

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 12, 1899.

SIR HIBBERT TUPPER'S CHARGES.

There is something significant in the vehement manner in which the Conservative newspapers have endeavored to back up Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper's second batch of Yukon charges. The Montreal Star called upon the governor general in a four column wide article, with scathing headings, to immediately dissolve parliament, while several other party organs made equally silly demands. A case which requires treatment of that character is manifestly weak. The people of Canada are not blind, even though a majority of them may be favorably to the general policy of the government, and if they considered that a great wrong had been perpetrated by Sir Tupper they would certainly see to it that retribution fell where it was deserved. There would be no need for all this frantic shouting.

Nothing is clearer than that Sir Hibbert has suffered a serious loss of prestige. As an ex minister of justice and an experienced parliamentarian he knew very well what he was doing. He knew that he was framing a lot of charges of such a character and in such a way that they could not be made the subject of a judicial investigation, and he put the stamp of challenge on the whole proceeding by offering to risk his seat on this issue. It is a fixed principle in the British system of representative government that parliament deals with all charges against its members, and from this tribunal there is always an appeal to the people. A partisan parliament might shield a guilty minister; but it could only thereby delay the day of reckoning. The people would ultimately pronounce their judgment.

The Tory papers, particularly the Sun, have taken it for granted that a series of very grave personal charges have been made against the minister of the interior. This is an unwarrantable assumption. There were only two items in Sir Hibbert's massive bill of fare which could be made to apply directly to the minister. These were, first, that Mr. Sifton's former law partner had been granted a number of dredging leases and, second, that Mr. Ogilvie, who had been appointed to investigate Yukon affairs, was married to a aunt of the minister's wife. As to the first, it was clearly established that while Mr. Sifton's former partner had applied for several dredging rights he had been refused, although it will be seen that he had quite as much right to get them, both legally and morally, as anybody else. As to the second charge, it is too trivial to be considered seriously. Mr. Sifton has never seen his wife's aunt, and he only saw Mr. Ogilvie's once. Mr. Ogilvie is a man of irreproachable probity; he is thoroughly independent of the government, he has a high reputation to sustain before the world, and it is scarcely likely he would be disposed to sacrifice his good name for the sake of favoring the husband of his wife's niece.

A parallel proposition to that which Sir Hibbert put forward would be for a member of parliament to suggest that a bench of judges should decide whether or not the Liberal government at Ottawa ought to give place to a Conservative administration. That would be all right as a novel and fancy experiment; but the civilised world, accustomed to proceed upon safe and established principles of government, would laugh at us if we tried it in Canada. Such a method of

deciding between parties would at least have the virtue of saving the cost of a general election—and the Conservatives are now manifesting a very deep concern in all that appertains to economy—but it would be leaving the people quite denuded of their political rights. These rights having been won by many long and bloody struggles, it would scarcely be surprising if a majority of the people should object to parting with them in order to gratify the caprice of a discredited political minority.

One of Sir Hibbert's most bitter allegations was against Judge Dugas, although he knew perfectly well that a process of impeachment was the only manly and proper course to pursue with respect to such an officer. Sir Hibbert has since received the most effective reply possible from a source which he cannot very well repudiate. Nearly all of the charges which Sir Hibbert presented to parliament were clipped bodily from the Klondyke Nugget, which paper has been arrayed in an attitude of fierce hostility to the government. A few days after Sir Hibbert's speech the editor of the Nugget, Mr. A. F. George, arrived at Vancouver. He immediately expressed the deepest regret at Judge Dugas' name being dragged before parliament. He said: "I want to say right here that the judge's record up there is above reproach or even the breath of suspicion. He has earned the admiration, respect and esteem of every man with whom he has been thrown in contact. Sir Hibbert has been badly misled in this case."

Very naturally the Conservative papers have given great prominence to the criticism of the London Times on the refusal of parliament to grant a judicial inquiry into Sir Hibbert's charges. The Times referred in exceedingly moderate terms to the matter, and frankly declared that parliament had taken the constitutional course. At the same time, the opinion was expressed that a judicial investigation ought to take place. This is precisely the course that has been taken. Mr. Ogilvie is vested with even wider powers than a judge could exercise in the ordinary way, and he has reported that the charges against the official in the Yukon have been shown wholly without foundation. It was Miss Flora Shaw, the correspondent of the Times, who first gave publicity to the complaints of miners in the Yukon, and it is not surprising that she should still be moved by the impressions that were then made upon her mind. Since that time, however, Mr. Ogilvie has made a most searching inquiry.

