

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1893

Monday's Ottawa address informs us that Hon. Neil McLeod, Leader of the Opposition in the Legislature, was, on Saturday appointed county Court Judge for Prince County. We congratulate Mr. McLeod on this honor and congratulate the people of Prince County on having for their Judge a man of such sterling qualities. We feel sure Mr. McLeod will fill his judicial office with marked ability and discharge the duties thereof with the greatest fidelity and efficiency. At the same time we deeply regret that the Liberal Conservative Party in the Legislature are to be deprived of his counsel and leadership. Mr. McLeod has occupied a seat in the Legislature and represented this city for the past fourteen years, and during all those years, whether in the Government or Opposition, his record has been such that no one dares question his sterling integrity. We trust he may be spared for many years to grace the judicial seat.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

In another column will be found the Speech with which the Administration of the Government opened the present session of the Legislature. It is certainly an extraordinary document. Remarkable, not so much for what it contains as for what it omits. It is true that it is not now the custom to forego the Speech from the Throne, all the important legislation intended to be introduced by the Government; but, in all conscience, the public expect it to contain something of a definite nature. This Speech, however, is about as void of definite as could well be imagined.

The Speech congratulates the people of the Province on the fair return which has followed the efforts of the agriculturists in the year that is past. It is satisfactory to find that the Government are willing to concede that our agriculturists have received a fair return from their labors, while their friend, Mr. L. H. Davies is almost working himself into hysterics in the House of Commons, in his effort to impress upon his hearers that the farmers of this Province are reduced to beggary. Both cannot be telling the truth, and we leave the question of veracity to be settled between them.

Satisfaction is expressed at the progress our farmers are making in the manufacture of cheese and other dairy products. It is indeed most pleasing to know that our farmers are thus progressing, and that the future is full of hope. But it is not apparent that the Local Government are entitled to much credit for what has been done in these matters. The Dominion Government deserve the praise and thanks of the farmers, for the manner in which they have encouraged, initiated and fostered these industries. They assumed the responsibility, and sent their dairy Commissioner to instruct the people, and a practical dairyman to superintend the operations.

A paragraph of the Speech is devoted to expressing pleasure at the success of the Provincial Exhibition of last year. The improvement in the live stock exhibited seems to afford particular gratification. If all accounts be true, what the Government have done for the improvement of their live stock does not particularly reflect to their credit. Their cattle importations seem to be limited to a bull and a cow of uncertain age. It is said, indeed, that were they not otherwise disqualified they would be old enough to vote at the next election. Another paragraph is devoted to praise of the road-making machine, of which we have heard so much, and the hope is expressed that a number of these machines may be employed in the future.

On two questions only does the Speech intimate that measures will be submitted to the Legislature for consideration. One of these is "to reduce the cost of legislation in this Province." This, no doubt, will be of a nature somewhat similar to the amalgamation-gerrymander bill of last session. When it is presented we shall have occasion to refer to it. The other bill promises in the Speech to be of a more important nature, and is, at present, attracting a great amount of attention. No doubt the people will be glad to learn that the Premier and his colleagues in the Government have become so impressed with the value of international trade that they are determined to do what they can to inaugurate a reform in this respect.

We have received a copy of Charles Mackenzie's address, published recently at Charlottetown, N. S., by Mr. Mackenzie. It is a very interesting and valuable work, and one which we are sure will be read with interest by all who are interested in the history of the Province.

SESSIONAL NOTES.

We are pleased to see Mr. Orombiano more on the editorial staff of the House of Assembly. He is a good reporter and may be relied upon to do his work well.

The first debate of the session took place on Friday last, and it was to take it as a criterion here is to be some hot work before proposition. The Premier and his allies made an aggressive start, but if they did they received a Roland for an Oliver every time. The Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Shaw poured such hot shot into the Government ranks that we feel sure the latter were pleased when a truce was called by adjourning the debate.

The first brush was on the motion to accept the tender for printing the debates. Mr. Underhill, a member of the Opposition, said that although he had signed the report, he did not think the expenditure of so much money annually for the publishing of the debates was necessary or of any great utility. Dr. Jenkins, a member of the Government, thought there were many reasons, especially under the present manner of carrying on the Government, why the report might be dispensed with. For instance, the most important questions of the session were discussed with closed doors. On the other hand the members of the Government were so much given to denying their former assertions, that the printed report of their speeches, served to convict them.

The address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was moved by Hon. H. C. McDonald. He took occasion to refer not so much to what the speech contained as to what it did not contain. From trade, road-making machinery and prohibition, he warmly eulogized by him. He spoke of reducing the cost of legislation and intimated that the Government would not tax the people till the claims of the Province against the Dominion were settled. He was proceeding to dilate upon the reserved bill when the Premier whispered something in his ear that put the quietus on him. Mr. Montgomery seconded the address in a moderate speech.

The Leader of the Opposition made a brief and pointed speech. After congratulating the mover and seconder, he said it must be satisfactory to hear the Government supporters declare that the farmers were prospering. After all the blue ruin stories from that party, such an announcement was a revelation. He made a home thrust when eulogizing Professor Robertson for what he had done and was doing for our cheese factories. Some one from the Government benches said Robertson was a Grit. "No matter," said Mr. McLeod, "he is paid and sent here by a good Conservative Government." His references to the Government's stock importations were extremely amusing. They had imported a thirteen year old bull, and a ten year old cow, and stopped at that. The deplorable condition of those parts of the public highway that had been operated upon by the road-making machine was graphically described to the House.

