...ic for the railways and ship... to the Government.

...tioners have no doubt that it ... will be much easier for them to build ... with altogether a money subsidy ... with a subsidy composed partly ... of partly of land. The land ... line of the Railway might be ... Government for the expenditure ... final cash subsidy for this line of ...

...ch of special advantage to the ... is in granting a mixed subsidy ... that the agency of the Railway ... would be secured to take ... large body of labourers, to ... and locate them as permanent ... ing the line of railway, the ... the Railway Company and set... manifestly identical.

...tioners believe it to be super... all the attention of his Excel... Lieutenant-Governor in Coun... general results which would ... country from the construction ... posed railway for the most part ... thinly or totally uninhabited ... the establishment on the ... area of a base of supplies for ... number interests of that region. ... ment of the labouring popula... employed in the construction of ... way in the first in... tle in part effected in vil... be erected by the Company at ... the line where saw mills and ... material companies would be ... ...

...The immediate settlement ... mass of country on both sides ... of railway in the new dis... add unquestionably amply re... country to the primary investment ... by the Government in said ... The exports of timber and ... various kinds would be in... ...ed, and an almost unexampled parallel ... ipments by the Northern Railway ... ch have become the source of ... ns of prosperity to the ... th of the City of Toronto. ... any propose, if the prayer of ... ion is successful, to commence ... ediately after the Government ... has been assured, and it is ... this Company that it will be en... build the Railway to Haliburton ... years, and to the Ontario ... three years from its commence...

...pany humbly petition for the ... aid subsidy if granted to be ... upon every twenty miles as ... for subsequent distances, as ... rnment may see fit and proper. ... titioners beg humbly to state ... ve recently thrown out of ... nt in this Province and the ... Canada, but a favorable ... presents itself for securing ... ment of large numbers of those ... origin along the line of this ... four petitioners hope as ... positively to offer a reason... ...sonsequence for the invest... their means, credit, and ... also actuated by a desire ... ify themselves with the country ... d a Railway which will open ... ...ent and commerce so vast an ... country, and be the cause of so ... ral prosperity.

...titioners beg humbly to call the ... of the Lieutenant-Governor in ... the fact that from the inade... the means supplied by previous ... nts, no Railway Company ... succeeded in attracting sufficient ... ficial to enable it to penetrate ... ilway the unsettled portions of ... itry, and that this Company ... the support petitioned for would ... wholly unable to achieve the ... results desiderated.

...ur petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed)

G. LAIDLAW,

President, Victoria Railway Co.

NORTH PERTH.

...ngratulate Mr. DALY upon the ... t victory which he has won in ... pth. He appealed to the electors ... Liberal-Conservative, the political ... which his been his for a life... opposition to a pronounced sup... the Mowat Government. Politics ... a significant one. It is a hint ... Ontario Grit leader that the days ... ontrolling Government are numbered ... ad fast drawing to a close. Mr. ... ly be a great acquisition to his ... the House. He will have an ... opportunity to raise his voice ... legislature in favour of pure and ... government.

CURRENT TOPICS.

