

THE WEEKLY SUN.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 20, 1897.

MR. PECK AND MR. OSMAN.

Mr. Osman says that he is no member. That depends upon the definition of the word; but Mr. Osman is a man who claims to belong to one party and usually acts with the other. Some hint of his motives may be gathered from Mr. Osman's nomination day speech. It seems that when Dr. Lewis was nominated to the house of commons Mr. Osman was looking out for the future. He now claims the support of the members of that convention as a return for his assistance. Some of Mr. Peck's friends were also supporters of Dr. Lewis, and the member for Ottawa probably considers that he owes them as much consideration as he does Mr. Osman. The statement of the latter gentleman that everybody knows where to find him politically suggests a question. Who knows whether Mr. Osman is or is not a supporter of the present dominion government?

BY CONTRARIETIES.

The most remarkable bid for protectionist support for the Laurier government is that made at Brantford by Mr. Paterson, the controller of customs. No man has declaimed more strongly, certainly none more loudly, against protection that "Paterson of Brant." But the chief town of Brant is a manufacturing centre and Mr. Paterson desires to guard against a repetition of the liberal conservative victory of last June. So in supporting the ministerial candidate Mr. Paterson declared that "the government" would not adopt any reactionary "measure of tariff reform." To make the statement still more impressive he asserted that "the government would carefully protect the manufacturing industries of Canada and of Brantford." This was still not enough, and the controller went on to argue that the liberal candidate, if elected, would be able to do more for protection of home industries than could be done by a straight protectionist. The liberal member would, he said, be a member of the caucus of the party. He could impress upon the government the requirements of the constituency with the certainty of a sympathetic hearing. An opposition candidate would have no such influence. The government would give the patronage to the liberal candidate whether he were elected or not.

So good a liberal paper as the Montreal Witness is disgusted with the patronage part of this appeal. Under the head of "Corrupt Methods," it refers to the Brantford speech of Mr. Paterson: "The liberal candidate or member is given the patronage as a means of nursing the constituency; that is, bringing its influential leaders to support the government of the day. The member or candidate possessing the patronage, and through him the government of the day, what is expected of the speaker may be judged from the utterances of Mr. Paterson, the controller of customs, at Brantford, where a by-election is now taking place. Mr. Paterson has since June exercised the patronage of the constituency and through him supposed that he, being a resident of the constituency, must continue to do so. But he wished the electors to understand that they must look to the liberal candidate for favor in the future, and he declared: 'In future Mr. Peck will have the patronage of the constituency, whether elected or not.' 'That with the revelations coming to light and discovered since the election, it is a wonder the liberal party ever got into power. He believed that they will at least have an honest and pure election in South Brant, whichever way it goes. One of the greatest needs of the country is honest elections.' Surely the use of the government patronage, as Mr. Paterson uses it here, to influence the electors of a constituency to support the government of the day is not a way of promoting honest elections, which, as Mr. Paterson says, is one of the greatest needs of the country. The Witness may be right in charging upon both parties the use of patronage for political purposes. But surely no member of a liberal conservative government ever advised the electors that they ought to support the government's tariff policy as a means of securing the reversal of the government tariff policy. This is what Mr. Paterson does when he tells the people of Brantford that the way to retain protection is support a government pledged to abolish protection.

PREMIER MINISTER, SHERMAN.

Within a few weeks Mr. McKinley will be president of the United States. Before that time he will have selected his ministers, and on this important business the president-elect is now engaged. The most that is known so far is that Mr. Bliss, a prominent New York lawyer, has, after consideration, declined to be secretary of the navy, and that Senator Sherman has been asked to take the post of secretary of state. To other nations this is the most important appointment. The head of the state department is not only in the position of first minister, so far as a premier is possible under a president, but has charge of the department of foreign affairs. Mr. Sherman is a statesman of the older republican school, who acquired his political ideas at a time when it was not thought necessary to cultivate the anti-British vote. Occasionally he has seemed to it to be understood that in his opinion the whole unbounded continent belongs of right to the United States, but he is probably too conservative and responsible a man to seek to

