

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, June 14

PENITENTIARY MATTERS.

Senator McInnes was naturally and rightly indignant at the outrage which ex-Inspector Moxlan was allowed to put upon him, through the carelessness or the complaisance of the ministers. It is rather singular that an ex-officer and pensioner should be able, through the medium of an official report, to insult a member of the senate, simply because that member has been largely instrumental in the exposure of a scandal for which the ex-officer and his pets were responsible. Nor is the situation made much better by the explanation of Sir Hibbert Tupper that his pen was drawn through the offending phrase, which afterwards cropped up in the report nevertheless. It is surely time that Mr. Moxlan's outbreaks of violence and impudence were put an end to in some way. It must be said, however, that the Dominion government's conduct in regard to this penitentiary matter has been remarkable all the way through, and the tone adopted by ministers and their supporters in defending the impertinent inspector is entirely characteristic. A most noticeable feature of the affair is the ministerial fear of the light. With regard to the reluctance to bring down papers bearing on the subject the Columbian says:

It is nearly two months since parliament met, and a month and a half almost since the papers, correspondence, etc., in the Fitzsimmons case were formally asked for in the house. And the bulk of the papers due have not yet been brought down! The government appeared only too willing to lay before the house certain practically irrelevant and impertinent letters of the deputy warden, in which he answered the indictment of the royal commission, against himself by abusing and maligning Pitts and his associates, and witnesses. These letters, though in such a sense an insult to the public intelligence, constitute the sole explanation or excuse that the government have given, so far, for their ex-simmons after the sweeping condemnatory findings of the royal commission, and his dismissal by the late Sir John Thompson.

The report of the commissioner was next, evidently reluctantly, brought down, and it fully justified the public verdict upon the evidence adduced at the commission. But the instructions issued to Mr. Justice Drake on his appointment as commissioner: the official report of the evidence taken at the commission; and the prescribed correspondence or other explanation that is required to throw some light upon the dark mystery of the government's inexplicable and inexcusable action in the premises, are still non est; and silence like a pall has settled down upon the question at Ottawa.

This desperate "sparing of time" on the part of the federal authorities in this matter is a pitiable spectacle truly; but it will be all in vain if it is expected thereby to finally thwart the public demand for a complete exposure of the scandalous and of the government's scandalous action therein.

Anent the classification of British Columbia cedar under the United States tariff, the Canadian Lumberman says: "It is difficult to understand why the treasury department at Washington should rule that the red cedar of British Columbia must come under a 25 per cent. duty. The case, as presented by British Columbia lumbermen, through Mr. J. G. Scott, was really unanswerable on its merits, and this was the view taken by the New York board of appraisers. What consistency was there in ruling that the red cedar of British Columbia was not a cabinet wood, and therefore ought not to be classed among cabinet woods, and yet charge an impost on it as one of them? It is said the department ruled that the cedar of the Pacific coast was cedar in the general commercial sense, and though botanically it might vary a little from a true cedar, nevertheless it was cedar still. It may be a cedar in name. It is not a cedar in point of fact. It has been generally admitted by leading lumber journals of the United States that it was through an oversight that it was placed under the cabinet schedule in the first place. The West Coast Lumberman in its latest issue says: 'There is but little doubt that the duty on cedar was laid on through a careless wording of the act.' The Timberman and other journals have voiced the same thought. The government at Washington have no reasonable grounds for ruling out red cedar from under the free trade tariff. Their own officers, the New York appraisers, and the lumber press generally, without regard to their particular opinions on the question of free trade, are of one mind on the matter. Without the necessity for further protest on the part of Canadian lumbermen, it is to be hoped that the authorities at Washington will at once remove cause for friction in this particular, as the Canadian government have absolutely removed cause in the case of the boom difficulty with Michigan lumbermen."

Tory papers seem to take comfort from the fact that a number of ministerial members were absent when the vote on Sir Richard Cartwright's amendment was taken. If all the members had been present, they say, the majority would have been much larger. It might as well be said that if all the members were Conservative the amendment would have been rejected unanimously. The fact is that some of the Conservative members were away because they did not care to vote against a revenue tariff proposition and did not care to vote against the government.