MORE ABUSE OF MR. BLAIR.

The Halifax Herald of Thursday published the following Montreal despatch under a suitable heading:—
Another of Sir Blair's attempts to take trade away from Halifax, has come to light. It appears the minister of railways and canals is pressing his colleague for a subsidy for the Trans-Canada railway, promising to extend the same down the St. John river to St. John, the length of road to be built from Edmonton, 200 miles. The trade is to come into St. John over the Central, and as a sop to the Nova Scotia members a branch will be constructed to Moncton. The above despatch is intended exclusively for Halifax circulation. The St. John Sun, which chips in with the Herald in its Ottawa correspondence and other matters does not publish it. It would not be much of a recommendation to the Sun if it attacked Mr. Blair for promoting the construction of a railway which would be certain to bring trade to this port. The idea of a railway from Edmonton through the centre of this province is by no means new; it was discussed at least ten years ago, and there cannot be a doubt that some day it will be carried out. The country through which it is to pass is greatly in need of railway facilities, and indeed can never be turned to profitable account until a railway is built through it.

MR. DALBY HEARD FROM.

The TELEGRAPH has received a circular letter from Mr. Henry Dalby enclosing a summary of Sir Hibbert Tupper's charges against certain Yukon officials. This summary would make about two columns of the TELEGRAPH, and Mr. Dalby is very anxious that we should publish it. As the TELEGRAPH is a newspaper, and not an organ for the dissemination of slanders, we fear that we shall not be able to comply with Mr. Dalby's request, but we are glad to learn that he is still alive and kicking, and that although he has vacated the editorial chair he still regards himself as a censor of public morals. Mr. Dalby, we may explain, was formerly editor of the Montreal Star and resigned that position to become organizer for the Conservative party in the province of Quebec. Shortly afterwards the Star contained a large picture of Mr. Dalby and Sir Charles Tupper in conversation in the lobby of the house of commons, and any person could see by the expression of

the Cumberland baronet's face that he was receiving the shocks of wisdom that fell from Mr. Dalby's lips with great humility. Now that Sir Charles has been braced up by Mr. Dalby to proper degree of tension, so that he will vibrate, so to speak, to the great Dalby's slightest touch the latter is trying to tune up the Conservative organs in a similar fashion. We fear, however, that Mr. Dalby in them very bad material to work upon. Still a man who has been bold enough to undertake to find a Conservative party in the province of Quebec may do something even with the Conservative press. We would respectfully suggest, as a beginning and a very essential reform, that Mr. Dalby would persuade the editor to tell the truth about public matters occasionally. When they have learned this lesson their readers may sometimes believe what they say which is never the case at present.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK MAGAZINE.

The July number of the New Brunswick Magazine has been published and presents an excellent appearance. This is the first number of the third volume, so that this magazine may be said to have already proved its usefulness and its ability to live. There seems to be no doubt that the magazine may already be considered on a good financial footing. The present number opens with a paper by the Rev. W. O. Raymond, entitled: "The Contest for Sebasteisagann." This was the Indian name of what we now call the Marsh, and the contest was one between James Simonds on the one side and William Hase and James White for that fine piece of territory. When dealing with the first English settlers of St. John we are apt to think of them as a united and harmonious community, but as a matter of fact Simonds and White and Hase indulged in the luxury of a lawsuit which lasted for about a quarter of a century and made them very bad friends. The story of this lawsuit, and a very interesting story it is, is told by Mr. Raymond in his usual clear and graceful style. It is a most original paper on the Portland Point settlement which ran through the magazine for a whole year and formed one of its most interesting features. We hope that Mr. Raymond will be able to place this valuable historical material in a more permanent form, and thus win the reward of his arduous labors as a pioneer in this field. He should make an effort to do so, for he does not know how much his material would be of value to a writer who knows no more about history than a horse, and possibly a valuable prize granted to another for the work which he has done. This has been done before in this province and may be done again.

