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TWELFTH YEAR. THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 16, 1891. ONE CENT

STILL AT THE TROUGH

The Assembly Decides That the Fat Feeder is a Necessity.

FIRST DIVISION OF THE SESSION.

A Straight Party Vote on the Question.

By a Majority of 21 the "Office Hog" is to Continue An Ontario Institution, and Registrars and Sheriffs Allowed to Fatten Sumptuously at the Public Bin —Mr. Mowat Says Fees Are Preferable to Salaries, but Admits the Country Would Not Go to Destruction if a Change Were Adopted—May Have a Scheme Next Session—The Vote Reached at 12.30 This Morning.

In the opinion of this House, the system of paying provincial officers by fees is objectionable in principle and that the law ought to be so amended as to provide for the remuneration of sheriffs, registrars of deeds, clerks of the peace and county attorneys by salary instead of by fees, and a like change should be made in the mode of remunerating all other provincial officers now paid by fees, to whom the same could be satisfactorily applied.

Such was the resolution moved in the Assembly yesterday by Mr. Wood (Hastings) condemnatory of the system which breeds the "office hog." In supporting it he said he meant nothing personal. It was the principle he attacked. The agitation was not new. The World six or eight months ago called attention to the abuse and the press throughout the province followed suit until the matter had been thoroughly ventilated. In 1882 the matter was brought before the attention of the House by the present Provincial Treasurer in a motion seconded by Mr. Thomas Murray declaring "that the system of remunerating sheriffs by fees is undesirable and unjust and that it would be in the public interest to substitute therefor a system of payment by salary." The motion was withdrawn after a discussion in which the Attorney-General intimated some change would be made. Nothing has ever been done. On the contrary the abuse has increased with the increase of population and business. The Government has abandoned the system in other offices. The official guardian of infants, Mr. Hoskin, formerly received as much as $20,000 a year in fees. He was given instead a salary of $5000 and he did the work equally well. Then, in the case of nine local masters, salaries varying from $950 to $3500 were substituted for fees, the salaries being arranged in proportion to the work done. If changes in these offices worked well they would in the offices mentioned in the resolution also. The Dominion pays postmasters and customs officers by salaries. Certain municipal officers, notably treasurers, were once paid by fees, but the system was changed (with advantage. The principles upon which officials should be paid were:

1. That the salary should be ample for the work done.
2. That there should be no distinction of salary except as regards difference of work.
3. That previous social and political records should have no influence on the salary paid them.
4. That only capable men should be employed.

Turning to the actual results, Mr. Wood showed that in Muskoka, Dufferin, Thunder Bay, Prince Edward, Lennox, Prescott and Russell, Renfrew and Perth the average income of county attorney and clerk of the peace, both offices being held by one man was $720. In eight other districts it was $1250. In eight others it was $2120. In York, Wellington, Wentworth, Bruce, Elgin, Middlesex and Lambton the average income was over $3000. There was the anomaly that in Leeds and Grenville one person held the offices of attorney, clerk of the peace, local master and deputy-registrar for $1367, while another in Essex holds the same offices for $2364, or nearly double, while in Algoma the fees for attorney and clerk of the peace amounted to $637, which was supplemented by a grant of $800.

The average income of 43 sheriffs was $2060, which was fair and not too large. But the sheriffs of eight districts averaged $1055 each, while the sheriffs of Toronto, York, Carleton, Leeds and Grenville, Simcoe, Elgin, London and Essex averaged $4000. The sheriff of Toronto received $363 more than the united incomes of the sheriffs of Dufferin, Lanark, Lennox and Addington, Ontario, Peel, Muskoka, Halton and Prince Edward.

The registrars of 63 divisions averaged $1600 each, to which must be added the sum paid to deputy registrars for work which should have been done by the registrar. The average net receipts of eight registrars were $1013. The average net receipts of Toronto, two offices, Lambton, Simcoe, Middlesex, York, Huron and Oxford was $5842. Or, eight offices average nearly $6000 over and above expenses and eight others average a little over $1000. Giving each Toronto office $8757, or one-half of the total received in both, each of the registrars received $648 more than the total net receipts of Durham East, Kingston, Glengarry, Lanark North, Northumberland West, Grenville, Parry Sound and Perth South.

