

THE HERALD

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Grit Organs and Coalition.

Since the appearance of its initial article on the coalition question, to which we referred last week, the Guardian has had several editorials on the same subject. But, as its past record does not square with its hypocritical pretense to independence, no one is likely to seriously accuse it of sincerity. Despite its hedging on this matter its real sentiments occasionally crop out. As for instance, when it intimates in its issue of the 17th that "if the present Government is to continue in power there must be a reconstruction." This shows that its anxiety is concerning the existence of the present Government, rather than the good of the Province. The present Government has been too long in power for the good of the Province; it has brought discredit and disgrace upon us, and if the Guardian wishes any one to give it credit for a spark of independence it must cease all attempts to bolster up the rotten fabric. The Guardian harps about municipal bodies in the Provinces being conducted on non political lines. For anything of this kind that exists little thanks are due to the Guardians friends, the Grits; for they have tried to introduce politics into municipal bodies nearly every place where they imagined they had a chance of success. Only a few weeks, the civic elections in the city of Moncton were conducted on purely party lines, and because the Conservatives succeeded, the defeated Grit candidate for mayor, Mr. Hawk of the Transcript, raised a terrible howl and demanded of the Minister of Railways that he should dismiss all employees in the Intercolonial railway works who voted against him. This is the manner of independence the Guardian loves to advocate. To our statement that the most rascally corruption was practiced by the Emmerston Government of New Brunswick regarding steel bridges, the Guardian makes a unique reply. It gravely states that, notwithstanding the "boodling in bridges was charged before the general elections" the Government secured 41 seats in a house of 46 members. That does not afford any evidence that the boodling did not exist; but it furnishes a rather slipshod profession of political morality on the part of the Guardian. It is tantamount to declaring that a coalition Government may practice what corruption it pleases, so long as it is not found out, so long as the supporters of such a Government can succeed in concealing their guilt from the public. When Mr. Fred. Peters told the people of this Province in 1897 he expected to receive at least a million dollars from the Dominion Government he was deceiving the electors; but he succeeded in securing the return of his party with a considerable majority. Will the Guardian say Mr. Peters did not deceive the people, knowing that he intended to depart for British Columbia, instead of making any attempt to secure this money for the Province? Moreover, the Guardian knew when it made the statement referred to above that a committee of the Legislature had taken evidence regarding these bridges and that notwithstanding all the efforts of the Government to shut out damaging evidence, sufficient was admitted to prove that the people of New Brunswick had paid twice as much for their steel bridges as the Government of Nova Scotia and the municipalities of Ontario and Quebec had paid for similar public works. \$6.75 per 100 pounds were paid the Record Company for the New Brunswick works; while the Hamilton Bridge Company furnished the same kind of works at the rate of \$3.86 per 100 pounds, and the Nova Scotia bridge concerns underbid the Hamilton firm. All this was known to the Guardian when it made the extraordinary deliverance above recorded. Yet our contemporary would wish to convey the impression that it is actuated by truthful and disinterested motives. The Patriot has also been heard from on the question of coalition. It opposes the scheme, ostensibly at least. Whether or not it makes a virtue of necessity, we of course know not. Our contemporary furnishes several reasons why, it says, the Liberals should oppose a coalition. Among other reasons it gives the following: "The Liberals hold the government and the people are evidently satisfied with their judi-

icious and economical administration of public affairs." It must be admitted that it required considerable temerity to make such a statement as this. It is just as much as ever if the "Liberals hold the Government." It is true they usurp the functions of government; but it may not take very long to show that they no longer possess the people's mandate to do so. As to the latter part of the sentence above quoted, all we have to say is that it is simply a perversion of the truth. The Patriot knows quite well that the people have emphatically declared that they are in the highest degree dissatisfied "with the Government's" administration of public affairs, and are only awaiting an opportunity to replace the present administration with better men.

