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MAIL BRANCH OFFICES.

THE MAIL has established branch offices for the receipt of subscriptions and advertisements as follows:—
MONTREAL—Corner of St. James and
Francois Xavier streets. A. Mokim, Agent.
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HAMILTON—52 James street north. Lanceleid Bros. Agents.

LONDON, Ont.—Richmond street, corner of
Carling. E. A. Taylor & Co.. Agents,
NEW YORK—39 Union Square, Brentano's TORONTO, FRIDAY, DEC. 10, 1880.

THE BILL OF FARE.

Norming could exceed the dulness of a speech from the Throne, except the dulness of Opposition criticism. Even in the good old days, when everybody was happy because Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT was in power, Sir John MacDonald himself used, we fancy, to feel conscious of comicality in dealing with the speech from the gilded/chairs in the Senate. The present Opposition lack the faculty of lightness and airiness of treatment of these matters. Their treatment is clumsy and inartistic as a rule, though Mr. BLAKE may make a divergence in that particular, and treat us to something worthy of the occasion. The season of Lent has on two occasions afforded Mr. MACKENZIE the opportunity of a feeble joke, a sort of cold collation of wit; but the unfortunate selection of early Advent for a session will deprive him of that happy resource on the present occa-sion. We have no hope that the customary reference to the Bill of Fare will be omitted that would be too much to expect.

Ministers has been pretty completely occupied since last session; and we imagine that if the one great measure of the session is as acceptable as we believe it will be, Parliament will feel satisfied with its accomplishment, and the reserving of the second session is as acceptable as the second session of the second session is as acceptable as the second session of the session of the second session of the session of t Parliament will feel satisfied with its accomplishment, and the passing of the estimates will, with very little other business, be quickly accomplished. There has been enough legislation for the present. What is needed is completer administration. We might possibly expect some few discussions on Customs affairs, on Inland Revenue affairs; a ventilation of the question of value for Customs duty, and of some questions connected with the Weights and Measures Act, and the inspection of coal oil. In regard to these matters probably Ministers in their individual capacity may have some propositions to make, or some reforms to present to Parliament; but none of sufficient importance to form part of a speech from to Parliament; but none of sufficient importance to form part of a speech from the Throne. The financial affairs of the country will hardly tempt Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT far afield in criticism. The condition of the Intercolonial railway is not such as will excite the intense curioaty of Mr. Snowball or Mr. Anglen. The blighting influence of the N. P. may possibly entice some chapters of philosophical dulness from the member for Bothwell. dulness from the member for Bothwell. But with the Opposition on the whole we imagine discretion will be the better part of valour. It will be a kindness to them, indeed, if the Government should not compel them in their present distressed circumstances to face too many measures during the coming session.

The Finance Minister will be able to place before Parliament two very satisfactory statements—the results of the whole year of 1879-80, and the results of five months of the year 1880-81. Our Opposition friends are sceptical about the small deficit which Sir Leonard Tilley announces for the past financial year, and have already in various ways amounced THE Finance Minister will be able to

MR. MACKENZIE. THE Opposition papers will have it that

the country is anxious to return to the MACKENERS tariff, and that at the next general election one-sided free trade will achieve as signal a victory as protection won two years ago. There is nothing to support this view; on the centrary, so far from the Opposition gaining ground, they are steadily losing it, as the bye elections show. It is noteworthy also that, even in the most pronounced Reform strongholds the most pronounced Reform strongholds, abuse of the new tariff is not popular. In a speech which he made at Bright the ether day, Mr. PATTULLO, the straight out Opposition candidate in North Oxford, confessed that "while he did not think "the N. P. was all or nearly all that its "supporters in 1878 had promised, and "while he felt that it needed improve-"ment, yet he was free to say that Mr. "MACKENZIZ would have bettered the in"terests of the Reform party, and would, "in his humble judgment, have shown "more policy, had he somewhat zemodelled "his own tariff." Evidently Mr. PATTULLO, who, as the chief organiser of the party, has who, as the chief organiser of the party, has had his hand on the pulse of this province had his hand on the pulse of this province since 1876, does not agree with the Globe that the people are pining for the old jughandled system.

