

THE HERALD

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LONDON advices of last week showed that the intelligence wired to the old country from New York and Washington contained much abuse of Canada for daring, as was said, to reject the agreement between Lord Salisbury and Mr. Choate, United States Ambassador, regarding the Alaskan boundary after the rising of the Joint High Commission in February. It was also intimated that the British public would like to know whether Canada had been advised of the negotiation of the agreement in question. It is quite plain that there was a strong feeling permeating the British public that the day had gone when any self-governing British Colony can be dragged into a settlement in which it has no say. It was pointed out that Canada was no self-governing child. She was described as a junior partner, having junior partners rights, the word being always with the senior partner. These sensational telegrams from New York and Washington have evidently had an effect not anticipated nor desired by their authors; for Monday's London advices inform us that the Imperial Government have made public their proposals for arbitration of the Alaskan boundary question. They show that the United States proposed amendments, which Great Britain declined to accept, were favorable to the United States contention and would not leave the arbitration free to deal with the whole question. It seems the United States may always be counted on to act unfairly whenever there is question of arbitrating any dispute between that country and Canada.

The Dreyfus affair which for the past two years, has been such a disturbing element in the public life of France, has assumed a changed aspect. The United chambers of the court of cassation have annulled the conviction of Dreyfus and granted him a full trial. At the same time those who have been most conspicuous in urging his prosecution, or other wise mixed up in the case against him have been placed under arrest. Lieut. Col. DuPaty de Clam, seriously implicated by the recent proceedings before the court of cassation as the probable instigator of some of the forgeries in the case, has been sent to prison, and proceedings will at once be taken against Esterhazy, General Pellé and other persons. The Government has ordered a second class cruiser to proceed at once to Devils Island where Dreyfus is in prison, and the decision of the court his military rank and title are restored to him. He will occupy an officer's cabin on board the cruiser. It is expected the cruiser will reach Brest about the 26th inst, when Dreyfus will be handed to the military authorities. All the revisionist papers acclaim the decision as the triumph of truth, justice and law and express the hope that all France and all right minded men will bow before the decree. They appeal for reconciliation and calmness. Most of the anti-revisionist papers consider the duty of all is to submit in order to restore peace to the country.

There are, in connection with public affairs in this Province, a great many things for which the present Local Government may fairly be charged with dereliction of duty. It is possible indeed that no part of the public service is managed by them with that efficiency, care and economy that the people would naturally expect and the expenditure should ensure. Perhaps there is no department under the control of the Provincial Government, however, that is more blameworthy in this respect than the Insane Asylum. Above all branches of the public service it would be most natural to suppose that this institution, the abode of the most unfortunate members of the human family, would be provided with such appliances and arrangements as would, at least, afford a reasonable guarantee against a serious calamity in case of accident. The plea may be made that there is not sufficient room in the present building to regulate matters in the most desirable manner. All the more reason then why every necessary precaution should be taken under present circumstances. We may be told that when the new wing is completed all modern appliances will find places therein and everything will then be conducted in the most satisfactory manner. That would be poor satisfaction; poor reparation indeed to the friends of the present inmates should it happen that some of the latter were swallowed up in a holocaust. To begin with it is not impossible that under different medical treatment the percentage of cures would be larger than it is; consequently the building would not be so crowded and the need for additional room would not be so urgent. Furthermore, evidence was furnished during the last session of the Legislature, to show that, unless improvements have recently been made, the building lacks almost every possible safeguard in the event of fire; thus exposing the inmates to the most

imminent danger. It was shown that there were no fire-escapes, that the hose was in a most wretched condition and that the iron doors between different apartments were so corroded as to be perfectly useless as a means of protection. We most emphatically submit that such conditions as these should not exist in an institution where so many people of unsound mind are housed, and if the Government have not taken steps to remedy these defects they should lose no time in doing so.

AT OTTAWA.

THE RAILWAY BILL—THE GRAND TRUNK AND ALLEN LABOR—HOW TO MAKE APPLE BARRELS—PRIVATE LETTERS AND OTHER LETTERS.

Special Correspondence to the Herald.

OTTAWA, June 3rd.—The Drummond Counties Railway bill has passed all its readings but one, and the Grand Trunk resolution, which is part of the same series of transactions, has been considered. These measures have been pretty fully explained, but some mention may be made of the four-hour speech of the minister of railways on Thursday in further support of his scheme. Mr. Blair defends his railway policy by arguing that it has already been successful. His showing is that the earnings of the Intercolonial system will be 28 per cent. larger in the year ending June, 1899, than in the year ending June, 1897. The mileage is 14 per cent. greater than it was two years ago, so that the earnings increased in two years by 14 per cent. This great gain, according to Mr. Blair, must have been due to the operation of the Drummond Counties and Grand Trunk lines, and thus the policy is vindicated.

