The Debate on the Address Concluded Last Night and an Opposition Amendment Voted Down.

Attorney General Blair's Masterly Address in Defence of the Government.

The second session of the present local legislature was opened at 3 p. m. on Thursday, with the usual ceremonies. Lieut. Governor Fraser, on his arrival at the parliament buildings, was received by a guard of honor from the R. R. C. I., in command of Capt. Hemming, marching from the barracks to the square headed by the 71st Batt, band. His honor was accompanied in the assembly chamber by a military staff consisting of Major Gordon, A. D. C., Lt.-Col. Maunsell, D. A G., and Surgeon-Major J. Whiteside Bridges, of the 71st Batt., in full regimentals. also heriff Sterling and Coroner Coulthard.

The galleries of the house were packed with people and on the floor of house were seated many distinguished ladies and gentlemen, including Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. A. G. Blair, the Misses Fisher, Miss Thompson, Mrs, Mott, Judge Palmer, Dr. Inch, Rev. Cannon Roberts, Rev. C. W. McCully, Hon. Wm. Lindsay, Hon. F. P. Thompson, Wm. Wilson ex-M. P. P., and many others

Nearly all the members of the legislature were in their places, when Governor Fraser took his seat on the throne, and with a clear pronounciation, read the fol-

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: It affords me sincere pleasure to meet you in parliament for the first time since entering upon the duties with which I am charged as the representative of Her Ma-

charged as the representative of Her Majesty in this province.

I am sure you will join with me in paying a just tribute of respect to the memory of my immediate predecessor, who, in the order of Providence, was only permitted to occupy for a brief period the high station to which he had been called. It is fitting that we should acknowledge, in a spirit of gratitude and thankfulness to the Giver of all good things, that while other countries have experienced and are still suffering the most distressing consequences of a disordered business condition we in New Brunswick have enjoyed almost complete immunity from the worst phases of these exceptional troubles. It is true that the shipping and lumbering business of the country have not recovered from past they have been subject, but evidence is not wanting that improvement in both these departments of our industrial lif may be hoped for at an early period.

During the recess the Earl of Derby, Her Majesty's governor general of Canada, retired from the position, which he had filled most acceptably, and has been succeeded by the Earl of Aberdeen, a representative of one of the most illustrious families of the empire. Should His Excellency and the Countess visit the maritime provinces during the ensuing sum-mer, as there is reason to believe they aplate doing, I am sure there will be no lack of heartiness and loyalty in the reception the people of New Brunswick will accord their excellencies, as well on account of their estimable personal quali-ties as of the high representative character in which they will come amongst us.

In accordance with your desire, expressed by resolution at the late session, the administration of the school law and the conduct of the trustees of schools in the town and village of Bathurst, a judge of the supreme court was commissioned to hold the inquiry and report upon the facts which he should find established by evidence upon such inquiry. I shall cause the report of the investigation with the evidence taken, to be soon as practi-

certainties respecting the future policy of the United States as to the free admission of lumber, you will be pleased to observe, when the report of the land sales is laid more than realized

The commission appointed under the act of assembly, fifty-fifth Victoria, chapter 18, to examine into and report upon the general subject of the laws regulating out the province, and of civic and muni cipal taxation generally, have attended to in no way limited, but the complainants that duty and have prepared a bill re-lating to the subject which they recom-mend for enactment by the legislature. I will cause this bill to be presented to you and invite your most careful consideration

It is a satisfaction to me to have observed the growing interest which attends the sessions and proceedings of the farmers' and dairymen's association, and the my government has imparted to the dairy industries of the country. Such marked success will encourage you to continue, and, if possible, increase the liberal grants | whatever, to prove acts which transpired years ago, even before the present governin aid you have been in recent years ex-tending to this important department of

agricultural industry.
So many and considerable are the changes which have of late years been what the report of the commission will be, but I trust whatever it contains will be taken bona fide as a full report, and and so few of the acts contained in the consolidated act of 1877 continue in oper-

The opinion has come to be strongly entertained by the general public that the practice and procedure in probate courts, and the law relating to these courts generally, requires to be materially altered and improved. Sharing in that opinion my advicers have been giving attention to this subject, and have prepared a bill in amendment of the law relating thereto, which will be submitted for your con-

of last summer and autumn.

revision. (Great applause.)