At last the Government have mustered up sufficient courage to summon the Legislature. The House is called to meet for the despatch of business on May the 8th. This is surely late enough in all conscience; but what do the Government care about the convenience of the people. The House might have been called a month ago, or two months ago for that matter. But the Government wanted to try and patch themselves up sufficiently to meet the Legislature with some hope of pulling through the session. Whether or not they have done so will be demonstrated when the meeting takes place.

LATEST ADVICES say Mr. Pineau is in Lynn, Mass. It appears to have been the intention to send him to Paris; but when he got to Ottawa, representations, it is said, were made to Sir Louis Davies of such a nature that it was thought prudent to shunt him off in another direction. It is stated numerous Grit protests were sent to Sir Louis to the effect that tampering with Pineau was considered such a scandalous piece of business that he and his party were bound to suffer severely in consequence. This seems to have so frightened the Minister of Marine that Pineau's bright hopes were nipped in the bud.

AT OTTAWA.

A SLOW PARLIAMENT AND A BACKWARD GOVERNMENT.—MR. TARTÉ IN LONDON AND PARIS.—HOW A BUFFALO MAN MADE A MILLION.

(Special Correspondence to THE HERALD.)

OTTAWA, April 21st.—When a British Sovereign asked her Prime Minister "What has passed in Parliament" the answer was: "May it please your Majesty—six weeks." If the people of Canada want to know what has passed in the Federal Parliament the only answer possible is "eleven weeks." Beyond private legislation, which goes forward rapidly enough in the short time set apart for it, practically nothing has been accomplished. The Opposition has not obstructed. Only two or three Conservatives spoke on the address, and the Ministers taunted the Opposition with the failure to make a strong fight at that stage. Two motions to go into supply were met by amendments, but in each case the motion came from the Government side, and in one case at least with Government support. The budget debate has been long and still goes on, but the Government side has furnished a full share of the long speeches. Though the House met on the first day of February, a score of departmental reports for the year ending June 30, 1899, or nearly ten months ago, have not been brought down. Among those which have not appeared are some of the most important, such as the reports of the Postmaster General, the Minister of Railways and Canals, the Minister of Militia, the Minister of Agriculture, the Geological Survey, the report of the Interior Department, the Mounted Police report, and lastly the report of the Department of Public Works. Mr. Wilson, of Lennox, in calling attention to the delay on Tuesday, asked how members could discuss the conduct of these departments, or vote supplies for them intelligently without a report less than two years old.

ANOTHER TARTÉ EPISODE.

Speaking of Public Works, Mr. Tarte has been making himself conspicuous once more by two deliverances. One was made in London and is intensely imperial. The other was made in Paris. The imperial Tarte told a London audience that the Empire might call at any time in any part of the French Canadian and they would give their blood and treasure for the crown. The anti-British Tarte told a Paris paper that he had vigorously opposed the despatch of troops to Africa, when required by M. Chamberlain, without the previous authorization of parliament. This anti-British Mr. Tarte apologized for the loyalty of the French-Canadians to Britain, by explaining that they were unfortunately not in a position of control in Canada. "It is very possible," he admitted to the interviewer, who expressed surprise that the French-Canadians should support the British

In Africa, "that in their own minds, 99 per cent, of the French-Canadians disapprove of the South African war, and are of the opinion that the money spent by Canada on this occasion, might have been expended with much more practical results elsewhere. Yes, that is very possible, but as good citizens we submit to the opinion of a majority." "Besides," added Mr. Tarte, in further apology, "Canada has not sent any troops against the Transvaal. It has merely authorized the enrollment of volunteers for that expedition." In the same interview, Mr. Tarte told the Journal of Paris that the French-Canadians were invading the Province of Ontario, and that if British immigration should fall off, they might yet be a majority in Canada, and that at the present moment, "Canada is more French than thirty years ago."

REBUKED BY HIS COMPATRIOTS.