Our object, however, is to call attention to the treatment Mr. MACKENZIE is receiving at the hands of his friends. Last assion he was uncorrected.

aession he was unceremoniously hustled out of the leadership. The Rouges abused out of the leadership. The Rouges abused him in the press and the caucus, and Ontario members, who had followed him obsequiously for five years, caballed against him, and said hard things behind his back. Not content with deposing him, they made him abjure his Pacific railway policy; and here in Oxford, the "banner" county, they cast his devotion to free trade in his teeth, and taunt him with having injured the cause! Death having trade in his teeth, and taunt him with having injured the cause! Death having robbed him of his life-long patron and protector, the very youngsters in the party pelt him; and there is not a Reform journal in the province to stand up for him and say: "Why assail this man?" If he blundered, Mr. BLAKE shared the responsibility. If he made mistakes,

THE CAPACITY OF THE COUNTRY. THERE are few people who can fail to be amused at the tone of doubt, almost of alarm, in which the Opposition press talk of the ability of the country to carry out the Pacific railway bargain. We are advised with a gravity which is, after all, but mock gravity, that it is very doubtful if Canada is financially able to undertake this gigantic task, and that delay would be the wisest course. People see through the thin and flimsy texture of our opponents' disguise. It is not forgotten that, as we have pretty well made plain, Mr. Mac-KENZIE's Government committed themselves in 1875 to a bargain by which the whole Pacific railway was bound to be finished And, perhaps, the element of humour may be lacking altogether. A man on the every of execution is not likely to be joccas on the public treasury of Canada. It was the nature of the sheriff's warrant; and our Opposition friends, feeling as they do, that the completion of the Pacific railway mas bound to be finished by the year 1890 out of the sole resource of the nature of the sheriff's warrant; and for the purpose of carrying out this project, and of giving it force with the House, that that the completion of the Pacific railway was bound to be finished by the year 1890 out of the sole resource of the sheriff's warrant; and these for the purpose of carrying out this project, and of giving it force with the House, that Sir Richard Carrwright made that eloquent and patriotic speech which we so approvingly quoted. He was stimulating his friends to the sticking point assent. He was making the public familiar with the fact that they must be prepared to Mr. Mackintosh spart in the matter, Sir Charles' evidence is clear. Mackintosh had been recognized by Mr. Whitehead himself as his business agent, and in the conversations he had Ministers has been pretty completely occur. He was making the public familiar with the fact that they must be prepared to make sacrifices—and pretty big sacrifices too—in order that the Carnaryon terms might be carried out. Yet at the time when the Government made that promise, involving enormous expenditure, there was, as Sir Richard well knew, the prospect of serious depression in the country, and large deficits were likely to arise as the result of that and the next year's try, and large deficits were likely to arise as the result of that and the next year's operations. But there was no limit to the great confidence of the Finance Minister in the ability of the country to carry out the bargain, particularly if the people were willing to make the necessary sacrifices. The very next year he was compelled to say that it was unfortunately too true that the country was "pessing through a com" mercial crisis of great and unparalleled "severity;" but there was no hint that the project of the Pacific railway had been abandoned or was likely to be abandoned. In the next year Mr. MACKENZIB proposed to give the whole road to a company at \$10,000 per mile right through, and 20,000,000 scres of land, and the Government would kindly pay four percent for 25 years on any sum more than the \$10,000 per mile for which the company might kindly undertake to do the work. There could not have been much doubt in the minds of Mr. MACKENZIB and his friends that the country was able to build the road when he offered such terms as these. Yet in a year or so after, his Finance Minister was facing the fact that the trade of the country had gone down \$50,000,000, and that deficits to the tune of \$7,000,000 had been rolling up for his consideration. Nevertheless, in 1878, as we have pointed out in a former issue, Mr. MACKENZIB was still dwelling with these markes a statement which these makes a statement which these makes how much in the dark the Opposition in the trouble to write to Mr. Whittenant to the trouble to write to Mr. Whittenant to the limit that if he was giving away money under the impression that he could bring influence to bear on the Department, he was only throwing it away.

We have not space at our command to go into the evidence in detail just now, but as we read it, and think how for over a tall, in regard to matters. He says that he had taken the trouble to write to Mr. Whittenant to the trouble to write to Mr. Whittenant to the trouble to write to Mr. Whittenant the could bring with the so

perity an enterprise to which on fa-terms in the midst of adversity gentlemen committed themselves.

SIR CHARLES TUPPERS EVI

DENCE. Sir Charles Tupper appeared last week before the Railway Commission. Two charges have been especially hinted at by the Globe, but since The Mais, though without authority, challenged that paper, nothing but hints and mean inuendes have been used. One was that Andrews, Jones & Co. had not been allowed time to put up their securities. Sir Charles Tuppers testimony corroborates the evidence already given by Col. Smith and others. Andrews, Jones & Co. had a longer period given them than they had any right to expect. They had eight clear days in which to put up their money, which they had declared themselves ready to put up. Col. Smith was quite right in calling them "too sanguine" people. They were given full time and they failed. After they had falled and their time had expired, they had two more days to see if they could not induce Mr. Goodwin, a strong man, to go in with them. Ma. Goodwin to go in with the contract went to Fraser, draw wisely supplemented their work by by day to the Council—exercised the greatest. And the churches have done much, and the churches have wisely supplemented their work by undertaking the matter of small savings. Their efforts are worthy of all praise.