Inquiry shows that many of these officials are seldom in their offices, leaving their work to be done by underpaid subordinates. If a change were made from fee to salary the result would be: 1. That the public would be better served; 2, that greater care would be exercised in matters of detail, because underpaid men now do the main part of the work; 3, that the men actually doing the work would get the pay; 4, that corrupt practices and excessive fees would be avoided; 5, that the work would be done in the interest of the public and not of the individual. As an example of abuses Mr. Wood said that in one county not far from his own the former county attorney got about $1000. His successor "worked up" the fees to $22,000 by forced interpretations of the law.

Mr. Wood believed that he had shown that the system was objectionable in principle, that there was a general demand for change, that it resulted in unjust inequalities of payment for the same services, and the payment of some officials for no services, that the remedy was to substitute a salary in proportion to the work done.

Mr. Mowat Says the Fee System is Preferable.

Mr. Mowat in reply said that a large part of the feeling throughout the country was due to exaggerated reports of the amounts of the fees. The fees actually received varied greatly from those published in newspapers. He was not prepared to say that the country would go to destruction if salaries were substituted for fees. At the same time the Government had studied the question and come to a conclusion the reverse of the motion—that the fee system was not inferior but preferable on the whole to the salary system. The motion referred to the principle of the payment and not to the incomes derived, which were entirely different things. Salaries or fees might be so regulated that the results would be the same. But the principle of the fee system is better in almost every way if the income is not too large. The fee system is the better because the reward is in proportion to the work done and the responsibility involved. It is a virtue in the fee system that there is a disparity between the incomes in different offices because the occupant of a small office should not get as much as one in a large office. There is no way to apportion responsibility and receipts so well as by the fee system. To give all officials the same salary would be indefensible and therefore the Government is opposed to it. If there are abuses it is the duty of the inspector to look after them. One registrar was removed because he insisted on overcharging. But such cases are rare. The money question influenced the press, which was not well informed. An officer paid by salary will apply himself to his office work only during office hours, whereas an official paid by fees often will work until 12 o'clock at night. This is a great advantage, because if work is required to be done the official is willing.

There is a misapprehension as to the result of a change. It has been said there would be a gain to the Province. Enquiries which he had made showed there would be a large reduction in fees and an increase in disbursements by the Province if there were a change. It was beyond doubt or dispute that the change asked would not result to the advantage of the country. He knew officially two facts illustrating this. Mr. Hoskin occupied a peculiar position, being largely a judicial adviser of the court. There was no corresponding office in England. For these reasons he was paid by salary and not by fees.

The newspaper which first gave rise to this discussion suggested $3000 as the maximum. But few officials have more. As for the sheriff of Toronto, he would not speak of the present officer. But the net income of the sheriff in 1883 was $96.0, in 1884, $9796; in 1885, $8761, and in 1886 $9870. He never heard any complaint about that. The real estate increased the business of the registrar. The business fell off when the boom slackened. The fees of the registrar for the first quarter of this year were one-half of those for the first quarter of last year.

Financial institutions paid larger salaries. The cashiers of the Bank of Toronto and of the Bank of Commerce received each $15,000, the cashier of the Standard $12,000, of the Dominion $11,000, of the Ontario and Canada Permanent $10,000, the managers of the G.N.W. and of the Consumers' Gas Company $8000 each, of the Confederation Life $7000, and so on.

The conclusion of the Government was that the fee system was the better, that salaries were inapplicable to the office of sheriff, that where the fees of sheriffs were too high the excess should be taxed just as the gross earnings of the registrar now are. The Government had no scheme now but might have a measure next session.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Clancy, Baxter, White, Mackenzie C., Campbell, A. F., Awrey, Godwin, Bishop and Miscampbell.

An Amendment by Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis found fault with the last clause of the resolution, "where the change could be satisfactorily applied," which was too vague. He moved in amendment:

