

THE INTERCOLONIAL ROUTE.

In an article on this subject the Halifax Reporter says:-

The lines that find most advocates are the Frontier, the Central to St. John, the Major Robinson and the Northern Central. The British Government will object to the Frontier line, on the ground that it is located too near the boundary line. The Dominion will object to it on national grounds—though the fact that it is located in the best position for competition with the line to Portland—that it would obtain a passenger and freight traffic from the State of Maine—that the distance is only 277 miles, of which 67 miles are already built—will probably obtain for it some degree of favor amongst the Commissioners of Ontario and Quebec. But while considered merely on commercial grounds, this line would suit the people of the two back Provinces, it would not suit the whole people of New Brunswick.

Perhaps it is the case that in the construction of all public works the common good is too little consulted, and too often made subservient to the benefit of a locality. The journal referred to consequently proceeds to advocate strongly the Central route through the heart of New Brunswick, though it is much longer than the Frontier line, and while it might afford more accommodation to the inhabitants of New Brunswick would be much more expensive and of less advantage to the Dominion as a whole. There is a difference of no less than 250 miles between the length of the Frontier line and that described by Major Robinson, the latter being 496 miles long. It is worth consideration whether 210 miles of railway should be built, on which there is a prospect of a moderate traffic, or whether one of much greater length should be constructed, much less important in a commercial point of view, but more generally satisfactory to the people of the Lower Provinces. Either of the routes spoken of will demand an enormous outlay before it is completed, and as there are complaints enough now—not unfounded—about the state of the finances and the heaviness of taxation it would certainly be no more than wisdom, and an exercise of that economy for which nearly every member not long since declared himself an advocate, to complete the work by the shortest route, and in that direction in which there would be a hope of the road, earning something towards paying its expenses. If the railway be under taken as an almost exclusively military and in but a small degree a commercial undertaking, then we would say that the idea is rather too magnificent and costly for Canada. It is generally acknowledged that there is some weight in the objection to the frontier line, that it could easily be destroyed or taken possession of by the troops of the States in the case of war with that power. But is such a greater expenditure as the choice of the longer route will make necessary warranted by this contingency? It would of course be a matter much to be deplored if we placed means at the disposal of the Americans which they might with ease use for our subjugation, but if it be brought to this we can no more look for safety from one line than from the other. It would be a question of a little longer time and a few thousands more men.

But while not venturing to decide a point involved in such perplexity we would strongly protest against the selection of the route being left entirely in the hands of the government. It is true that the Confederation Act urges the work, but measures prompt without being hasty will even yet suffice to meet the requirements. Reports have already been made and await a careful consideration. The question is certainly of as much moment as the settlement of the claims of the Hudson's Bay Company, which we have already seen has been taken out of the hands of the ministry so far as that an agreement which may be made with that corporation must receive the sanction of Parliament as a guarantee of its validity. To leave the settlement of the route of the Intercolonial Railway in the hands of John A. Macdonald and his followers would be to trust the outlay of a very large sum to men less noted for prudence than for subserviency to caprice, and overlooking the justice due to the West in order to gratify the prejudices of the East. Parliament alone has a right to decide on a question of such vast importance, and to Parliament it should undoubtedly be submitted.

Claim to the Abyssinian Throne. Some people appear to entertain the belief that the intention of the British government is not merely to chastise Theodore for his cruelty, but to wrest his dominion from him and bestow them upon whomsoever they will. Applicants are fast rising up and endeavoring to prove that they are themselves and nobody else, and that their great-grandfathers were next of kin to somebody whose throat had been cut, and who except for this accident should certainly have been King. Among the numerous applications is one from Rome, addressed to the Secretary of State, and signed "Fr. Alexander Ma. Marzara Bridgtower." In this letter the writer says that his maternal grandfather was born in England, and was the son of an Abyssinian gentleman, who, for private reasons, was compelled to leave his country. The son became a great favorite of George III., and was named by the king George Bridgtower. He says his great-grandfather was the rightful heir to the throne of Abyssinia. Paternal hatred and family misfortunes have deprived him of the means of proving his claim, but he is diligently seeking them at

see incontrovertible proof that his great-grandfather proceeded to Rome and kissed the Pontiff's foot, besides visiting London, Paris and Dresden. To this letter a reply has been sent by direction of Lord Stanley, acquainting Mr. Bridgtower that Her Majesty's government has no intention of interfering with the succession to the throne of Abyssinia.

ENGLISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF "DISRAEL" AND OTHER NOTABILITIES.

