THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1885.

The Worst of All.

THE particulars of the now celebrated "Ontario Conspiracy" are, doubtless, within the recollection of our readers. Briefly the circumstances are these: Mr. Mowatt and his colleagues in the Government of Ontario charged the Liberal-Conservative party generally, but certain persons in particular, Messrs. Wilkinson, Bunting, Meek and Kirkland, with conspiring to seduce from their allegiance several supporters of the Local Administration, and with offering them bribes, thereby to accomplish the downfall of the Provincial Government. The whole Dominion was excited over the discovery—the telegrams were loaded with the particulars of the plot—the virtuous Grits rolled their jaundiced eyes to heaven over the wickedness of the Tories, while the latter well-nigh stood aghast at the terrible charges hurled by Grits of high standing against those holding equally good positions in the Conservative ranks. Of course the *Patriot* was not behindhand with the news. In the largest display type it proclaimed the discovery of "Disgraceful Documents," and the disclosure of "Astounding Revelations," while it promised "Further Developments," and boastfully paraded he announcement that "The Tories cannot explain it away." It is true the Tories have not explained it away, but a jury of twelve sworn and impartial men have "explained it away" in a most decided and satisfactory manner.

It we ask how this conspiracy came to be discovered, we learn that the unpurchasable Grits whom the accused endeavored to bribe, were all the time acting under instructions from the Government, who were well aware of what was going on, and that Mr. Mowatt and his colleagues prompted these trusty followers to seek, by every means, to entangle the parties charged with the conspiracy. Then, at the proper time, the mine exploded, and the transaction was revealed to the world. The tale, at first sight, seemed connected and plausible, and but little doubt was felt of the guilt of the parties concerned.

Of course the charges were investigated. First, by a Legislative Committee—next before the Police Magistrate—then before a "Royal Commission" so called—and lastly before the Courts of Justice, where the accused were arraigned, and with able counsel on both sides were tried by a jury of their countrymen. Not by a jury of their own political creed, but by men, three-fourths of whom were politically opposed to them, and before a Judge whose political sympathies would be with the Grits, as, before his elevation, he had been prominently identified with and owed his appointment to that party. Before these men the conspirators were tried, and by them declared innocent.

Complete as was the vindication of their innocence to the parties accused, and crushing as was the blow to Mr. Mowatt and his associates, the charge of Chief Justice Wilson was a still severer condemnation of the practices resorted to by the prosecution. Referring to the action of the Grit members who allowed themselves, according to their own story, to be approached, the Judge told the Jury

"They were at liberty to look at their conduct, and, as a good deal depended upon their evidence, to see how far they could be relied upon. If they had shown that they had acted in a dishonorable manner, it might affect their character, and the jury were entitled to know not only their general character and credibility, but also, whether they had given evidence of a character which might be rejected independently of their credibility. What had those parties done on their own showing? Had the part they played been a proper and respectable one? There were some things which a person might do with perfect propriety, and without imputation of blame. There was the role of a detective who, while worming himself into a man's confidence, would not do anything to induce the commission of a crime; few men liked to take this duty, although it was necessary in the interests of justice. But there were still fewer men who would undertake to be the accomplice of a person who would pretend to co-operate with him, and on every opportunity would lead him on to the commission of crime in order to betray him. This was a MOST DISHONORABLE PART to undertake. No man who had a particle of respect for himself would undertake such a work. Yet such was the conduct of these three men, McKim, Balfour and Dowling, who were giving evidence against the defendants. They were told to go on and do this by members of the Government. A judge is bound to speak plainly; there are many disagreeable duties a judge is bound to perform, and one is to make no distinction of persons. Although these men did this act, it was no reason in itself for disbelieving them, but it was a reason for looking upon every word they said with grave suspicion as to its truth. * * * With regard to the contention of the defence that the witnesses for the Crown were engaged in a conspiracy to induce offers of bribery, he could not do more than utterly condemn any man leading another on to commit crime, whatever excuse he might plead. A person inducing another to commit robbery or murder became a robber or a murderer. The common sense of mankind revolted against the idea that it was right that a man should lead on others to the commission of crime. No man could do this and preserve his self-respect."

Instead of the four unfortunate Conservatives having been on their trial, we think our readers will agree with us that it was Mr. Mowatt and his fellow Grits, and that the result has been very disastrous for them. Not only did the prosecution which they promoted wholly break down, but they themselves received most unenviable characters, while their poor tools, McKim, Balfour and Dowling, were told, in so many words, that they could not be believed on their oaths. Yet these three men go to make up the majority by which Mr. Mowatt retains the Government of Ontario. By this verdict the Grit party at large suffer a rigorous condemnation, for they sympathized with and approved the disgraceful methods which Mr. Mowatt took to embarrass and confound the Conservative party. Distrusted at the polls, disgraced before the courts, the Grits should hide their heads in shame, but we don't expect them to do it.

The Unpatriotic Grits.