1. That remunerating sheriffs, registrars, clerks of the peace and county attorneys by fees is, in the public interest, preferable to a system of payment by salary;
2. That placing these officers on salaries would result in a general increase of the expenses and cost of carrying on the necessary business of these offices;
3. That it is very probable that the salaries to be paid to such officers and their necessary assistants would considerably exceed the total fees received, and by reason thereof the provinces would in most, if not all, cases be burdened with an increase of expenditure;
4. That as to registrars the result of such a change, if made, would in some instances wipe out and in others greatly reduce the amounts which under the present system are payable to counties out of the fees received in registry offices;
5. That as to sheriffs the system of payment by salary could not well be adopted, and, if adopted, the work of these offices generally would be apt to be less diligently performed, and thereby interests not alone of the general public, but of suitors, litigants and judgment creditors and others would suffer and be greatly prejudiced;
6. That, having regard to the public interests and of persons having to transact business in or through the offices of clerks of the peace and county attorneys, the result would probably be the same as in respect of the business to be transacted in sheriffs' offices in a somewhat less degree;
7. That, having heard the assurance given that the Attorney-General proposes before next session to make special enquiry as to the remuneration at present actually received by such officers respectively and as to such other matters as would enable the Government to fairly and fully consider in what degree and with respect to what offices (if any) the said remuneration might be reduced, further consideration of the question during the present session is unnecessary.

Mr. Meredith's Amendment.

Mr. Meredith regretted that the debate had assumed a party aspect. The amendment was simply for the purpose of placing a buffer between the followers of the Government and public opinion. He took the ground that the principle of the motion was sound in theory and practice and had often been assented to by the House at the instance of the Attorney-General. Within two years a separate office has been established in Toronto for the purpose of giving a place to a follower of the Government. The fee system involves putting in the hands of officials the temptation to exceed the legal fees. The Attorney-General himself admitted that when certain fees were commuted to a salary the receipts fell off, thus showing that previously more was taken from the people than should have been taken. Why should not the system of commutation adopted in the Surrogate Courts be adopted with regard to registrars? There would then be no temptation to charge excessive fees and no means by which the revenue could be tampered with. The effect of a salary would be that the income would be commensurate with the work done. In many registry offices the work is done by deputy and the registrar draws the fees. A system which permits that is condemned at the outset. It is scandalous that a highly paid official should be permitted to spend his time doing nothing. A scale of remuneration should be fixed for registrars graded according to the number of instruments received in the office. The followers of the Government cannot shirk the question behind a promise of the Attorney-General that he may or may not bring in legislation on the subject. If they voted down the resolution the people would hold them responsible. In order to have a square vote on the principle involved he moved in amendment to the amendment that

Salaries should always be regulated according to the duties, responsibilities and work of the office.

Mr. Mowat said the debate showed that the fee system was the better one and the only one by which payment could be made proportionate to responsibility involved and work done. The suggestion of payment according to instruments registered, made by Mr. Meredith, was nothing but the fee system. With regard to the objection that registrars got deputies to do their work Mr. Mowat said that was not the fault of the fee system. The same thing would be done under the same circumstances with a system of salaries. The true system is that excessive incomes by fees should be taxed for the benefit of the country and not payment by salary.

After short speeches by Mr. Whitney and Mr. Tait, the vote was taken at 12.40 on the Meredith amendment, which was lost on this division:

YEAS—30.

Barr.	Bush.	Cam'll (Alg'ma).
Clancy.	Dunlop.	Geoadinning.
Godwin.	Hagmnell.	Hiscott.
Kearns.	McCleary.	McColl.
McLenaghan.	Magwood.	Marter.
Meacham.	Meredith.	Metcalfe.
Miscampbell.	Monk.	Preston.
Rorice.	Reid.	Smith (Fr'nt'n'c)
Tooley.	White.	Whitney.
Willoughby.	Wood (H'stin's).	Wylie.

NAYS—51.

Allan.	Awrey.	Balfour.
Baxter.	Bishop.	Biezard.
Bronson.	Caldwell.	Carpenter.
Charlton.	Chisholm.	Clarke (Wl'gt'n)
Cleland.	Coonee.	Dack.
Davis.	Dowling.	Dryden.
Evanturel.	Ferguson.	Field.
Gibson (Hm'lt'n)	Gibson (Huron)	Guthrie.
Harcourt.	Hardy.	Lockhart.
Lough'rin.	McKa[illegible]rford	McKay (Vict'a.)
McKe'nzie.	Mc[illegible]enzie, R.	McAlahon.
Mack.	Mac[illegible]	Moore.
Mowat.	O'Connor.	Paton.
Porter.	Rayside.	Rothilard.
Ross.	Sharpe.	Smith (York).
Snider.	Sprague.	Stratton.
Tait.	Waters.	Wood (Brant.)

PAIRED—8.

E. F. Clarke-Biggar.	Fell-Garrow.
Hudson-Gilmour.	H. E. Clarke-Fraser.

ABSENT—1.

