

CALENDAR FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 23, 1870.

SUNDAY, April 17.—EASTER SUNDAY. Franklin died, 1790. Brock's monument destroyed, 1840. Magdala burned, 1868.

MONDAY, " 18.—Easter Monday. First newspaper published in America, 1704. Abernethy died, 1831.

TUESDAY, " 19.—Easter Tuesday. St. Alphege. Battle of Lexington, 1775. Byron died, 1824.

WEDNESDAY, " 20.—Louis Napoleon born, 1808.

THURSDAY, " 21.—John Hampden born, 1594. Cromwell created Protector, 1653.

FRIDAY, " 22.—Demerara taken, 1796. Odessa bombarded by Allies, 1854.

SATURDAY, " 23.—St. George. Toronto Exchange inaugurated, 1856.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1870.

Sir Francis Hincks has been more than moderately successful in striking the *via media* on the tariff question. He has balanced opposition so evenly on either extreme that the free trade assault from the one side will be neutralised by the protectionist onslaught from the other; and the additional million or million and a quarter of dollars of taxes will be realised without much chance of any of his proposed changes in the tariff being altered by Parliament. There is no doubt a necessity for the slight increase in the taxes proposed, and it is safer to rely upon existing machinery for its collection than to devise new modes of taxation. Perhaps experience will prove that the most unsatisfactory concession he has made to the several interests beseeching him for protection is that to the "national" demand for import duties on coal and bread-stuffs. On the whole of these articles the estimated revenue is stated at \$200,000; but this represents but a small proportion of the extra cost which these duties will impose on consumers. The tax on coal, 50 cents per ton, may be roughly estimated at ten per cent. *ad valorem*; and that addition to the cost of an article entering so largely into the consumption of the household in nearly all the cities of the Dominion, and into so many important branches of manufacturing and mechanical industry throughout the country, will be found to involve a serious, and in some instances a burthensome outlay, for which the imports on cereals offer no compensation, but rather an aggravation of the burthen. On the other hand, the duty of 25 cents per barrel on flour is equal only to four or five per cent. *ad valorem*; but small as the charge is, it will come out of the pockets of the consumers of flour without going into those of the producers of wheat. It is admitted that on such articles as the country produces in excess of its consumption, the duty cannot raise the price paid to the producer; but it is no less certain that it must increase it to the consumer if, under its pressure, he is compelled to change his market. Thus if the western portion of the Dominion sells \$10,000,000 worth of bread-stuffs to the United States, and the eastern Provinces buy from the same quarter \$2,000,000 worth, and if the latter, by the operation of the tax, are driven to buy from the western part of the Dominion, it is clear that the \$8,000,000 worth still left for the American market will rule the price of the whole; and equally clear that the party buying, under constraint of the tariff, will have a higher price to pay. This tax on bread-stuffs, then, is equally a tax in favour of the Nova Scotia coal owners, because it is levied to force a return cargo. The only difference is that while the west will bear the heavy burthen of the coal tax, the east will bear the lighter tax on bread-stuffs, and the only interests thereby fostered are those of the coal owners and the shippers. They are both important elements in the national wealth, and we hope that these duties will so stimulate their development that they may soon be able to prosper without them.

The five per cent. additional upon the fifteen per cent. *ad valorem* rate is not a serious item; it only raises the tariff to 15½ per cent. But it is instructive as shewing the effect of this mode of raising revenue. The English brewers are indignant at a tax of 3d. per barrel on beer, because it is too small to charge to their customers; they want it repealed or raised. Now, the Canadian importer will have equal difficulty, perhaps, in charging ¾ of a cent to his customers, but instead of making a fuss about it he will call it one cent. It is at least generally believed that as a rule before an article reaches the consumer, the profits of the importer, retailer, &c., will have increased the sum paid on account of duty by twenty-five per cent. or more; and Sir Francis's three quarters per cent. addition seems to be made upon a due appreciation of this fact in trade.