THE general attitude of the Grit press, in the matter of the North-West Rebellion, has been most discreditable. As members of one great family, it might reasonably be expected that all would unite, regardless of minor dissensions, in one grand effort to repress the outbreak and prevent the destruction of life and property. This, we are sorry to say, has not been the case. The Grit party—if we are to understand the Grit press as speaking the sentiments of that party—have held themselves aloof from all endeavor to restore peace and order, and instead of holding up the hands of the Government, have done everything to promote dissatisfaction and discord among the people. The volunteers who went to the front were discouraged, and some of them, who happened to be relations of prominent Conservatives, jeered at for their ready response to the call of duty. The hardship of the journey was magnified, and reports published of the sufferings of the men which were at total variance with the facts subsequently developed. Where eight Conservative members of Parliament, holding military rank, proceeded at once to the scene of action, NOT A SINGLE GRIT STIRRED FROM HIS CUSHIONED CHAIR. When these eight members sought pairs, as is customary, with an equal number of Grits, they were refused, and Mr. Blake, when appealed to, declined to use his influence with his followers to procure pairs. Here is patriotism of the most approved Grit pattern. This is the stuff of which are composed the men to whom we are asked to entrust the reins of Government. It is true that Mr. Blake's voice was convulsed with emotion as he spoke in the Commons of his relatives who had gone to the post of danger, but the effect of that pathetic incident has been marred by the subsequent revelation that Mr. Blake has no relatives in the field at all.

But there are some honorable exceptions, and we are proud to record them. Last week we referred to a resolution which had been introduced in the Quebec House of Assembly by one Turcotte. As we confidently expected, it was defeated by a decisive and most significant vote—one that indicated not only the feelings of the vast majority of the French Canadians upon the subject, but also shewed conclusively that there are some good Grits, though a few, whose love of country far exceeds their love of party. When the vote was taken, Mr. Joly, the ex-leader of the Grit party, Mr. Stephens, one of the members for Montreal, and Mr. Cameron declined to swallow the dose that was prepared for them by Mr. Turcotte and Mr. Mercier—in pointed language expressed their dissent from the sentiments expressed in the resolution, and recorded their names with the majority by voting it down.

The Montreal *Herald*, on whose editorial staff is associated Mr. Henry Lawson, formerly editor of the *Patriot*, has some excellent remarks in connection with this subject, which we commend to the careful perusal of his unpatriotic successor:

"When, therefore, Quebec politicians try to make political capital out of this rising of the half-breeds, they are taking a course the very reverse of patriotic. To pat the rebels on the back, as Mr. Turcotte and those who voted for his resolutions do, and tell them that they have great grievances, and claims that are perfectly equitable, that they have been driven to bay, and that their rising is more the result of despair than of disloyalty, is to give the unfortunate insurgents all the encouragement that they can give them to continue their hopeless and ruinous struggle, and at the same time to weaken the hands of the Government in speedily and effectually putting an end to the insurrection. We cannot but express our surprise that Mr. Mercier should, for any consideration whatever, have allowed himself to give encouragement to men who are engaged in what he knows is a hopeless struggle with constituted authority. When he does so he is neither the friend of the men with whom he professes to sympathize nor of the country whose peace has been disturbed. He and the others who went out of their way to condemn the Government, which is straining every nerve to put down rebellion, are acting the part not of statesmen but of reckless factionists. Their conduct is similar to that of the man who, while his house was burning, went off in pursuit of the suspected incendiary. Every one who is not a candidate for a lunatic asylum or worse must see that the business in hand is to extinguish the fire. That done, there will be time enough to enquire who it was that set fire to the building. What the people of Canada have to do now is to restore peace in the North-West, and it is encouraging to see that they are going about the work in so spirited and so courageous a manner. When the half-breeds have laid down their arms there will, no doubt, be a searching inquiry into the origin of the troubles, but Messrs. Mercier, Turcotte & Co. are doing what they can now to give that enquiry a partisan character, and so defeat the ends of justice, to the injury, it may be, of the people with whom they sympathize so gushingly.

"It is encouraging to see that the whole Liberal party of Quebec have not made themselves the puppets of the fire-eaters of the Club National. Mr. Joly, Mr. Stephens and Mr. Cameron saw that the present was no time to discuss the grievances, real or fancied, of the half-breeds, and they, with a good sense and a patriotism which does them honor, joined with their political opponents in voting down Mr. Turcotte's mischievous resolutions. They have rightly judged that the matter of restoring order to the Dominion and of giving the settlers in the North-West the security which is absolutely necessary to enable them to develop the resources of that great country, is not a question for parties to play fast and loose with, but that it is their duty as good citizens to give the Government who are endeavoring to do that arduous and difficult work all possible aid, moral as well as material. As against Mr. Mercier's unpatriotic attitude, Mr. Joly's patriotism burns brightly, and when the people of Quebec come to consider whether it is Mr. Mercier or Mr. Joly who is in the wrong, they will not be apt to accept Mr. Mercier's opinions in preference to those of Mr. Joly, who has given the people of Canada one more evidence of his high standard of honor and the robustness and genuineness of his patriotism."