Campbell (East Durham).

Government majority, 21.

The Davis amendment was declared carried and the original motion amended on the same division.

Miss Evelyn Severs and Fred Warrington, Association Hall, Friday, 17th.

ASSEMBLY NOTES.

The Belt Line Dispute Referred to Arbitration—The College of Embalming.

The dispute between the Belt Line and the city as to the terms of the lease of right-of-way on the Don improvements was settled yesterday by an agreement to resort to arbitration. Each party will appoint one arbitrator; Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) consented to act as umpire. The arbitration will begin at once and be terminated in six weeks; the finding will be final and without appeal. It was further agreed that the city should have the right to assess the private property owners for two-thirds of the cost of the improvements, notwithstanding the rental derived from the railways.

G. B. Smith's bill to amend the Municipal Act by providing that a petition for the incorporation of a village must be signed by 150 residents for six months was confined by the Municipal Committee to places within three miles of any city of 100,000 inhabitants or over, thus making it apply only to Toronto's suburbs.

Joe Tait's bill to establish a college of embalming was discussed again yesterday by the special committee. The clauses which might be taken as forming a combine were struck out. The committee then adjourned to allow the opponents an opportunity of meeting the promoters for the purpose of reconciling their views.

Mr. Balfour has given notice that he will move for a return of copies of all correspondence between the members of the Government and other parties on the subject of the alleged education of medical students in part at the public expense, by the payment to members of one medical faculty of fees received from students for teaching done by professors and lecturers, whose salaries are paid entirely out of the funds of the Provincial University.

The Speaker invited these gentlemen to dinner last evening: Messrs. James Massie, Aubrey White, D. E. Cameron, W. Houston, A. Blue, Dr. Clark and these M.L.A.'s: E. W. B. Snider, J. Cleland, R. Paton, A. F. Campbell, H. T. Godwin, O. Bush, W. A. Charlton, H. Smith, N. McLenaghan, W. T. Lockhart, J. Loughrin, G. McKechnie, D. McColl, J. Sharpe, D. Porter, G. Campbell, J. Hiscott, J. Reid.

OXFORD'S LATEST SENSATION.

The Body of a Well-known Farmer Found in a Pool of Water—Murder or Suicide?

WOODSTOCK, April 15.—At an early hour on Monday morning John Pipe, a well-to-do farmer, residing on the 10th concession of Blenheim, lot 9, rose from his bed, having spent a restless night, and taking his gun said he was going shooting. Not returning, a search was made. By the side of a pool of water not far from his house a handkerchief was found tied to a tree and far from the water was the hat belonging to Mr. Pipe, bearing evidences of having been lately discharged. Further investigation revealed the man lying in the pool, covered with water. In his right breast was found a wound about an inch in diameter, caused by a discharge of shot. Dr. Bradley of Woodstock was summoned to hold a coroner's inquest.

Deceased was a well-known and prosperous Blenheim farmer. He had been about 40 years of age and was the eldest son of the late William Pipe, well known in his neighborhood as a stock-raiser.

The finding of the handkerchief on the tree near the water seems to indicate a case of suicide, but the fact that the gun was found at some distance from the body raises a difficulty in the way of that theory.

President Harrison on Reciprocity.

KANSAS CITY, April 15.—The first Western States Commercial Congress convened at noon to-day at the Coates Opera House, with delegations present from 24 States. Governor Francis of Missouri said the congress marked a new era in agricultural, commercial and financial history. The West wanted free trade with Mexico, Canada and South America, and with all the countries of the world. President Harrison sent a letter in which he said: "I look with great confidence to the completion of further reciprocal trade arrangements, especially with the Central and South American States, as furnishing new and large markets for meats, breadstuffs and an important line of manufactured products.

Opposition to the Allans.

HAMILTON, April 15.—It is rumored that the Anchor Line of steamships, whose boats now run between Liverpool, Glasgow and New York, are to open a route between Montreal and Glasgow and compete with the Allan Line. The latter line recently inaugurated a summer route between New York and Glasgow in opposition to the Anchor Line. A well-known steamship agent who is now in New York is said to be arranging the matter.

Two Canadian Murder Trials.

GODERICH, April 15.—Donald McKinnon, fisherman, who is alleged to have shot his wife and then attempted suicide, was arraigned to-day at the assizes on a charge of murder and pleaded not guilty. He will be tried to-morrow.

