majesty, I have recourse for the first time to your advice and assistance. It is a source of the deepest personal satisfaction to me that I should have been called by Her Majesty to an office in which, as Her representative, I am enabled to take a part in the public affairs of the Dominion, and to associate myself with you in the performance of the honorable duties which you are about to approach.

I rejoice to learn that although the last harvest has been less productive than its predecessors, and although there are indications that the rapid expansion of your commerce has to some extent been followed by over-trading, the general condition of the Dominion is such as to justify me in congratulating you upon its prosperity.

The marked success attained by Canada at the International Fishery Exhibition in London, must be very gratifying to you, and has, I doubt not, been of great service in showing to the world the wealth of our fisheries and the extent of our marine industries and resources.

The Commissioners appointed by my predecessor for the purposes of consolidating the Statutes affecting the Dominion, have pursued their task with diligence, and I am enabled to lay before you for examination about sixty chapters of the proposed consolidation. The remainder of the work will be prepared, and the whole of it revised during the present year, so that the final report will be ready at your next session for your approval.

The number of immigrants to Canada during the past season has, I am glad to say, been greater than in any previous year, and is a proof that the better Canada is known the more it is valued by those seeking a home in the new world.

Arrangements are in progress to diminish the cost of inland transport, and I have reason to believe that the result will be a steady increase of valuable settlers in the future.

During the recess negotiations were resumed with British Columbia in regard to several matters upon which differences had for some time existed between the two Governments. One of my Ministers visited that Province last summer on a special mission with a view to the adjustment of all questions in controversy, and his efforts have happily been successful. Should your sanction be given to the arrangements then made all occasions of dispute will have been removed, and the most cordial relations established between the Dominion and Provincial Governments. The papers will be laid before you and your consideration invited to measures enabling me to give effect to the agreement.

The rapid increase of population in the North West renders some amendments in the North West Territories Act expedient, and your attention will be called to this important matter.

The progress of the Indians in Manitoba and the North West during last year has been on the whole satisfactory. The bands included in the several Indian Treaties have for the most part betaken themselves to their reserves. A Bill for the further promotion of their interests will be submitted to you, as well as a measure applicable to the whole Dominion for the purpose of encouraging the more advanced Indian communities to assume the responsibilities of self-government.

The Bill laid before you last session for the representation of the people in Parliament and the assimilation of the electoral franchises existing in the several Provinces has now been before the country for a year. The measure will be re-introduced and I commend it to your attention.

I would also urge upon you the expediency of providing for the regulation of factory labor and the protection of the workingman and his family. The measure submitted last session with some amendments will be laid before you.

The rapid progress of the Canadian Pacific Railway has been maintained throughout the past year. Of the two thousand eight hundred and thirty-three miles of the main line between Pemboroke and Port Moody, one thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight miles are now constructed, rendering practicable the completion of that great work within the next two years. Although the time within which the Railway Company is bound to finish the road will not expire until 1891, my Government has thought it of the greatest importance for the settlement of the North-west and the development of our trade that this completion from sea to sea should be hastened and the company enabled to open the line throughout by the spring of 1866. With this view, and in order to aid the Company in procuring sufficient capital for the purpose by the disposal of its unsold shares the Government agreed to receive a deposit of money and securities sufficient to pay a minimum three per cent. dividend for ten years on sixty-five millions of the stock. That arrangement was made on the belief that it would give steadiness and increased value to the shares on the market. A combination of unfavorable circumstances has prevented the fulfilment of these expectations, and the Company has not been able to obtain the required capital by a sale of its stock. The best means of preventing any delay in the great object of the early completion of the railway demands your earnest consideration.

The large increase of the volume of traffic on the Intercolonial Railway over that of any previous year, without involving any burden upon the country, is a satisfactory proof of the continued development of trade between the eastern and western portions of of the Dominion.

A provisional arrangement made with the Government of Nova Scotia for the retention of the Pictou Branch and the acquisition of the Eastern Extension Railway to the Strait of Canso will be submitted for your approval.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts for the past year will be laid before you. You will find that the expenditure has been considerably less and the receipts larger than the estimates, the surplus exceeding that of any previous year. The revenues of the first half of the current year, nothwithstanding the large importations of last season, have been such that we may reasonably expect that the estimates for the year will be fairly maintained.

The estimates for the ensuing year will also be submitted to you. They will, I trust, be found to have been prepared with due regard to economy.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I feel assured that you will devote yourselves with earnestness and assiduity to the consideration of the subjects I have mentioned, and to all matters affecting the public interests that may be brought before you.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 17.

Judge M. Carter this morning sentenced ex-speaker of Assembly, John Egan, to imprisonment at hard labor for one month in the penitentiary, and fine of $500, for attempting to bribe Assemblyman Armitage last winter.

LONDON, Jan. 17.

A summons has been issued against the Park Club for permitting the game of baccarat to be played in its rooms with stakes. The club has employed eminent counsel and maintain that the prosecution is illegal. The affair has caused a decided sensation in the principle London clubs, which will be affected by the decision.

LONDON, Jan. 20.

It is reported from Constantinople that the Turkish troops which have been collected at Noloon, Ægean sea, have refused to accept service in Soudan, forwhich they were intended. The government has apparently abandoned its intention of sending Abdel Kader to Khartoum either to defend the place or negotiate for its evacuation or possible cession.