WHAT MR. BLAIR DIDN'T SAY

The minister did not mention the fact that while the Intercolonial gain is 14 per cent. in two years, the tonnage of freight carried on all the railways of Canada increased 14 per cent. in one year. It thus appears that the Intercolonial gained only half as much per year as the average gain of all the Canadian railways. Mr. Blair did not need therefore to explain why the I. O. R. traffic should have increased, but did need to show why the increase of the Government railway business had been less than that of other lines. The minister got near enough to this question to state that the growth of the Intercolonial trade was not due to the general business activity. He declared that, so far as the Province was concerned, the traffic was

last year 100,000 tons, and this year 114,000 tons. He struck no account of the fact that the Intercolonial system is budget speech of the growing time. As for the increased business on the Intercolonial, Mr. Powell figures out that every dollar of additional business has been gained at a cost of \$1.32.

CHANGES FOR THE BETTER.

Mr. Haggart finds it rather surprising that Mr. Blair had not explained the difference between the proposed agreement and the one which the Senate defeated two years ago. The following are among the more important changes in the whole transaction. As to the Drummond Counties.—The first agreement was equal to a payment of \$2,000,000. The second agreement is for the purchase of \$5,000,000 of the same property worth about \$5,000,000 more spent on it.

As to the Grand Trunk.—The first agreement provided that the government should pay half the cost of maintenance. The present agreement provides that the cost of maintenance shall be paid by the contracting parties in proportion to their respective use of the road, and we have the statement of Mr. Blair that the Grand Trunk uses the property twenty five times as much as the Intercolonial. At this rate the government will have to pay only one-twelfth as much for maintenance as would have been paid under the old arrangement.

As to betterments.—The old arrangement provided that the government should pay five per cent interest on half the amount of any capital charges incurred for betterments. The new bargain divides the cost not equally but in proportion to use, which will relieve the country of some eleven twelfths of the obligation imposed by the first agreement. Moreover the interest in this case is reduced from five per cent to four. Lastly the first agreement provided for the payment of \$6,000 a year for the government for the use of Grand Trunk property at Chaudiere. By the present bargain this charge is abandoned. These are important changes all made possible by the rejection of the original bill by the Senate.

SIR HENRY AND THE APPLE BARREL.

Sir Henry Joly has been trying to reform the apple barrel. As minister of inland revenue he has introduced a bill providing that all apples packed in Canada for sale by the barrel should be packed either in "cylindrical veneer barrels" of the required size, or in good and strong barrels of seasoned wood, 27 inches between the heads inside measure, having a head diameter of 17 inches, and middle diameter of 19 inches. This

law is to apply to apples packed for sale in this country as well as those for export.

When the bill came up for discussion neither the Minister nor any of his colleagues could inform the House what was meant by a "veneer" barrel. The most Sir Henry had to say was that the apple packers had been reducing the contents of the barrel by increasing the thickness of the heads. Dr. Montague agreed that there might be reason for legislation against thick headedness, which the House regarded as a pointed reference.

Clancy, Mills, of Annapolis, Craig, Moore, Taylor and others objected on behalf of the farmers against this sudden change in the form of the barrel. It was pointed out that the farmers often desired to send their apples to a neighboring market in such barrels as might be within reach as sugar barrels, or flour barrels. Both contain more than the regulation apple barrel and the Minister was asked not to make it a crime for the farmer to use them. Finally a suggestion of Mr. Mills, of Annapolis was adopted that the measure be withheld until the farmers were heard from.

A ONE-SIDED UNDERSTANDING.

The alien labor question appears to be in a singular position. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been asked whether alien workmen would be allowed to come into this country to take the place of Grand Trunk section men now on strike. The Premier explains that the Canadian alien act cannot now be enforced, because an agreement was made with the Government of the United States that neither party would enforce alien laws while the two governments are engaged in negotiations. But our old friend DeBarry, the United States government officer at Buffalo, has been enforcing the act with rigid severity. Only last week he turned back a young Canadian bricklayer who was crossing the border on a visit to his uncle, engaged at the same trade in Buffalo. The young man, who did intend to do some work and had his tools with him, was escorted back to Canada by DeBarry. That officer in a subsequent interview declared that the alien law had not been suspended but was still in active operation. This state of affairs has been twice a subject of discussion in the House of Commons. Among the members who protested against the jug-handled application of Sir Wilfrid's friendly bargain at Washington were J. F. Clarke of Toronto, who brought up the subject a few days ago, Mr. McCreary and Ross Robertson, each of whom raised the issue on another occasion, also Mr. Montague, Mr. Tait and Mr. Craig.