Mr. Hase announces his articles on the French Acadians, this being the ninth of the series. The name dealt with in this article is Malanson. The first Malanson in Acadia came from Scotland if tradition is to be trusted. If so he was one of Sir William Alexander's Scotch Rangers. The story of an Emigrant is told by "Historicus" and Mr. W. M. Jordan contributes Recollections of the first Malanson, a son of New York and The Genesis of New Brunswick are valuable contributions to our early history, but the names of their authors are who give them. Cook and Adams is the title of another anonymous article, which deals with the story of the two men. Neither John Hancock nor Samuel Adams was what would be regarded at the present day as an admirable character, the first being a smug, self and notorious violator of the revenue laws and the other a defaming tax collector. These are the kind of men who are the backbone of the Tory party.

TUPPER'S MISTAKE.

Every day is bringing to light more evidence of the blunders of Sir Hibbert Tupper in connection with his Yukon charges. His attack on Judge Dugas, which was wholly baseless, was promptly resented by some of the very persons whom he thought he was pleasing by bringing up the Yukon charges and now a number of respectable residents of Dawson City have written to the Mail and Empire, the chief organ of the Conservative party in Canada, denying most emphatically the charges made against the former Yukon officials Wade, Norwood and McGregor. The letter is as follows:—

We, the undersigned Conservatives of Dawson, who were much surprised at the nature of the personal charges which have been made in parliament against former officials Wade, Norwood and McGregor. We have known these gentlemen for the past year, and have been on the spot at the time, and have never even heard of most of the accusations which have been made against them until they appeared in newspapers which we have just received from the outside. We characterize these charges as unjust and in most cases outrageous and absurd, and regret to see the line of action taken in the house. The people of this territory have many real grievances which we would like to have considered and rectified as quickly as possible, but they have no sympathy with a movement, the object of which appears to be a desire on the part of certain persons to blacken the character of officials.

Messrs. Wade, Norwood and McGregor, who are thus denounced by seven of the leading Conservatives of Dawson City, were bitterly attacked by Sir Charles Tupper and accused of all manner of crimes. It appears that in this instance, as has been customary with the Tupper, Sir Hibbert merely resorted to his old game of abuse and slander without having any cause whatever for his charges except his own evil imagination.

THE LOSS OF THE PARIS.

Capt. Watkins, of the American liner Paris, which was recently stranded off the French coast, owns up like a man that he was wholly responsible for the loss of that vessel and that he made an error in his calculations and overran his distance some sixteen miles. Capt. Watkins has had his certificate suspended for two years, a severe punishment, but one probably not greater than the fault of which he was guilty. His punishment is very different from that of the captain of the Warwick who had actually over-run his course about twenty-five miles when his ship went ashore in plain view of the three light houses. The captain of the Warwick was so careless that the good name of the Bay of Fundy has so frequently been injured, but the American authorities are apparently determined that a man who is placed in charge of a large battleship should be obliged to use at least ordinary precautions to secure the safety of his vessel. The whole case illustrates the fact, which we have frequently maintained, that there is less care employed in the navigation of ocean steamships than the public imagination looks as if it should be. It is dangerous to often leads to contempt of them.

The Toronto Globe points out that although the Conservative organs and the party leaders make a great outcry when any charge of wrongdoing is brought against a Liberal in connection with an election they take great pains to ridicule and denounce as absurd any similar charges that are brought against Conservatives. We quote Sir Hibbert Tupper's principal business this session when not engaged in making speeches on the Yukon, has been to cast discredit on the proceedings which brought these battleship studies and finger-pointing artists to justice. What assistance, too, did the cause of fair elections receive from the independent press when these friends were unseated, or when the first South Ontario election was exposed in the courts? Does anyone remember any great Liberal in that quarter on these occasions? With the one exception of Mr. Robertson, the member for East Toronto no Conservative member of parliament has expressed his detestation of the most audacious attack on fair elections that this country has known, or protested against Sir Hibbert Tupper's persistence of those who laid the rails by the heels. In view of all this, it is remarkable that the Liberals should feel a certain sense of resentment when they find that it is only when a Liberal is elected by improper means that the Liberal wave rises to portentous heights.

We mentioned the other day the disappointment that was felt in the imperial family of Russia owing to the fact that the Czarina had had three daughters in succession but no son. Now the news comes that the Grand Duke George, the brother of the Czar and the heir presumptive to the throne of Russia is dead. This prince has been in poor health for a long time and therefore his death has not been unexpected. His place as heir presumptive will now be taken by his brother the Grand Duke Michael who will not be two or three months old. This prince will now be required by reasons of state to get married so as to secure the succession for the future of the late Czar, Alexander III. The Russian throne, however, is in no danger of suffering for lack of heirs, for four brothers of the late Czar survive: Vladimir, Alexei, Sergius and Paul, while the Grand Duke Michael, brother of Alexander III, is living and has many descendants.