The Opposition Leader,

sideration and approval.

I am glad to be able to inform you that the Boys' Industrial Home, established under the enactment of the last session an concurrent legislation of the parliament of Canada, and aided by your liberal appropriation, has been opened under the most favorable auspices, and gives promise of accomplishing the most valuable results. In the interest of that class of the youths of the country who, it is confidenty expected, will profit by the associations and training which this institution is able to afford, I would recommend a continuance of the grant which you generously voted last year to this service. It has been found by the board of governors of the in-

and states in the American union where such laws have been in operation. These

of the assemby at this season of the year, and therefore I believe this house will and therefore I believe this house will possibility, as the fiscal year is now adjusted of completing the public pass the necessary legislation for such a possible misunderstanding, he had prepared and would now read, with the full concursus and the read of the chief coincides. now adjusted of completing the public reports so as to convene you at an earlier date, you will be invited to consider and seconding the address. determine whether a rearrangement of the time at which the accounts of the year shall be closed, might not with adyear shall be closed, might not with adthe sake of the government. Mr. Connell all of us the knowledge of any other differcatch votes in this house would utterly fail have them at all prices, \$11 to \$28, all great
the sake of the government. Mr. Connell all of us the knowledge of any other differcatch votes in this house would utterly fail have them at all prices, \$11 to \$28, all great

question, will, I am sure, receive your spoke of Sir Leonard Tilley's great servareful attention. ture of this province, has been again urged upon the attention of ministers at Ottawa, and I am not without strong hopes that the careful examination and study to which a sub-committee of the dominion cabinet recently submitted the case, has induced a more favorable opinion of its merits than has been hitherto entertained. I have directed the accounts of the income and expenditure to be laid before you, and you will be glad to note that the small floating liability which has been accumulating for two or three years past

has been this year sensibly reduced.

Estimates of the probable income and expenditure will be submitted to you, and I think you will find that the estimates of I think you will find that the estimated expenditure have been prepared with a due regard to economy and the requiremay be advised to recommend such may be advised to recommend such the province, and we trust your honor may be advised to recommend such

following amendment:

The Attorney General Replies.

ments of the public service.

Bills will be submitted to you:

To alter the practice of the supreme court of this province and relating to the constitution of that court; relating to the registry of deeds, and other measures of portance, to which I invite your attentive consideration.
Confidently anticipating that the im-

opposite with complete approval. He (Blair) had come in direct personal conportant duties devolving upon you will be zealously and prudently discharged, I will leave you to your deliberations. tact with the recent incumbents of the office of lieutenant governor, and had When his honor had retired, Speaker formed the highest possible opinion of Burchill took the chair and Mr. Wells, their eminent fitness for the position they of Westmorland, moved the address in filled. Sir Leonard Tilley had occupied reply, seconded by Mr. Ferris, of Queens. that office for so many years that he had He said: Since we last met in these halls almost come to be regarded as a fixture in the almost unprecedented has happened. the government system, and it was mere-We have had three honorable gentlemen ly just to say that he possessed the unperforming the duties of lieutenant govdoubted confidence of every citizen in the ernor at different times. This house never land. His memory would ever be reshad the pleasure of meeting the late Govpected and revered as that of a gentleman ernor Boyd, whose sad and sudden death | who, at all times, and under all concut him off after a very short occupancy ditions, sought to do his duty to the best of the office. The unanimous approval of of his ability. He had no doubt that his his appointment, however, expresses in some degree his popularity, his worth and who had, in his short term of office, so enthe general opinion of his qualification for deared himself to the people, would, had the highest office in our province. Al- he been spared, have left a record of disthough he was not long spared by Provi- tinguished service behind him. It was a dence to fill this office, I think this house matter for regret that precedent and usage will agree that he zealously and consti- had precluded the house from expressing tutionally performed his official duties in the address the high esteem in which during his short tenure, and that this the predecessor of Governor Boyd was so house deeply sympathizes with Mrs. Boyd deservedly held. The hon. member in her sad affliction. I might also mention (Stockton) had found nothing in the that her majesty the queen has been speech which met with his approval, but bleased to appoint a new governor general this acning void would have been filled to take the place of the late governor, if the hon, member had, only been alwhose term had expired. I am convinced lowed to add a clause dealing with woman that the Earl of Aberdeen has a public suffrage and another dealing with the record of always being on the side of question of prohibition in Nova Scotia. peace and conciliation, and that he took a He freely admitted that he was not prekeen interest in Canada and Canadian pared to go as far as the hon, member in affairs even before his appointment. His the direction of woman suffrage, nor did resolve to act impartially in the discharge he feel that it was a live issue before the of his duties and in the general interests | country to-day. The government had of this country has been manifested by been accused of a breach of faith in not his acts already and has commended him | making good a pledge of last session that to all Canadians. I trust that his excel- the evidence taken at the Bathurst school | They come under a class called the harmlency and Lady Aberdeen will honor us inquiry would be placed before the public less insane. Unquestionably, the way in and they will be loyally and heartily moment. He was entirely unable to con- contrary to the intention of the legislagreeted by all. While it is a general com- cede that the hon. member was justified ture, and it was not until the government plaint that times are dull, it must be ac- in making that charge. It was true that heard that the charge upon the counties knowledged that we have had no such the government had been asked by an amounted to the enormous sum it did, depression as exists in the bordering re- hon, member opposite that as soon as the that they had the faintest idea of the public and in England. In this respect evidence should be taken it should be way in which the lists were made up. we have cause to be thankful that we have published and distributed and a statenot been burdened with tens of thousands | ment had been made from the govern- municipal councils throw any light upon | fended." of unemployed, nor heard the wail of woe and want, but have pursued the earliest possible moment be put in of our way during the past year, with the leader of the subject?