The chatty London correspondent of the New York Times writes: The present lobby of the House is a sort of hall in front of the doors. Here members' constituents wait to speak to them, or the curious stand to watch for the well-known men of the day. Last night, if the reader had been standing with me close to the door, he would have noticed a number of gentlemen straggling in, with healthy looking faces, high collars with a neckerchief tied round them, and a general look of country squires. They are for the most part the "country party" who obey the clever Mr. Disraeli. All kinds of men pass by, until the throng diminishes and the strangers begin to send their cards in to their acquaintances. As we begin to think of moving away there enters a gentleman buttoned up in a frock coat, with face full of lines and seams, a heavy, almost sad looking in the eyes, a yellow complexion, and thin curls just showing beneath his hat. He walks with one hand behind his back, his eyes bent upon the ground, a stoop in his shoulders and generally with the appearance of a rather dissipated man—except for the intensely thoughtful and intellectual look which dignifies the countenance. This is the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the great Mr. Disraeli himself, who is going to defend the policy of the Government, and who does not know how severely it may be assailed. For see, just at his back stands a portly and burly man, with whiskers and hair turning gray, but a pleasant, cheery look in his face. He lays his great fat hand on a friend's shoulder, and they crack jokes and "chaff" each other in high glee. This is Mr. John Bright, and it may be that he has come down to-night to "punish" the Government, and notably to scold yonder worn and abstracted gentleman who is entering the House. Worn, did I say? Yes; and you recall that man's history you will not wonder at the lines in his face. Think of the terrible fight that man has waged against the world for more than thirty years! Never, probably, in the history of politics has a public man been assailed so universally, so bitterly, so incessantly as Mr. Disraeli, who is disappearing through that door. What a dauntless spirit he carries beneath that apparently drooping form. We may believe what we please of his principles, but his genius and his courage—his unconquerable courage, his almost heroic resolution, we none of us, can refuse to admire. He looks old, and even feeble, (for a private sorrow has bowed him, but touch him in a vulnerable point, and the brightest fire will leap forth; the tongue will talk scorpions, happy phrases and epithets will flow like water, and he will make his most relentless detractors cheer him till they are hoarse—the sole influence of his eloquence. Think of the years that man has walked over this spot where we are now standing, defeated, abused, slandered, defamed, and to all appearance, with the great game of life completely lost; yet always wearing the same impassive, inscrutable look which we observed just now, always patient, and never for a moment cowed. He felt, it may be, that his day would come, and behold it has. This old Jewish looking man (I use these words because they exactly describe his appearance) is now Her Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer, the leader of the House of Commons, and altogether, I am inclined to think the foremost man in all Her Majesty's dominions.

And now there comes along one who would have been the foremost man if he could have kept his temper and ruled his tongue as skillfully as the sallow gentleman just gone. He, too, is deeply marked in the face with thoughts of anxiety, his hair and whiskers are gray, he looks old, he is dressed in black, and carries a thick blue-book under his arm—the Abyssinian blue book published by Government. This is Mr. Gladstone, Disraeli's most formidable antagonist; but still no match for that splendid master of repartee and fence. Is he going to make a speech to-night? Probably. Look now at this white-headed man who approaches, with heavy white eyebrows and the peering look of a near-sighted man. This is Hon. Robert Lowe, whose speeches against the bill are among the ablest ever made in Parliament. It is he who has advised the present rulers to "educate their masters." The shrewd and well-conditioned gentleman in the black frock coat near Mr. Lowe is Lord Stanley, and—I must stop. If I detain thus at the door of the House, we shall never cross the threshold, and I shall have missed my object in visiting the palace to-night.

Enter, then, the small chamber in which the Commons of England are seated together on a row of benches like people in the "parquette" of one of the theatres. They are jammed pretty close, and if any one wants to make a memorandum he must write it on his knee, and if he wants to put his hat down he must thrust it under his seat. Why cannot each member have a chair, like members of Congress? We will say nothing about the desks, because the House meets in the evening, and members would not want to do the business of the day at their desks. But proper room to sit down is not too much to ask for. Crowded as the benches are they will not hold more than half the members. The Speaker sits in an old-fashioned tall chair, with a green shade projecting from it, as if to protect him from a sunstroke. Probably the gas-light hurts his eyes; at any rate, this shade renders his countenance almost invisible from the gallery. To his right hand sit the Ministerial party, to his left the Opposition. On the front bench of the one are the Cabinet, on the corresponding bench of the other may be seen Mr. Gladstone and some of the chiefs of the Opposition. Below this set of benches is another set with a passage called the "gangway." The gentlemen who sit below the gangway are supposed to be independent of party—and there may be seen Mr. Lowe, Mr. Bright, Mr. Bernal and many others.