Many people will feel a sense of relief at the discovery which it is claimed has been made by Dr. Lambert Lack, a London surgeon, that cancer is not a germ disease, but is ways due to a specific injury to the basement membrane of the mucous membranes and allied structures. Dr. Lack produced a cancer in animals by inflicting such injuries. It is said that his theory has been accepted as conclusive by a committee of the Pathological Society. For a long time cancer was regarded as a hereditary disease, but this belief no longer prevails among surgeons. This last discovery with regard to the disease will tend to show that it can be avoided by due care of those parts of the body where it most frequently prevails.

The Conservative organs are just now showing the world what nice, fair minded representatives of their party they are. If Sir Wilfrid Laurier had refused the inquiry into the alleged election irregularities in Brockville and West Huron, such a howl would have gone up from the Tory ranks as has never been heard before, and the premier would have been told that he was afraid to let the inquiry go on. Now that he has agreed to the inquiry, he is being abused by every organ in the country, and it is that he did not dare to refuse the inquiry. Can any one suggest what course of conduct would win the approval of the Tory reptiles?

Mr. Paul Kruger, although he showed a remarkably bold front for a long time and hurled defiance at the British government, has apparently concluded with Felsaiff that the better part of valor is discretion, and made up his mind to yield to the demands made upon him. That need not be the result of the negotiations that have been going on between the British authorities and the government of the Transvaal and it is well that the differences have been ended in this peaceful fashion.

The peace congress at the Hague seems to be making some progress, although the outcome of its deliberations is likely to be something very different from what the Christians intended. The very fact that a tribunal of arbitration has been created, although it is not obligatory on any nation, will put a limit to its decisions, will put a

moral pressure upon the belligerent powers which will not be able to resist. With such a tribunal in existence a nation going to war without reference to it, would be looked upon in the wrong and afraid to submit its claims to arbitration. The public opinion of the world would condemn such conduct, and no nation would care to incur the odium involved in such a course.

The attack which Col. Prior made on the government Friday for encouraging the Donkshobors to come to Canada will not gain that person much credit among those persons who have seen appointment to the house which is now the subject of the Donkshobors have impressed every person who saw them most favorably, for they are genuine Christians and practice what they preach, which is more than can be said of some much more fashionable people. Such industrious, honest and truthful settlers as the Donkshobors cannot fall to be of the greatest use to Canada. We only hope that, when they cease to live in communities, as they now do, and mingle with the rest of the people they may retain their peculiar virtues.

The death of Senator Sanford by drowning at Windermere, Muskoka, yesterday, creates another vacancy in that body and gives the Liberals one more claimant to the house which is now the subject of the Donkshobors. Mr. Sanford was sixty-one years of age, and was very prominent in Hamilton life. He was called to the senate in 1887.

The prompt acquiescence by the premier in Mr. Borden's motion for an inquiry into the alleged irregularities in the Brockville and West Huron elections was very far from being pleasing to the opposition. They were looking for a grievance and not for an investigation. However, they got what they asked for, and it remains for them to make the most of it.

It seems that there is no agreement yet between Great Britain and the United States with reference to the Alaska boundary, even of a temporary character. Our esteemed friends on the other side of the line want the earth, but they will hardly get it all this year.

The Sun in a long and violent article which it published Friday, maintained that the dominion government is responsible for the frauds committed in the West Elgin provincial election. The article was a masterpiece of lying and reads credit for much intelligence.

Deaths and Burials.

On Saturday morning the funeral of Miss Margaret A. Monahan was held from the residence of Mrs. George S. Thompson, Adelaide road. At St. Peter's church high mass of requiem was celebrated. Interment took place in the new Catholic cemetery. There was a large gathering of friends.

There were 10 burial permits issued last week. The causes of death were diabetes and cancer two each, and burns, senile decay, pernicious anaemia, cerebral softening, cerebral hemorrhage and phthisis pulmonalis one each.

Mrs. B. J. Fritz, wife of Capt. E. J. Fritz of St. John, died recently at Montreal, Canada, where she was visiting. She was in her 25th year and had been married but two months.