The committee of the executive considered that their evidence would at the earliest possible moment be put in the hands of hon. members. But it must due to the members of this house who ware of sufficient gravity to call for action the subject?

The committee of the executive considered that their evidence would at the earliest possible moment be put in the hands of hon. members. But it must due to the members of this house who ware of sufficient gravity to call for action the subject?

Hon. Mr. Blair—No, we felt that it was due to the members of this house who was during the past year, with the assurance that we have better prospects ahead. It has been intimated that at no while the inquiry was proceeding the well as to the patients themselves, whose well as to the patients themselves, whose the least themselves, whose well as to the patients themselves, whose the least the least themselves, whose the least the least themselves, whose the least themselves, whose the least themselves, whose the least the least themselves, whose the least themselves, whose the least themselves, whose the least the least the least the lea very distant day the report of the commission that was appointed to inquire into most fully and accurately. The St. John should be set straight at the earliest the lieutenant governor, the solicitor geninconvenience to friends from whom he is separating. In your case I know, from your the Bathurst school difficulty will be laid | press had shown great enterprise in that | possible moment. The debates clearly

been made that the non-sectarian principle the amplest manner. of the school law had been violated. I do not think it necessary to refer to those the commissioners. natters which led to the appointment of Hon. Mr. Blair-Well, it was not the this commission of inquiry. I believe this house will concede that the appointment of the Hon. Judge Fraser as the commis-

claim that he would be even open to a Powell had moved that the board of edususpicion of trifling with the non-sectarian cation cause the evidence to be immeprinciple. (Applause.) Specific charges diately published, and it was in reply to before you, that the most sanguine ex- were laid by those who claimed the viola- that he (Blair) said that the evidence of Bathurst, and for which the government and the present board of education the government had done even more than gratuitous for that gentleman to assert that were claimed to be responsible, but evidence was allowed, without any restriction whatever, to prove acts which transpired into every possible charge that was suglocalities and to times long previous to ment came into power. I do not know their coming into office, he felt that the what the report of the commission will country recognized that in the gentleman ism of the lumber policy of the government, made in the statue law of the province, whatever its tenor, I believe this house the best possible selection had been made. have realized from the twenty-five year will, for the sake of peace, harmony and The government were willing to submit leases two and a half times as much as was

good will among all classes and creeds, act ation, that my government will ask you to consider the advisability of authorizing a new revision of the provincial statues.

A measure to that end will be laid before

good will among all classes and creeds, act unanimously and accept the said report as a full and true account of the matters at issue. (Applause.) I believe the late was it possible for him to approve or distance. unanimously and accept the said report as judgment of the people at any time. The Dr. Stockton - I approved of them then ssue. (Applause.) I believe the late was it possible for him to approve or discrown land policy with regard to timber approve of the report before it was before the exact amount of money that would be lands has been justified by the large sales him. That difficulty was not one which realized out of the sale of these lands was commonly embarrassed the hon. member, of last summer and autumn.