ACO. The Wole case, as stated by Sir Charless Tuppers, swell as by previous witnesses, shows that the Government would cause men to prefer the Sir CHARLES TUPPER appeared last week before the Railway Commission. refused, and the contract went to France, Grant & Co. The whole case, as stated by Sir Charles Tupper, as well as by previous witnesses, shows that the Government—for everything was submitted day by day to the Council—exercised the greatest leniency towards Andrews, Jones & Co., so much so that if they had put up their money, the Globe would probably have been declaring that they had been unduly favoured. On this question Sir Charles Tupper's evidence leaves no shadow of doubt. Sir Charles also testifies that he has not the slightest knowledge of any member or members of Parliament obtaining any advantage in regard to these contracts. Nith regard to Mr. WHITEHEAD'S rela-

tions to the Government, the evidence of Sir Charles is complete and overwhelming. The Government treated Mr. Whitehead, political opponent and former supporte of Mr. MACKENZIE, with great con tion; but as Sir Charles points out, it was leniency in the interest of the country. a leniency in the interest of the country. It was imperative that WHITEHEAD'S contract should be pushed on, and the public interests would have been prejudiced by delay. Mr. MACKENZIE had previously given to Mr. WHITEHEAD drawbacks to the extent of \$79,000. The Minister was informed that it was not the practice of the Department to insist on re-taining the drawback in the case of con-tracts in a forward state of completion, and, following the practice of Mr. Mac-KENZIE, Sir CHARLES allowed Mr. WHITE-HEAD drawbacks to about the same amount, making in all \$148,000 of drawbacks which Mr. Whitehead had been allowed up to Mr. WHITEHEAD had been allowed up to the time when the contract was taken from his hands. He also gave him advances on the security of his rolling stock, on the strongly favourable reports of Mr. MARGUS SMITH; and these things were done in order that the Government might be saved from the necessity of stronger the contract and doing the

by Mr. Whitehead himself as his business agent, and in the conversations he had with Sir Charles he was informed that Mr. Whitehead would be treated just as other contractors were, with proper consideration. There is not a single fact on which to found a charge against the Minister or the Government. Sir Charles makes a statement which shows how much in the dark the Opposit

Sir Charles makes a statement which shows how much in the dark the Opposition has been in regard to his dealing with these matters. He says that he had taken the trouble to write to Mr. Whitehad to tell him that if he was giving away money under the impression that he could bring influence to bear on the Department, he was only throwing it away.

We have not space at our command to go into the evidence in detail just now, but as we read it, and think how for over a year the Minister has had to submit to ruffianly charges based on no evidence at all, in regard to matters in which he was acting for the protection of the public interests, we feel that the business of an Opposition is degraded indeed when it has to be carried on on a capital of outrageous falsehoods.

that it was not worth putting by. They might have learned a lesson from their children, whose little money-boxes, which

AGNOSTIC DOGMATISM. It is a great mistake to suppose, as son people assume, that what is called "free "thought" is liberal or telerant in prac tice. Time was when the churches were charged, and not unjustly, with rigid dogmatism. They are still unhappily too dogmatic, but the true inheritors of the persecuting spirit are those who pride themselves upon ignorance—the Agnostics. At first sight it appears strange that men who professedly know nothing about what is spiritual in the universe should rail without stint or measure against those who do, or at least believe they do, know something. Surely that attitude is quite as unreasonable as that of one afflicted with colour-blindness who assaults his neighbour because he alleges that scarlet and blue are different colours. Substitute for the hues body and soul, and there is no distinction between the cases. All that is not material everything not cognizable by the five senses, they reject, "neither can they know," to quote Sr. "neither can they know," to quote Sr. Paul, "because they are spiritually discerned." Now it is precisely among the people who do not know that the persecuting spirit has been most fully developed in this latter mat of the nineteenth century. In ages gone by the Church acted in a manner somewhat analogous. When it met with a man whose inward vision was darkened it proceeded, as Hoon put it in his "Ode to Rse Wilson," to give him two black eyes "for being blind."