take possession of the high seas, as Mr. Hayward did before he learned diplomacy, or to write such a message as Mr. Olney produced in the beginning of the Venezuela controversy. In fact, Mr. Sherman's misfortune has been that he is too large a man for the United States presidency. In 1850, when he was retiring from the office of secretary of the treasury, after having effected the resumption of specie payments, Mr. Sherman was a candidate for the republican nomination. General Garfield presented him to the convention in a speech which led to the choice of Garfield himself, after a long and fruitless struggle for the nomination of a more eminent man. In 1888, Mr. Sherman was again a candidate, and in the first ballot secured more than double the vote given to any other aspirant. But as before, it was found impossible to get a majority for a candidate of the first magnitude, and after Sherman had led the vote through six ballots, he was abandoned for Harrison, who was then in the second rank of public men and would hardly have been thought of as the head of a department. Notwithstanding his higher aspirations, Mr. Sherman does not consider it unfair to himself to take a position in Mr. McKinley's cabinet. In the interest of international good-will, Mr. McKinley will be congratulated. The able men Mr. McKinley has about him the better it will be for other countries who have dealings with the United States and are disposed to deal fairly.

THE SPRINGHILL STRIKE.

(From Daily Sun of the 15th inst.)

A few days ago when it seemed that the Springhill industry was in great danger from a fire in the mine, general sympathy was felt for the miners who were likely to be left without employment. The whole community is dependent on one industry, and the suspension of operations would have brought deprivation to almost every household, and want to a great many. What the threatened disaster might have done for the miners a few weeks ago they have now done for themselves. We are prepared to assume that the men sincerely believe themselves to be claiming only their rights, and even that they have real and substantial grievances. Most men who support themselves as wage earners, and most men who are their own employers, or who employ others, have frequent occasion to complain of unfair and unjust treatment. Every man is free to seek redress in all lawful ways, and it is one of the first rights of a free man to refuse to work for another who does not pay him well or pay him what he is worth. Yet talking in view of the statements of manager and men at Springhill it appears that the men have left off work altogether at a time when the management is making an effort to provide employment for more of them, and after a considerable period of short work has reduced the resources of the working force. The miners may perhaps have found that the sympathy of the outside public is of no great value and that it is enough for them to be satisfied with the correctness of their own position. From the local point of view it may not matter that they appear to outside people to make rather light of a general suspension of work. They have not found it necessary to delay action or give long notice, or to take any steps such as would show that a prolonged period without work or earnings would in their opinion be a public calamity. At this distance it is not possible to judge of the merits of the dispute. But the suspension in midwinter, even for a time, of the one great industry in a town of five thousand people appears to be such a misfortune that those who must be the chief sufferers would hardly be expected to bring it about with such haste, or on any but the most imperative grounds.

IN ALBERT.

(From Daily Sun of the 15th inst.)

The campaign in Albert in behalf of Mr. Peck appears to be growing hot for Mr. Emmerson. The chief commissioner in the emergency has called upon Attorney General Mitchell and Provincial Secretary Tweedie to say that they will not recognize Mr. Peck as a supporter even if he is elected. The response is what might be expected. So long as the leader of the government has Mr. Emmerson in his cabinet he must support Mr. Emmerson's ticket in his own county. If Mr. Mitchell were a keener observer than he is of the latest political movements he would perceive that if he remains in political life and does not abandon the conservative party his most dangerous foes are Mr. Emmerson and his trio of comrades. This, however, is a matter for Mr. Mitchell to consider. The electors of Albert need not trouble themselves lest Mr. Peck, if elected, should not get all the recognition he needs. The ministry will be only too glad to get his support where it is deserved, and will most urgently, though we hope vainly, seek it at other times. On the other hand, Mr. Osman's support will not be sought. He is expected to be a duplicate of Mr. Emmerson, whose

candidate he is, and by whom he will stand in furthering any political schemes which the chief commissioner has in view. Mr. Osman's politics, so far as can be observed, consist of subservience to Mr. Emmerson and hatred of Dr. Weldon. Mr. Peck has ideas of his own and if elected will command a much larger influence than his opponent.

SHERMAN OPPOSES ANNEXATION.