His honor's very proper reference to the agricultural industry will no doubt meet band just how the finances of the province of the lands should be so regularity.

with approval by this house. In referring to the proposed act regard- figure in his possession. He was glad servation, while at the same time opening ing taxation, no doubt if we could do away that there was one subject upon which up fresh areas that had not hitherto been altogether with the levying of taxes it the hon. gentleman felt some reluctance operated or occupied. If the government would receive the nnanimous support, not in expressing a judgment until he knew had believed that no more money would only of this house, but the people of the the facts. He was not aware that the hon. have been realized than was realized upon province as well: but some writer has member had been asked to express either the ten-year leases, they would have adopted truly said, we are only sure of two things, his approval or disapproval of that report. precisely the same policy. The hon memand those are death and taxes. As we are | Certainly, there was nothing in the speech | ber had entirely lost sight of the prime and sure, then, to be taxed, I believe this house which cailed for such expression. So capital considerations which had influenced will use their efforts to make as perfect an entirely lacking in confidence in the the government. The policy of the governact as possible for levying, assessing and government was the hon. member that lands being taken up than had ever been act as possible for levying, assessing and collecting of taxes. Since the interim rethere was not a single plank in its platport of the commission which was apform that he viewed with favor. On the
port of the commission which was apform that he viewed with favor. On the
exchequer would receive the benefit. In
chiefed to the present amendment was passed how long pointed to inquire into these matters was subject of the government agricultural fact the available lumber lands of the provlaid before this house at its last session, I policy he had discovered that the do- ince had been almost entirely taken up, not. bridge or of the other bridges across the St. press would be howling for the resignation have given this question considerable minion government was entitled to all withstanding the uncertainty that existed Croix. It is also incorrect that the action of the government? As to the act which stitution that a smaller charge than that study. I believe there should be greater | credit. He (Blair) was not going to say | as to the future of the trade. now imposed upon the localities from which the inmates have been sent, will sufwhich the inmates have been sent, will sufwhich the inmates have been sent, will sufincomes and distinct in its terms, which the government had accomplished very without Mr.

Said it was clear and distinct in its terms, which the government had accomplished very which the property and of the government had accomplished very which the inmates have been sent, will sufincomes and that the government had accomplished very which the property and of the government had accomplished very which the property and of the government had accomplished very which the property and of the government had accomplished very which the property and of the government had accomplished very which the property and of the government had accomplished very which the property and of the government had accomplished very which the government had accomplished the incomes, and that there should be some great things, or that the dominion ausence of a supporter of the government country could then at least do justice to his courage, whereance of the youths admitted to the home, more simple machinery for the proper thorities had not contributed, but he was (Mr. Robinson), and concluded that that Connell was present at the mee and an amending bill will be introduced at the present session reducing th and an amending bill will be introduced at the present session reducing the per capita charge upon the municipalities for such maintenance. I will also cause to be laid before you the report of the board of government of the home since its opening in July last.

Buring the recess my government has

That the present session reducing the per capita charge upon the municipalities for such maintenance. I will also cause to be laid before you the report of the board of government has a swell, before you the report of the board of government has a swell as to the most careful consideration to this matter, before you the report of the board of government has a swell as to the present session reducing the per capita that collectors should have the power to collect without handing over the lists of deliquent ratepayers to collect my into the leader of the opposition who happened to deliquent ratepayers to collect without hand been accomplished in the town of St. Stephen and the collectors should have the power to collect without handing over the lists of deliquent ratepayers to collect my into the leader of the opposition who happened to deliquent ratepayers to collect without handing over the lists of delegation from the towns of St. Stephen and the town of St. Stephen and the collectors should have the power to delegation from the towns of St. Stephen and the town of St. Stephen and the collectors should not a seriously wished to the leader of the opposition who happened to deliquent ratepayers to collect without handing over the list of the leader of the opposition who happened to deliquent ratepayers to collect without hand sincere During the recess my government has elicited opinions and information as to the representation of the country lent to prepare those lists. Who could they have looked to but Dr. Steeves? He was working of laws respecting liens of me- and other proposed acts. If these import- Robertson, a most capable man, had been would be justified in making a statement to river as they had been made free in other not acquainted with any principle of chivchanics and laborers in certain cases in ant acts are passed and placed upon the sent down here from time to time, but the house as to the cause of Mr. Connell's portions of the province. He was not alry that required the government to state some of the provinces of the dominion statute book, I think the honorable mem- the dominion government had given no retirement, especially as Mr. Connell had present when the details connected with the what was not true—that the government bers of this house will concur with his bonuses to the cheese factories, nor had gone into the newspapers and proclaimed purchase were discussed with the owners of was to blame and Dr. Steeves was blameless. honor and authorize a new revision of the they given a dollar in aid of those splen- the reasons why he had taken this step. He the bridges and with the authorities of the The hon. member (Stockton) had informed unfavorable, a bill on this subject has been provincial statutes. The statutes have not prepared and will be submitted for your consideration.