MESSRS. MURPHY & Co., Publishers of Baltimore, have in press a novel from the pen of His Grace the Archbishop of Halifax, which will be published early in May. It is entitled, "After Many Years." The scene is laid in Canada and in the Papal States, the time being the Garibaldian insurrection. This, the Most Reverend Dr. O'Brien's first departure from theological and philosophic themes, will, we doubt not, be eagerly sought after by the reading public.

Independent Testimony.

WHEN on the last day of the session the Government brought down a resolution desiring that the Address which had been passed to Her Majesty upon the subject of Winter Communication should be withheld for a time in consequence of the troubles in the North-West, the Opposition were very indignant, and deprecated the idea of adopting "any resolution allowing of leniency or delay upon the question." The Government were accused of humbugging and insincerity, and the *Patriot* denounced the members of the Assembly who voted for the resolution as "traitors." Of course the Government were little concerned about the opinions of the *Patriot*, they did what they believed was right, in the interests of the country, and it must be very gratifying to them to know that public sentiment supports them in their action. Nearly three weeks have elapsed since the Assembly was prorogued, and we have heard no expressions of dissatisfaction on the part of those immediately concerned; while outside the Province the action of the Legislature is looked upon as very graceful and likely to redound to our advantage. From the *Presbyterian Witness*, published in Halifax, and which we think will be accepted as an independent journal without any political leanings in favor of the Local Government, we clip the following:

"Prince Edward Island has had its grievances, no doubt. Promises made at the date of union have not yet been fulfilled. The Legislature resolved to address the Queen on the subject. But the North-West troubles having broken out, the Island men with most commendable public spirit have held their address, and thus allowed their grievances to lie over unconsidered till the reign of law and order is restored in the North-West. We totally misunderstand human nature if this magnanimity does not redound to the advantage both material and moral of P. E. Island.

The Franchise Bill.

THE *Patriot*, last Saturday, published the following sensational telegram from Ottawa:

"Franchise Bill, which takes away manhood suffrage and disfranchises young men, passed second reading, Jenkins, Macdonald and Hackett silently voting in its favor. Davies made a vigorous protest, and intends fighting the Bill in committee. Do young men intend submitting without protest to being deprived of privileges enjoyed for a quarter of a century? Island representatives await word from their constituents."

Upon which we desire to remark that, so far as this Island is concerned, Dr. Jenkins has given notice that he will, at the proper time, move that manhood suffrage be retained for this Island, which amendment the Government will accept and incorporate in the provisions of the Bill.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WE extend our hearty congratulations to Major Irving, who has been gazetted to the responsible position of Brigade Major for this Province. Major Irving has for many years taken a lively interest in military matters, and our volunteers owe largely their proficiency and the high reputation which they enjoy, to his zeal on their behalf. Moreover, he is an Islander, and we rejoice to know that he has succeeded to a position not only of importance but of emolument as well.

THE writ for the election of a member to serve in the Legislative Council in the place of the late Lawrence Kickham, Esq., has been issued; the nomination will take place on Friday the 8th of May, and in case of a contest, the election will be held on the following Friday. From all accounts Mr. McKachern is meeting with a most gratifying reception, and there is little doubt of his return. We trust that the Liberal-Conservatives in this large and important district will rally to his support and thus express their satisfaction with the prudence and economy with which the present Government have managed the affairs of the Island.

MR. L. H. DAVIES' unfortunate predilections for inaccuracy and exaggeration are gradually being found out at Ottawa. That was only a trifling instance where he stated that it took ten days to transport the Volunteers from Toronto to Winnipeg, yet he was promptly brought to book for it. His recklessness will be more apparent from a comparison of the following extract from his speech on the Budget with the official returns laid before Parliament. He said:

"Looking at the shipbuilding industry we find that in 1874 we built 486 vessels with a tonnage of 190,756. I will not read the figures for each year, but there was a steady increase up to 1878, maknig a steady business, a business built upon a good foundation, and at the end of 1878 I find we had 2,168 vessels built during the five years."

The figures as taken from the official returns do not corroborate Mr. Davies' statement. They are as follow:

	No.	Tons.
1874	486	190,656
1875	480	151,012
1876	420	130,901
1877	432	120,928
1878	350	101,506

Which shew plainly that there was a steady decrease in the numbers and tonnage during the five years, instead of a "steady increase" as Mr. Davies declared. No wonder he did not read the figures.

Vernon River Notes.

The country in this vicinity is beginning to show signs of spring; the river is clear of ice and the farmers are commencing to plough. They have fine houses and the condition of their farms is an evidence of their prosperity. Vernon River should be a favorite resort for travellers and pleasure seekers. The Catholic Church here is one of the handsomest and most shapely in the Maritime Provinces. There is also a good hotel kept by Mr. John Finlay, where travellers are received most kindly and their wants carefully attended to at very moderate charges.