Mr. Sherman's acceptance of the position of secretary of state in the McKinley administration suggests the abandonment of some annexation schemes that are now before the United States people. The annexation of Hawaii has almost been accepted of late as the policy of the nation, and strong pressure has been brought to bear on the government to demand the recognition of Cuban independence as a step toward the annexation of that country. As the foreign policy of the administration is in charge of the secretary of state it is important to know what Mr. Sherman thinks of these things. A year ago Mr. Sherman published a book discussing the leading events in his public career. Though the closing words of this volume were written only a few months ago, the writer at that time could not have anticipated that he would ever be the foreign minister of the United States. The last paragraph of Senator Sherman's book contains these words: "I hope that our people will be content with internal growth, and avoid the complications of foreign acquisitions. A republic should not hold dependent provinces or possessions. Every new acquisition will create new embarrassments. The union already embraces enough discordant elements without adding others. If my life is prolonged I will do all I can to add to the strength and prosperity of the United States, but nothing to extend its limits or to add new dangers by the acquisition of foreign territory." Such language from the pen of a weaker or less resolute man might not mean much in the present circumstances. But the future secretary of a state is a man of clear ideas and strong convictions, who is much more likely to influence the president than to be controlled by him. A public man who has impressed his view as strongly on the policy of the country as Mr. Sherman has during the past forty years is not likely to suddenly change his ideas at the age of seventy-four.

The Kings county Record does not see why conservatives should not support Mr. Peck, seeing that he belongs to the party. The St. John Globe, which is an ardent admirer of Mr. Emmerson and a warm supporter of his claims, has a better grasp of the situation. It tells the liberals of Albert that "as Mr. Osman is more likely to support Mr. Emmerson, a liberal for the provincial premier, 'ship than he is to support Mr. Tweedie, a conservative, the best they can do under the circumstances is to vote for Mr. Osman.'" The Globe seems to understand its friend Mr. Emmerson and his aspirations.

Commissioner Douglas, Commissioner Palmer, Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Atkinson, Commissioner Rose, Commissioner McAlpine. These are for the maritime provinces alone. Proportionate forces are operating in other parts of Canada. There is no appropriation for these commissioners any more than there is for the dredges, but they manage to draw their allowances.

Mr. Fielding concludes that he must go to Winnipeg on his tariff inquiry. There is no appropriation for him in the maritime provinces until some time in February, so that he can hardly get back from Winnipeg before March. The time is already past for the beginning of the session as announced when parliament broke up. Various postponements have pushed the date along to the first of March, and it is likely to be further delayed to April. Even then the tariff will not be ready.

Four members of the provincial government were in Albert last week trying to defeat Mr. Peck. But only one of them has a vote in the constituency.

The session of the legislature is fixed for an early date. The public may be prepared for some interesting developments after the prorogation. The provincial ministers are "up to something."

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ALBERT ELECTION.

Report of Proceedings at the Nomination.

Four Members of the Government to the Rescue.

Speeches by Messrs. Osman, Peck, Emmerson, Jonah and Tweedie.

Hopewell Cape, Jan. 16.—The nomination proceedings here today were of more than usual interest. Shortly before the sheriff closed his court certain movements on the part of Mr. Emmerson's friends and from the way a certain local legal gentleman was tittering around it was taken for granted there was a hen on. Hon. Messrs. Emmerson, Tweedie, Ferris and Dunn entered and took seats at the table to the right of the sheriff, with good nature beaming from their countenances. The sheriff immediately sent a messenger for John L. Peck, who arrived in due course and was instructed that a protest had been filed with the sheriff to debar him from being placed in nomination. The sheriff read the document amid breathless silence, and the grounds of the protest were that Mr. Peck was a postmaster, and therefore ineligible for nomination. It was signed by Henry Nicholson, a native of Bangor, and at present acting as coxswain to Mr. Osman. As the sheriff finished reading the protest the large audience was on its feet, when Mr. Peck, turning coolly to that officer, said: "Mr. Sheriff, I sent in my resignation as postmaster several days ago and have the acceptance here in my pocket. I have no objection to the evidence now given here by cheer upon cheer, at which Messrs. Emmerson, Tweedie, Ferris, Dunn & Co. got up and went out, probably to see a man, while the able lawyer who conducted the protest in the name of the electors of the county, Mr. Peck, being heard at the polls, slowly followed his superiors, while the legal X Rays which but a moment before dimmed from his eye seemed somewhat flattered.