The non. member (Stockton) had informed did institutions that had been established been established in the counties of Kent and Westmorland.

The non. member (Stockton) had informed did institutions that had been established been some conflict of opinion between Mr.

The non. member (Stockton) had informed did institutions that had been established been some conflict of opinion between Mr. contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained in the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained to the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and instructors had been contained to the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and the Consolidated Statutes Special agents and th

Mr. Farris said he had much pleasure in | province.

vices to the country, and said he did not had said that only for what the dominion My government has not been discouraged by past failures from pressing with continued persistence for a settlement of the Eastern Extension claim against the government of the dominion. That claim, the justice of which has been repeatedly affirmed by the government and legislation of the dominion of the dominion. The claim, the justice of which has been repeatedly affirmed by the government and legislation of the dominion of the dominion. The claim, the justice of which has been repeatedly affirmed by the government and legislation of the dominion of the dominion. The control of the dominion of the dominion of the dominion of the dominion of the dominion. The dominion of the dominion was elevated to the position of chief through last session. The official report magistrate of the province. After a passno reference to the prohibition and wom-

pauper insane, and closed by moving the hostility. He had concurred with himself that "We take this early opportunity of expressing regret that the act of assembly passed at the last session of the legislature entitled an act further relating to the provincial lunatic asylum and its management, will impose a heavy burden of direct tayation upon the provincialities of these pauper lunatics should not be in the asylum at all; he had said that he did not think the proposed charge for board (\$1.25) was excessive, and the only other observation he made was that the municipalities should be notified so that they could, if they wished to, remove the patients. Dr. Stockton-You said the house was

changes in the law as will lessen such burden of taxation." for York (Pitts) said. Hon. Mr. Blair said he had followed the earlier remarks of the hon, member would very much impair the unanimity no opposition was given to the bill by any responsible member of the legislature. Passing on Mr. Blair said that when the superintendent (Dr. Steeves) received directions from the government to make up his lists and give notice to the officers of the different municipalities of the amount that would be charged upon them by the act he had misinterpreted the meaning of the act. As he made out his alludes and when he announced his purpose had ceased to be a member of the govern lists he included all patients save epilep- of resigning. ticts, idiots and imbeciles as charged upon the municipalities. His (Dr. Steeves) construction of the act was that the muniexpalities were not chargeable with these classes of patients, but they were charge-

able practically with everybody else. Dr. Stockton - Do I understand that he xcluded from the list those having homicidal and suicidal tendency, as well as epiliptics, idiots and embeciles? If he did he excluded a large number who should have been included.

Hon. Mr. Blair-It is quite true that he charges in his list a large number who would not have been charged, and he did not charge others who ought to have been charged. He did not include in the list imbeciles, epileptics and idiots. Dr. Stockton - What did he include that should not have been there? Hon. Mr. Blair-He included absolutely

everybody else. Mr. Stockton - Did he include those with homicidal and suicidal tendency? How many are there in the asylum who

Hon. Mr. Blair-I have not the figures but I think there is a very large number. Mr. Powell-Did the resolutions of the

before this house. Grave charges had regard, and had given the information in showed that the intention of the bill was to impose upon the municipalities only a Mr. Stockton-That is not the report of small portion of the inmates of the asy-

> Mr. Powell-You said, as the debates report of the commissioners that the hon.
> member referred to.
> Dr. Stockton—I said I was not aware
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by Dr. Steeves. Hon. Mr. Blair-About \$20,000, whereas our idea was that the charge should not exceed \$10,000 in the aggregate. In view