BELLEVILLE, April 15.—The trial of murderer Kane has been postponed until to-morrow.

A Man Investing Money

in real estate exercises great care to secure a good investment for his money. The same rule should be adopted by every man when insuring his life. By taking out a policy in a successful institution the holder at once participates in its success. The most successful company is one which shows ample assets and possesses a net surplus over and above all liability and capital. Such a company is the North American Life Assurance Company of this city.

For perfect fitting trousers of the newest spring materials go to John Watson, 88 King-street east. 246

Try a sample of Treble's perfect-fitting French yoke shirts. They are the best. 53 King-street west. Illustrated price list free.

The Photographers' Benefit to the Orphans' Home to-morrow night at Pavilion.

Sued For a Cool $40,000.

HALIFAX, April 15.—An action has been commenced in the Supreme Court against James Foster for damages in the suit of Alice Rice, for alleged slander. The plaintiff claims that Foster uttered words tending to hurt her character, through which she suffered pecuniary loss. The amount claimed is said to be $40,000.

Be good to the orphans by going to the Pavilion to-morrow night.

Death Roll of a Day.

Edward Greene, M.P. for the southwest division of Suffolk, England, died yesterday. Mr. Greene was a Progressive Conservative.

Rev. M. B. Conron, Barrie, is dead.

Queen's Own Band at the Pavilion to-morrow night.

Removing to Toronto.

QUEBEC, April 15.—Dr. Montizambert, quarantine superintendent is removing with his family to Toronto.

The Popular Harold Jarvis at the Gardens to-morrow night.

The best fencing and single stick talent to-morrow at the Gardens.

Interesting to Gentlemen.

Seventy-five cents will buy natural wool shirt or drawers: 50c will buy Balbriggan shirts or drawers; 50c will buy merino finished shirts or drawers; 25c will buy gents' four-in-hand scarfs, worth 50c; 15c or two for 25c will buy gents' four-in-hand scarfs, sold elsewhere at 25c each; 10c each or three for 25c will buy four 4-ply linen collars, worth 20c each; 30c per pair or four pair black cashmere socks for $1. Bonner's, corner Yonge and Queen-streets.

Pleasant Cough cure—Hallamore's Expectorant.

PASSED THE DARDANELLES.

A RUSSIAN WARSHIP OFFICER COERCES THE TURKS.

Parnell's Cavalry to "Demonstrate"—In re the Baccarat Scandal—Great Britain Takes a Hand in the Chilian Affair and will Bring President Barmaceda to Time.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 15.—A Russian warship belonging to the volunteer fleet, fitted out by popular subscription, has been stopped by the Turkish authorities at the Dardanelles. The Russian vessel was proceeding through that passage on her way to Vladivostock. She was loaded with railroad material and had as passengers a large number of "military workmen," according to the term used by Russians who are detailed to construct the trans-Siberian railroad, which will make Vladivostock one of the most valuable ports in Russia. The officer in command of the Russian ship upon being brought beneath the guns of the forts of the Dardanelles immediately appealed to the Russian ambassador at Constantinople, Nelidoff, who entered the strongest protest possible with the Turkish officials of this city. Nelidoff claimed that the action of the Turkish officers at the Dardanelles was an indirect and flagrant violation of the terms of the commercial treaties existing between Russia and Turkey. After a considerable interchange of views the Porte concluded it would be inadvisable to detain the warship and she was allowed to proceed. The action of the Turkish authorities in stopping the warship is taken on the ground of the treaty of 1841, concluded by the five great powers and Turkey, by which it was decided that no ship of war belonging to any nation save Turkey should pass the Dardanelles without the express consent of Turkey, all merchant ships being also required to show their papers to the Ottoman authorities.

The Turks have almost entirely neglected the Black Sea approaches to Constantinople and that on the other hand the Straits of the Dardanelles are being steadily fortified with heavy guns, which would be of use against any power but Russia. The correspondent adds that the attention of the Russian fleet will be concentrated on Russia's southwest frontier a Russian army sufficiently powerful to meet any eventuality which may possibly startle Europe from its present pacific slumber.

Extensive Preparations for Hostilities.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 15.—In spite of the peaceful utterings of Government officials in Europe and Russia everybody knows Russia is making extensive preparations for war and that her rivals are making greater preparations for the struggle, which must sooner or later take place. Russia has been spending enormous sums in the construction of strategic railways, and in the management for the transportation of large bodies of Russian troops to the Austro-German frontier.