Promptly at 2 p. m. the sheriff closed his court and William A. West, warden of the county, was nominated as chairman by Hon. Mr. Emmerson, seconded by Jos. H. Dickson. Their being no audible objections, Mr. West took the chair. Mr. Osman was the first speaker, and said he was somewhat like an ox which was led to the market place for inspection. It was easy to make a set speech at home and arrange little jokes to make the people laugh, but today as he stood before this audience he confessed to feeling a fluttering sensation about the heart and a feeling of someness a little lower down. He hoped to feel better later on, as he had good backing. He had both supporters of the government, and the supporters of the government and his feelings could be better imagined than described today, as he found he had no opposition at all. I think Mr. Peck is all right, but I don't know about his supporters. Why can't they support the government candidate? Why stand aloof? They seem like nuns who have just taken the veil and think they ought not to be touched. It seems we are both supporters of the government, and one of us will go. But I hope it will not be Mr. Peck. In June last certain pledges were made and since then I was encouraged to think I might be thought a good candidate. He was once before the electorate and was sent home, but better men were elected in his place. (A voice, hear, hear.) However, he was proud of the vote he received on that occasion. Only those who were sent to Sunbury speaking the Elgin meeting he would not refer to the encouragement given him since the June election of support of Dr. Lewis if he (Osman) got the nomination of a certain convention. But in fairness to Mr. Peck, we will say he is absolved from any connection with such an arrangement as he (Peck) was not at that meeting at all. (Cheers.)

"I understand Dr. Lewis' position," he added, "I am his friend, but Mr. Peck is his nephew, and under these circumstances I cannot expect and do not want Dr. Lewis' support. But I think I have a right to ask from Dr. Lewis a promise of neutrality. Here is Mr. Peck's card, said Mr. Osman, holding up a copy of the County News. (A voice—"What did you say about the molasses?") Mr. Osman—I said that a person alleged to be as good as a person alleged to exercise that prerogative. Today four of its members are sent here—Hon. Mr. Emmerson, Hon. Mr. Tweedie, Hon. Mr. Ferris and Hon. Mr. Dunn—for what? To fight Johnny Peck? (Thunder of applause.) This array of honorable gentlemen are not here for nothing; they are sagacious enough to know that they have grave cause for fear; they know that despite the canvass made that my uncle, Dr. Lewis, is supposed to be neutral; the great body of that noble army of supporters in that grand old parish of Hillsboro, as well as throughout the whole county, who carried both the Lewises, father and son, to victory, will stand by me, a young man with some of the same blood in my veins with the same pardonable aspiration to serve my county and its every-day interests. I claim that my twenty-five years of active mercantile life under the judicious and prudent tutelage of the late Hon. John Lewis, has made me thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the people of this, my own native county. And to them, irrespective of party affiliations, I look with confidence for victory the polls of the 23rd of this month. (Cheers.) I claim that when the farmers of a county are made prosperous the whole population is enriched. The county population is not so good as they were when I was a boy. I believe the agricultural societies are not assisted as they deserve to be by the government. Bridges that I have crossed on the by-roads of this county during my

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lives, of the privilege of voting, as they claim that is the Sabbath. I denied that and explained this was done so the lumbermen could come out of the woods Saturday and only lose one day. (A voice)—And travel back on Sunday. Mr. Osman—I repeated some scripture and said that on this occasion I was willing to be considered an ass and asked them to help pull me out of the ditch. (A voice)—There are not enough Adventists in the county to pull you out. (Laughter.) The Sun's report of my Albert speech said the whole of my remarks were of fulsome flattery of Hon. Mr. Emmerson. I did there speak well of him and said I would be proud to be his colleague and won't take back what I said. I am not a native of the county and if the party desire it will retire and let Mr. Peck have the nomination. The rotary mills are very destructive to the forests. Another enemy is fire. I will favor legislation requiring persons clearing land to use more precautions when setting fires. Referring to the canvass that he was against compulsory pilotage, he said he was in favor of making this as cheap a port as possible. Thanking audience for good attention.