THE LABOR QUESTION.

The relation of the alien labor affairs to the Grand Trunk strike is obvious. The Grand Trunk management contradicts the report that alien workmen are to be imported by that corporation, but it is remembered that this has been done by other employers of labor in times of dispute. For instance the Mayor of Hamilton is now bringing to the attention of parliament the facts in connection with such a recent importation to that city. The Grand Trunk strike, which for the present leaves 1800 men without employment is a matter of great public interest. Mr. Taylor, Mr. Ives and Mr. Ingram spoke of the affair as a serious danger to the public, since the safety of travel depends upon vigilant care of the roadbed. Ross Robertson in strong language declared that the men who were on strike became very angry and that they did not call for setting by the Minister of Railways. He pronounced it an outrage that in these times when we were all boasting of the prosperity of the country, hard-working men could not get more than an indent pay of 97 cents per day. This was done Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Blair had scolded other members for bringing the subject before the House, and had accused opposition speakers of expressing sympathy with the men for the purpose of making cheap political capital against the Government.

SIR OLIVER'S PRIVATE OPINION.

The Public Accounts Committee is making some little progress in the work of investigation. A set-back was however met this week when an attempt was made to learn what Sir Oliver Stewart said about some of the accounts rendered to Hon. Mr. Sifton and paid by him to his friends in Manitoba in connection with the so-called "bogus prosecutions" in Manitoba. Sir Oliver Stewart as head of the Justice Department wrote to Mr. Sifton a private letter declaring that some of the bills were two to three times as large as they ought to be. This letter was not at the time considered too private to be shown to the officers of the Justice Department or to be sent to Mr. Sifton's friends in Manitoba. After remaining on the file until about the beginning of the present inquiry, was recognized by the Auditor General and handed over to Mr. Sifton on the request of the latter.

A whole forenoon was expended in the attempt to learn from Auditor McDougall what were his reasons for regarding the letter as a private communication. The witness was not so much disposed to withhold information as Sir Louis Davies and the Solicitor General were to restrain him, and Mr. Fraser, the chairman of the committee, at the request of the Ministers, ruled the question out. Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, who appeared against the ruling, was voted down by a straight party vote.

The Opposition members declared that they did not want any private letters produced. But they wanted to know what there was in this departmental letter on a public matter to

make it a confidential communication, since it was not so marked.

THE OTHER WAY.

The only reason given was that the letter began, "My Dear Mr. Sifton." This reason has not always been deemed conclusive. Postmaster General Mulock, two years ago, published a blue book about mail contracts. In this report he printed no less than three hundred letters and notes having such introductions as the one now withheld from the Public Accounts Committee. These communications, which Mr. Mulock found in the drawers of the office where they were left by his predecessor, Sir Adolphe Caron, were published to the whole world without the consent either of the men who wrote them or those to whom they were written. Among them were fifty-eight letters and short notes from one Minister to another, obviously not intended for the public. There were nearly as many letters from members to Ministers and over 100 from Ministers to members some of them beginning in terms of familiar comradeship. Among the letters so printed were 31 marked "private" one or two marked "personal" and at least one marked "private and confidential." All these letters, however begun, however ended, whether marked "private" or not, were made public, not by evidence given in an investigating committee, but were printing and scattering them through the country by the act of the minister who happened to get his hands on them.

NOTES.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has once more announced that there is no new phase in

the negotiations with the United States. Sir Charles Tupper brought some recent cable despatches to the Premier's attention, but carefully refrains from making any remark to likely complicate the situation.

ADVICES FROM ST. JOHN'S, N. F.

At a caucus of the Opposition party it was decided to resist the proposed Gerry-mander bill by all legitimate means. The seal fishery this year is the most successful within the last dozen years. Although it is estimated that the total catch of the regular fleet will reach 300,000, probably 40,000 or 50,000 more will be taken by the people ashore.

A PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT.

"We have used Hood's Sarsaparilla in our family as a spring medicine, tonic and blood purifier, and Hood's Pills for biliousness, and have found both very effective remedies. We believe for impure blood Hood's Sarsaparilla is a good medicine."—R. S. FRANK, Publisher of the Bee, Atwood, Ontario.

BEFORE RETIRING.

To-night, take a Lax-Liver PILL. It will work while you sleep without a grip or a purge, curing Biliousness, Constipation and Sick Headache, and make you feel better in the morning.

A STORM IS BREWING.

Your old rheumatism tells you so. Better get rid of it and trust to the weather reports. Scott's Emulsion is the best remedy for rheumatism. It often makes complete cure.