Nowadays the believer and the sceptio have changed places. The religious dogmatist has grown timid and compromising, disposed to yield and cowering under every onset of the enemy. The reason for this is plain upon the surface. Theologians have overlaid the simplicity of the Gospel with so much that is factitious and artificial that, having long bone to regard the accretions as part of the truth, now, when these are assailed by a remoraeless criticism, they tremble for the safety of that which is not, and never can be in danger. What is men's passeth away, what is Gon's abideth forever. It is the Aberglaube—the over belief, in short-which has stricken modern what is Goo's abideth forever. It is the Aberglaube—the over belief, in short—which has stricken modern Christians with the paralysis of cowardice. If we turn to the Agnostic side, it is at once obvious that there are two divisions of the army to be contemplated. The scientific division occupies a somewhat anomalous attitude. With the exception of the late Professor Clifford not one of them can be said to possess the courage of his opinions. Professors TYNDALL and HUXLEY are beset with doubts about the unseen future and the destiny of man after death. The former yearns after immortality, and, at times, is disposed after death. The former yearns after immortality, and, at times, is disposed to believe it; the latter recognizes the instinct of worship, and bids us bow the knee in "worship, "chiefly of the silent sort, at the altar of "the Unknown and Unknowable." There was once an altar in Aftens "to the un"known God," seen by an apostle in his missionary journeyings. That Deity, worshipped as ignorantly as Professor Huxnay's must be even by himself, Sr. Papi declared unto the learned Greek. The Deity he preached was indeed "unknown" in one sense, since no man can, by search-

in one sense, since no man can, by searching, find Him out, or know Him to perfection. It was enough, however, that He is not far from any one of us," and that in Him we live and move, and have our But, with all their disquisting thoughts, the scientific Agnostic is; in controversy, dogmatic and intolerant. He has a theory of the universe and of human development which he cannot prove, and yet clings to it with a temscity of faith almost inexplicable. On the strength of this undemonstrable hypothesis he denounces religion as a new dream, proclaims the materiality of our whole nature, and treats the glorious hope of immeriality as an empty dream. With those who differ from him he has no patience, and to them he is willing to give no quarter. He has no moral sanctions to substitute for those of the Christianity he would ruthlessly demolish, but with the 'havoc he may make he is not concerned. On the contrary, he battles with the faith, singularly careless about the fruits it has borne in human life and human civilization. It is enough for him that neitles the scalpel nor the spectroscope can detect the existing temperance association has been widened so as to comprise three degrees of membership—first, those who in a general way will aid the association; segond, those who take an "anti-treating "pledge; and thirdly, total abstainers. The people who think no bread preferable to half a loaf are strong in denunciation of the movement, but it seefis to be growing notwithstanding.

The Brantford Telegram publishes what purports to be a despatch from Mr. Pattullo, so the Globe, calling upon the latter journal to give him some sort of a chance by "coming out strong" for Mr. Sutherland. There is more truth at the bottom of this than is to be found in most jests of the Globe candidate lends the North Oxford contest its chief interest, and the fate which has befallen other Globe candidates in that county may well make Mr. P. unease.

It is anticipated that the Newfoundland fishermen will suffer severely from destitution of the product of the cod fisheries being badly cured, so that it will not bring over half price. But, with all their disquieting thoughts,

that it is so. They deride the philosophy of Mr. Herbert Spencer, and joke about the illogical inferences of the socialists, but they are quite as positive, quite as dogmatic, and much more intolerant than any devotee of physical science. At this moment their creed—as they paradoxically term it—is the esoteric doctrine of a few fanatical Druids, and yet they speak of the faith of the mass of civilized nations with an insolent admixture of contempt and pity which is hard to bear. The apostles of their creed are DIDEROT, ROUSSEAU, D'HOLBECH, and the constructive president is Auguste Comts. If we ask for the articles of their creed, they are Athelism, Materialism, Annihilation, as a reviewer has aptly put them. There is no need for delicacy about phrases, since these form the sum and substance of them. They form a church-militant, dogmatic, these form the sum and substance of them. They form a church-militant, dogmatic, supercilious, and overbearing, without God, without hope, without tangible ground for existence. And yet the men composing it are as callous where the feelings or cherished beliefs of others are concerned as were the pities. Invitation of cerned as were the pitiless Inquisitors of