With respect to the duty on salt, we believe the whole amount of capital invested in Canadian salt wells is less than half the value of a single years importation of the article; but it has been stated on behalf of the Govern-

ment that a drawback would be allowed on salt used for curing fish. How is this to be worked? Is not Canadian salt likely to be used for that purpose under this "protection?" And if so, where will the drawback come from? Liverpool salt enters largely into the curing of meats and fish, if it is not the only kind used for that purpose, so that this "drawback" proposition makes the tax more odious, and if put into operation will have only one of two effects—to cause confusion and disputes, or to give curers a premium for importing American salt; and in either case will tend to defeat the object for which this duty is ostensibly proposed—that of encouraging native salt manufacture.

Manufacturers as a whole are slightly favoured by the small addition to the general rate; as also by the difference of the mode of assessing packages, &c. There are also changes proposed in respect of certain raw materials, which will slightly favour certain branches of manufacturing industry. As an instance, Sir Francis Hincks is reported to have said in his speech that he "intended to add to the free list book-binders' mill boards and binders' cloth, for it was a hard case to make binders pay 15 per cent. upon raw material, while books were admitted at 5 per cent." We thoroughly agree with him in this. But if it is "a hard case" with respect to book-binders, how is it with the printers? Their "raw material"—paper—still bears a duty of 15 per cent., and printed books, pamphlets, and periodicals come in at 5 per cent. Is not the case of the printer and publisher just as "hard" as that of the book-binder? Yet, for the printer Sir Francis appears to have no sympathy. And, as we mentioned last week, with respect to stereotype and electrotype blocks—which are the printer's work finished all to the presswork—the case is surely still harder, for they are admitted free while the very type from which they have to be cast pays a duty of 5 per cent. This is discriminating against native industry with a vengeance. We do not ask a mite of "protection" for either the printer or the book-binder, but we do claim that the tariff ought not to discriminate against native and in favour of foreign labour; yet, in this particular it does so most glaringly; for while in most other manufactures it admits the raw material free and gives a margin of 15½ per cent.; in the case of the printer his principal raw material pays 15½ per cent. duty, and the manufactured article is admitted at five; or, if he adds to his establishment, as nearly all first-class offices have already done, stereotyping and electrotyping apparatus, he finds the material he has to use taxed and the manufactured article admitted free. These anomalies ought to be adjusted, and to that end only we have taken the trouble to point them out.

THE Red River difficulty is still the topic of earnest discussion, and something approaching to sensationalism is being made out of it by some of the western papers. The indignation meetings held at Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa, presided over by the Mayors of the respective cities, adopted emphatic, but well and temperately expressed resolutions, characterising in fitting terms the atrocious conduct of the Riel faction, and calling upon the authorities to take prompt and efficient measures for bringing the guilty to justice. Less than this would have shewn unpardonable apathy on the part of the people of Canada; but to go beyond these points, by threatening the perpetration of equally lawless aggression, ought to find no favour in the eyes of well disposed, law abiding citizens. Certain parties in Toronto, somewhat excusable perhaps because poor Scott was doubtless personally known to many of them, met and passed a resolution threatening to prevent the passage through Toronto of the delegates from the Fort Garry Convention on their way to Ottawa; and a second indignation meeting was held in the same city—the chief business of which was to throw the blame of the whole disturbance upon the Government. As a political party move such a proceeding will be utterly harmless, because the common sense of the people will be able to appreciate the motives prompting it; and the public judgment is little likely to be betrayed into lasting misapprehension, either as to the origin of the trouble, or its promoters. So far as the Canadian Government and the Canadian public were concerned, they had no means of forming a conclusion as to the extent of the rising until the season was too far advanced to take action against it; and they must still wait some weeks before the state of the country, through which the British and Canadian forces have to pass, will permit them to take the first step from Fort William towards the Territory. The official announcement, therefore, that a force would be thrown into the Territory with all convenient speed, and that the Queen's authority would be vindicated, ought to be held sufficient for the present, without too close a scrutiny as to matters of detail; for every statement touching proceedings in