Speaking of the budget debate the Colonist's Ottawa correspondent avers that "if the government could have had its way the discussion would have terminated on the very first day." Doubtless the assertion is quite correct, and it would further be correct to say that the government would have closed the discussion with the end of Mr. Foster's speech if it had been able. That would have saved it many uncomfortable quarter-hours. But then the country would not have had the benefit of that "brilliant effort" said to have been offered by the secretary of state, and that would surely have been a calamity. Surely it would have been too bad to have cut off so important a feature of the debate.

A PRACTICAL ILLUSTRATION.

The rapid and increasing revival of business and the healthy activity in the industrial establishments affected by the recent reductions in the United States tariff fully bear out the predictions of the independent press with prophetic significance. The Boston Herald commenting upon the situation observes: "We are under the operation of a tariff in which the people have confidence. It is not embarrassing the production of the country; it is not injuring the wages of labor. The production of the country is continuing under more favorable and profitable conditions as its effects are being felt; the employment of labor and the wages that are incident to it are both on the increase. This is not anything that needs to be explained or in any way accounted for. It is in accordance with history as we have before known it. Greater prosperity was involved under a lower tariff several years earlier, and no law tariff was ever in operation in this country at any time which, regarded in the full period of its operation, failed to produce prosperity. It was because of this that we advocated a lower tariff year after year until the present tariff was attained. We have not claimed for it perfection. It may be improved in important particulars. But the reduction of duties is not its weak feature. We have never had the slightest misgiving in predicting that this would be the result of a lowered tariff. This because it was justified by reasoning, and had been demonstrated in our national history. We were free to state, therefore, and we did again and again state, before the tariff was lowered, that we were willing to stand or fall on the principles of low duties under the tariff by its results in operation. They have by no means had their perfect work yet, but enough has been shown to prove that the principle is right—that the country does not need a high rate of duties, either for the prosperity of its manufactures as a whole, or for the liberal pay of the workmen employed in them. The prediction that a lowered-tariff would bring national distress and that, until it was made a high tariff, business could not again revive, is already brought to naught. Business is improving hopefully and steadily with that tariff in operation, and with a certainty that it will continue in operation for at least two years in the future, and those who are compelled to admit this state of facts as existing are reduced to the subterfuge of claiming that it all comes from the possibility that there may be a change in this aspect of an indefinite character at an indefinite period of time!"

An idea of the extent of the improvement may be seen from the following additional list of establishments that have voluntarily increased the wages of their employes, compiled by the New York Times. These increases will benefit some 160,000 artisans and the list is steadily increasing:

- "Dodge-Davis Manufacturing Company, fannels, Bristol, N. H., 20 per cent.; Poland Paper Company, Mechanic Falls, Maine, 12 1/2 per cent.; Cocheoc Mills, cotton goods, Dover, N. H., 5 per cent.; Williamstown Manufacturing Co., Williamstown, Mass., 12 per cent.; North Fowal Manufacturing Company, North Fowal, Vt., 12 per cent.; Beaver and Eclipse Mills, North Adams, Mass., 12 per cent.; Westley Woollen Company, Westley, R. I., 10 per cent.; Merino Mills, Oneyville, R. I., 10 per cent.; Tyson Chrome Works, Baltimore, Md., 10 per cent.; Eddy Electric Company, Windsor, Conn., 10 per cent.; Salmon Falls Manufacturing Company, Salmon Falls, N. H., 5 per cent.; 600 employees; Jesse Eddy Woollen Mill, Fall River, Mass., 10 to 15 per cent.; S. K. Wilson, woollen mill, Trenton, N. J., 10 per cent., 700 employees; Edwards Manufacturing