Mr. Monk and Mr. Casgrain, both French-Canadian Conservatives, protested that a Minister of the Crown and an adviser of Her Majesty should not be allowed to compromise the French-Canadians and discredit his country by issuing these conflicting pronouncements. Telling London that the French-Canadians were willing to fight for the Empire, and telling Paris that they were forced by the English majority to take part in a war which they were opposed. Mr. Tarte's account of French-Canadian sentiment was declared to be erroneous, and the Premier was asked either to recall him or to make him cease from calumniating his compatriots in this country. The Premier did not defend his colleague. He contented himself with stating that he would not hold Mr. Tarte responsible for language imputed to him by a newspaper. Mr. Tarte might not have said these things at all. As the paper containing the report has been sent to Canada and is reprinted with editorial approval in Mr. Tarte's own organ in Montreal and in the government organ in Quebec, Sir Wilfrid's evasion is thought to be rather transparent. If Mr. Tarte did not like the report he would have prevented La Patrie from reprinting and commending it, and Mr. Casgrain points out that the sentiments attributed to Mr. Tarte in Paris are the same as those expressed by him at St. Vincent de Paul and in other French communities in Canada.

THE MAN FOR BUFFALO.

If the Minister of Public Works has pleased the French press, he has given greater pleasure to a friend in New York State. A cool million and a half is the net price which Mr. Connors of Buffalo has made by selling a franchise obtained a few months ago from Mr. Tarte. Two years ago Mr. Tarte was using his position to force a policy of his own and his Montreal friends upon the Montreal harbor board, and he then declared that he would never allow private enterprise to obtain control of the crane elevator business in the city of Montreal. The Minister headed off all local men who desired to handle the crane. He met the bid and laid down a policy excluding private control. But one day he established the transportation interests and a rare gift for dealing with public men, appeared on the scene. He took in an smaller partner, a member of the Ontario Government, and other men of influence. Then he went to Mr. Tarte, and the minister calmly handed over to him all the exclusive privileges he wanted in Montreal, and gave him concessions for the construction of an elevator at the terminus of the Welland canal.

MILLIONS FOR BUFFALO.

Hence forward it was plain sailing for Mr. Connors. He prepared his prospectus and showed it to the investors with their franchises who pay large dividends on four millions. Out of the capital of the proposed company Mr. Connors is to get no less than \$1,500,000 for the concessions and franchises, which he obtained through Mr. Tarte without paying a cent, unless he has secretly divided the profits. It is growing time for Mr. Connors, all of whose gain is taken from the Canadian people.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

The discussion was continued during the four working days of this week. On the Government side McMillan, Calvert, Campbell, Davis, Sempie and Burnet spoke in English, and Turcotte in French. On the opposite side the speakers were Taylor, Wilson, Davis, McLaren and Henderson in English with Casgrain and Monk in French. The speaking has on the whole been good, and follows the same lines as speeches described in previous letters. It is expected that a vote will be reached next week.

THE OPPOSITION LEADER.

Sir Charles Tupper spent his Easter holidays in Montreal, but it was not much of a holiday that the Opposition leader allowed himself. Following his recent address in Quebec he delivered an important discourse at a gathering in the commercial metropolis. He was then able to show that the views he expressed at Quebec a few days before on the subject of imperial federation, coincided exactly with the sentiments expressed a few hours later in the Imperial parliament. Sir Charles has every reason to feel pleased with the reception accorded to him in the great business centre of the country, and returns inspired with stronger hope for Liberal-Conservative success.

THE EXHIBITION.

It is announced that the Dominion will have to pay \$100,000 to \$125,000 for space in the buildings used in the exhibition at Paris. But Mr. Tarte says that the rooms and buildings are poor affairs, not much better

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than some Canadian barns. The latest discovery is that no provision has been made for the cold storage accommodation which was one of the main features of the Canadian exhibit. Prof. Robertson has hastened to see what can be done, though the Dominion has a small army of officials without him. Mr. McLaren, M. P., who perhaps knows more about the butter and cheese business than any other Canadian, says that the great trouble with the Canadian arrangement is that the government has not sent enough experts to Paris, but has employed too many party hacks.

THE NOBLEST MIND

The best contentment has. Yet however noble in mind, no man or woman can have perfect contentment without physical health. The blood must be kept pure and the stomach and digestive organs in good order. The best means for this purpose is Hood's Sarsaparilla. It promptly cures all blood humors and eruptions and tones up the system.