PARIS, Jan. 20.

Reports from Tripoli and Constantinople state that Sheik Shenoussi is about to march with a large force toward the Soudan in the hope of being able to join El Mehdi. Shenoussi's great influence in Northern Africa and also among the tribes along the Suez and on the borders of the Syrian desert invests this movement with considerable importance.

LONDON, Jan. 20.

The display of energy at Woolwich arsenal and the arrival there of immense stores, such as are required by an army on the march, have given rise to the belief that the English Cabinet will soon decide to despatch reinforcements to the army in Egypt. A mounted battery, pack saddles, and harness for camels were shipped to Egypt yesterday.

MONTREAL, Jan. 20.

In 1870 there were 25 manufactories of boots and shoes in this city, turning out four millions worth of work. In 1880 there were two hundred such establishments, manufacturing $7,000,000 worth and giving employment to 5,600 operatives at good wages. A large increase in the production occurred in the past two years, the aggregate production all over being $17,000,000 per annum.

DUBLIN, Jan. 19.

A number of farmers with a hundred and sixty ploughs and three hundred and twenty horses, ploughed 50 acres of Mr. Parnell's estate yesterday.

ST. JOHN'S NFLD, Jan. 17.

Simon Luncringan, John McGrath and James Whelan, of Conception Bay, were sent to-day to the penitentiary to await their trial before the Supreme Court for an attempt to wreck a railway train by placing iron bars and large stones on the track.

Forty-seven witnesses have deposed against the River Head prisoners. The tendency of the evidence is to establish the guilt of the attacking party. The lives of Nicholas, French and Bray three wounded Orangemen, are despaired of

Information just received from Fortune Bay states that sixty American schooners, chiefly from Gloucester, have captured full fares of herring and successfully froze them. The whole fleet are ready for home and winter codfishing will be abandoned on the western Newfoundland coast. Boats of two men average from five to six quintals per day. The schools of herring now in Fortune Bay are unprecedented for their extent, quality and good size. The weather is admirable for preserving.

ROME, Jan. 17.

Events thicken. Bismarck's right hand man and confidant, the Count Von Hatzfeldt, who arrived in Rome on an important special mission two days ago, has gone to Canossa for the Chancellor. He has already had long interviews with Cardinal Jacobini, the Papal Secretary of State, and drove away from his hotel this morning alone in great state to the Vatican, where he is at this moment closeted with the Holy Father.

PARIS, Jan. 20.

It is stated that the Chinese commander has ordered the Chinese at Bacninh to withdraw twenty-five leagues to the north-west. The mediation of America between China and France after the capture of Bacninh is considered certain.

CAIRO, Jan. 21.

The Khedive has received a letter from the Governor of Soudan, saying that on the arrival at Khartoum, of the garrison of Sennaar, which is shortly expected, the town will be able to repulse any attack.

OTTAWA, Jan. 21.

In the House of Commons to-day, the following bills were read a first time: "An Act to further amend the Law of Evidence in criminal cases;" "An Act to amend the Criminal Law, and to extend the provisions of the Act respecting offences against the Person;" both introduced by Mr. Cameron of Huron, and "An Act respecting Carriers by Land," by Mr. McCarthy. A number of motions for papers were passed and the House adjourned.

Mr. Weldon has given notice of motion for copies of all documents connected with the construction and loss of the ill-fated steamer *Princess Louise*.

Messrs Stephen and Van Horne of the Canadian Pacific Railway are here. The latest request of the Company is that the Government guarantee five per cent. dividend on their stock for twenty years without security, and give them a further cash subsidy of $15,000,000.

Senator Bourinot of Cape Breton died this morning. He was sixty years of age.

CAIRO, Jan. 20.

The insurgents have cut off the retreat of the garrisons in the Province of Sennaar and rendered the River Nile impassable below Deun.

The committee of Soudan merchants sought an interview with the Khedive to-day to protest against the abandonment of the Soudan. Being refused an audience, they sought Nubar Pasha, the Prime Minister. He said the protest was useless, as the evacuation of the Soudan had been definitely decided upon.

The relief of Sinkat is considered hopeless. There are twenty-seven thousand rebels between Suakim and Sinkat.

MONTREAL, Jan. 16.

The Honorable Senator Eustache Prudhomme was robbed and nearly murdered on the Lachine road last night, being left to freeze while the highwaymen escaped in his horse and sleigh, carrying off his watch and valuables. The Senator's account of the outrage shows that it was done in the regular Dick Turpin fashion—a revolver was held against his forehead by one, while the other rifled his pockets. The Senator made a movement during the process, upon which the first robber fired, the ball grazing his victim's forehead and rendering him senseless. Had he remained unconscious long he would have frozen to death. On recovering his senses he made his way to shelter on foot. He is among the oldest and most influential politicians in the country and the news of the event has caused the wildest excitement here.

DUBLIN, Jan. 20.

The unexpected resignation of John Daly, M. P. for Cork, is attributed to an alleged slight recently inflicted by Joseph Chamberlain, who, wishing to fill a vacancy in the government offices in Cork, asked Mr. Parnell to nominate a suitable candidate for the position. The custom hitherto in such cases has been to communicate with the senior member, who at the present time is Mr. Daly. It is further stated that a coolness has already existed between Mr. Parnell and Mr. Daly.