MICHELET.—The death of Jules ... the distinguished French historian, ... ed by sadie from Paris. He was ... of that city and was born in 1798. ... ed as a printer, employed in the ... ment wherein the assignats of the ... Republic were printed. It was in... by the elder Michelet that his son ... received the same avocation, and ar... ists had been made to enter him at ... ting office under the First Empire, ... ntary circumstance of a favorable ... enabled his family to send him to ... Charlemagne, where he made a ... ed as a scholar. From this ... he went, in 1821, to assume the ... ship, philosophy, and ancient ... at the College Rollin, and in 1826 ... ed the appointment of Master of ... in the Normal School. After ... ition of 1830, M. Michelet had ... ant charge confided to him ... for a while chief of the historical ... of the archives of the kingdom, ... ember of M. Guizot in the position ... by that distinguished statesman ... of letters in the faculty of Sor... professor of history to the Prin... ademies, daughter of Louis Philippe. ... ion which dated time of. He ... of his great work, "The History of ... " and of a series of historical works ... ated, led to his appointment to ... ire of moral sciences and of history ... College of France. It was from these ... that in his lectures he advanced doc... which speedily drew upon him the at... of the intelligent public, and brought ... ive censure and great pressure ... the sympathies of his critics. His ... handling of the democratic idea in ... and of hostilities to the Jesuits ... ed great assessions. These books ... ed between the years 1843 and ... were the fruits of this advocacy ... the zealots, to wit: "Of the Jesuits," ... Priest, of Woman, and of the ... " and "Of the People." Beatly ex... in his historical writings at this period, ... ded, after the revolutions of 1848, the ... ture for Deputy, which the Liberals ... upon him. He had already, in 1847, ... ed the first volume of his "Histoire ... Revolution." Still continuing in the ... his advocacy of democratic ideas, ... in order that the merge of Napoleon first his lectures, in 1851, and afterwards, ... ment to the coup d'état of December ... same year, deprived him of his posi... keeper of the archives because he re... to take the oath of allegiance to the ... From this time forth M. Michelet ... retirement the closest life of a student ... ation, producing many new works, ... letting others long before commenced, ... perging of his labors with the preparation ... ks of quite a different character from ... upon which his reputation most per... depends. Among these, in addition to "L'Amour" and "La ...," may be mentioned "The Insect," ... Bird," "The Sea," "The Mountain," ... "The Sorceress." The last named was ... ished in 1862. It was seized and sup... in France, but was several times ... ated in Brussels. M. Michelet's writ... comprised more than twenty ... works on history, philosophy, ... philosophy of history &c. besides ... number of reports and articles con... ted to the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, en... pilas, and to other collections of a ... r character. His first historical work, ... onological Table of Modern History," ... published in 1825. His "History of ... ce," published in detached parts from ... to 1867, and his "History of Rome," ... ed from 1847 to 1853 appeared in ... , in seven volumes. "History of the ... Revolution," and "The Absolute ... ies History," a work which has passed ... ugh twenty editions, is regarded as a ... in France. Other works are an ... ation of the Italian of Vico, "Science ... ," called "Principles of the Philoso... of History," a translation of Luther's ... ion, "Introduction to Universal Hi... ," "The Women of the Revolution," ... rtyred Poland," &c., &c. M. Michelet ... twice married—first in 1824, and again, ... become a widower, after his retire... In 1856 the second wife published a ... commenced in the vein of some of his ... works, called "Memoirs of a Child."

...YER DE ROTHSCHILD.—The cable an... ced a day or two ago that Baron Mayer ... child, a member of the great bank... rm of that name was dead. He was ... ourth son of the late Baron Nathan ... de Rothschild, by his wife Hannah, ... third daughter of Lovi Barnet Cohen, ... on merchant. Baron M. A. ROTH... was born in 1818 and educated at ... ly College, Cambridge. In politics he ... an independent Liberal and in favour of ... ation. He was elected member of Par... for Hythe in 1859, and was one of ... m of N. M. Rothschild & Co. The ... of the representative of the great Lon... banking house cannot fail to lend ... est the remarkable and interesting history ... e Rothschilds—a name which in the ... ial world is more potent than that of ... most influential and powerful monarch ... the face of the earth. Their name is ... ous everywhere; their wealth is Par... ; their prosperity has run into stride... ; commercial connections embrace the ... Still a century ago the name of the ... child had not been heard on the Ex... ges of Europe. Springing up from ob... ity, almost poverty, the great ancestor ... house arrived at a position which ... him the guest and friend of kings and ... ors, the help of governments and ... factor of peoples. Raising himself, ... by any of those fortuitous circum... stances or lucky accidents which not unfrequently occur in a lifetime, he steadily and honestly worked on until at length a goal was reached almost unexampled in the history of the world. Nathan Mayer de Rothschild, father of the subject of this brief sketch, was said to surpass all his brothers in commercial genius. He commenced his career in Manchester, England, as a money lender, with less than $500, the cotton interest being then in its infancy there. At the end of five years he had $1,000,000, and with this sum he was sent to London, where he speedily won his place in the world's capital. When James Rothschild, chief of the Paris branch, married his own niece, Nathan conceived the idea of perpetuating the name and power of the house by such unsanguineous connections, common from the earliest time with Hebrew families. With this view he called, in 1836, a congress of the members of the household at Frankfort to consider the matter. They all favored it, and, as an introduction to the settled connubial policy, Nathan's eldest son Lionel was united to his cousin Charlotte, the eldest daughter of Charles Rothschild. Nathan was overjoyed at the adoption of his matrimonial system; but on the day of the nuptials he took ill, and died in less than six weeks, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. He was said to have left between $70,000,000 and $80,000,000. Lionel de Rothschild, now sixty-five years of age, has been since his father's decease at the head of the London house. Baron Mayer A. Rothschild, whose death is now announced, was the fourth son of Nathan, and in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