RIOTOUS SOLDIERS AND POLICE.

Military Reserve Men Shot Down by the Score in the Struggle.

LONDON, April 16.—A terrible riot is reported at Budsin, Posen, between the military reserves and the police. The trouble appears to have originated in some rudeness on the part of the police toward the military. The latter resented, and a bloody fight followed, both police and soldiers using their weapons freely. The police got the best of the struggle, and a score of the reserve men were killed and many seriously wounded.

A military investigation is being held as to the cause of the outbreak, and in the meantime all the soldiers and several of the policemen who took part are under guard. The trouble is believed to have its origin in the growing impatience of the populace, especially in Posen, which is not a German province, with the burden of military service and their consequent hatred of the police, who are looked upon as representatives of the military regime.

STRUCK AN EARL.

And the Latter Was Aghast at the Fellow's Impudence.

LONDON, April 15.—In Ireland the farmers are up in arms against fox-hunting squires and peers. The young Earl of Huntingdon, aide-de-camp to the Prince of Wales Regiment, was dashing to-day across Farmer Murphy's meadow after a fox and a pack of hounds, when the farmer unexpectedly appeared and seized the Earl's horse by the bridle. The Earl, who traces his ancestry to a steward of the Conqueror, was aghast at such a liberty on the part of a plebeian, and raising his whip struck a blow across the face of the insurgent Manipuris. Profiting by the delay of the British troops in advancing upon the front, the Manipuris are erecting stone stockades, digging rifle pits and in other ways preparing to give the British a warm reception. The British authorities are hurrying forward a large force under command of Gen. Graham and Gen. Collett.

Miss Bessie Bonsall and Mr. Alex. Gorrie will sing at Association Hall, Friday, 17th.

That Protest Against Dr. Rainsford.

NEW YORK, April 15.—The public announcement of the protest against the policy of the Rev. Dr. W. S. Rainsford of St. George's did not create a particular sensation in Episcopalian circles yesterday, especially as it was well known that Dr. Rainsford would refuse to take cognizance of the matter until after Bishop Potter had considered it. The protest simply outlined the views against the liberal action of Dr. Rainsford in allowing speakers of other denominations to occupy their pulpits during the Lenten period. It is considered, however, that neither the Bishop nor the Episcopacy of the diocese is likely to remove from the ministry such an acknowledged light as Dr. Rainsford.

Assault-at-Arms, Y. M. C. A., Association Hall, Friday, 17th.

"La Cadena!"

The success that has crowned our efforts to place before the public a really fine, sweet, mild and mellow Cigar has been much greater than anticipated. Our "La Cadena" brand can better be appreciated by those smokers who have been in the habit of smoking fine "Vuelto" Cigars of well-known and reliable Havana factories, inasmuch as they can more readily appreciate and enjoy them than those who have been accustomed to the heavier grades of tobaccos that are used in the manufacture of the majority of the imported Cigars brought into this market.

To-morrow night at the Pavilion the most enjoyable of the season. Secure your seats at Nordheimer's.

Insane From Religion.

BRANTFORD, April 15.—Solomon Moss, arrested on a charge of insanity, is in the county jail awaiting the development of his case. He continues to be religious, preaching all the time. He imagines that he owns the city of Stratford and desires to make some real estate deals. Moss is a Plymouth brother. His insanity developed very suddenly the other day while at work, and he began preaching.

The Sheffield House Importing Company (Registered).

65 Yonge-street (below King). Wedding presents in solid silver and best English silver plate. C. E. Robinson, Manager.

Septuagenarians Marry.

ST. MARY'S, April 15.—Francis Anderson and Jean McAuch have been married. Rev. A. Grant, pastor of Knox congregation, tied the nuptial knot, and the happy couple started out on a wedding tour. Their combined ages are 156 years, the groom being 79 and the bride two years younger.

encourages the formation of such semi-military organizations, and seldom fails in the course of his shrewd addresses to drop a veiled hint as to their possible future usefulness.

Victorious Insurgents.

PARIS, April 15.—Despatches received here from Chili state that a desperate battle, resulting in a victory for the Chilian insurgent forces, has been fought at Copiapo or San Francisco de Silva, the capital of the Province of Atacama, on the River Copiapo, 30 miles from the sea. The insurgents after a long and determined struggle defeated with heavy loss a force of 3000 of President Balmaceda's troops. Capiapo is an important mining and mercantile centre, from which much silver and copper ores are shipped to Europe and elsewhere.