The government were not responsible for resumed the debate Friday afternoon on the delay. In the inquiry at Bathurst the amendment. He said it was entirely they had been asked. They had gone the government had claimed that the financial position of the province had been gested. Even with respect to other greatly improved by the lumber policy of made in the speech. The hon member had endeavored to fortify his very severe criticwho had been chosen as commissioner by claiming that the government should their conduct on that question to the realized in 1883 from the ten-year leases.

by no means the most important considerastood, even though he had not a single lated as to secure their protection and con-

ing season something over twenty of these factories would be established in this factories would be established in this factories would be established in this finances were under discussion? It is said \$9. Beautiful spring overcoatings which of the facts. The task was not an agreeable state that if he had any other reasons for that it is in vain the sportsman spreads a they are ready to make up in their usual Dr. Stockton—I did not say you were one for him, and he regretted it as much the step which he has taken he succeeded net in sight of any bird, and the net that first class manner, \$14 and upwards; some entitled to no credit whatever; I said if it for the sake of that hon, gentleman as for very effectually in concealing from each and was being spread by the hon, member to as low as \$12. And as for suitings, they

Hon. Mr. Blair said the hon, member and his colleagues in the executive. Mr. and only reason which he communicated to Blair then read the following:

The fact that Mr. Connell, who has, since that a few days after the meeting of governthe general elections of 1892, been a mem- ment in February last, at which meeting ber of the government, has now retired from Mr. Connell did not attend, he met Messrs the administration, would make it proper | Tweedie and Emmerson at McAdam Juncshowed that the bill had been fully ex- that I should offer an explanation to the tion, and in the course of conversation ing reference to the Bathurst school ques- plained by himself and that every oppor- house of the circumstances connected with showed them my letter of the second of tion, he complained that the speech made tunity had been afforded the house to the resignation, and the fact that Mr.Connell February, as also his resignation as a memunderstand its provisions. The official has given to the public, through the medium ber of the assembly, which he said he was an's suffrage questions. He attempted to report showed that the hon. member (Dr. of the press, his explanation of the causes going to send to the speaker if the Leighton make capital against the government on Stockton) was now expressing his hostility which have led on his part to this action, matter was not investigated. He said the the law regarding the support of the to the bill, but had then expressed no makes it important that the statement I Woodstock bridge matter was satisfactorily shall make on behalf of the government arranged and the only difference was the should be somewhat more ample in its de- Leighton matter. tails than is usual and customary under circumstances. I say nothing of the fact | tion that I improperly delayed acting upon that Mr. Connell, in apparent disregard of Mr. Connell's resignation to me of the 31st the obligations of an executive councillor, of January, that that resignation was not in has made public his version of occurrences my opinion in proper form, and should

dition is a most imperative one, and if the | plained to Mr. Connell on Wednesday evemanimous. See what the hon. member to continue confidential, the condition must that his previous resignation to me was ir-Hon, Mr. Blair - I do not think that ecutive councillor binds him to secrecy as courtesy to the lientenant governor dewhat the hon, member for York said to matters occurring in council, but there is manded of him that he should communicate of the house. His recollection was that as to when it is proper that events tran- he might state the ground upon which his spiring in the privacy of the executive resignation was founded, and I offered to self and colleagues, all of whom were present | proper form and accepted the same. Mr.

county. From time to time it was ex- day and Wednesday last.

noney secured by the mortgage, to meet | following letter: him at the registrar's office at a certain time and there discharge the mortgage; that the | Hon. H. A. Connell, Woodstock. mortgagor attended at the time fixed at the office of the registrar, and Mr. Sherrard not appearing, the mortgagor left the money with Mr. Leighton to pay the same to Mr.

My Dear Connell—I have yours of the 31st ult. enclosing me your resignation as a member of the government and intimating your intention of also resigning your seat in the legislature. I need not say that this

Sherrard. Mr. Sherrard discharged the action on your part takes me entirely by mortgage, and when he asked Mr. Leighton surprise, and must be due to causes of not to pay him over the money was informed by the registrar that he had used the money the registrar that he had used the money and could not then pay him. Later Mr.