THAT ALABAMA MONEY.—The present condition of the Alabama award business in America is, according to the *Nation*, as follows:—"There are three bills pending in Congress, neither of which has been even considered in committee, although the private claims on the fund amount to $18,000,000. Senator Edmund's bill creates a special commission of five judges, and bars all claims of passengers unless they can prove that, during the rebellion, the sum of their losses on war risks exceeded the sum of their premiums; in which case an allowance may be made for the excess. Mr. Pomeroy's bill puts the business into the hands of a circuit court, to be selected by this Congress; provides that it will be open to be admitted as one of the general claimants. In case of the disallowance of any claim exceeding $5,000, the claimant may appeal to the Supreme Court. General Butler's bill is much more thoroughgoing than the others; for it decides the law of the case first and then *leaves* it to the courts to hear the evidence and apply the principles. General Butler allows any one to go into any circuit court and make his claim; and underlies the bill the underwriters stand in the same position as under Mr. Edmund's, while any one who paid extra premiums on account of Alabama risks during the war may recover them. Butler's bill only admits the United States as claimant for actual losses. There is still, however, a fourth plan, which is much simpler than any of these, and which consists in the United States keeping the money and not distributing it at all. This plan is represented to be growing in favour at Washington. The New York *Tribune* is in favour of it, but the *Nation* would be glad to see in its columns a more lucid explanation than has yet appeared as to what this differs from what is called in private life embezzlement. There is, however, often a vast difference in the terms used in private and public life with reference to State transactions."

AN AWFUL CHANGE.—There are some grievances which bear with them no elements of consolation, and for which there is no remedy. A trouble of this class has, according to the London *Builder*, lately befallen an unfortunate workman at a London tannery, who the other night, while proceeding with the aid of a dim light from a horn lantern, down the tan-yard, suddenly tumbled into one of the pits, and having by the accident lost his light, was unable for some time to extricate himself from his unpleasant position. At last, however, he managed to land, and without loss of time hurried home to his cottage. The door was opened for him by his wife, but, alas, as he rightly changed was his appearance that at first failed to recognize her husband. The skirt of the tanner is now, it is stated, clothed a dark green morocco colour by his immersion in the liquor, and so strong is the tint that in all probability "the man will die a bookbinder's green." Let us hope that this anticipation may not be realized, and that by dint of soap and water and persevarance in scrubbing, the closing volume of this and many more of a less disagreeable hue than the first; but in the mean time the case, as regards both the man and his wife, is almost beyond the range of human sympathy. At all events the tanner can hardly be so inconsiderate as to expect those politicians we wot of, whose colours have been altered by some process certainly not akin to falling into a tan-pit.

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE INDIAN FAMINE. — Singularly "blind" have been the telegrams vouchsafed in regard to the famine in India. Now we were told that it was "imminent," then that the rain had fallen in the distressed districts and the danger "averted," and again that the disaster was spreading, and so on from day to day. There can be no doubt now, however, that the facts are alarming enough, for assistance of relief has been organized by both the British and Indian Governments. On the other hand, the famine seems to be advancing with formidable strides. In Behar, we are told, distress is imminent, and in portions of Chittagong, Sylhet, North Tirhoot, and the adjoining portions of Bhagalpore, Monghyr, East Orjia, East Purnea, North Maldah, and half Dinagpore. That is to say, that already a tract of country of more than 200 miles in length is beginning to suffer. "Labourers and cultivators are crowding the relief works, and large sums paid task rates till the distress is severe. In Burdwan, Chota Nagpore, and Behar prices are higher than in 1866." On the whole, the conclusion of the English press seems to be that it is vain to be hopeful. There is now no more time for preparation. It depends, they say, on the use to which the Government have put the season of warning during the last few months whether they will now succeed or fail in their terribly difficult task.