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ARE YOU SHORT AND FAT?

ARE YOU TALL AND THIN? If so the only Ready-Made Clothing you can get to fit you perfectly is Shorey's Make. If your dealer does not carry Shorey's Oh! Sizes get him to order for you.

JAMES PATON & CO.

10,000 Worth of Men's READY-TO-WEAR CLOTHING

Cheapest and best Clothing on the Island. Give Paton & Co. your trade.

JAS. PATON & CO.

See our Navy, Black & Tweed Suits

At \$10, \$12 and \$14, they will save you a 1/2 on Tailors' Prices.

JAMES PATON & CO. are Shorey's Agents.

If I were a mother I would insist on having Shorey's Clothing for my boys. Their Clothing is all sewn with linen thread, the material is all thoroughly sponged and slunk, and the workmanship is guaranteed not to rip. Might just as well have it, when it doesn't cost any more than inferior makes.

You can always be sure of getting it by insisting on seeing the guarantee ticket which is in the pocket of each garment.

JAMES PATON & CO.

800 Children's, Boys' & Youths' Suits, all prices.

Wool Exchanged for Suits.

JAMES PATON & CO.

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Cheapest and best Clothing on the Island. Give Paton & Co. your trade.

JAS. PATON & CO.

Spring tiredness is due to an impoverished condition of the blood and is cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla which enriches the blood.

Obituary.

In our obituary column today will be found notice of the death of Alexander McKinnon, formerly of Melrose, Grand River East in this Province, which took place at his residence, San Rafael, California, on Saturday May 20th. He had been afflicted for nearly two years, with liver and heart trouble, and he bore his sufferings with the most exemplary patience. Mr. McKinnon was born at Boscawen Point, on March 2nd, 1830, so that he had completed his 70th year shortly before his death. In 1843 he moved to Melrose and settled on a farm where he remained until 1892, when he went to California, without several of his brothers who went long before and some members of his own family had preceded him by many years. He settled at San Rafael, not very far from San Francisco, where he continued to reside all the remainder of his life. The deceased was the eldest of a family of ten of whom four survive; viz. Mr. F. X. McKinnon of Melrose, and Mrs. McAdenia of Panama Island, and two brothers Daniel and James, in San Francisco. He leaves a widow and family of six, three sons and three daughters. Mrs. McKinnon and one daughter, Mary E. are at San Rafael; Rev. W. D. McKinnon is chaplain of the first Regiment California Militia, now on duty at Manila, in the Philippines Rev. B. J. McKinnon pastor of St. Jean Cal; Sister Bernadette is a member of the Dominican Convent at San Rafael; John F. residing on the old homestead at Boscawen Point, in the Province of Ontario; only members of the family on the Island. In his final illness he devoutly received the last Sacraments and died consoled by all the rites of the Church of which he had been a faithful member. His funeral took place on Monday May 22nd, in the High Mass of Requiem was sung in the parish Church of St. Rafael. Rev. Donald J. McKinnon of St. James Church, San Francisco, nephew of the deceased, was celebrated by Rev. Grant of St. Peter's, San Francisco was deacon, Rev. D. F. X. Morrison, D.D. of St. Mary's, Oakland was sub-deacon, and Rev. H. Logan pastor of St. Rafael was master of ceremonies. In addition to these priests there were present in the Sanctuary Rev. Fathers Cottie, Connolly, Dempsey, Lyons, O'Neill, Ryan and O'Ryan of San Francisco, Byrne of Novato and Egan and Sheehy of San Rafael. Father Logan pronounced an eulogy on the deceased. He referred to his noble character and edifying life and pointed out that he was a descendant of those sturdy Scotsmen, who left their native land for the sake of their religion and settled in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The interment took place at St. Mary's cemetery Oakland, Father McKinnon, celebrant of the Mass performing the service at the grave. The pall-bearers were; Dr. Archibald E. McDonald, John H. McDonald, Andrew McDonald, James E. McDonald, Christopher Chisholm and D. R. McNeil. Among the numerous Island relatives and friends of the deceased present at the funeral might be mentioned Charles A. McNeil, Jerome E. McCormack, Joseph P. McCormack, Dr. S. J. Fraser and others. Thus were committed to their kindred dust the mortal remains of a just and upright man and an exemplary Christian. There are in this Province a great many friends and acquaintances of the deceased, who admired his sterling integrity and upright Christian character, and who will deeply regret to learn of his demise. In St. Mary's cemetery far of Oakland the sleep his last slumber, awaiting the sound of the Angel's trumpet and a glorious resurrection. To his family and friends we tender our heart-felt sympathy in their bereavement.

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