There were loud calls for Peck. Mr. Peck came forward and received a perfect ovation. He said that on the first day of this year a convention of liberal conservatives of this county met at Albert and voted him the unanimous nomination of the party. He received by wire the result of that meeting and replied and asked for a week to consider. But early the next morning a very large and influential delegation waited upon him and pressed upon him the nomination of that grand old party. Could he not be pardoned for being proud of such an honor, but before giving these gentlemen an answer he went for half a day through the village of Hillsboro asking the advice of the true and true citizens of that splendid locality, who had trusted his grandfather, the late John Lewis, and had helped him on to a very glorious victory. He had helped his uncle, Dr. Lewis, who was on the platform beside him, and every man of them he met on that day, irrespective of party affiliation, said "go ahead, accept the nomination and we will stand by you." (Great cheers.) A voice—Go ahead, Johnny, we are with you. Mr. Osman says he is still a member of the conservative party, I claim he is not, and I will give you the date of his departure from the ranks of that great party. It was the winter's day that he started for Winnipeg with the famous "letter" in his pocket. Whether he ever reached that western city or not I cannot say. (Great cheers.) And since that date Mr. Osman has been dangling between the two great political parties in this county, neither of them claiming him, and just where does this gentleman stand, disowned by both political parties? Who owns him? A voice—Emmerson. (Great laughter.) Yes, Emmerson owns him; but when he has crossed the same ground with Mr. Emmerson to sell out his interest in the conservative party, he promptly negotiated the transfer, but he has been unable to deliver the goods. (Great cheers.) And if by the terms of that contract Mr. Emmerson wishes to realize upon his investment he had better put Osman in his yellow valise and take him back to Dorchester with him. (Tremendous cheers.) A voice—That's right, Johnny, put Osman in his valise. The government seems to claim that it has the sole right to say who shall be sent by this constituency to have grave fears that it will not be permitted to exercise that prerogative. Today four of its members are sent here—Hon. Mr. Emmerson, Hon. Mr. Tweedie, Hon. Mr. Ferris and Hon. Mr. Dunn—for what? To fight Johnny Peck? (Thunder of applause.) This array of honorable gentlemen are not here for nothing; they are sagacious enough to know that they have grave cause for fear; they know that despite the canvass made that my uncle, Dr. Lewis, is supposed to be neutral; the great body of that noble army of supporters in that grand old parish of Hillsboro, as well as throughout the whole county, who carried both the Lewises, father and son, to victory, will stand by me, a young man with some of the same blood in my veins with the same pardonable aspiration to serve my county and its every-day interests. I claim that my twenty-five years of active mercantile life under the judicious and prudent tutelage of the late Hon. John Lewis, has made me thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the people of this, my own native county. And to them, irrespective of party affiliations, I look with confidence for victory the polls of the 23rd of this month. (Cheers.) I claim that when the farmers of a county are made prosperous the whole population is enriched. The county population is not so good as they were when I was a boy. I believe the agricultural societies are not assisted as they deserve to be by the government. Bridges that I have crossed on the by-roads of this county during my