DR. HARRY D. JOHNSON arrived home from Montreal on Saturday last having completed his course of studies. The many friends of the lamented Dr. Hammond Johnson will be glad to welcome the son of one whom they held in such esteem, and whether our young friend decides to practise here or not, we wish him that success which his talent and industry so well deserve.

The Trouble with Russia.

Troops are swarming to all barracks throughout the United Kingdom in response to the government call for reserves. The War Office in London is beseiged by military officers asking for employment. It has been decided to divide the Portsmouth fleet up into Channel flying and reserve squadrons. Fresh orders have been received to increase the number of workmen at Portsmouth. It is reported that the Russian government is purchasing in England through London merchants, chain armor for gunboats. The Khan of Bokhara has consented to allow Russia to complete telegraph line from Bokhara to Merv by way of Amor Daria. All military reserves of first-class in Russia-Poland have been ordered to be mobilized. The decree also extends to the south-west provinces of Russia. In defiance of her treaty stipulations with England, Turkey and other powers, Russia is strongly fortifying Batoum on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. The place is now flooded with guns and munitions of war, and a large corps of infantry and cavalry guards the railway from Poti on the coast of Tiflis, the capital of Trans-Caucasia. This railway is of great value in transporting troops from the Black Sea to the Caspian Sea on the way from European Russia to Afghanistan. Lord Wolseley is expected to return to England immediately to assist at a council of war. The English forces on the Nile will be removed to Lower Egypt. A portion is to be left at Wady Halfa, sufficient to repel any rebel attacks. Two ironclads and five belted cruisers are to be constructed at a cost of £5,250,000. The War Office has issued notice calling out the first class of army reserves, comprising fifteen regiments, for immediate and permanent service. Those members serving as police in England and Ireland are exempted. Other classes of reserves have been notified that they will probably be called out at an early day. It is rumored that Lord Dufferin will resign if Gladstone makes further concession to Russia. Russia's reply to the communication to Degiers, replies curtly that Russia declines to enter upon any further discussion of the Penjdeh incident. It is reported that the United States government has intimated that if war breaks out between England and Russia the United States will not allow Russia to buy ships or armed privateers in American harbors to prey upon British commerce. It is rumored that the Czar, within a year or two, will go to Samarcand to the ancient palace of Timour Lung to be crowned Emperor of Central Asia. Russia is organizing great fairs at Banku and Astrakan so as to promote Asiatic trade. Bodies of troops are passing through Bakan on their way to Central Asia.

The Admiralty has ordered a number of a new type of gun boats to be built as rapidly as possible. They will advance with light shell guns for the purpose of destroying torpedo boats and will be capable of steaming one thousand miles without recoaling. The Admiralty has surveyed several ironclads and other vessels now being built in private yards for foreign powers, with a view to purchasing them. Three new men-of-war have been launched on the Black Sea. Sweden is busy with military preparations. Gothland militia is being mobilized.

A despatch from Odessa says 22,000 troops will be despatched immediately to reinforce Gen. Komoroff. Russian naval circles are at fever heat over the reported presence of a British iron-clad at Valdivostock, a Russian port on the Sea of Japan.

The Czar has sent numerous Crosses of St. George to Gen. Komaroff for distribution among his bravest soldiers, and has asked for the names of the officers who distinguished themselves at Penjdeh. The whole Russian press is clamoring for the seizure of Herat by Russia.

A despatch from Bombay says: A Mahomedan chief has presented the government with 200 ponies for use in the transport service. Naval officers here are on the lookout for five Russian cruisers which passed Aden last week. During the past month the Russian military authorities sent 10,000 troops across the Caspian Sea from Baku. Of these 6,000 landed at Chikisler and 4,000 at Krasnoodsk. Two thousand additional men were sent from Turkistan to Merv. Prior to the despatch of these reinforcements there were 8,000 men stationed in trans-Caspian territory. Merv is the nearest point to Afghanistan where there is large Russian force stationed, the garrison now numbering 6,000 men. A despatch from St. Petersburg states that the Czar has issued an imperial ukase sanctioning the raising of a large force of Turkomen militia by Gen. Komaroff. It is stated on the highest authority that the two turret ships *Popoff* and *Nijni Norjord*, which are now at Sebastopol will be put in commission. The captain of one of them has been transferred to another boat, because it was known that he was of English descent. Workmen are employed day and night in the construction of two new men-of-war. Already $150,000 have been expended on these vessels.

The British government has decided to increase the number of armed cruisers to twenty, and has chartered the steamers *Coptic* and *Alaska* and the Pacific Company's steamer *Britannia*.