The favorite cathartic is Hood's Pills. 25c.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

THIRTEEN STUDENTS DROWNED. A boat on board of which were 20 members of the Catholic students association while crossing the river Rhine, in Germany one day last week capsized and 13 of its occupants were drowned.

DUKE OF ARGYLL DEAD.

A London despatch of yesterday announces the death of George Douglas Campbell, eighth Duke of Argyll. He was born April 30, 1823. He was Postmaster-General from 1858 to 1859, and Secretary for India from 1868 to 1874. The Duke was a writer and his chief works include: "The Reign of Law," and "Scotland as it Was and as it is." His eldest son was the Marquis of Lorne.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Last week has been one of the bloodiest in the Philippines since the war began. The reports sent to Washington show a total of 387 Filipinos killed, 12 officers and 244 men captured and a great many wounded—number not known. It is probable that a great majority of the wounded will die, as the Filipinos are without hospital facilities. The American loss is placed at nine killed and sixteen wounded.

TROUBLE IN WEST AFRICA.

A despatch from Accra, Gold Coast Colony, West Africa, dated April 19th says: The governor, Sir Frederick Mitchell Hodgson, wires from Kumassi that the tribes are rising again, and he asks for assistance. The loyal Bekuis have been attacked by the Ashantis and 500 have been killed. It is feared that this will compel them to join the rebellion. Evidently the matter is extremely serious, and was minimized until it was too late.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

A recent despatch from Yokohama says: If the quick and unsteady despatch of telegrams from Korea means aught of a really serious nature, the inference is that Japan and Russia are in the verge of war. Onwardly, however, there is absolute calm, and the tone of the press is but slightly bellicose. Japan, with the great fleet, would make short work of Russia's naval force and command the situation for the time at least, with all the advantages which an added prestige would confer. The Japanese have been and are keen students of Russian history, and they know that her gaining a foothold in Korea means the ultimate passing of the peninsula under Russian sway, and this nation is a unit of fighting to the death against the encroachment.

THE NEXT ON THE PROGRAMME.

It looks now as if the next war will be between the United States and Turkey. The Sultan has received an ultimatum from the United States Government insisting on the payment of \$100,000, as indemnity for outrages perpetrated on American missionaries. The Sultan seems to be very backward about paying the sum. It is said that the United States is considering a proposition to seize the port of Smyrna temporarily and collect the revenue through the customs if the indemnity is not soon paid. But this plan will hardly work, considering that there are some 3,500,000 Mohammedans in the Philippines who would very likely join the insurgents thus undooing all the work done there and extending the war in all directions all over the islands.

Mulock's Happy Thought.

It seems that Mr. Tarte, who generally manages to be out of the house when financial matters are under discussion, has arranged that Mr. Mulock should take his place as acting minister of public works during his absence. It further appears, from our Ottawa despatch published yesterday, that Mr. Tarte has given Mr. Mulock directions how to set in that capacity. Here is the despatch, and the facts should be duly considered and remembered:

Ottawa, April 19.—A happy idea has occurred to Mr. Mulock, who is acting as minister of public works in the absence of Mr. Tarte. He has suggested to all the members supporting the government the following circular letter:

"Dear Sir,—The supplementary estimates are in course of preparation. I am taking charge of the department of public works and would be happy to receive from you any suggestions in regard to appropriations required in your country. "The Montreal La Presse says that Mulock has already received requests for six million dollars and does not know where to lay his head. "It is easily understood from this that Tarte's direction to Mulock was to this effect: "Call in all our friends and give them all they want." Mulock, who used to be a cheese-paring economist, has started in to carry out his instructions. Where he will end with it remains to be seen. Wait till you see him next time.—Halifax Herald.

Joints Swollen.

My little boy, 8 years old, had a bad attack of Rheumatism. His joints were swollen and he could not sleep with the pain. One box of Millburn's Rheumatic Pills completely cured him. F. H. Macgibbon, Port Hope, Ont.

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