HUMOURS OF THE ELECTION.

(BY A CANVASSER.)

No. 3.

GLASS.

"A transparent and impermeable substance exceedingly brittle when cool, but which by a high degree of heat is rendered so *flexible* and *tenacious that it may be drawn out into fine threads or wounded into any form.* The time when Glass was invented is very uncertain." It may be added that Glass himself is very uncertain, too, and that his value varies with the side he may lend.

The excellent definition in quotation marks is from the Penny Cyclopedia. There is a pleasure in holding the mirror up to Nature, in order that the mirror of Napoleon may see himself reflected there. When the Parliamentary mind was stirred with rights, wrongs, nations and the fortunes of the great government—against the objects of the Pacific Scandal and the poem Huntington, the office-seeker, Sir Young, the do-nothing Holton, and the serious Dorion, in lofty scorn of all things base and mean, lifted up their voices for the purging of the Province, David sang the *org* with noble enthusiasm, and forgetful of himself, or at least of his constituents, allied himself with the ingenious gentlemen who might have sat for portraiture to the immortal Fielding. Having been sent to represent a Conservative constituency by a large majority, a man of less ardent courage and of less indignant impulse be battle for the right, magnificent perhaps have thought that his constituents would ask the question of putting in a Grit Ministry, from his point of view, and so they didn't, and they gently invited the impulsive David to return to their booms and receive their welcoming embrace before his famous speech was dry in the columns of the *Globe*, or perhaps one may say before it was *dryer* than it was when it was delivered in his place on the floor.

David, with praiseworthy devotion to the public weal, and with distinguished zeal and patriotism, eloquently commended by the *Globe* and its partisans, declined to deprive the Dominion and himself of the value of his services, and continued to sit serene even when the storm raised at his recreancy (for so some evil-minded persons called his devotedness) was settled. Then came the great *G B.* into the Senate, then followed the order to disband the motley army, and then came a crash of *Glass*, which intimated that there was indeed "a bull in the China shop."

The further history of this melancholy event deserves something more touching than plain prose—which is suggested by the old dotish familiar to us from our dame school days:—

"As rains the glass,
Man's life doth pass."

The pitcher, when carried too oft to the well, The by cards lost fingers told last, From the gr-ap by one a unforeseen accident fell, And was dashed into atoms at last.

Full many a day did our David proceed Along ways that were never quite sure, Till precious and habit had vacinated the heed That made his first footsteps secure.

In fact he forgot that his nature was frail, He seemed by its name so much *Glass* him, And that he is fit for "adorning a tale," *But* there's no "point of" "moral" about him.

G. B. and A. M. are a pliable pair, And David was pliable in their hand, That words of seducti-on are thinner than air, And promises fade with the movers.

The fat went forth, a "Vermilion decree," From the *Fars* who ruled primly above them, And the Pedro-n of Reform and Liberty sang Tha na did not especially love them.

A victimized Parliament scourged from its seat, Might feel its way back as a bat could, But David, and others that it may concern, Will find it a little difficult.

Time's ivy-ly brought its revenges, no doubt, And short-sted some gentlemen's hopes, Glad Glass's constituents knocked him about, Tees dropped i-m, and smashed him to pieces.

Simply *Panurge*, who set an empire on a wall, Little knew what a fate was impending, Twas strangely into bits of glass's own fall, And tells its tale belle air sending.

Let's gather the fragments and bury them now, With the *Glass* as cold mortar to bind, The Ministerial people, I hope to show, Like new hats, are quite chaty and cheerful.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

(Continued from First Page.)

when they came into the House afterwards he insisted upon these words being inserted.