PRESIDENT HAYES MESSAGE. Some people in the United States cherish the impression that Mr. HAYES was not properly elected. Others think differently. Those who do not live in the United States may think what they like so long as they have no votes in the Union. But be one's opinion what it may, it must be admitted that Mr. HAYES has conducted himself "decently and in order." He has not been a brilliant President, but he has been a respectable Chief Officer. He will never be re-called in history as a WASHINGTON, a JEFFERSON, & JACKSON, OF a Lincoln, but he will be remembered as a man who encountered great difficulties, and encountered them calmly. Like many another Reformer, he premised too much. He promised Civil Service reform, and permitted office-holders to be assessed for next numerate. permitted office-holders to be assessed for party purposes. He promised an improvement in the administration of Indian affairs, and allowed CARL SCHURZ to abstain from making such improvement. But he did not allow the rings which were rampant under Grant to control or unduly influence his Administration, and by such negative virtues won the respect of the respectable classes. In achieving this end Mr. Hayes was more than assisted by his wife, who did much to elevate the tone of Mr. HAYES was more than assisted by his wife, who did much to elevate the tone of society at Washington. Her example is one which may well be followed by those ladies who may hereafter be called to fill the position which she has so long and so gracefully occupied.

Read in the light of his failure to keep the provision was a large of the provision where the provision was a large of the pro

the promises made in 1876, President HAYES reference to Civil Service reform will be greated with many sarcastic smiles by his political opponents. He no doubt means well, but he is not a man of nerve and action. We opine that General GAB-FIELD will split upon the same rock.

Mr. HAYES' reprobation of polygamy every right-thinking person will endorse. That "the Mormons must go" is a true prophecy. When they shall go is a problem which the statesmen of the United States have still before them. The gor-States have still before them. The gordian knot awaits its ALEXANDER.

To Canadians much of the Message must appear as mere verbiage, but Canadians will not fail to notice the absence of

matter of tariffs.

The deliverance upon the fishery question will be read with considerable interest in this country. The message speaks of a serious divergence of opinion upon the fishery clauses of the Washington Treaty. These are mere words. The treaty will be interpreted according to recognized rules of international law.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Collingwood Messenger states that the saw-mill in that town cut 5,000,000 feet of lumber last year. This has been nearly all disposed of. Preparations are being made to cut 8,000,000 feet during the coming season. It is the hum!

The Halifax Mail notes that the people of that city are beginning to compete successfully in manufactures with the upper pro vinces. "Montreal, it says, "now buys our sugar, leather, pegs, and hats, and would doubtless buy other articles were Nova Scotians enterprising enough to manufacture them."

From Salonica comes the word that the Macedonian wheat crop is a failure, and that American wheat must be purchased to supply the want. It is the old "Macedonian cry" so often quoted at missionary meetings :—
"Come over and help us;" but at this period in the world's history we are willing to help at so much per bushel.

St. John, N.B., is doing a flourishing lumber trade with Great Britain and Continental Europe. The lumber experts in that direc-Europe. The lumber experts in that direction for November amounted to 9,864,000 feet, besides 727 tons pine and 34 tons birch timber. In October the shipments aggregated 16,656,000 feet. The total quantity experted across the Atlantic from January 1st to November 30th amounted to 195,896,000 feet of lumber, 2,408 tons of pine, and 15,904 of birch.

humble in the contemplation of its own ignorance. Dogmatic and comminatory unbelief is the strangest phenomenon the world has yet seen.

Let us now turn briefly to the other division of the know-nothing array. This is fairly represented by Messrs. John Monley, Leslie Stephen, and Frederic Harrson. They are by no means in agreement with the scientific Agnostics. In fact, they are disposed to sneer at the unwarranted assumptions of the physicist.

The Menuonites settled upon the reserve west of Emerson, Manitoba, are reported as making gratifying progress. Last year the population of this reserve, which comprises population of this reserve, which comprises seventeen townships, was 2,841, the total amount of grain raised was over 200,000 bushels, and the value of their stock and implements, \$140,000. This year the population is 3,921, their surplus grain, above what was needed for seed and home consumption, was 293,041 bushels of the value of \$161,332, and the value of their stock and implements amounted to \$383,417. There have been 167 marriages during the year. This is an excellent showing.

however, has been much more easily and quietly disposed of than the English one. Dr. Edward Brandes, a newly-elected member of the Folkething, or Danish Parliament, who admitted during the contest that he did not believe in a Supreme Being, took the usual oath on entering the House. The President had previously sent him a private communication asking whether he could conscientiously subscribe to the oath, but he disputed the right of either that official or the House to ly subscribe to the oath, but he disputed the right of either that official or the Heuse to raise the question. The Radicals had pre-viously proposed a resolution against any postponement of the ceremony.

better now than under the Mackenzie régime, but vigorously protest that no portion of the credit is due to the N. P. In the same breath they will argue that the exodus is greater now than it was during the unavoidably bad times of the Reform period. These contentions do not hang together. If the one be true the other must be false, The London Free Press cannot understand how any same man can believe that more people will fiee a country in good than in bad times; but the R. P. has not sounded the depths of the Grit mind. Perhaps the present alleged host of exiles could not raise enough to pay their fare in Mr. Mackenzie's era. If this is not a correct solution of the puzzle our Opposition contemporaries have the floor to furnish a better.