THE WRONGS OF THE WORKINGMEN.—One day last week, a starving girl in New York caused the arrest of her employer for refusing to pay her for making woolen pantaloons at 10 cents a pair, while he being a "middle man," received 60 cents for the work, and his wife kicked her out of doors because she demanded what was her just due. Like cases, but perhaps not so flagrant, are of frequent occurrence.

A superior lot of Axe Handles just in at John

New Advertisements.

CROWDED TO EXCESS.

THE Great Clearing Sale continues to attract an immense number of customers anxious to participate in the

Extraordinary Bargains

being offered. The store is daily crowded to excess, and an immense quantity of Goods have been sold to the entire satisfaction of the purchasers. The sincerity of this sale, when compared with "other sales," will never be questioned by the most skeptical. CALL AT ONCE.

Guelph, 20th Dec, 1867. A. O. BUCHAM.

CHRISTMAS.

THE subscriber, though unfortunately left to battle alone with the trade of Upper Wyndham Street, begs to assure the public that he is determined not to surrender, but will, as usual, keep a full supply of

GENERAL GROCERIES

Wines and Liquors, Crockery, China and Glassware, which he will sell as cheap as any house in the town.

Teas, Coffees, Sugars, Tobaccos.

Good Green and Black Teas from 50c. per lb., Green and Ground Coffees. SUGARS—Muscovada, Loaf, Ground and Crushed. First class Cheving and Smoking Tobaccos.

Fruits and Sauces for Christmas & New Year

ALL TO GO OFF CHEAP.

WINES AND LIQUORS

will be sold as low as the Tariff and Excise Laws of the Dominion will permit. Always good value for your money on Upper Wyndham Street.

Guelph, 21st December, 1867. JAMES MURPHY.

Advertisement for N. Croft's clothing store. Text includes: 'Canada Clothing Store', 'N. CROFT', 'At Prime Cost for Cash only.', 'Ready-made Clothing, Hats, Caps, Underclothing, &c.', 'No Second Prices. Call early and secure some of the bargains, as the whole stock must be sold. THIS IS NO HUMBOUR.', 'Guelph, Dec. 18th, 1867.', 'Canada Clothing Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph.'

The Rights of Woman. Horace Greeley has got into bad odor with the most enthusiastic of the female advocates of Woman's Rights as the forerunner of meeting, taken from the Tribune will show.—The friends of Woman's suffrage turned out on Saturday night to hear the pioneers of the great revolution, Miss Anthony and Mrs. Stanton, who have just returned from a triumphal tour through Kansas, where they succeeded in enlisting the sympathies of the Democracy in their behalf. After a few words by Mr. Train, Mrs. Stanton was introduced. She thought that what had been accomplished for woman in Kansas could be accomplished in every State of the Union. In Kansas woman votes for educational officers, and no license for the sale of rum can be granted until she speaks in favor of it. The result is that beautiful school houses are going up in every habitable part of the State, while whisky shops are coming down. Mrs. S. was very severe upon the original friends of the movement who had within a year or so refused to continue their support. She was very bitter in her denunciations of Horace Greeley for his report to the State Constitutional Convention. He who had been for more than 20 years the fearless friend of the cause—his first public champion, indeed—turned upon it at the very moment it most needed his aid, and refused to give it a good word. He is said to have given as his reason for this strange course that it was too revolutionary a movement for the nineteenth century, and that woman did not desire to vote. The speaker had never met a woman who understood the intimate connection between bread and ballot, who did not want the right to enjoy the right to the latter in order to gain a fair share of the former for her little ones and herself. Besides, it is not necessary to ask woman whether they wish to vote. Miss Anthony on being called for, said that Horace Greeley had done more than any open enemy to thwart the triumph of woman's rights. The effect of the Tribune editorials on the subject, which reached Kansas just before the election, exerted a powerful influence against the movement in that State. But in spite of Horace Greeley, and other weak-kneed reformers, Kansas gave 7,000 majority for woman's right to the ballot.

