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BUSINESS NOTICE.
We wish to record good CLUB AGENTS at every Post Office in Canada. Will our friends be kind enough to send in to us the names and addresses of any they think would be suited for this work—by so doing they will be greatly helping us. When in Toronto we would be pleased to see you at our office, and receive any suggestions or information you may have to impart.

The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1878.

THE MAIN QUESTIONS AT ISSUE.

SINCE Mr. MACKENZIE took office in November 1873 the volume of trade has increased from \$218,000,000 to \$168,000,000. The national debt has risen from \$99,000,000 to \$133,000,000. In the six years of the MACDONALD Government the debt increased \$24,000,000; since 1874 it has increased \$33,000,000. The annual surplus which from 1873 to 1877 amounted to upward of \$10,000,000 have given place to huge deficits, though three millions of extra taxes have been imposed on the people. The number of failures between the 1st of January, 1874, and the 31st December last was 5,500, and the number of persons in the United States in 1877 one business man in sixty-three failed; in Canada one in twenty-nine. The annual expenditure since 1874 has exceeded the highest year's expenditure during the MACDONALD regime by \$5,000,000. The cost of the public service, in which Reformers promised to exercise close economy, has increased enormously, as witness the figures:

Civil Government.	\$750,000	\$1,177,000
Customs salaries.	568,000	722,000
Excise salaries.	172,000	211,000
Post Office management.	1,067,000	1,705,000
Administration of Justice.	390,000	568,000
Canal salaries.	173,000	268,000
Immigration.	287,000	354,000

Immigration has practically ceased, though \$300,000 a year is spent on the work, but the emigration of our people to the United States has not been broken since the close of the war. Business of all kinds is practically at a standstill, and the commercial outlook is yet dark and depressing. The country has no confidence in the Finance Minister, and native enterprise is dead. No class of the community is prosperous; there is none but deplores its accumulating misfortunes and bewails national decay and decline. For the first time in our history, honest men are unwilling to work are unable to find work to do; and hunger and want have become factors in society.

The broad questions now to be submitted to the people are—Is this state of affairs to continue? Shall we attempt the desecration of the land, whose incompetence they themselves admit, and whose corruption and extravagance are matters of public record?

THE COUP D'ETAT IN QUEBEC.

M. LAFRANCOISE, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE OF 1878. There is in the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, the subject of self-esteem, the same contempt for constitutional forms, the same love of literary display, the same skill in making the worse appear the better, which characterized the most arbitrary Governor-General we have ever had in Canada. No one can read the document we publish in another column without going back in our history more than thirty years, and recalling the manner in which Lord Minto described himself as engaged in a contest with the *clivier ardent* of the province—the passion of citizens commanding wrongs to be done, and the misbehaving being BALDWIN, HIRSH, and SULLIVAN, and their friends. The Governor-General's famous response to the address from the Quebec Legislature, the same tone of self-righteous glorification as the communication of the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec to the Governor-General. But the parallel is still closer. One of the darkest traits in the conduct of Lord Minto as Governor was the secret hostility to the Ministers before any ground of quarrel could have arisen. From the document before us it is abundantly clear that Mr. St. John's Government and determined to take the first opportunity of quarrelling with them.

On the 6th of November, 1877, the Lieutenant-Governor remonstrated with M. DE DOUGHERVILLE, for what does the reader think? Because a name had appeared to a proclamation of the Legislature, and also to one fixing a day of thanksgiving. Here was treated to the Governor-General, and M. St. John's Government, the moment the remonstrance was made the Prime Minister apologized and explained how those were matters of the merest form, for which the Government was responsible. The signature would have been affixed by the Lieutenant-Governor, as a matter of course, and the reason why the offending document was not communicated with is doubtless to be found in the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor chose to live at a distance from the seat of Government. The moment the remonstrance was made the Prime Minister apologized and explained how those were matters of the merest form, for which the Government was responsible. The signature would have been affixed by the Lieutenant-Governor, as a matter of course, and the reason why the offending document was not communicated with is doubtless to be found in the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor chose to live at a distance from the seat of Government. The moment the remonstrance was made the Prime Minister apologized and explained how those were matters of the merest form, for which the Government was responsible. The signature would have been affixed by the Lieutenant-Governor, as a matter of course, and the reason why the offending document was not communicated with is doubtless to be found in the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor chose to live at a distance from the seat of Government.