Earnest temperance men in the United States are beginning to realize the futility of the attempt to make men sober by legislation, and in several quarters a strong feeling has been expressed in favour of resorting to the old method of moral sussion, which has been largely neglected of late for unprofit-able political work. A new temperance movement has been started in Boston, the object of which is to promote the growth of object of which is to promote the growth of temperance sentiment, ignoring altogether the vexed question of prohibition. Governor Long presided at the opening meeting last week, and expressed himself as heartly in favour of the object in view. The new departure is calculated to win support in quarters where the persistent and unreasoning clamour for legislative prohibition would only have roused opposition.

land to procure a reduction in the cost of post office orders between Canada and Great The present rates are as follows:

For Sums not exceeding £2 £5 | £7 |

9d. 1s. 6d. 2s. 3d. The change suggested is the division of the ten pounds—which is the maximum amount transmissible by post office—into five equal parts, and the fixing of the

For Sums not exceeding £1 | £6 | £8 | £10 1s. 1s. 6d. 2s. 2s. 6d. 6d. Though apparently a small matter, the reduction would no doubt be appreciated by those who have occasion to make remittances to England, who are largely immigrants, with but little money to spare.

"Lord" Marcus Napier Beresford, an alleged English nobleman, who some time since favoured this city with his majestic presence, and who left behind him here certain unredeemed pledges of his condescension, has had plebeian hands laid upon him in New York, where he has been arrested for forgery. The charges against him are like the items of an auctioner's catalogue—"too numerous to mention." His lordly career covers a period of several years. The Scotland Yard detectives have been upon his trail since 1875. The particular exploit which has got him into his present. been upon his trail since 1875. The particular exploit which has got him into his present trouble is said to have been performed in Utah, to which polygamous paradise he will be returned for trail. If he were an Irish nobleman he might be more expeditiously disposed of by compelling his return to his estate and his tenants. His Lordship's exposure will not prevent the tuft-hunters of society from being duped by the next airy impostor who comes their way with his hair parted at the equator.

The American Textile Record says :-Protection has been recognized as a national, rather than a party question, and no one of the great parties to the Presidential struggle the great parties to the Presidential struggle has openly advocated free trade. By common consent, on the surface of public opinion, it has been conceded that the principle of the existing laws must be maintained, and even the details must be left to such careful correction as will not disturb the present relative position of business interests." We in Canada are rapidly attaining a like position. The Liberals will never ascend to power by a free trade crusade. Every election contest proves that public opinion rules that the "principle of the existing laws must be maintained." The Cobden Club pamphlet demolished any hope of a free trade reaction in the United States. The Opposition speeches next session will convince the Canadian people that protection is no longer a party, but a national question, and that it has been settled in the people's interest.

Mr. Blake is leader of a Government in Canada."—Moreton Times.

Such is the curse of this country. Whe atops to think of Sir John Macdonald's nationality? Whe pauses to reflect whether Sir Richard Cartweight is a Patagonian or a Peravian? Tus Mat. does not. We only immelf. If that policy be for what we consider the good of Canada, we shall support him. If not, we shall oppose him. Let us have done with this ery about men's nationality and religion in Canadian politics. Few men support the present Administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present Administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present Administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present Administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present Administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present Administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present administration because Sir John Macdonald is Scotch. Many men support the present Administration because

Poor Captain Boycott had a pretty hard time of it. He had an "underground route" by which he smuggled in bread and beef and by which he smuggled in bread and beef and sent out his washing; but it was discovered and blocked. In fact, as one of the besiegers put it, they ran him to earth and stopped the hole. One morning he received a letter signed by a number of the tenants asking him at what hour on the following day, which was rent day, it would be convenient for him to receive the rents. He thought the "boys" had relented, and sent back a note thanking them cordially and fixing 3 p.m. Punctually at that hour, the messenger reappeared and handed him the following letter;—"Before paying you our rent, we should feel obliged if you would answer the following questions—(1) Don't you wish you may get it? (2) How are you anyway? If you'll come out from among your soldiers and police for ten minutes, we'll hang your hide on the market cross. (3) When do you think of leaving the country? We want to see you off." This undeceived him.

