

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10th, 1900.

We wish to notify those subscribers who are several years in arrears that our forbearance has been exhausted and that patience has ceased to be a virtue. We have put ourselves out a good deal to accommodate these people and to afford them an opportunity to pay in whole or in part, or to make some arrangement about their indebtedness; but our reward has almost invariably been in the shape of false promises. We have grown tired of this manner of procedure and have determined to turn these delinquents over to the County Court to be sued for the next term. If they wish to save themselves trouble and expense they will avail themselves of the warning afforded by this notice. We mean business.

We deeply regret to learn of the death of Malcolm McLeod, Esq., Q. C., which took place on Monday, after about a week's illness. Heart failure was the immediate cause of death. Mr. McLeod was a native of Ugg, and he was 65 years of age. In early life he taught school. He subsequently entered upon the study of law in the office of Charles Palmer, Esq., with whom he afterwards entered into partnership. Mr. McLeod soon took a foremost position at the bar, and has for years been regarded as a most eminent lawyer. His knowledge of the law was most profound. He was created a Q. C. many years ago. His wife died in May last, and he seems to have never recovered from the shock. One brother and three sisters survive him. One of the sisters is the wife of Alexander Martin, Esq., M. P.

WHEN the Patriot wishes to say something particularly nasty; when it desires to strike below the belt, and to stab an opponent from under cover, it makes a pretence of sending its lucubrations round by way of "Sackville," and introducing them to its readers through the medium of the "Monoton Transcript." Such tactics are worthy only of the sneak, who is invariably a coward and delights in sputtering behind a mask. This cowardly method of journalism was not always peculiar to the Patriot. When its editorial columns were controlled by a gentleman it usually assumed responsibility for its utterances; but under its present editorial management such journalistic ethics have no attraction for it, and it is rapidly acquiring the reputation of a gutter journal. The public actions of public men are a legitimate subject for journalistic criticism, and if the Patriot finds that the cause advocated by the politicians for whom it assumes to speak is so stretched as to be wholly indefensible, it should hold its peace and should refrain from venting its rage in an attempt to stab a contemporary editor in the dark. Journalism as conducted in this country is impersonal, consequently the personality of an editor, as such, should not according to journalistic etiquette be brought in question in a controversy between opposing newspapers. This is a doctrine we have heard the Patriot expatiate upon not so long since; it should practice what it preaches. But the leopard cannot change his spots, and to demand from the Patriot under its present editorial management any measure of justice and fair play for an opponent would seem to be as vain and useless as is the casting of pearls before swine.

The Government of this Province are at this moment in consequence of the result of the Belfast and Murray Harbor elections, in an exceedingly tight box. They know that the electors of the Province have served notice to quit upon them; but instead of honorably resigning they appear to be at their wits end to devise some scheme by means of which they may hang on to power a little longer. All kinds of reports are in circulation as to what the Government contemplate doing. One rumor is that Premier Farquharson will step out and that a new Leader will be chosen, who will appeal to the Province on the question of "railroad or no railroad; bridge or no bridge." Another report says a deal is to be made in the hope of selecting a Government supporter in the Fort Augustus district and securing the return of the Attorney-General in the city. Whether or not either of these rumors has any foundation in fact we of course know not. One thing, however, is undeniable, and that is that a number of men have for some time been employed by the Government in work upon the roads in different parts of the Province, particularly in the Fort Augustus district. Just think of employing men to work upon the public roads at this time of year; employing men and paying them with the people's money to dig up clumps of frozen earth; to throw upon the highway chunks of ice and snow and frozen mortar. Is that not the most barfaced effrontery; is it not insulting the people before the whole world; is it not wasting the people's money as effectually as if it were taken and thrown into the very ruts they are digging? The present Government have spent the public money on the roads and bridges, not when and where it would ef-

fect the greatest good to the highways and be most beneficial to the travelling public, but whenever and wherever it was thought political support could be gained. Now, when the electors have plainly told them they have forfeited public confidence, the Government still continue to appropriate the public funds, not only for ordinary expenditure, but in expenditures of the most extraordinary and useless character, and evidently intended for corrupt purposes. How much longer will the people endure this manner of conducting the public business?