LONDON, April 27.—A Tiflis despatch says: The Khan of Tiflis urges the seizure of Herat by Russia in order to force upon England either war or peace. A despatch from Stockholm says the English government has ordered 36 Nordenfeldt guns and mitrailleuses from a firm there, and work is going on night and day in the execution of the heavy order. A despatch from St. Petersburg says war between Russia and England is now regarded as inevitable. The Czar leaves to-day for Moscow and from that historic city he will issue his manifesto or declaration of war, if such extreme measures should become necessary. Rumor from St. Petersburg of a fresh conflict between Russians and Afghans is causing great uneasiness in London and on the continent, the news of the Penjdeh battle having been preceded by similar rumors. It is generally believed also that Russia keeps back news. The news that the Czar is going to Moscow is considered ominous, as a similar visit immediately preceded the Russo-Turkish war. Press comment on the public feeling in all the European capitals is more despondent. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily News says, 'I am informed on good authority of another engagement on the Afghan frontier, and of 1,700 Russians who engaged the Afghans nearly all were killed.' Gourley, radical, M.P., asked whether the government would endeavor to have the dispute with Russia referred for arbitration to the United States. Gladstone answered, 'The government are sensible of their heavy responsibility to maintain the honor and good faith of the country on the one hand and on the other to use every means consistent with that honor to avoid war. I can give no more particular reply than this.' The utterance was accepted as significant and was received with cries of 'hear,' 'hear.'

WE are informed that, at an early hour this morning, a large party of commercial travellers, in response to an advertisement in yesterday's *Examiner*, paid a visit to a private residence on School Street. The object of their visit was not so much to peruse a letter which the lady of the house had addressed to the editor of the HERALD as to have a glimpse at the dame herself. The commercial travellers give a concert at Summerside to-night in aid of the Halifax Patriotic Fund, and we have no doubt that the character of "Susan" will be happily impersonated by the gentleman to whom the part has been assigned.

The North West Rebellion.

The Frog Lake massacre is confirmed by the Fort Pitt garrison, which has reached Battleford. They state that Mrs. Gowanlock was not killed. The priests were beaten to death and burned. Indians are very blood thirsty. They burned all buildings at Frog Lake and compelled the people to attend church, the victims and their murderers going together. After service they shot ten of the helpless whites.

A Winnipeg despatch of the 24th announces the opening fight of the campaign. Gen. Middleton with the advance detachment on the right bank of the Saskatchewan encountered the rebels fifteen miles south of Batoche's Crossing. Two hundred Indians and French half-breeds lay in ambush in a ravine and opened a heavy fire on our troops. The casualties upon the side of the volunteers are pretty large on account of the surprise. Two sharpshooters are known to be killed. Some fifty are reported wounded. Gen. Middleton had a rifle bullet fired through his hat. The battle began about nine o'clock this morning and was in progress about one o'clock. The rebels set fire to the prairie, but a rainstorm put the fire out. The general at once surrounded the ravine and the hope is expressed that none of the rebels have escaped. "A" battery is also reported to have suffered in both killed and wounded. A tremendous storm of rain and hail accompanied by vivid lightning and loud thunder raged during the battle.

The latest despatch announces that the fight began at 9.15 a.m. The rebels advancing from the coulee near the river, opened fire upon the scouts led by Major Boulton. The latter returned the fire, when the rebels remounted and retired to a place of ambush. From their ambush they rose each time in firing. Gen. Middleton at once deployed the troops in skirmishing order. "A" battery could not at first feel the enemy with the guns, so good was their shelter. Eventually, however, the battery got into better position and rained a raking fire among them. Two houses in which the rebel reserves were secluded were demolished. The rebels next made a dash and fought the 90th at close quarters. But a severe fire from the left wing forced the rebels to retire. The fight was in Indian style on the part of the rebels, who were always either concealed behind trees or in bluffs. Their fire was hot and very effective. Capt. Clark with sharpshooters first advanced in skirmishing order, after the scouts signalled danger, and closely following were the Toronto school of infantry, the latter on the right flank. The conflict now became general and terribly severe. The Indians were exceedingly combative, and their war whoop yell could be heard distinctly some distance off. They rallied time and again, keeping up an incessant fire for fully an hour. Subsequently the fire slackened on the part of the enemy, but was again resumed. A partyof the rebels have been successfully driven from ambush in the ravine by hard fighting of the volunteers. Gen. Middleton had a close call, being shot through the hat. Capt. Wise, his A. D. C., had his horse shot under him. The Tenth Royals came up to the relief from the opposite side of the river, and are doubtless in the conflict.