To Fight a Bone-Dust Corner.

LONDON, April 15.—The chinamakers of Staffordshire are combining to protect themselves against a bone-dust corner which has been formed in Liverpool. The price of bone-dust has been forced up from £8 per hundredweight to £14 per hundredweight within a few months, and firms which had taken china contracts at low rates have been ruined by the advance in cost of one of the ingredients of porcelain. The next arrival of cargoes of bone-dust will not occur until September.

Bismarck's Election in Doubt.

BERLIN, April 15.—The polling at Greestemunde to-day for a member of the Reichstag was active throughout the 74 districts forming that constituency. A large number of votes were cast. The result will not be known before to-morrow evening at the earliest. The Socialists and members of the Freisinnige party are hopeful that Premier Bismarck will not be returned without a second ballot.

Partial returns indicate that a supplementary ballot will be necessary between Bismarck and Schmalfield (Socialist).

The Newfoundland Bill.

LONDON, April 15.—Lord Knutsford announced to-day that the bill for coercing Newfoundland would be brought up for a second reading on Monday next and the Newfoundland delegates would be heard at the bar of the House if desired.

Chat from Over the Sea.

The Portuguese Cabinet has resigned.

The people of Sheffield, England, are suffering from the grip.

The C.P.R. steamship Empress of India is expected at Yokohama to-day.

Fifty members of the British Parliament have died since the last general election.

The Earl of Kimberly is to succeed Earl Granville as Liberal leader in the House of Lords.

Sir Charles Tupper, the Canadian Commissioner to England, arrived at Liverpool yesterday.

The statement that Henry M. Stanley had been appointed governor of the Congo State is officially denied.

An extensive starch factory at Calabazar, Cuba, was destroyed by fire yesterday. The loss is reported to be heavy.

Important experiments have been made with snow breakwaters in Russia, which have been found very effective when treated with water.

The Leeds Millers' Association raised the price of flour yesterday 1s. 6d. per 18 stone. This makes an advance of 7s since Jan. 24.

The executors of the estate of the Right Hon. George Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., have intimated that his collection of classic curios, valued at £100,000, will shortly be sold at auction.

The Czar has renamed most of the Russian regiments after commanders and generals notable since the time of Peter the Great, and the reserve battalions after important Russian victories.

An American who is a collector of curiosities has been in London for several days trying to buy the bed on which Prince Napoleon died. He made an offer of $500, but it was politely but firmly refused.

The British postoffice authorities announce that the contract with the Allan Steamship Company for carrying the Canadian mails has expired and that henceforth the Canadian mails will go to New York via Queenstown instead of via Londonderry.

Statistics of the French wine crop for the year ended in March show that 25,775,194 bottles were exported from the champagne district during that period. This is the largest yearly output on record. The whole stock of champagne now in France is estimated at 110,256,000 bottles.

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"La Cadena!"

The success that has crowned our efforts to place before the public a really fine, sweet, mild and mellow Cigar has been much greater than anticipated. Our "La Cadena" brand can better be appreciated by those smokers who have been in the habit of smoking fine "Vuelto" Cigars of well-known and reliable Havana factories, inasmuch as they can more readily appreciate and enjoy them than those who have been accustomed to the heavier grades of tobaccos that are used in the manufacture of the majority of the imported Cigars brought into this market.

To-morrow night at the Pavilion the most enjoyable of the season. Secure your seats at Nordheimer's.

Insane From Religion.

BRANTFORD, April 15.—Solomon Moss, arrested on a charge of insanity, is in the county jail awaiting the development of his case. He continues to be religious, preaching all the time. He imagines that he owns the city of Stratford and desires to make some real estate deals. Moss is a Plymouth brother. His insanity developed very suddenly the other day while at work, and he began preaching.

The Sheffield House Importing Company (Registered).

65 Yonge-street (below King). Wedding presents in solid silver and best English silver plate. C. E. Robinson, Manager.

Septuagenarians Marry.

ST. MARY'S, April 15.—Francis Anderson and Jean McAuch have been married. Rev. A. Grant, pastor of Knox congregation, tied the nuptial knot, and the happy couple started out on a wedding tour. Their combined ages are 156 years, the groom being 79 and the bride two years younger.