The London correspondent of the Liverpool Courier states that Sir Alexander Galt will be able to place before Lord Kimberley at an

distressed districts of Ireland to Manitoba and the Cauadian North-West. The terms of a rangement with the Canadian Pacific railread syndicate involve a gigantic scheme of emigration. The plans already formed by the syndicate include the establishment throughout Great Britain and Iraland of emigration agencies. In Germany, in Austria, and Italy, should the Governments permit, there will also be emigration depots. Upon Messrs, Morton, Rose & Co., the agents of the Duminion Government in London, will devolve the organization of the general emigration scheme in Great Britain, and Messrs, Reinach & Co., of Paris and Frankfort, members of the syndicate, will superintend the arrangements for the Continent. It is hoped to open up the whole of the twenty-five million-acre grant to settlers within the next ten years,

The special correspondent-we most say the "war correspondent"—of the London Telegraph, who was despatched to the scene of action at Boycott's farm, gives a the scene of action at Boycott's farm, gives a very realistic description of the wretched condition of the Irish peasantry in that part of the country. He states that the cabins were about the worst dwellings for human beings that he had ever seen, having frequently no windows and always mud floors. Mud walls were common and the thatching insufficient, while nearly all these miserable abodes were shared by the family pig. "I have been in many lands," says the writer, "and have seen many so-called oppressed people at home, but'I declare that neither in the Russian steppes, nor in the mest neglected Bulgarian villages, still less in the very poorest Hindoo hamlets, have I ever seen such squalid kraals as the farmers of this such squalid kraals as the farmers of this part of Mayo inhabit." The correspondent met with an officer who had lately served in Zululand, who declared that not even in the worst parts of Cetewayo's dominions had he come across anything so bad.

The Imperial Privy Council have granted leave to appeal from the judgment of the Ontario Court of Appeal confirmed by the Supreme Court of the Dominion in the cases of Parsons v. the Queen and Citizens' Insurance Companies. The decision held that the Act of the Ontario Legislature enforcing uni-Act of the Ontario Legislature enforcing uniform statutory conditions upon insurance companies applied to all offices doing business in the province, whether local, Dominion, or foreign, and that inasmuch as the companies named had not adopted the statutory conditions; their policies must be construed to have no conditions as against the insured, though the latter were entitled to the benefit of the statutory conditions as against the companies. The appeal will probably be heard in March next, and the case will be watched with interest by the commercial community, as interest by the commercial community, as innext, and the case will be watched with in-terest by the commercial community, as in-volving the right of the Local Government to control by legislation the contracts made by insurance companies and their customers. The decision will probably turn on the ques-tion of whether insurance legislation is within the scope of the provincial or federal Govern-

A writer in the Pictou (N.S.) Standard calls attention to the advantages offered by that locality for the iron industry. The quality of the different ores, the nearness of quality of the different ores, the nearness of coal and lime, and the facilities of transit, make the future of mining and manufacturing operations very promising in Hopewell and neighbourhood, a few miles from Pictou, where the writer thinks there is the making of a Carron, or a Merthyr Tydvil. Facilities for shipment are being dafly increased, and no more cligible haven can be found than Pictou harbour. In view of the fact that steel rails are being largely imported into the Pictou harbour. In view of the fact that steel rails are being largely imported into the United States, just because the demand exceeds the supply, and the enormous requirements of the Canadian Pacific, it is claimed that the ability of Pictou's iron region to supply the demand should not be overlooked. An outlay of two millions in the home manufacture of the rails required for the Canadian Pacific would eventually be the saving of five. It is arged that a representation should be made to the Canadian syndicate of Nova Scotia's iron prospects, and an inspection invited, with a view to their exploitation.

New Brunswick Liberals are peculiarly happy at present because they have found It is the annexation cry, which is glossed over, not beldly proclaimed, and is urged by publishing copious extracts from American and English Radical authors of that school. This policy of the Opposition party is smartly rebuked by the St. John News, which says:—

"Let that choice be what it may, the best "Let that choice be what it may, the best possible preparation she can make for the future is to do the duty of the day and day by day. Let her settle her wild lands, develop her mineral treasures, foster her fisheries, push her industries with energy and skill in every practicable direction, search for markets the world over, educate her people, guard well her institutions, conserve order and liberty alike, perfect her laws, maintain the purity of her judicial tribunals, watch well all her public servants, and hold them to strict account, and cherish and cultivate a wholesome and manly national spirit."