Sherrard was prevailed upon to accept a promissory note of the son of the registrar for the amount, which note, although now overdue, remains unpaid. Suit has been commenced on the note which is being defended."

The account that he had used the money titons which could not have been present in your mind at the moment of your writing, or I am sure you would not have so written. First, there is the courtesy due from a member of the government to his leader, as indeed also to his colleagues, which makes it his duty to acquaint him or them with the reasons of his action before taking so pronounced a step. They are entitled to know what the causes are which have led to the

the evidence taken, to be soon as practicable laid before you.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you upon the unqualified success with which the policy authorized and approved by you in respect to the management of our timber crown lands has been attended. Notwithstanding the discouraging condition of the lumber business, and the uncertainties respecting the future policy of the members and the property of the variety of the charges made was so investigate the charges made was sion to investigate the charges made was sion to investigate the charges made was sion to investigation. Almost that a report had been made, but if it was the total variety of the variety of the variety of the variety of the charges made was sion to investigate the solictor genthal that a report had been made, but if it was the total variety of the variety of the variety of the was not the intention of the did. But it was not the investigation. Almost that a report had been made, but if it was the total variety of the variety of the variety of the variety of the solictor genthal that a report had been made, but if it was the total variety of the total variety of the variety of the variety of the was not the intention of the did. But it was not the intention of the did. But it was not the intention of the did. But it was not the intention of the did. But it was not the intention of the did. But it was not the intention of the did. But it was not the inversion of the wise one, and it has a report had been m the legislature. Mr. Connell assigned no reason whatever for this action on his part, and on receipt of his communication I immediately replied to him by letter of date have no wish to part with us in other than the most friendly way, or under circumstances which would prevent us from always continuing friends. In this view I would ask you to reconsider your present action at least for a time. I need not say that I shall were laid by those who claimed the violation of that principle, and an able and acute counsellor, C. N. Skinner, was engaged by them to probe the matter to the gaged by them to probe the matter to the bottom. I followed as closely as possible the newspaper reports of the evidence taken, and to my mind the evidence was in no way limited, but the complainants were allowed the widest latitude possible. The solicitor general, representing the government, not only allowed any and all evidence brought forward to support the specific charges preferred of acts which were alleged to have occurred in the town of Bathurst, and for which the government were not responsible for The government to be a sufficient compliance to be the dosk the house to ask the house to pask a distant on the govern that I could not imagine what it was intended to ask the house to ask the house at public affairs, and tistate for political and public affairs, and sistate for political and public affairs agental distate for political and public affairs, and tent on the distant only at the last meeting of council I had his assurance that nothing the to such action unless it was a general distanted to such act sonally, later, when the reason he gave me for his action was that he believed the government was humbugging him in the Leighton matter, as it had not proceeded with the investigation. I assured him that that was unavoidable, and that the solicitor general would not fail to give his attention to it at the earliest possible date, and he agreed communicated further. the government, for no such statement was at the earliest possible date, and he agreed communicated further. to allow the resignation to stand over.

On the tenth day of March the solicitor general, having again notified all parties concerned, proceeded to Woodstock and Mr. Connell, upon this conclusion being argovernment, stating that it was evident that tinued in office. the government preferred having Mr. Leighthat if Mr. Leighton were dismissed he would remain, but if he were not dismissed he would not remain. On that ground he

accession to the government, down to the of which a government could possibly moment he retired, did he, to the knowledge be constructed, and the only responsible of either or any of us, have any other ground of complaint, nor did he at any time suggest displace Lord Roseberry's government were that he had any other reason for the resig- his supporters to the amendment. If the objected to the purchase of the St. Stephen | would it be before the opposition and its of the government in respect of making had been passed at last session, Mr. Blair to many of you in attending the sessions have nearly all been repealed or amended, sent over the province by the local government of the complex that there might be no a committee, consisting of the chief com-

us as the occasion of his present action.