Mowat persisting in making such grants, had dismissed the Mowat Administration. What jerks and notes of exclamation could be in the columns of the Grit contemporary in this city? M. St. John's complaints of the account given by himself of conversations with him, and impugning their accuracy, but he himself gives accounts of conversations and sees no impropriety in this proceeding. We have a reproduction of one of the most irritating features in the METCALFE-BALDWIN controversy. His inconsistency in complaining of his Ministers on one hand, and appearing on his own showing. When he was at Riviere Ouelle he sent them his signature in blank, and now complains that they used it. Why was he not at the post? It was on this authorization they introduced their Railway and Stamp resolutions. They introduced these resolutions on the 24th of January, without his authorization. Why? He was away at Riviere Ouelle. They immediately telegraphed for his blank signature, and he is now complaining that they used it. He was away at Riviere Ouelle. They immediately telegraphed for his blank signature, and he is now complaining that they used it. He was away at Riviere Ouelle. They immediately telegraphed for his blank signature, and he is now complaining that they used it.

THE RUSSIAN POSITIONS BEFORE CONSTANTINOPLE.

The latest continental telegrams show a decidedly critical state of affairs, and it appears to be expected that a further advance of Russian troops towards the Bosphorus and Gallipoli will speedily take place, in which case the situation will become most serious. It may perhaps be well to make a brief retrospect to our readers may be able to follow appreciatively the course of future events. At the commencement of the year, the Turks, exhausted by heavy reverses, agreed to an armistice, and a treaty of peace was signed. The stipulations of the armistice—which are not to be confounded with those of the peace preliminaries—were an immediate suspension of hostilities, the raising of the Turkish blockade of the Black Sea ports, the evacuation of Sinai, Rostch, Silistra, and Soudan, and the Russian troops to be withdrawn from the Black Sea coast line to the Russian frontier down to Balahik. Then from Misirava, Derkoi the Russians were to occupy Bosphorus and Gallipoli, and the final settlement of the present conflict.

Meanwhile all eyes everywhere are turned for the moment to England, and on her action within the next few weeks or days will probably depend the result of the Russian campaign. The British fleet and land forces will no doubt do all which can be done, and right well sustain their old renown. But the British fleet and land forces will no doubt do all which can be done, and right well sustain their old renown. But the British fleet and land forces will no doubt do all which can be done, and right well sustain their old renown. But the British fleet and land forces will no doubt do all which can be done, and right well sustain their old renown.

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THE PROPOSED AMERICAN.

The New York Daily Bulletin publishes, in advance of all its contemporaries, the full text of the proposed new American Tariff Bill, revised and corrected from the official document, exactly as reported by the Committee to the House. Long details of specific duties are given, those on cotton cloths, for instance, being divided into six or seven classes, each being at a different rate. The duties on cotton cloths, for instance, being divided into six or seven classes, each being at a different rate. The duties on cotton cloths, for instance, being divided into six or seven classes, each being at a different rate.

THE PREMIER'S DUTY.

If Mr. MACKENZIE has any regard for his reputation, he will go to the front, and stand by the Government without delay. His name has been connected with the jobs perpetrated there in a manner that seriously affects his character as Minister of the Crown. Brevet put, the case is as follows: DAVIDSON, on being twitted with giving \$100 a lot for wild lands, which without the Government's consent, he had sold to the Government. Brevet put, the case is as follows: DAVIDSON, on being twitted with giving \$100 a lot for wild lands, which without the Government's consent, he had sold to the Government.

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