Mr. Boulter said it seemed that the Committee had been misled. He had been informed by somebody that the report was falsified. He was a member of that Committee, and he never intended him that the report was falsified, and he never dreamed to put any one in a false position. It was clear that no member of the Committee wished to put any one in a false position. The evidence was thoroughly discussed in Committee, and the intention was to make a report which would be unanimous, and not to falsify it, or put any one in a false position. His recollection was that Mr. McDonald moved those words in the resolution, and that Mr. Galbraith moved that the words be struck out. It was discussed for a minute or two, and the words "or during illness" were struck out. He recollected distinctly the member for South Ontario afterwards coming over to that side of the House and insisting that those four words should be restored. He had no idea that he asked to have them inserted. How was it he would ask, that he happened to hit those four words, if he had not seen them before? (Hear, hear.) They were in the original resolution, and he had a distinct recollection of their being struck out. He did not believe any member of the Committee wished to put the Commissioner of Public Works, or any one else, in a false position, but in the House matters had gone so far that they did not know what they had been doing when they adopted the report. So another report was brought in, stating that it was obviously untrue on the face of it, that the man Lowe was not in the employment of the Government at the time, though sworn evidence was on record that he was. The next phase of the matter was that the Chairman of the Committee was charged with something dishonorable himself, though he appeared to have acted with obvious fairness throughout, and he was pelted with telegrams from all parts, of which were in sympathy with the Commissioner of Public Works. He was charged in Grit papers with committing forgery. The imputation on which the Commissioner based the charge was impressed, though they had dragged it out of the member for South Ontario that he did make an explanation in 1869, which was, on the whole, the conclusion of the English press seems to be that it was worse to be honest. There is now no more time for preparation. It depends, they say, on the use to which the Government have put the season of warning during the last few months whether they will now succeed or fail in their terribly difficult task.

Mr. Rykert pointed out that Lewis had finished his work in Grey some time before, and was employed in Norfolk when he was brought to Toronto to go to Ottawa on a telegram from the member for South Oxford.

A somewhat long and animated discussion followed upon the Proton outrage, after which

Mr. Cameron said they had heard what had been said by the hon. member for South Ontario, the hon. member for Essex, and the hon. member for Hastings, those members composing that Committee. He wished to know if the Commissioner of Public Works was now prepared to withdraw his charge against the hon. member for Lincoln, that he had falsified the report of the Committee, or to name the gentleman who gave the information upon which he made the statement.

Hon. Mr. McKellar said he was quite prepared, after hearing the members of the Committee, to state that the chairman did not falsify the report in the sense of tampering with it after it was prepared; but from what those gentlemen had said, the report, if adopted, would certainly have a tendency to the very opposite from what the members of the Committee intended it should. (Oh, oh!)

Mr. Rykert said he thought the Commissioner should assure himself more fairly.

Hon. Mr. Mowat said he thought the hon. member for Lincoln should be satisfied with what had been already said.

Hon. Mr. Currie thought Mr. Rykert and the House should be satisfied with the statement that there had been no alteration of the report by the Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Boulton said this discussion taught them how far a member might be charged with having done something unfair and improper, and then called upon for satisfaction he could get in this House on the question being brought up. In his report, drawn by a Committee in which there was a majority of Government supporters, received every one with the view of its being put into a shape most favorable to the Government. The report to the House was unanimous, but after it had been made it was found that it had adhered to the evidence taken on the evidence, and some months afterwards it was discovered that it seemed to incriminate the member of the Government, and he was desired entirely to clear, and the bold idea was then conceived that the Government with a strong majority at their back, could overrule the report altogether. That was done in this House; and members of the Committee, the member for South Ontario particularly, said they did not know what they had been doing when they adopted the report. So another report was brought in, stating that it was obviously untrue on the face of it, that the man Lowe was not in the employment of the Government at the time, though sworn evidence was on record that he was. The next phase of the matter was that the Chairman of the Committee was charged with something dishonorable himself, though he appeared to have acted with obvious fairness throughout, and he was pelted with telegrams from all parts, of which were in sympathy with the Commissioner of Public Works. He was charged in Grit papers with committing forgery. The imputation on which the Commissioner based the charge was impressed, though they had dragged it out of the member for South Ontario that he did make an explanation in 1869, which was, on the whole, the conclusion of the English press seems to be that it was worse to be honest. There is now no more time for preparation. It depends, they say, on the use to which the Government have put the season of warning during the last few months whether they will now succeed or fail in their terribly difficult task.