- Company, Augusta, Me., 10 per cent., 1200 employees; the three cotton factories in Suncook, N. H., 1000 employees; A. L. Sayles & Sons' Union Woollen Mill, Pascoag, R. I., 5 per cent.; Norwalk Mills Company, woollens, Norwalk, Conn., 10 per cent.; Stott's Mill, cotton goods, Lowell, Mass., 5 per cent., now 5 per cent. more in September; John N. Stearns & Co., silk manufacturers, Williamsport, Pa., 1 cent per yard, 400 employees; Paige Tube Company, Warren, O., 10 per cent.; Minnesota Iron Company, operating all the iron ore mines on the Vermilion range, 10 per cent.; Oil City Tube Mills and Oil City Boiler Works, Oil City, Pa., 10 per cent., 1000 men; Hamilton and Ludington Mines, Iron Mountain, Michigan; the Nichols one-half of the iron ore mines on the Nichols range, Morrisstown, Pa., 10 per cent.; Union Mills, Moosup, Conn.; National Tube Works and Rolling Mills, McKeesport, Pa., increase of 10 per cent., 5000 employees; Riverside Iron Company, Wheeling, West Va., increase of 10 per cent., 200 employees; Wheeling Steel and Iron Company, Wheeling, West Va., increase of 10 per cent., restoring the old rates, 3800 employees; Peabody Mills, Newburyport, Mass., increase of 10 per cent., ordered for May 27; tanners in Sheboygan, Wis., increase amounting to one-half of the reduction made in 1892; Carrie Furnaces, near Braddock, Pa., increase of 10 per cent., 550 employees; coat makers in Baltimore, an increase of from 20 to 30 per cent., granted on May 9, 4000 workmen; iron furnaces in West Middlesex, Pa., increase granted on May 9, 1500 men; Spang, Chalfant & Co., iron manufacturers, Pittsburg, Pa., puddling rate increased to \$4; garment workers in Philadelphia, 58 cotton workers increased wages on May 1, 5,000 employees affected; Phoenix Iron works, Meadville, Pa., 10 per cent. on May 6, 125 men; Nut and Washer Manufacturing Company, Milwaukee, Wis., 10 per cent.; Moorhead Brothers, Iron Manufacturing, Pittsburg, Pa., advance of 40 cents per ton to puddlers; Sligo Iron Works, Pittsburg, Pa., advance of 40 cents per ton to puddlers; Denison & Co., knit goods, Stillwater, N. Y., increase of 5 per cent.; Ashland Iron Works, City, Conn., increase of 10 per cent. on May 13; Springvale Cotton Mills, Springvale, Me., increase of 6 1/2 per cent., this being half of the reduction made in 1893; foundries in Cleveland, Ohio, wages of 500 millers increased by 10 per cent. on May 1; D. Cummins & Co., shoe manufacturers, South Berwick, Me., 10 per cent. on May 6; Thomas Furnace Company, Niles, Ohio, increase of 15 per cent. on May 6, this being a restoration of old wages; iron furnaces in the vicinity of New Castle, Pa., "former wages restored" on May 2, "the total reductions had aggregated 30 per cent.," 500 men; Oliver Iron and Steel Company, Pittsburg, Pa., wages of puddlers advanced to \$4 per ton; Waltham Blowers, Waltham, Mass., increase of 10 per cent., being a restoration of the rate paid before the reduction of November, 1893, 200 employees; Woodstock Woollen Mills, Norristown, Pa., an increase of 10 per cent. has been refused and the employees on strike for 20 per cent.; Norwich Mills Company, woollen goods, Norwich, Conn., old scale restored last week, 200 employees; Cleveland Hematite Iron mine, Michigan, dispatches say that wages were increased by 10 per cent. on strike for 10 per cent. more; the Carnegie Steel Company, nearly 15,000 men employed at the Edgar Thomson furnaces, Edgar Thomson Steel Works, Duquesne, Pa., wages increased from \$3 to \$4 per ton on May 18; Fall River Machine Company, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, increase of 10 per cent. on May 18, 500 men; Bellaire Steel Works, Bellaire, Ohio, increase of 15 per cent., 500 men; William Wood & Co., Philadelphia, weavers' wages increased by 2 cents a yard; W. H. Grandy, worsted mill, Bristol, Pa., increase of 5 per cent.; Minnesota Iron Company, advance in the company's mines in the Mesaba range, in all, 2700 men affected; Bivalick Ore Company, iron ore mines in Mesaba range, increase of 10 per cent.; Berkshire Cotton Mills, Adams, Mass., increase ordered to take effect on May 20; Delaware Iron Works, Wilmington, Del., increase of 10 per cent., beginning May 13, 200 men; Moorhead Brothers, Vesuvius Iron Works, Scrubburn, Pa., increase of 15 per cent., on May 13, 350 employees; Bellaire Nail Company, Bellaire, Ohio, increase of 15 per cent.; Pencoyd Iron Works, West Manayunk, Pa., increase of 10 per cent., beginning May 26, 3000 men; Newichawank Manufacturing Company, blankets, South Berwick, Me., increase of 5 per cent., 300 employees."