Liberal-Conservative Convention.

A LARGELY attended convention of the Liberal-Conservative electors of the second district of King's County was held in the hall at Morell on Wednesday last, the 3rd inst. The convention was held, pursuant to notice, for the purpose of selecting two candidates to contest the district in the Liberal-Conservative interest at the next election for the Provincial Legislature. Each of the four polls into which the district is divided was represented by its full quota of delegates, and besides these there was also in attendance a large number of electors from the different sections of the district. The proceedings were characterized by the most lively enthusiasm. Mr. L. P. Doyle, President of the Liberal-Conservative Association for the district presided. The two old candidates, Messrs W. A. O. Morson and James McIsaac, were again chosen to be the standard bearers of the Liberal-Conservative party in the next contest. Spirited addresses on the public questions of the day were delivered by the candidates, and by Messrs. Robert Mooney, James H. Dingwell, John McGregor and others. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered the chairman, to which he suitably replied. The candidates were heartily and enthusiastically cheered, and three cheers for the Queen brought the meeting to a close. Judging by the enthusiasm and determination manifested by all the electors in attendance at this meeting, the second district of King's may be depended upon to return the Liberal-Conservative candidates to the Legislature at the next election.

The Steamer Minto.

THE public were led to believe that when the new steamer Minto entered upon the winter navigation of the Straits wonderful things would be accomplished by her. But like everything else inaugurated under Grit auspices, the performance falls very far short of what was promised. The Minto made her first trip from Charlottetown to Pictou on Wednesday morning last, and she returned here the same evening. It was thought she would continue on this route for a long time as the weather was mild and conditions seemed every way favorable. But this was not to be, and our citizens were very much disappointed when they learned on Thursday that the steamer was to go to Georgetown that afternoon instead of returning here. The Board of Trade was at once convened and a message was sent to Sir Louis Davies asking him to order the steamer to this port. Sir Louis answered expressing his surprise that the steamer was not running to Charlottetown instead of Georgetown; but refraining from ordering her to run here, as the captain was considered the best judge of the situation. In explanation of the course he pursued, Captain Finlayson sent the following letter from Georgetown to Mr. Lord, agent of the marine department in this city:

"Sir,—The reason I did not return to Charlottetown to-night was that it was not possible to get in through Hillsborough Bay with the ice. We had all we could do to get out this morning. From the blockhouse to the bell buoy we came through thin or sheet ice; from the bell buoy to the south side of Point Prim we met rafted ice. The steamer with her barely worked through it. On several occasions she nearly stopped. If she once stopped I knew very well we could not move her again till a shift of wind off shore. After getting to the southward of Point Prim we had drift ice all the way to Wood Islands. I considered the state of the Gulf well this afternoon before I decided to come to Georgetown. If it were possible I would have gone back to Charlottetown to-night instead of coming here.

(Sgd.) ALLAN FINLAYSON, "Capt. Minto."

Are we to conclude from this that the Minto is a comparative failure as an ice breaker? It will be noticed that the captain says that "with all the power" he could put on her she "barely worked through the ice." One thing is certain, while the Minto had all she could do to work her way out and was unable to return here the ferry boat was running from wharf to wharf between here and Southport, and is still doing so. After all the money the Minto cost to build her, and all the extra expenditure made upon her after she came out here she seems to fall very far short of what was expected of her. On Monday afternoon she again started to come here from Pictou; but after being in the Straits all night got into Georgetown yesterday near noon. The mails came in by special arriving here shortly after two o'clock.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, etc.

AT OTTAWA.