Mr. Robinson could not see why bank stock should not be assessed as well as other personal property.

Mr. Prince supported the bill, especially with respect to bank stock.

Mr. McCall was opposed to the exemption of bank stock from taxation.

Hon. Mr. Mowat moved the adjournment of the debate. Carried.

The House adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

THURSDAY, Feb. 12.

Mr. Lauder on rising to move for an address for a return in reference to the distribution of the Municipal Loan Fund, remarked on the slowness of the Government in bringing down returns asked for, and hoped for more success with the one he was about moving for. Some time ago he had asked for a return in connexion with the Central Prison, but as yet the papers had not been brought down. In reference to the Municipal Loan Fund, if reasons were correct, the schedules were altered after the House had adjourned. If the newspapers were to be believed the plan of distribution had been altered. The *Globe* told them that those payments were to be made, in fact in one instance had been made, and this before the corrected schedule had been submitted to the House. He did not know how these payments were to be made. He felt that the Government were determined to carry on the business of the country without reference to the House. He proceeded to call the attention of the House to the letter from the Treasurer to Mr. McKim, dated 16th January, 1874, after Mr. McKim had been nominated of the House of Commons, and published in this morning's *Mail*. The House ought to know the reason why these changes were made, and why Mr. McKim's constituency was to be favoured. The Premier had promised to give the House an return but he had refrained from doing so. The Act of last session gave the Government power to correct clerical errors, but not to change the principle of the grants. He went on to refer to the difficulties of the Government in going on with their measures and bringing down returns. He explained by moving for a Return of copies of all Orders in Council passed during the year 1873, relating to the Municipal Loan Fund, and the Act of last Session relating thereto; all correspondence and telegrams between this Government and municipalities, the officers or other persons, regarding the settlement of the said Municipal Loan Fund and the said Act and schedules thereto; and a statement of all changes made in the schedules by the said Act of last Session since the same passed to a third reading.

Hon. Mr. Mowat complained of the constant appeals made by hon. gentlemen opposite. He denied that the Government had withheld any papers, and alleged that the House and the country knew that the Government were endeavoring honestly to do their duty.

After considerable, the motion was carried.

Mr. Lauder moved for a return of the amount had in his absence been made by the Commissioner of Crown Lands in reference to his retirement from his candidature for the Commons, in which the hon. gentleman had intimated that he had retired in consequence of pressure brought to bear by the Manager of the Northern Railway Company. He gave that statement a most emphatic denial. He was not connected with the Midland Railway in any way, but had been interested in its progress on account of his constituents. He had had no communication with the Government, or any member of the Government in reference to his retirement from the candidature, and had had no communication whatever with the President of the Midland Railway or any one connected with it, prior to its withdrawal. In fact the notice taken by the Midland Railway Company had lead to the severance of the friendly ties which had so long existed between them.

Mr. Cameron said the hon. gentleman was not named by him in connexion with the transaction. He had stated that an hon. member of this House had been a candidate for the representation of the County of Durham in the Commons, that about that time a gentleman connected with the Midland had been in communication with the members of the Government, and that a gentleman referred to had shortly after retired from the contest. If the hon. member said that a gentleman had been in communication between him and the manager of the railway, he would ask was it the withdrawal of the gentleman referred to that the hon. gentleman had in his absence been made by the Commissioner of Crown Lands in returns for his retirement from his candidature for the Commons, in which the hon. gentleman had intimated that he had retired in consequence of pressure brought to bear by the Manager of the Midland Railway? Perhaps the hon. gentleman was most emphatic denial. He (Mr. Cameron) was not connected with the Midland Railway in any way, but had been interested in its progress on account of his constituents. He had had no communication with the Government, or any member of the Government in reference to his retirement from the candidature, and had had no communication whatever with the President of the Midland Railway or any one connected with it, prior to its withdrawal. In fact the notice taken by the Midland Railway Company had lead to the severance of the friendly ties which had so long existed between them.

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