A Winnipeg despatch of the 24th says: Private Marwick, of the Halifax battalion, was buried with funeral honors this morning. Inspector Dickens' official report of the Fort Pitt fight, just to hand, fully corroborates the despatches previously sent. There is great rejoicing in this city this p.m. over the latest news from Battleford regarding Col. Otter's column. A despatch states that Col. Herchimer, with the advance detachment of the column now on the way to the relief of the place, has arrived and is camped across Battle river. They will come in to-morrow. Col. Otter, with the main body of the brigade, is expected to arrive to-morrow. Forced marches alone must have enabled Col. Otter to have accomplished such a journey. It is doubtless part of Gen. Middleton's plan of campaign to prevent the escape of Riel and his half-breed followers to the north-west and effecting a junction with Big Bear and the disloyal Cree Indians. This fully accounts for the tardiness of the troops under Middleton attacking the rebel stronghold. A despatch from Calgary announces the departure yesterday for Edmonton of the left wing of the 65th battalion. Twenty mounted police and one nine pounder gun with artillery took the lead. Four companies of the 65th followed with the transport wagons, being quartered by more mounted police. Four companies of Winnipeg light infantry under Col. Osborne Smith and Major Hatton's troops, fifty Alberta mounted rifles, leave on Monday. Communication will be established at once with Edmonton. The march of Gen. Strange's force will be unopposed. The Winnipeg troop and Quebec school of cavalry left for Qu'Appelle at noon to-day. The wife and children of Smart killed at Battleford, are nearly heart broken at the sudden bereavement sustained. Smart was killed while scouting three miles from the town; three bullets entered his body. His horse was also wounded and died the same night. All the Battleford column under Col. Otter has, according to the latest despatch received, just entered Battleford at 3 30 p. m. Col. Herchimer, with thirty mounted men, scoured the whole valley of Battle River in search of Indians and Half-breeds, but all have disappeared, having fled across the Saskatchewan to join Big Bear, at the approach of troops.

FORT QU'APPELLE, April 28.—It is said on high authority here that on Saturday last Riel and his councillors held a council of war at Grandin. They had all information obtained by rebel scouts who had dogged Gen. Middleton's column all the way from the Touchwood hill. Gabriel Dumas commanded them in person and ascertained the exact strength of the force. The council unanimously declined to fight. It was also determined that when the retreat was begun the whole country should be fired behind them. The sun and wind of the past few days has dried the prairie grass and fires will be started at once. A despatch from Gen. Middleton's force received at Humboldt last night, says: 'Fires are burning everywhere as far as we can see, but more particularly to the north-west of here.' The report that Riel has had trouble with Dumas and others is wholly untrue. It is also untrue that he is pretending to be a prophet of God. In fact nearly all the reports circulated by white settlers from the Duck Lake region are known to be false or very highly colored. From the rebels the following message comes, direct from one of Riel's head men: "We do not want to fight, but Dewdney is forcing us. Crozier was too much excited to know what he was doing when he told his men to shoot at Duck Lake. Our blood has been spilled and we shall spill theirs. We have a large force. The foot soldiers cannot defeat us. The Government scouts are no good. The commander thinks he is dealing with children; we shall see." The rebels evidently intend to make a summer's work of it, as their families are coming down from the north to their friends in this valley.

Sunday's despatch from Clark's Crossing, says: Sergeant Dalton of Bolton's troops, courier for General Middleton, has just arrived here and brings exciting news. He says Friday's fight was a great deal more disastrous to the rebels than was at first supposed, and that Middleton's forces won a decided victory. It is positively known that twenty-five Half-breeds and Indians were killed as that number were counted dead upon the field. Among the dead was the body of Gabriel Dumont, the rebel leader, who was killed by a bullet towards the close of the engagement while urging on his men. Riel was seen among the rebels during the engagement, but towards evening he escaped from the ravine and made towards his stronghold at Batoche, for reinforcements, it is supposed. A corps pursued the retreating squad for a short distance, but were recalled before inflicting any damage. Every preparation has been made for an immediate assault upon Riel's force. Guns have been placed in position commanding the ravine and each side has been flanked by flanks of infantry. The total number of volunteers killed Dalton says is seven. Over twenty rebel ponies lie dead along the ravine. A despatch has been received stating that the forces had started after the rebels, and that the news of any encounter which might take place in the next twenty-four hours would not be heard for a few days owing to the telegraph office being at such a distance away from Batoche. A fearful snow storm was raging in the Saskatchewan district, and it was extremely cold yesterday. Troops were also reported eager to meet the insurgents. Couriers left camp this p. m., just in. No fighting to-day. Baker of Boulton's troops died last night. Lieut. Swinford's death is also reported but not confirmed. There was great rejoicing in Winnipeg when the news was confirmed that the sharpshooters had picked off Gabriel Dumont, the leader of the rebels in both the Duck Lake and Fish Creek fights, as well as twenty-five other rebels. A despatch which seems to fully confirm the fact was received by premier Norquay from A. L. Bedson. A despatch from Battleford announces that an attempt will be made by Col. Otter to rescue the white prisoners at Fort Pitt. The Canadian Pacific are rushing supplies at a rapid rate into the territories for the troops. Swift Current will be the main depot and South Saskatchewan will be utilized to transport them to Clarke's Crossing. The Government is forwarding large quantities of ammunition.