One would naturally expect that the bearing as well as the utterance of Ministers of the Crown, when addressing the Legislature, would be characterized by a decorum befitting their office, and that no undue advantage would be taken of the privilege they enjoy, for the purpose of vilifying those not in a position to defend themselves. It is to be regretted that Premier Peters, on this occasion, seemed to have lost sight of these facts. His speech lacked dignity and was largely made up of abuse of Mr. Donald Ferguson. Mr. Ferguson is not in the House to defend himself, and when he did occupy a seat there Mr. Peters could not attack him with impunity. The ostensible cause of his wrath was the fact that Mr. Ferguson had written some letters in the newspapers relative to the political situation. Now, if the Premier wanted to meet Mr. Ferguson on equal ground, he, too, might have had recourse to the public press. But before the debate was over, we have no doubt, the Premier would have preferred that some of his remarks had remained unsaid.

It was after 9 o'clock when Mr. Shaw took the floor; but he was not long speaking when it became quite evident that his canoodling was proving disastrous to the Government ranks. His volleys pierced the Premier's armor in the most vulnerable points, and he witnessed and noted the onslaught. He took Mr. Peters severely to task for his unwarranted attack on Mr. Ferguson, who was not in the House to defend himself, and reminded the Premier that Mr. Ferguson had been twice elected to the House of Assembly, while he (Mr. Peters) was twice rejected by Charlottetown, his native district. He pointed out that notwithstanding all the promises of the Government, no travelling duty had been established. He exhibited a map of the proposed government of last year, and, to the intense amusement of the House, described the outlines of the new Georgetown district. The Government's prohibition, said he, compared to a man reproving sin. He thought the Government's notion of doing away with whisky was not the same as that of the Opposition. The road-making machine, so far as his district was concerned, had been worse than a failure. Referring to the Stock Importation, he said the principal animal raised there during the last year was a blind calf with the tail on the middle of his back. Taking

up the abominable of the Premier that he thought of putting the heads of the Opposition and of Hon. Donald Ferguson on the debentures, only it might have the effect of injuring the credit of the Province, Mr. Shaw thought it might be more disastrous to the Provincial credit to have the anecdotal credit of arms of the Premier himself put on them, as the latter device might cause the many leaders to have a rather low estimate of our civilization. It was quite evident, from the suppressed murmurs of applause from the throng in attendance that popular feelings were with Mr. Shaw.

The debate on the address was concluded on yesterday afternoon, when the house went into committee on the same, and reported it back agreed to. While in committee Mr. Shaw moved an amendment to the third clause which refers to the manufacture of cheese and other dairy products. The amendment was to the effect that it was "through the assistance and fostering care of the present Federal Government" these industries were making such satisfactory progress in this Province. Mr. Shaw supported his motion with an excellent speech. It was seconded by Hon. Mr. Gordon in a brief, eloquent and witty speech. This was a most reasonable amendment giving credit where credit was due; but the Government refused to accept it. The Government's unwillingness to do so was the subject of the Premier's speech. He said that the Government was not in the habit of giving credit to the Dominion Government for their efforts in behalf of our farmers, and voted against it. The amendment was again put when the speaker took the chair, and the House divided. The vote stood 14 for the amendment and 15 against it. Dr. Jenkins voting with the Opposition. It will thus be seen the Government carry on their legislation by a majority of one.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

The Provincial Legislature was opened by Hon. W. Sullivan, Administrator of the Government, with all the pomp and splendor attending a Provincial Session. The Speech from the Throne was as follows: Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislature: It is my duty to lay before you the Speech from the Throne of the Dominion Government, which has just been received. It is a most interesting and important document, and one which I trust will be read with interest by all of you. The Speech congratulates the people of the Province on the fair return which has followed the efforts of the agriculturists in the year that is past. It is satisfactory to find that the Government are willing to concede that our agriculturists have received a fair return from their labors, while their friend, Mr. L. H. Davies is almost working himself into hysterics in the House of Commons, in his effort to impress upon his hearers that the farmers of this Province are reduced to beggary. Both cannot be telling the truth, and we leave the question of veracity to be settled between them.

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When these were tabled, and the return for which they intended being supplied was not made, the Premier complained that the House of Assembly was not doing its duty. He said that the Government should be given any credit for anything it had done for this Province. It is general to credit for what was done in the cheese industry. He said that the Premier had done more for the cheese industry than any other man in the Province. He said that the Premier had done more for the cheese industry than any other man in the Province. He said that the Premier had done more for the cheese industry than any other man in the Province.

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MARCH, 1893.

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SEED CATALOGUE FOR 1893

A MONG other valuable features of our Seed Catalogue for 1893 is one which renders it especially valuable to Stock Raisers and Cheese Factory patrons. This is a treatise written expressly for the Catalogue by Prof. George Harcourt, B. S. A., entitled "Fodder Corn and the Silo." Prof. Harcourt's valuable article deals fully with the subject, giving just the information for which the farmers of the Island are asking, viz: "Suitable Varieties," "Preparation of the Land," "Planting," "Cultivation," "Cutting," "Building the Silo," "Size and Cost of Silos," and "Filling the Silo." With this treatise the farmer who wants to grow Fodder Corn, either for Green Fodder or the Silo, finds his way made plain and easy. Mr. Bennett's sketches are always clever and to the point. The Catalogue contains two of the best, drawn and engraved expressly for this purpose, they are entitled, "Survival of the Fittest," and "Wheat from Regina." Our Catalogue for 1893 contains 42 large pages, printed on fine paper with blue and red ink, finely illustrated, with as well as a valuable compendium of information on all that has to do with the Farm and Garden. A copy will be sent free to all our customers and to any farmer or gardener writing to us for it, as long as the supply lasts. Address:

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