PELLETTIER'S INCOME—HOW IT STRIKES THE PEOPLE—THE SECOND CONTINGENT—OFFICERS APPOINTED BY GOVERNMENT AND OFFICERS IN THE RANKS—A THE BOURASSA CAMPAIGN A PUT-UP JOB?—WHY FIGHT FOR ENGLAND?—MORE ABOUT THAT CAMPAIGN DOCUMENT—SENATE REFORM LEFT TO PROVIDENCE—TORMENTS OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE—ANOTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT GONE.

(Special Correspondence to THE HERALD.)

OTTAWA, JANUARY 5, 1900.—The last year of the century opens in Canada as in most other countries with which we have anything to do, under conditions of activity of trade and industry. The workshops of the world are pouring out their products with unusual steadiness, and the average scale of prices is higher than for many years past. The money value of Canadian exports and imports for the last calendar year was probably greater than in any previous year of our history. This, however, does not of necessity mean that the people of Canada have bought from abroad or have shipped to other countries a larger quantity of goods. It means that the same quantity of goods brought or cost more money. The official returns take more account of values than of quantities. When we read that Canadians must be more prosperous because they bought fifty per cent more goods from abroad in 1899 than in 1898, we should remember that the average price of all kinds of merchandise has increased much more than fifty per cent. The man who has occasion to buy certain articles of clothing or the material to make them is not richer because the same goods which cost him twenty dollars in 1896 now cost him twenty-seven. Yet when the minister of finance makes his speech he asks for support to his government and his policy because the trade has increased, when after all the increase is not in the quantity of goods, but in the prices. It would not be correct to say that an era of high prices is a bad thing. On the whole it is, perhaps, advantageous when it applies equally to the things we sell and the things we buy. But in its effects on the individual it all depends upon the question whether he is a seller or buyer. If he sells nothing but his labor he does not gain unless his earnings have increased in the same proportion as the price of merchandise.

IT COUNTS IN TAXES.

But when it comes to taxes, those who gain by high prices and those who lose by them are alike in that they have to pay. Mr. Fielding claims credit for increased customs revenue. He has reason for his boast. Every yard of cloth, every pound of metal, almost every article of imported food pays more taxes than it did four years ago. The duty is based on the price, and for every additional dollar that the working man has to pay for his clothes, or the mother for her household supplies Mr. Fielding's tax collectors take an extra quarter dollar, or thirty cents, or thirty-five cents. In that way, and no other way, has the revenue increased. For there is reason to believe that the quantity of goods imported has not increased, but fallen off. The government does not get duty from more articles, but more duty from each article. This is a matter worth thinking over, when we read of the increased value of Canadian imports and the increased customs revenues.

THE SECOND CONTINGENT.

When this letter is written the troops of the second contingent are gathering in the centres of concentration, or moving toward Halifax. The response to this call has been more enthusiastic than that to the first summons. When the first contingent was called out many thought that the event was merely an imperial demonstration, and that the war would be over before the Canadians arrived. Mr. Tarte publicly made this prediction at his farm on St. Vincent de Paul meeting. No one makes that mistake now. But the greater danger has only made the greater enthusiasm. The government has added three hundred to the number of troops, so that this battalion will go away in three ships 1300 strong instead of two ship loads of 1,000 men, as was at first intended. The minister of militia says that he keeps politics out of the organization. Perhaps the poor man has tried his best to do so. But as a matter of fact, an examination will show that of the militia officers who receive appointment to the second contingent a large majority are supporters of the government. Fortunately there was a larger range of choice, even with this limitation, so that it was possible to give the party this advantage, and still get good men. Moreover, if those officers who have no politics could not get commissions, they could go as private soldiers or non-coms. So the second contingent, like the first, may have a majority of liberals among its commissioned officers, but it will have a larger number of conservative families represented among those who are forgetting that they have been in command, and are enlisting in the ranks.

BY-ELECTIONS.

