THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1885.

Troubles in the North-West.

THE despatches which have been received, since our last issue, regarding the troubles in the North-West, while they have been such as to cause serious alarm, are, without doubt, greatly exaggerated. Such news as comes over United States wires loses nothing in transmission, while an unscrupulous and unpatriotic press are only too anxious to seize the opportunity of injuring the Government by false accounts of an uprising, which they unwarrantably attribute to official mismanagement. We may be wrong, but our opinion is that the root of the troubles is the jealousy of American Colonization and Railroad Companies who, not content with legitimate methods of rivalry, have long been endeavoring to foment discord between the settlers and the Government. It is easy to see that the result which they have so long desired will now be attained, and that the stream of emigration will, for a time at least, be diverted from the western lands of Canada to those of the United States. The Northern Pacific Railroad will be no loser in such an event, while the Grand Trunk will not grieve over the stumbling-block placed in the way of its already successful rival, the Canada Pacific. What Riel can expect to accomplish can neither be much nor lasting. The Canada which he seeks to disturb to-day is not the same Canada he defied fifteen years ago. Manitoba and the North-West have now a large population, sufficient, we believe, to deal with any such rebellion as Riel or any of his friends can raise, but, if not, the great National Highway, which is so rapidly advancing to completion, can carry troops, arms and supplies to the scene in as many days as in 1870 it required months. No matter how speedily the troubles may be quelled, which we trust they may be without serious loss of life and property, a certain amount of mischief has been done. This year's immigration will be greatly reduced, and the advancement and prosperity of our Dominion have been retarded, and it therefore behoves the authorities to use a strong hand in dealing with the offenders, so soon as they shall be delivered into their power.

A "Bungling Financier."

WHEN the editor of the *Patriot* refers to Mr. Sullivan as a "bungling financier," he exalts himself as an authority, and therefore he must not be surprised if exception be taken to his voluntary assumption of so important a position. We say "voluntary assumption," for no one, having any knowledge of the editor of the *Patriot's* antecedents, would, for one moment, seriously consider the idea of setting him up as a financial expert. It is not too much to require that, before judging of another's abilities in any particular sphere, a critic should have manifested some aptitude in the same direction.

The editor of the *Patriot* has had a lengthy political experience, but that it has been successful, in that it has inured to the advantage of the people at large, we cannot allow. He has been a member of three legislative bodies, none of which he ornamented, and all of which suffered, in a greater or less degree, from his connection with them. Much as we may admire or approve the present composition of the City Council, we doubt if it has ever enjoyed a high place in public regard since the day when the editor of the *Patriot* was returned as one of its members, now over fifteen years ago. Having graduated to a seat in the Local Legislature, he was late one Saturday night taken into the circle of the Lieutenant Governor's advisers, only to be unceremoniously ejected the following Monday morning, because it was found that his party declined to entrust him with their confidence. Had he possessed an atom of self-respect he would have immediately resigned his seat in the House of Assembly, but, determined to turn the indignity to good account, he pocketed the affront, and while a member of the Legislature illegally furnished his colleagues with extravagant quantities of the wares in which he dealt, and the payment of nearly one thousand dollars was a healing balm for the wounds which his honor had received. While a member of the Legislature he exhibited his great financial skill by voting for the undertaking of a large public work without making any provision whatever for meeting the outlay occasioned thereby. The Government having gradually degenerated to his level, he was admitted to the Executive board, where he sat for some three or four months, and signalized his ministry by feats which have become historical. Here it was that his prodigious financial ability had opportunity to display itself. As a member of the Government he advised the letting of a large contract to men whom he had previously denounced as swindlers, upon terms which relieved them of immense pecuniary liabilities to the Island. He did not intend to do this, we know, but in his gross ignorance of the effect of his acts, he allowed himself to be hoodwinked by the parties with whom he was dealing. Then he ventured another bold piece of finance. He advised the despatch of the Colonial Secretary on a mission to sell Debentures, but that mission proving unsuccessful, he agreed to the borrowing of $25,000 from a New Brunswick bank. Upon what security? Upon the Colonial Secretary's personal note at three months, accompanied by the deposit of $23,000 of debentures as collateral security for the repayment of the loan. Being unable to retire the note when it became due, he could get it renewed only upon the same security, but at an advanced rate of interest, nothing less than twelve per cent. a year. These are old stories, we are aware, but they are instructive lessons in the history of a man who now presumes to cal the present Leader of the Government a "bungling financier."