I am further authorized by the surveyor general and the chief commissioner to say

I may add, with reference to the suggest in council without the permission of his have been directed and forwarded to his honor the lieutenant governor. Such a con- honor the lieutenant governor, and I exrelations of members of the executive are ning last in the presence of all my colleagues be observed. The oath of office of an ex- regular, and that executive usage as well as vested in the lieutenant governor a discretion | direct to his honor. In so communicating ouncil chamber should be made public. put it in proper form for him. He very em-Such permission is never in a proper case phatically declined to send any resignation withheld, and in this case no application to his honor other than that which he had has been made by Mr. Connell to his honor already sent me in January last, and upon for such permission. Having myself pro- these facts being communicated to his cured authority from his honor, I now proceed to make a statement on behalf of myon the last occasion to which Mr. Connell | Connell did not himself consider that he For more than a year Mr. Connell has as he answered the summons to the las been urging the displacement of John S. executive meeting and attended the same Leighton, registrar of deeds for Carleton and took part in the business during Tues

plained to Mr. Connell that the government could not dismiss an official of the importnce of registrar of deeds without cause. He affirmed his intention of making public nsisted that as Mr. Leighton since his ap- Mr. Blair said he had not the slightest obpointment had become indebted to numerous | jection of reading that letter to the house, persons in the whole to a considerable though he could not but think that Mr amount, and which he has been unable to | Connell had acted with scant regard to his pay, but must have known at the time he oath of office in making public that inforontracted his liability that he could not mation. It was said that if Mr. Connell pay, he was unfit to be continued in office. | could only open his mouth he could reveal Finally, failing to secure Mr. Leighton's some very damaging things. If Mr. Connell ismissal in the absence of any specific had anything to reveal, he (Blair) had it charge preferred against him, on the tenth | from the lieutenant governor that he was of November last Mr. Connell himself laid authorized to unseal his lips. If he knew a charge before the executive stating "that of any improper conduct on the part of any he is informed and believes that Robert member of the government, he had full and Sherrard, a resident of the County of Car- free permission to make it known to the leton, held a mortgage on a farm in the public. No member of the government had county, and arranged an appointment with been guilty of any act of which he was the mortgagor, who was ready to pay the ashamed or afraid. Mr. Blair then read the

only very recent occurrence but of very the Act of Assembly to hold an investigation into the charge, examine witnesses on oath and report the result.

In the latter part of the month of January the solicitor general proceeded to Woodstock to held the investigation, but, although notice had been forwarded by him to all the parties and witnesses the pairs is shabby way if you were to go out at

Yours very sincerely,
ANDREW G. BLAIR. Passing on. Mr. Blair said that the course the leader of the opposition had taken in concerned, proceeded to Woodstock and moving an amendment to the address was took the evidence on oath of Mr. Sherrard, not one that had in recent years been deemed Mr. Leighton, the registrar, and his son, the deputy registrar, and one or two other witnesses. This evidence was laid before the within his right, but his motion could only committee of council at the last meeting, be regarded as a distinct motion of want of and the conclusion arrived at was that the confidence in the government. The house evidence did not sustain the charge which had not been asked in the address to comhad been preferred against Mr. Leighton. mit itself upon any public question. A government would stand discredited if, after rived at, announced that he retired from the such an amendment was passed, they con-

Dr. Stockton - Lord Roseberry did not resign when an amendment to the address was carried in the house of commons. Hon Mr. Blair said there was the widest possible distinction between the two cases. Mr. Labouchere was not the leader of a The members of the executive council desire each and all to say in the most explicit body as a serious politician. His following manner, that at no time since Mr. Connell's in that vote did not contain the elements ting of the admitted that there could be no misapprenext week, if he was sincere in his profes- are beautiful, and the prices are amazingly vantage be entertained. Any resolutions you may be asked to approve, as also any be asked to approve as also a

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210 Queen Street, Fredericton express its regret for passing a law which,

he admitted himself, could not be misun derstood and as to which the wayfaring man, though a fool, need not err therein? Mr. Pitts-Dr. Steeves did. Hon. Mr. Blair said the hon member was asking the house to stuitify-to state that

the act which they all then understood and now understood, they regretted having placed on the statue book. The honmember had not even the courage or the sincerity to ask for the repeal of the law. He contents himself with the hope that his honor will be advised to make the taxation a little lighter. He does not mind the baby if it is only a small baby. (Laughter) He now open to the hon member was to withthey could only do justice to his stupidity peal the law of which he now complained. The present motion was futile, for he knew quite well that the supporters of the government were not going to support it.

The debate was concluded last night, and Dr. Stockton's amendment was defeated by a vote of 25 to 12, with Mr. Robinson and Mr. Smith, of the government party, absent, and Mr. Connell's seat vacant.

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