canvass are in a disgraceful and dangerous condition. From now on I will not improve them, else they would long ere this have been repaired. Mr. Peck's speech occupied a little short of half an hour, but was delivered in so vigorous and candid a manner, bristling with good natured criticisms of his opponents (who spoke, and assisted by their counsel and presence, were every one of them importations from outside the county), that his friends were delighted, and his strongest opponents admitted that he made a splendid impression. Hon. Mr. Emmerson was the next speaker, and claimed a right to choose a colleague. He had been defeated several times in this county, and had not whined about it, and had borne victory without being puffed up about it. He was very sorry he had not been born in this county, and if he had it to do over again he would be born here. (A voice)—What they say is true; it wouldn't hurt you to be born again. He had hoped in the past that on one or two occasions he had had the support of Mr. Peck, but he was not sure. Mr. Emmerson, speaking of something disparaging having been attributed to him, asked: "Do you think I am that kind of a man. (A voice—Yes.) Hon. Mr. Emmerson—Who is that man? I would not be satisfied with his photograph. I would like to have a plaster bust of him. (Laughter.) A voice—You can get the plaster from Osman, but we will give you the bust on the 23rd. (Great laughter.) Mr. Emmerson spoke forty-five minutes, and was given a good hearing by W. B. Jonah followed, and in his usual argumentative way scored point after point. He said Mr. Osman's simile of the ox in the market place could be extended to show that like that ox, he would get knocked down on the 23rd. (Great laughter.) Geo. H. Steadman—they'll skin him any way. (Continued laughter.) He thought Mr. Osman did the long-suffered animal he referred to an injustice as that ox quadruped was not likely to get into a ditch unless by some means he had been placed in an unfavorable position and was taking a short cut to gain the much-desired companionship of his species. Hon. Mr. Emmerson had said at the Elgin meeting that he independent candidate was a "wonderfully" Geo. H. Steadman—Did Henry say that about me? (Great laughter.) Could it be possible that that gentleman had forgotten that he supported Dr. Lewis as an independent in June last? (Cheers.) Mr. Peck was a business man of established character; he had during the past season shipped over four millions of spruce deals, good and merchantable, and never in his life had he arranged for the sale or disposal of a Northumberland deal. (Great applause.) Mr. Jonah's speech was the speech of the day, and its telling effect was manifested by the petty interruptions of grit heaters in the gallery. Hon. Mr. Tweedie spoke for half an hour, claiming that the local government was nearly faultless. He said that the county now had the lieutenant governor, chief commissioner and still he wanted Peck more than his share. All laughed at this little joke except Mr. Osman, who caught on to the inference that if a Peck was more than the county's share (losing Mr. Tweedie to object to that measure of capacity), that Mr. Tweedie being acceptable to Mr. Tweedie must be of less weight. Hon. Mr. Tweedie was given good attention. He spoke rapidly, but was evidently not a Peck more than the rest. Dr. Lewis was loudly called, and arose only to say that he had said he preferred to remain neutral in this contest. Mr. Osman moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried.

To the Editor of the Sun: Sir—I have read with much interest the report in your paper of Mr. Osman's and Emmerson's meeting at Elgin, Jan. 11th, especially Mr. O's speech. "He is down on saw mills, especially the rotary." He, Mr. O, seems to be very short sighted. Has not Mr. Osman himself been lumbering in this county extensively for a number of years past? And I understand the reason he is not doing so much this present winter is simply because he has quite if not all the lumber of his own property, but is pushing things briskly in that line in our neighboring province, Nova Scotia, and has rotaries "chasing trees" (his own language) at a very lively rate. Charity begins at home, but what is damage to our fair province must be the same to our sister province, Nova Scotia. "Consistency thou art a jewel." Don't do as I do, but as I tell you to do. We want a better doctrine than that encouraging a county in public platform for our county in general. Mr. Editor.

TORONTO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Toronto, Jan. 11.—The Toronto public schools are overcrowded. The pupils promoted at Christmas examinations cannot get admission to the proper classes. In one school to meet the difficulty it is proposed to put up a stove in the woodshed and use that as a class-room.

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The local legal to meet on Feb. 1. C. T. Gillespie of the estate of the brick house street. The price assigned to George P. Richard Sullivan. The stock der.

A KASLO, B. C.

23rd Capt. J. K. and Miss Edie S., were married earlier. The death was early hour Friday. Berton, son of the age of two was prominent here.

Says the Yarm.

Bloomfield Douglas the proceedings gaged and consorted St. John to assist investigation. A barrel of from the cargo of Verwick, can't be seen not Courler.

Capt. Bloomfield

appointed by the to see what was in Annapolis napolis Spectator. The late R. A. who lived on St. Georges was which \$2,000 was late S. C. Wilbur insured for \$2,000.

An Island lake by the Ho.

It was made dumping earth on the home of the placed in the James McDe been awarded plying the gully filtration piping. The water in all to tan thousand iron. This is tracts of it. this city.

A large conch

bled at the all land street witness the Webber, the The water in all to tan thousand iron. This is tracts of it. this city.

News was

the West Indies, where necessary in a directory of the Alpine has with business, which all to the try and the mat. The causes the board of ending Jan. pneumonia, 3; disease, 1; cerebral debility; membranous, 1; disease of the disease of the cerebral. Steamship Steady, and West Indies and merchant ther until passage was lowing per Rev. B. A. and Raymond Hallfax; J. Elderkin, C. Miss Cooke.