BATTILING ALONE.—Mr. Jas. Murphy advertises that he is left to "battle alone" with the trade of Upper Wyndham st. Many a person has been left to battle with a worse thing. We don't consider Mr. Murphy's case a hard one. He is prepared to answer the demands of all comers, and having been entrenched for a number of years we consider his position quite a secure one. The public should look in upon this heroic man and see how admirably he gets along, and see with what an excellent stock of groceries and liquors his fortification is supplied.

Advertisement for Ocean Steamship Co. Text includes: 'OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO.', '1867', 'GUELPH AGENCY', 'Steam to Liverpool, London and Glasgow.', 'Steamship MORAVIAN, Portland to Liverpool, 7th December, 1867.', 'Tickets to and from the Old Country, Passage Co. tickets to bring friends out, Return Tickets for six months, issued at reduced rates. State some secured, and every information given on application. Lasts for the voyage issued at the low rate of \$1 per 1,000 up to 16,000. Apply to GEORGE A. OXNARD, G. T. B. Guelph.'

Gift Books, Gift Books, Gift Books, Very Cheap, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Illustrated Books, Illustrated Books, Illustrated Books, Very Cheap, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Pocket Bibles, Pocket Bibles, Pocket Bibles, VERY CHEAP, At Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Wesley's Hymns, Wesley's Hymns, Wesley's Hymns, Very Cheap, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Church Service, Church Service, Church Service, VERY CHEAP, AT Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Hymn Books, Hymn Books, Hymn Books, Very Cheap, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Family Bibles, Family Bibles, Family Bibles, Very Cheap, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Boys, Juvenile Books for Boys, Juvenile Books for Boys, Very Cheap, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Girls, Juvenile Books for Girls, Juvenile Books for Girls, Very Cheap, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

TOY BOOKS, TOY BOOKS, TOY BOOKS, Utearable Books, Utearable Books, Utearable Books, Washable Books, Washable Books, Washable Books, VERY CHEAP, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

IN CHANGERY, Stewart vs. Kingsmill.

Four Corners' Hotel, ERASMUS ROAD.

Advertisement for a book or publication. Text includes: 'THE subscriber begs to acknowledge the payment in full of his claim against the Pullinch Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the loss sustained on the 5th July last, by fire, in the destruction of his dwelling House and contents. Absence from the Township prevented his publicly acknowledging earlier the prompt manner in which the Company paid his claim. JOHN CARTER, Pullinch, 17th December, 1867. w1'

Books for Xmas, Books for Xmas, Books for Xmas, VERY CHEAP, AT Day's Bookstore, OPPOSITE THE MARKET.

Ladies' Satchels, Gents' Satchel's, Wax Dolls, Fancy Goods, of every description. VERY CHEAP, at Day's Bookstore, Opposite the Market.

DAY BOOKS, LEDGERS, CASH BOOKS, JOURNALS, AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE, Opposite the Market.

THE OFFICE, of Henry Mulholland is removed temporarily to the READING ROOM OF ELLIS' HOTEL, Nearly Opposite the Old Stand. Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dw

G. A. D. C. FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE Guelph Amateur DRAMATIC CLUB! THE above Club will make their first appearance in the TOWN HALL, ON Monday Evening, Dec. 30th, On which occasion will be produced for the first time here George Almar's celebrated Drama, in two acts, entitled "The Charcoal Burner," or "The Drooping Well of Knariboro."

THE RED MILL, THE subscriber having put a steam engine in his Mill, farmers bringing in their Grists can rely on having them ground the same day. Chopping done every day. FLOUR AND FEED FOR SALE AT THE MILL. GROUND PLASTER for sale at the Mill, and also at his Old Stand, near the Railway Crossing. GEORGE BALKWILL, Guelph 19th December, 1867. dw2m

NEW SHOP, SMITH & METCALF, BEG to inform their customers and the public that for the present they have opened a shop in the premises Two doors North of the Post Office, next door to Mr Coffee's Hotel, where they will be prepared, as usual, to supply all articles in their line. The stock saved from the late fire will be sold at reduced prices. SMITH & METCALF, Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dwif.

ALL Persons trespassing on or removing earth or sand from the unsold portions of the property known as "The Kingsmill Survey" will be vigorously prosecuted. PALMER & LILLIE, Plaintiff's Solicitors. Guelph, 18th December, 1867. ds

CARD OF THANKS, THE subscriber begs to acknowledge the payment in full of his claim against the Pullinch Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the loss sustained on the 5th July last, by fire, in the destruction of his dwelling House and contents. Absence from the Township prevented his publicly acknowledging earlier the prompt manner in which the Company paid his claim. JOHN CARTER, Pullinch, 17th December, 1867. w1'

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