Canada relating to Red River is telegraphed to St. Paul's the day it is made public; and in a week after, Riel and his crew have it at their service to guide them in forming their own plans. All that the people of Canada should insist upon is that the force be sufficiently large and sufficiently well equipped to guarantee success; and to this end the Government would do well to put little faith in the representations of those who assert that only a very small force is needed for the purpose. If some of these gentlemen had been more discreet and less enthusiastic, heretofore, the chances are that Canada would not have been placed in quite so awkward a plight as it is to-day over this Red River business. If the force is strong, well officered, and thoroughly equipped, there need be no fear of an early and satisfactory settlement; but if further paltering takes place, after the ground is ready for hostilities, the malady which one sharp incision would remove, may become a chronic sore.

Such information concerning the doings at the Settlement, the movements of the Delegates, &c., as have reached us, up to the time of going to press, will be found on another page.

SINCE the rumours of a Fenian invasion are again upon us we have a suggestion to make to our gallant friends the PAPAL ZOUAVES, who returned last week after two years of military life in the Eternal City. Should they not now come forward as a body and offer their services to the Government in defence of their country? Their devotion to the institutions of their native land and loyalty to their sovereign were highly commended in a letter from Rome, written by one of the English Bishops attending the Vatican Council; they have now an excellent opportunity of proving both by tendering their united services to the authorities. They are well disciplined and inured to military duty; we think there are reasons why they should not wait until they are asked to take the field, and we are sure, in case of trouble, their services would be valuable, and appreciated alike by their brothers-in-arms and the country at large.

The Montreal *Herald* thus tersely expresses the general sentiment on the engrossing topic of the day: "In fact, after the murder of Scott, no one ought to have been at Fort Garry, to treat with the murderer, except a policeman, or some other officer of justice." This remark is not sensational, though it is certainly sound. But the *Herald* should have remembered that Bishop Taché expressly declared that he did not return to the Settlement in any "official capacity." That he should have spoken words of peace, and have endeavoured to stem the torrent of angry passions when the first victim's blood was yet warm on the ground, was surely no crime even in a Bishop! He had no authority to execute judgment on Riel; but the sacred character of his office demanded of him that he should endeavour to promote the preservation of the peace, and this he did on his own commission, which is neither issued nor revised by the Canadian Government.

OBITUARY.

THE HON. M. H. FOLEY.

The Hon. Michael Hamilton Foley died suddenly at his residence, Simcoe, Co. Norfolk, Ontario, on the evening of the 8th.

Mr. Foley was a prominent member of the Reform party; and, though lately withdrawn from public life, his decease will be regretted by all who knew him. He was born in Sligo, Ireland, in 1819, and came to Canada with his father in 1832, where the family settled at Port Colborne. His brother, Bernard Foley, became Judge of the County of Haldimand, and died about seventeen years ago. Michael, after teaching school in the township of Louth, became editor, in 1845, of the *Simcoe Advocate*, a Reform paper, afterwards of the *Norfolk Messenger* and the *Brant Herald*, in all of which he did strong battle for the Reform cause. During this time also he studied law and became an attorney, and at a later period, barrister-at-law, practising with very considerable success in the Counties of Waterloo and Brant, and for some time also in Wellington. Mr. Foley was first returned to Parliament for the North Riding of Waterloo, at the general election of 1854. He was returned for both that Riding and Perth at the general election of 1861; but continued to sit for his old County. He accepted the office of Postmaster-General in the short-lived Brown-Dorion administration of 1858, and afterwards was appointed to the same office in the Macdonald-Sicotte Administration of 1862. He was left out of the Cabinet in the Macdonald-Dorion arrangement the following year and smarting under what he considered an act of injustice, he took office in the Tache-Macdonald Government in March 1864; but on appealing to his constituents was defeated by Mr. Bowman, the present member, whose canvass was warmly assisted by some of Mr. Foley's colleagues of the year before. Mr. Foley then disappeared from public life until the general election of 1867, when he offered himself as a candidate for the Commons in North Wellington and for the Assembly in North Norfolk and was defeated in both Ridings. Deceased was a talented warm-hearted Irishman, a fluent and ready public speaker, endowed with a keen