This is the policy of the present Dominion This is the policy of the present Dominion Administration, and in prosecuting it they merit the support of patriotic Canadians.

We quote:—

"There was some talk last evening of the number of Scotch Premiers that Canada has had. There is a probability of a new departure at no distant day, when the Hon. Edward Blake, who is of pure Irish descent, will, if he has his health, be pretty certain to occupy that position."—St. John, N.B., Telegraph.

"One might almost have forgotten that the Hon. Edward is leader of the Opposition, so little has been heard of him lately from the Opposition press. With all respect for the Irish, we think it will be some time before Mr. Blake is leader of a Government in Canada."—Moneton Trines.

Such is the curse of this country. Who

is right.

The development of our railway system has fully kept pace with the progress of Canada during the last quarter of a century. Even twenty years ago the Canadian lines were few and of trifling mileage compared with that now in operation or in course of construction. and blocked. In fact, as one of the besiegers put it, they ran him to earth and stopped the hole. One moraing he received a letter signed by a number of the tenants asking him at what hour on the following day, which was rent day, it would be convenient for him to receive the rents. He thought the "boys" had relented, and sent back a note thanking them cordially and fixing 3 p.m. Punctually at that hour, the messenger reappeared and handed him the following letter:—"Before paying you our rent, we should feel obliged if you would answer the following questions—(1) Don't you wish you may get it? (2) How are you anyway? If you'll come out from among your soldiers and police for ten minutes, we'll hang your hide on the market cross. (3) When do you think of leaving the country? We want to see you off." This undeceived him.

The London correspondent of the Liverpool Courier states that Sir Alexander Galt will be able to place before Lord Kimberley at an early interview proposals from the Canadian Government to assist emigration from the WEEKL FOR 188

Since the last prospectus

MAIL was issued, THE MA nto its new building at the

and Bay streets, which is I

mest and most complete pu m the continent. The as held its place as the be veekly in the country. Its low larger by at least ten t hat of any other newsp n Ontario. During the t will be much he subscription price s before-ONE DOLLAR Our arrangements with th Herald for the simultaneous ts special cable despatches of particular attention is being politics, Irish affairs, and o nterest to Canadians. The s sent to press early on The ng, and contains the latest of graphic news, including m from every part of the wo ime. Two Scott perfecting p of printing 45,000 copies-an in striking off the edition ; and of the same kind will be run 1st of January, so that the held back for the news Thursday. Nothing that energy can accomplish will b to give the readers of the the freshest and most inter paper in the Dominion. necessary, an edition of twel pages will be printed. It cheapness-one bushel of day's labouring wages is on scription. The year 1881 will be one

memorable in Canadian his ment has been summoned to gain made by the Dominion with the syndicate for the cons end to end, within ten years. railway. Early next year th commenced and pushed or dinary energy. The section vast prairie region lying betwand the Rocky Mountains is within three years. Arra already being made in Gre the Continent for securing a settlers; and the people of will feel the benefit of every construction, and of every from the wilderness. The will pay special attention that A fair and copious summary on the syndicate agreemen portance, whether delivered of the Government or the Opposition, will be public Special correspondents in the will supply the most authent progress of the works, wit new regions about to be Farmers who think of m North-West will find THE V safe guide. THE WEEKLY MAIL will

force on the 15th March 18 work well. For the first tim capital no longer fights country. Business is bri outlook is bright and ho WEEKLY MAIL will uphold th protection, that is to say of the Canadians in manufact dustry; and the development trade with any country that trade with any country that in a spirit of fair play. The trade has been revived, and tions with Brazil are progre ably. French capitalists ing enormous sums in ada, and a scheme for lishment of a steamship li Havre and Quebec is o effort is also being made to be tralian colonies into closer tra In dealing with these and kin THE WEEKLY MAIL will advo and energetic policy. The pour home markets and the our foreign trade cannot fail

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the national prosperity.

The special departments of
MAIL will be kept up to their ard. Church and school receive earnest and carefu The farmer will find the columns full of interest. A story will be published every commercial reports, by far th worthy issued from Toronto, proved by the addition of satures. The sporting depart has attracted great attention, bained and improved; legitim every kind will be fully treate expense spared to secure ne

and telegraph.

In conclusion, THE WEEKL continue to give its cordial su Dominion Government and Conservative party. But, as no obligation to either, it will lic questions upon their mer with public men according to t It will treat its opponents fai ourably, and strive to elevate political discussion. It has r favour, and no enemies to relies solely for its prosperity upon its enterprise as a newsg its honesty and ability as a le ic opinion.

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