Monday's despatch from Winnipeg says: The Halifax Battalion has been ordered to remain here until further orders. Word has been received from Calgary to the effect that half-breeds there are inciting Indians to join the revolt. A close watch is however being kept on their movements. Hudson Bay clerks were kept busy all day yesterday in preparation of supplies for shipment to the front. It is understood that Major-General Middleton's force has all the supplies needed for immediate use. Captain Stuart is patroling the country between Fort McLeod and Medicine Hat where there are Blackfeet and Cypress hill troubles. Settlers at York colony have passed a hearty vote of thanks to the Dominion Government for sending Major Watson with one hundred stand of arms to organize the settlers of the district into a mounted infantry force for protection and active service. The seventh battalion London fusiliers upon arriving at Swift Current were confronted by a blinding snow storm, in the midst of which they were compelled to pitch their tents. The task was cheerfully undertaken and the work of unloading and pitching tents accomplished in the remarkably quick time of thirty-eight minutes. An official despatch from Gen. Middleton places the killed at six and wounded at thirty-seven. Two of the wounded have since died. Capt. Clarke's wound is not fatal. Hislop's arm has been amputated. Blackwood is wounded in the left hip, but not serious. Recruiting stations for police are now open in many important points along the Canadian Pacific. Considerable numbers of recruits are being received.

CLARK'S CROSSING, April 27.—Couriers which left Gen. Middleton's camp yesterday afternoon arrived here last night. They report no fighting yesterday. Everything had been made ready for an attack. Guns had been brought to bear on the rebels' stronghold in the ravine, and troops were formed in line of battle. Previous to the attack commencing scouts were sent forward to reconnoitre, when it was found that the rebels had abandoned their position and retreated during the night. Gen. Middleton will push on as quickly as possible. He is now of the opinion that the battle on Friday was fought in an advanced state post held by the rebels. Three or four miles further down the river they have a number of rifle pits and low stockades, and to these they retreated, doubtless with the expectation that Gen. Middleton's force would follow. He fathomed their scheme, however, and took the wisest course in remaining, satisfied with possession of the ground where the encounter commenced. About ten miles from the latter point is Batoche, where it is expected the rebels will make their final stand. It is estimated that their total force consists of 500 half-breeds and nearly as many Indians. The report, said to have been confirmed, that Gabriel Dumont has been killed, is by many discredited, as they assert that he was seen riding off the field at the close of the engagement. The report that 25 rebels have been found dead is also thought to be exaggeration. So far only four or five of their dead have been seen. Some anxiety is felt for the steamer Northcote, coming down the river with the gatling guns and supplies. Some of the rebels are known to be in the Moose woods and it is feared that the steamer may have been attacked at this point. She carried a large escort of the Midland battalion. The deaths of our men so far number nine.

MARRIED.

At Summerside, on the 20th inst., by Finlay McNeill, Esq., J. P., Mr. Thomas Barwise, of Wilmot Valley, to Miss Sarah Adams, of Park Corner, New London.

In Boston, Mass., on the 16th inst., by Rev. V. A. Lewis, John A. Scott, of Prince Edward Island, and Effie Darrah, of Boston.

On the 22nd inst., by the Rev. W. R. Frame, Mr. Alexander McDonald, of Brookfield, Lot 32, to Miss Euphemia Nicholson, of Dufferin Road, Lot 32.

At Charlottetown, by the Rev. J. M. McLeod, Mr. Wm. H. Keefe, of Rollo Bay, to Miss Maggie H. Robertson, of Farmington.

DIED.

At Fort Augustus, on Monday the 20th inst., after a long illness, Mrs. Jas. Heron, aged 89 years. May her soul rest in peace.

At her son's residence, North Tryon, on 9th March, Mrs. William Crossman, relict of the late William Crossman, Esq., aged 79 years.

At New Glasgow, on the 16th inst., John McInnis, in the 52nd year of his age, after a lingering illness of 11 years, of diabetes.

At Alberton, on the 29th ult., of consumption, Peter James Millman, in the 22nd year of his age.

At Darlington, February 13th, Donald McLeod, aged 78 years, son of the late Laughlan McLeod, formerly of the Royalty.

At Mount Stewart, Mr. John McKenzie, aged 85 years. May he rest in peace.

At Kinross, on the 14th April, Annie, youngest daughter of Mr. Donald Martin, aged 17 years.

At the Head of St. Peter's Bay, on the 17th inst., Alida Caroline, eldest daughter of F. H. and Jane Sanderson, aged 18 years.

At Summerside, on 24th inst., of inflammation of the lungs, James R., son of John L. and Annie Thomson, aged 18 months.

April 27th, Cora Anderson, beloved wife of James Paton, aged 23 years.

At 47 Avenue road, Toronto, April 23rd Ursula Leonora, the dearly beloved infant daughter of Professor Cunningham Dunlop.

At Kerrytown, March 16, Estella Beatrice, dearly beloved daughter of Daniel Sullivan and Mary Jane Goodwin, aged 4 years and 5 months.

QUILTING PARTIES are very sociable and enjoyable, and many a choice bit of gossip finds its way around the pleasant circle, but the best news you can give to old Rheumatics is that SCIATICINE cures Rheumatism *permanently* by neutralizing the Rheumatic POISON in the BLOOD. For sale by all Druggists and general dealers.