The seven by-elections mentioned last week will take place on the 25th. As yet Mr. Bourassa, the anti-contingent candidate in Labelle is having things all his own way. Though he condemns the government for sending troops to Africa the government has not yet put up a candidate against him. Mr. Bourassa has stamped the whole country, but no supporter of the ministry has so much as lifted his voice among the French speaking electors of Labelle in defence of the offer of troops. Many people believed when Mr. Bourassa resigned that it was "a put up job" between him and Mr. Tarte, and that the ministers from Quebec desired to show their supporters in the English provinces the danger of going too far in giving help to England. It is strange, to say the least of it, that Sir Wilfrid has not even attempted to check the spread of Mr. Bourassa's sentiments among the people whom the latter has been addressing. Unless something is done soon by the premier it will be clear to all that he is willing, or more than willing that Labelle should rot in condemnation on the loyal course of his own government.

WHY NOT.

And why should he not do so? Mr. Bourassa being free, takes the exact ground that Sir Wilfrid himself took

before he was coerced into a patriotic course by the irresistible influence of the loyal people of Canada, led by Sir Charles Tupper. There is every reason to suppose that the premier spoke in October as he thought. His actions have changed, but if he had been as free as Mr. Bourassa he might have continued to speak as Mr. Bourassa speaks. Perhaps had he remained in opposition he might even have repeated his market speech, substituting the Tugela or the Madder River for the Saskatchewan. Attention is again called to the anti-British manifesto issued in Quebec in the last general election campaign. It appears that the pamphlet was circulated extensively, and that extracts from it were printed by Le Soleil, the party organ in Sir Wilfrid's own city. Le Soleil now explains that these articles were printed under the excitement of the campaign and that "times have since changed." It declares that it was then protesting against the expenditure of three millions to purchase arms, but now, since the arms were bought, the government should be allowed to use them. "It was perfectly justifiable" the "organ of the liberal party" says, "to denounce in 1896 the acts of which the consequences becoming inevitable in 1900 ought to be cheerfully accepted." This seems to

mean that the despatch of Canadian contingents is a sad consequence of the unjustifiable course of the Tupper government in 1896. With it is light we turn again to the language of the campaign pamphlet circulated by hand of thousands in Quebec in 1896 and used editorially in the Laurier press at the time.

CHOICE EXTRACTS.

Here are the charges made against Sir Charles Tupper and his associates: "One of the blunders of old Tupper is imperial federation, which signifies a more intimate alliance between England and her colonies in general, and Canada in particular. "As England is always at war with somebody, we will have to continually tax ourselves to find the money and to draw lots to furnish men. "In return England will create these droll baronets, knights of this and commanders of that. "But the people will remain food for the cannon. "Why all these armaments if we were not to have war? "And why fight for England? "It is the electors who will have to use these carbines and these cannon. "We are considered quite good enough to furnish food for cannon.

"The Tupper, the Angers, the Tallons will be in their ministerial offices when they will send us to the posts. "With joy in their hearts and a glass of champagne in their hands, they will send our Children to Africa, or to Asia, whence they will never return. "If you vote for the Bloc candidates, you approve of these preparations for war. "Vote for Laurier and his candidates if you wish to see your country enjoy tranquility, and not expose yourselves to have one of these fine mornings for distant shores, leaving behind your wives, your children, and all that is dear to you."

It is not surprising that Mr. Bourassa, Mr. Monet and other members who had the benefit of such campaign literature should object to the despatch of troops to "fight for England." It is not surprising that the leaders in whose name and interest this literature was used should fail to appear on the stump against Mr. Bourassa. Above all it is not surprising that in view of the last clause in the appeal quoted Sir Wilfrid Laurier should have said what he did in October, and that Mr. Tarte should have spoken as he did at St. Vincent de Paul.

SENATE REFORM ABANDONED.