There is apparently a concerted effort on the part of a large number of Conservative papers to "boom" Dr. Montague for the party leadership. What is known as the "Haggart wing" of the party, composed of the minister of railways and his following, is striving to induce the whole party to look upon the secretary of state as the coming man who will galvanize the effete organization. The papers in sympathy with this wing are industriously encouraging the idea, and to this end the speech recently delivered by the doctor is lauded to the skies. The organic effort is a most laborious one, for the reason that it meets with no encouraging response; the public refuses to be "fired" by the doctor's windy oratory. On the contrary it is cruelly

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Montreal Herald.—Dr. Montague says that the Liberals when in office before made a record for blundering, stupidity and incapacity. No doubt. They had no Onderdonk hauls, no Quebec harbor steals, no Esquimaux dock raids, no Tav canal, no Edward Cochrane selling appointments, no Curran bridge, no Carriage railway. Nor did their leader regard loquacity as the only qualification for the holding of high office. The Liberals undoubtedly, judging by the present standards, were slowly and absurdly stupid in failing to appreciate the opportunities which the possession of office opened to them and their friends.

and irreverently inclined to laugh at the speech as worthy only of the man who earned for himself the title of the "windbag from Haldimand." The opinion of Sir John Macdonald is also brought to mind—that Dr. Montague was good for making long speeches and good for nothing else. But then, in the country of the blind the one-eyed man is king, and our good friends on the Conservative side finding themselves so poorly off in leadership material are perhaps fully justified in "booming" what they have.

PLEADS MORAL INNOCENCE

J. C. Prevost Pleads Legally Guilty, But Morally Innocent of the Charge

Of Carrying Passengers Aboard the Barge Pilot Without a License.

J. C. Prevost, owner of the barge Pilot, admits he is legally guilty, but claims that he is morally innocent of the charge, while owner of the Pilot, carrying passengers and for which the barge had no license. The case was called in the provincial police court, this ed in the afternoon, Magistrate Macrae presiding. Mr. Drake, of Drake, Jackson & Helmecken, appeared for the Dominion government, and Mr. Prevost, who was his own counsel, was armed with a number of legal authorities bearing on similar cases.

Magistrate Macrae read the charge and asked Mr. Prevost how he pleaded. Mr. Prevost replied "not guilty." Mr. Drake said that Mr. Prevost had misled him. He told him that he would plead guilty.

Mr. Prevost insisted that he had not misled Mr. Drake. He did not deny the facts. He continued: "I am half-owner of the barge Pilot. The late Mr. Adams was the other owner. I admit the facts, but it was done without my knowledge and consent, and in that I was not guilty."

Mr. Drake—"I apply for an adjournment to bring witnesses. Mr. Prevost has practically pleaded guilty."

Mr. Prevost protested there was no necessity for an adjournment. He admitted the facts, but denied the moral responsibility.

Mr. Drake said he would have to get witnesses and prove the whole case now that Mr. Prevost pleaded not guilty. He asked for an adjournment until the 13th inst.

Mr. Prevost contended that there were no passengers aboard the Pilot. There were "persons" on board, but they were not passengers according to the legal interpretation.

Magistrate Macrae said it was a question of law. Mr. Drake again said he would have to prove the case in its entirety. The court was adjourned till Thursday, the 13th inst.