PHILODERMA is a sure cure for sun-burn and prevents freckles.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Herald:

MR. EDITOR,—I think it is just too bad the way you have treated Susan. She is so clever, and writes in so masculine a style, and has established such a reputation that I cannot see what possible harm her lucubrations could do your readers. Has she not received royal approbation—an approbation borne by the hands of a prince? Has she not attacked the poet laureate, and is not Tennyson still reeling from the blow? He has not yet attempted a reply. Even if she did attack the Pope, it was only acting in her position of public censor. She has a perfect right to enter the domain of morals, or indulge in polemics with an Archbishop. I did really think you were chivalric; but verily "the age of chivalry is gone." Her letter, you will say, was a personal attack on a private gentleman with whom the public have no quarrel, and consequently would not be edifying to your readers. Just look at the editor of the *Examiner*. Who would think him chivalrous? Still he has week after week published her effusions regardless of the taste of his readers, simply because she was a woman! Don't you blush for your country? Then she wrote so exquisite a poem for St. Patrick's Day! Why that should move the heart of any Irishman. And how else could a defenceless woman take revenge for an injury—fancied it may be—but by a personal attack in the papers? Of course she might have written the gentleman a letter, tracing his genealogy, and recounting the peculiarities of his ancestors; but he might be unkind enough to laconically reply—"Dear Susie—Don't." It is almost disloyal to treat in such a manner one whose mother was received by the Queen, whose relative was mourned in death by Her Majesty, and in whose paternal domicile perhaps Victoria partook of that "mountain dew" of which she speaks in her "Leaves from my Diary."

CHRISTY.

To the Editor of the Herald:

DEAR SIR,—Knowing that you have always been a friend and advocate of justice, and always ready to proclaim and check any irregularities in our public service, I deem it my duty, as one wronged by such misarrangements, to inform you that all the clerks in our Postal Service is not confined to Tracadie, Middleton, or one or two places, but that we, the inhabitants of Kelly's Cross, Lot 29, have our share of the bungling of Post Office officials. It appears that they have a mania for carelessness this past few weeks. Here is a case in point: On Monday, the 13th inst., Mr. D. Montgomery, Chief Superintendent of Education, purposing to visit the school at this place on the 17th, mailed to my address (Kelly's Cross, Lot 29), a postal card, informing me of his intended visit. Now, instead of the postal card having been received by me on the 14th, or on the 16th inst. at least, it has not come to light yet—the 25th. This, Mr. Editor, is the way in which the postal arrangements are run. Why, it would be more economical and speedy to adopt the plan in England of four hundred years ago, that of placing horsemen at certain intervals along the road, and then we might expect a more certain result than that of the present adjustments. Where does the fault lie? Is it in the General Post Office, Charlottetown, or between there and Kelly's Cross? Repeatedly I have seen letters mailed in Charlottetown addressed to this Post Office with the post mark of the Summerside Post Office on them. I don't understand why it is necessary that this should be the case—that a letter should go all the way to Summerside before it comes to Kelly's Cross. There is something needful of reformation, and it should be remedied at once.

Trusting that these things may be immediately rectified, and thanking you for your valuable space,

I remain, yours respectfully,

MARK A. SMITH, Teacher.

Kelly's Cross, Lot 29, April 25, 1885.

General News.

Sir Leonard Tilley is seriously ill.

Bishop McDonald, of Harbor Grace, has returned from Rome.

The twenty six small pox patients at St. Pierre are reported to be convalescent.

The Nova Scotia Legislature have granted an annuity of $500 to the widow of the late Hon. Joseph Howe.

France and England are at loggerheads over the suppression, by the Egyptian authorities, of a French paper at Cairo which published violent articles upon the British management of the Soudan.

An explosion occurred at the Admiralty Office in London last Thursday morning, whereby considerable damage was done to the building and several of the officials were injured. It is believed to have had no political significance, but to have been done through ill-feelings against one of the officials.

Dr. W. B. Huson, a distinguished Episcopal clergyman of the United States, and a member of the "Cowley Brotherhood," an order belonging to the English Church, has become a Catholic, and is about to enter a Jesuit novitiate in England. Dr. Huson took the Degree of M. D. from the Bellevue Hospital, New York, and after practising medicine for some time, decided to become a minister of the English Church, and made a course of studies for that purpose. As a minister he won the esteem of all for his devotedness. During the yellow fever scourge at Memphis he volunteered his services and remained at his post when many of his cloth fled to purer air. He fell a victim to the dread disease, but through the unwearied care of the Sisters of Charity he was restored to health. Eventually he went to England, where he remained five years, and only returned a short time ago to say good-bye to his friends, and inform them that he had decided to embark in Peter's Ship.

A London despatch of 24th says: In the Commons this afternoon Labouchere and Richards, both Radicals, asked whether or not the government before deciding to go to war with Russia would seek the offices of a friendly power to obtain a peaceable settlement.