It is announced in a semi official way that the government will introduce no important legislation this year. This seems to mean that the alleged reform of the senate will be given up. At his last meeting in Toronto Sir Richard Cartwright was asked, "What about the senate?" His reply was that Providence would deal with that body, which was understood to mean that the government would content itself with appointing its own supporters to senate vacancies. Should the people give the liberals a second parliamentary term in office they will probably obtain control of the upper house. There is no doubt that the government will do its duty in making good party appointments. If Providence were only as ready to make vacancies as the government is in the services which it controls the "reform" would soon come about. It is, however, significant that Sir Wilfrid's scheme of senate reform has hardly been mentioned since the session closed. For the matter nothing was done during the session but to give notice of motion. The premier said over and over again that he intended to go on with the motion. But it stood over from time to time, and was finally struck off the order paper, Sir Wilfrid assuring the house that he would bring it up next year. He probably intended at that time to hold the election before the next session, but circumstances, which he has not been able to control, have led him to change his mind about that. So it is probable that Canada will never again hear of the Laurier scheme of senate reform by amphibious parliaments.

THE GERRYMANDEE, TOO.

It is believed that the government will also give up the Gerrymander scheme. This measure passed the house last year, and was thrown out by the senate. It has not been made an issue by any of the government's campaigneers since the house rose, so we may assume that they are not proud of it. The franchise bill of the year before last is such a clumsy affair, and works so badly that it will need an immense amount of tinkering. The secretary of state, who has charge of the votes that are sent out from the whole provincial franchise business, will probably give a year of his life to get back to the late system. He would save the bargain, for the confusion and delay, the complaints and the annoyances are worrying him into the grave.

ANOTHER PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT GONE.

Following the defeat of the Greenway government in Manitoba comes the news of the wreck of the Semlin ministry of British Columbia. That government may not be out of existence when this letter is printed, but it has received its death blow, and there is no doubt it has not the support of the majority of the house which met on the 4th. The ministry is a coalition, but it owes its existence to an arbitrary act of Lieutenant Governor McLean, who was appointed to his present position as a reward for political services to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. A recent liberal conference in the convention of the province adopted a resolution condemning the coalition. The reorganization, which must now take place will probably give the control of public affairs in the province to one responsible party or the other, and bring the career of opportunism to an end.

Obituary.

Amidst the happy and joyful season of Christmas and the holy season of Epiphany on earth and good will to men, when all are in the full enjoyment of happy greetings, etc. one home in our neighbourhood was made desolate and a gloom cast over the settlement. On the 23rd ult, Catherine the beloved wife of Mr. James J. McDonald, Bek Point, departed this life after a long illness at the early age of 45 years, leaving a disconsolate husband, one daughter and two sons to mourn. Deceased was the daughter of the late Walter Fisher of South Lake, and was married to Mr. McDonald about twenty years ago. During these years she truly and faithfully fulfilled the obligations of a devoted wife, a loving mother and a diligent neighbour. Mr. McDonald was frequently attended during the latter days of her illness by her spiritual adviser Rev. A. J. McIntyre P. P. who also performed the last holy rites of the Church at the grave on Christmas Day. Mr. McDonald and family have the sympathy of the community in their sad bereavement. May her soul rest in peace.—Cor. (Patriot please copy.)

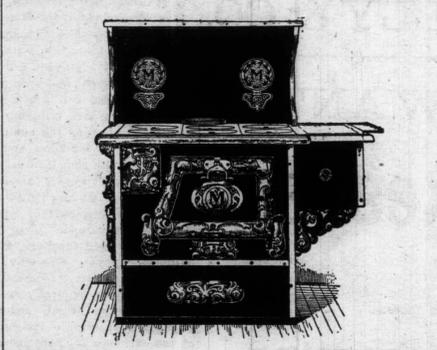
DIED.

In this city on January 2nd, Ann Coyle, aged 67 years. R. P. P. At Nail Pond, Tignish, on the 29th. November last, Patrick Cloughy, in the 81st year of his age. Deceased was a native of County Kilkenny, Ireland, and emigrated to this Province 31 years ago. On December 22nd at the same place, his wife, Johannah Foley, in the 76th year of her age. Two sons and four daughters are left to mourn their loss. May their souls rest in peace.

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