CABLE DISPATCHES.

Resumption of Hostilities in the Chitral District.

London, June 8.—A dispatch received at Calcutta from Simla says the tribesmen in Chitral are again threatening to attack the British troops. A body of 500 tribesmen is collected in the vicinity of Dargai and the British are preparing for an attack. Later dispatches from Simla say a body of Shiraanis has surprised a village 20 miles from Fort Sandeman in the Zhoib country and killed a British lieutenant and some seven men.

The Exchange Telegraph Company says it is semi-officially informed that the Turkish government is very firm and intends to remain so because the Sultan believes the whole Armenian question is merely a huge insurrection supported and encouraged by the nonconformist ministers of Great Britain and America.

Constantinople, June 8.—The decision of the powers respecting the unsatisfactory answer of the Turkish government to the note presented to the Porte by the envoys regarding the reforms proposed for Armenia is expected next week. There are indications that the Turkish government is uneasy at the silence of the powers and high officials have been sent to the embassies of Great Britain, France and Russia to confer with the ambassadors regarding Armenia, and represent to them that the Porte's reply was only a semi-official communication. The ambassadors of the powers mentioned have refused to discuss the question, declaring that they regard the reply received as official and final. Advice received here from Bitlis show great distress prevails among the Sassoun refugees. It is stated that 65 families died of starvation and many others are famishing. A local relief committee left Moosh to distribute bread and construct huts. The inhabitants ask for seed and the restoration of stolen cattle in order to prevent a renewal of the famine. It is also feared that the approaching passage of nomadic Kurds across this district will lead to a renewed raid.

THE MISSING HEIR.

Halpin Hortu Found in Edmonton, Alberta.

Buffalo, N. Y., June 7.—Alphonse Hortu, of this city, whose lost son Halpin has by the death of an aunt at Three Rivers, Que., fallen heir to an estate worth \$25,000, thinks he has found his son. This morning he received a newspaper from Edmonton, Alberta, in which was a paragraph to the effect that a horse had been stolen from H. Hortu's stables. He is overjoyed at the prospect of finding his son.



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NEWS OF THE

Doctor Barnardo's Russell, Manito troysed by

Harry Barnard, of ries Miss Rob Peterbor

Montreal, June 7.—noon Lord Aberdeen monument erected to the me Macdonald. The procession the playing of "God Save the King" by the city regimental band. The city regimental band. The city regimental band. The city regimental band.

Toronto, June 4.—C. Aikens, ex-lieutenant, Manito, and Mrs. A. their golden wedding friends present were and bridesmaid who marriage ceremony fifty

Montreal, June 6.—Victoria hospital last evening a claim that he vated in a row with a street An inquest will be held.

Montreal, June 7.—A house and a detective Whitehead was struck through almost demolish seven inmates received.

Montreal, June 7.—boot and shoe merchant C. P. B. main and branch of the estate of J. B. B. liabilities about \$20,000.

Winnipeg, June 7.—cremery at Russell, M. yesterday.

The parishioners of a meeting last evening, ed Rev. Bradshaw, of Toronto, June 7.—He escaped convict from the has been located at the to bring him back.

Winnipeg, June 7.—ports of the condition from nearly every state of C. P. B. main and branch Red River to the Rock story they tell us never were never so far advanced in any previous year, are of an early and throughout the whole the territories where the The frosts of last month the testimony of the fa a benefit, having strength of the wheat and made better than if there had early vegetation.

The remains of Will lost his way on the earth, a settlement on February, 1890, have buried. The lad perished.

The Seguin house at age by fire last night insurance.

The annual convocation university was held the legislative chamber were conferred and pti unusually large number the B. A. degrees.

Rev. Mr. Bradshaw will be called to Christy. The tramps who mo freight train last Sunday to two months' assault on an employe. Word has reached the steamer Monarch, & Durham, which left for Fort Francis loaded and freight, was wrecked the Sault Rapids, on 15 passengers and crew w Nine women and passed through the city a special tourist car C., where they will and fathers. The w Portsmouth, England, hands are now attached artillery of the Pacific