A VERY SUSPICIOUS CLAUSE.

THE EAST END PROPERTY OWNERS' MEETING.

They Think They See a Coon Up the Tree —A Clause in "The Act Respecting the City of Toronto" on Which Much May Depend—A Committee Appointed to Secure Delay.

The East End Property Owners' Association met in Poulton's Hall last night. Ex-Ald. James Mitchell, in the absence of President Dingman was in the chair. Among those present were ex-Ald. John Jones, Barrister R. E. Kingsford, Capt. Beavis, Messrs. Redway, Edward Hales, V. E. Ashdown, W. Cassidy, T. Farr, John Hendry, Smart, Grinnell, Dan Chisholm, West, Thomas Jennings, ex-Ald. G. S. Macdonald, Secretary Mills, Treasurer Ed. Blong.

The most important business before the meeting was the question of the reclamation of Ashbridge's Bay. Capt. Beavis introduced the subject. He said that his syndicate had solicited a company, among whom were prominent Toronto financial men. "It has been said," he continued, "that we are men of straw and could not carry out our proposal. I want to say right here that we're ready not only to carry it out, but we have the money besides. We shall, however, kick against anything that is not entirely in accordance with our original proposition." He said that certain legislators were trying to thwart the dictum of the people in the matter. The meeting, he said, would be enlightened on this point by Mr. Kingsford.

Mr. Kingsford, quietly drawing a copy of the "Act Respecting the City of Toronto," which received its first and second reading Tuesday in the Legislature, remarked: "If you want Ashbridge's Bay reclaimed by a syndicate you have got to take care. This scheme is not going to be carried out without the cooperation of this association. Beavis & Redway have got the financial backing necessary to carry out their scheme and the people have got to show not only the city, but the legislators that they will not stand any more nonsense. Five thousand people have said that the city shall not do this work, and the reason for this is that they have lost confidence in the City Council. Surely no one would have thought any delay would take place after that." He then read this clause (18) from the Act referred to:

The corporation of the City of Toronto may take such steps as they may consider necessary to reclaim certain waste marsh lands in the neighborhood of Ashbridge's Bay and may by bylaw determine what lands will be benefited by the said improvement and a proportionate share of the cost thereof shall be assessed against the said lands so respectively benefited and also the proportionate share of the cost of the said improvement which shall be assumed by the city at large, and may assess and levy the portions to be borne by the lands benefited against the said lands in such relative proportions and payable within such period as the said corporation may demand by the same or any other bylaw.

"That section should never have been in that Act," continued Mr. Kingsford. "It is not wanted. It does not say that the city shall do it, but that it may. I venture to say that if that section is left there something will occur to defeat the will of the people. The bill has passed its second and first reading and an effort should be made to have its final reading postponed. Delay may happen, our before bills goes into law some assurance should be given that the city will not make an effort to reclaim the bay under the provisions of the bill. The hurried manner in which the bill has been run through its initiatory stages looks bad."

Mr. Michael said he was father of the clause, and it would not hurt Messrs. Beavis and Redway's scheme one iota. It was merely put in so as to ensure the reclamation being carried on and nothing happen to the present scheme. "Neither the City Council nor the members of the Legislature are responsible for one word in the clause." Mr. Mitchell subsequently acknowledged that it had been tampered with by someone since drafted some months ago, but he still maintained it was not injurious.

Secretary Mills: "It looks to me as if it goes further than even the City Engineer would go."

The executors of the estate of the Right Hon. George Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., have intimated that his collection of classic curios, valued at £100,000, will shortly be sold at auction.

The Czar has renamed most of the Russian regiments after commanders and generals notable since the time of Peter the Great, and the reserve battalions after important Russian victories.

An American who is a collector of curiosities has been in London for several days trying to buy the bed on which Prince Napoleon died. He made an offer of $500, but it was politely but firmly refused.

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Not a Bride, but a Corpse.

VOLUNTOWN, Conn., April 15.—Miss May Dixon, instead of being a happy bride, is a corpse. Frank Sherman, whom she was to have wed last Tuesday, is a maniac. Miss Dixon was but 22 years old, and her wedding was postponed by the death of her niece, which preceded her own out three days. Her lover could not stand the shock.

Hear the Queen's Own Drummers at the Gardens Friday night.

**Through Wagner Vestibule Buffet Sle