The remains of Mr. Charlotte M. Morrison of Black River were interred Saturday afternoon in the Church of England burying ground.

The late Mrs. David Bradley, the death of whom took place Sunday of congestion of the brain, was the wife of David Bradley, of the firm of Bradley Bros., who survives her. She was a daughter of the late Gen. Deane. She leaves behind one daughter, the wife of John Stewart, jr., of the I.C.R., Moncton, and a son, D. Bradley, jr., of this city, also a sister, Mr. Francis E. of Paradise Bay.

Quite Badly Hurt.

Mr. Thomas Shaw was quite badly injured by the explosion of a dynamite cartridge at Kingsville Saturday evening. He was working at getting out rock and had placed a cartridge in position for a blast. As it did not explode he went to see what was the matter. The cartridge unexpectedly was fired and the flying rocks struck Shaw, badly injuring him about the face. Dr. J. B. Gray was summoned and cared for the injured man, while his injuries were attended to by Dr. Deane. Shaw was taken to the home of his son-in-law, Mr. Ed Conway, Milford.

"Why, did you quit your country club, old man?"
"Couldn't stand the heavy dues that all out there."—Detroit Free Press.

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PASSED THE HOUSE.

THE REDISTRIBUTION BILL GIVEN ITS THIRD READING.

The Division of St. John City and County Criticised—Opposed by Mr. Ellis but Supported by Col. Tucker—The Opposition Denounced It.

Ottawa, Ont., July 10—Sir Louis Davies introduced a bill in the house today respecting the safety of ships. The bill is the first place gives authority to portwardens to regulate the deck loads of ships in order that safety may be assured. It also extends the time during which summer deck loads may be taken on by steamers from 1st of October to 12th October.

Col. Prior called attention to an American newspaper report that the Alaska boundary negotiations were practically off, and that the blame was of course Canada's. The premier said that he did not think he was called upon to answer this piece of newspaper information. Such reports had been frequently brought up before and were always denied. He did not believe there was any more truth in the present one. However, matters with regard to the permanent boundary were in about the same situation as when the joint high commission adjourned. As to a provisional boundary, he was sorry that our propositions had not been agreeable to Americans and their not acceptable to us. He was not without hope that a satisfactory conclusion would be reached.

Instead of proceeding with the third reading of the redistribution bill, the house went into committee on the bill for the purpose of making additional amendments. In this connection, the premier announced the names of judges the government proposed to ask to act as commissioners in the division of riding of constituencies entitled to more than one member. They are Justices Burton, Boyd and Falconbridge, all judges of the high court of justice. The minister of marine proposed a new clause in the bill in connection with the representation of St. John, N. B. He said the change was simply to make clear what had already been agreed to. What was made clear was that the city of St. John shall elect one member and the county of St. John elect one member. At present the city of St. John elects one member and the city and county of St. John vote together elect another member. The premier held that such an anomaly should not be allowed to continue.

The opposition put up a vigorous fight against the clause. They based their fight firstly on the claim that since before confederation the city and county of St. John voted as at present and so claimed that if the present bill was to remedy evils perpetrated by the redistribution of 1882, it did not remedy any change. They also objected to the clause because by it about 39,000 people in the city will have only one member, while 11,000 people in the county will also have one member.

Mr. Ellis said the effect of the change would be to take away the right of the people of St. John to vote for two candidates. He thought if a change was to be made the county and city should be united and given two members. It was never proposed that 7,200 voters in St. John were to be given only the same representation as 1,900 voters in the county.

Mr. Powell said that even in local affairs the city and county voted together until six members were elected to oppose the then Blair government. Then a change was made so that the county should elect two members and the city four. The government was not paying any respect for the old order of things.

Col. Tucker said that what our grandfathers did in the past was of no moment to the present generation. He had written to a large number of friends and he had not received one answer objecting to the proposed change.

Hon. John Costigan argued that representation by population applied as between provinces and each province having all the members its population entitled it to, it was proper to leave the distribution of these members to local authorities. Men who framed the constitution took Montreal's population into account in regard to the allotment of members as between provinces, but the city itself was not given representation on the basis of population. Mr. argued the principle he laid down should apply to the St. John case.

After a long discussion, which was merely obstruction to kill time, the redistribution bill was given its third reading and passed.