Mr. Sullivan, we allow, has not exhibited that intrepidity in dealing with financial questions which the editor of the *Patriot* displayed during his brief occupancy of a seat on the Treasury benches, but if, as we believe it has, strict honesty of purpose has been a distinguishing characteristic of the present Local administration, we can understand why its members occasionally come under the slanderous lash of the editor of the *Patriot's* pen. There are various kinds of success in life—it may be that of the successful general or the successful merchant, or it may be that of the successful pirate or the successful highwayman. While the editor of the *Patriot*, in proof of the prosperous issue of his very questionable purposes, can count over the scores of thousands which he has scooped out of the taxes of the people, Mr. Sullivan can only point to the thousands which, by his efforts and those of his colleagues, have been saved to the treasury of the Province whose interests he guards. For such vigilance he has to endure the villification and abuse of a man whose whole career has been that of a political adventurer and charlatan, preying upon the simplicity of a people for the accomplishment of his own selfish and ignoble ends. For his integrity and zeal, Mr. Sullivan has to bear the taunts of a veritable Cheap John whose rhetoric scarcely transcends that of the "soap man," who pays his periodical visits to our market place.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR. SULLIVAN last night delivered the Budget Speech. It is generally allowed to have been an able effort. We trust next week to lay a full report of it before our readers.

HON. SENATOR HOWLAN has given notice of his intention to ask the Dominion Government if they intend to order a survey between the Capes with the view of building a tunnel.

IN our synopsis of the Public Accounts last week, in one place we were made to say that the receipts from the Prince of Wales College were $981—the figures should have been $98.00.

As a result of the City Council's ill-judged Bye-law taxing milk vendors, we understand that these parties have resolved to raise on their present prices one cent per quart, which will be a heavy tax upon our citizens. Surely public opinion is sufficiently strong to resist the enactment of such a measure which is only in the interest of the milk vendors who, we are given to understand, have very influential representation at the Civic Board.

THE annual amendment to our Civic Incorporation Act has been introduced in the House of Assembly. It has been prepared with great care, no doubt, by a committee of citizens, and we sincerely trust, although it is almost too much to expect, that it will prove acceptable to the people of Charlottetown. One of its provisions, we observe, requires the City Clerk to perform the duties of Secretary to the School Board, and it is also provided that the School Board financial year shall end at the same date as the civic year. It is proposed to re-adjust the mode of taxation, but we doubt if the clause requiring all citizens to pay poll tax, in addition to other taxes, will meet with general approbation.

WE have seldom observed anything in the *Patriot* more wretchedly silly, than the few lines in last Saturday's issue signed "Donor." The writer complains that the "Charlottetown Hospital" is so frequently referred to as the "Bishop's Hospital" and the "Grey Nuns' Hospital" that, if persisted in, he will be obliged to withdraw his contributions. Will "Donor" kindly inform us where the "Charlottetown Hospital" is situate? We know that there are two worthy institutions in Charlottetown, incorporated by act of the Legislature as the "City Hospital" and the "Prince Edward Island Hospital," but to neither of these have we ever observed the terms applied of which "Donor" complains. The editor of the *Patriot* in referring to "Donor's" letter thinks to make a point by stating that the writer is a Conservative. What connection, we ask, is there between the matter of which "Donor" complains and the politics of the country? The intention of the editor is, however, sufficiently evident. We incline to the opinion that the manuscript of "Donor's" letter never saw the outside of the *Patriot* sanctum, and that the author is one of those "Conservatives" who are so frequently to be found on hand in Grit newspaper offices. We do not believe that the Conservative party has contained so miserable and narrow-minded a creature as "Donor," since the day when the editor of the *Patriot* was read out of its ranks.

THE promoters of the New Hotel scheme, not having met with that success which the enterprise deserved, have decided not to commence building this season. This is much to be regretted, as there is always danger in delay. A committee have been appointed to canvass stock and look after the enterprise during the summer, and to them we would suggest that the price of the shares be reduced from $200 to $50, for reasons which we think should be obvious. There are not a few persons who never expect to receive a dividend from their investment in this Hotel scheme, and who are unwilling to risk so large a sum as $200, while there are many others who cannot afford to lay out $200, who would willingly take a share at $50. Another suggestion we would offer is that the Committee should quietly drop from their stock-list the names of a few croakers and grumblers, with whom it is impossible to work unless they get everything their own way, and who generally have more to say than others with ten times their interest. It is too late to talk about it now, but the re-adoption of the Scott Act last autumn threw a huge stumbling-block in the way of this enterprise. Go where you will in the United States or Canada, and every hotel of any pretensions as such has its Bar; yet it is expected that large numbers of American and other tourists will patronize a Charlottetown Hotel, where they are, *by law*, refused such refreshments as they desire. The thing is ridiculous.

Provincial Legislature.

THE following is the full text of the Address unanimously adopted by the Legislative Council and House of Assembly to Her Majesty the Queen, upon the subject of Winter Communication:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,—We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island, in General Assembly convened, humbly approach your Majesty, and represent that:

1. Prince Edward Island entered the Confederation of the Dominion of Canada upon 1st July, 1873, on certain terms and conditions set forth in the Order of your Majesty in Council, dated 26th June, 1873, and of which terms the following is one: The Dominion Government shall assume and defray all the charges for the following service, viz., efficient steam service for the conveyance of mails and passengers to be established and maintained between the Island and the mainland of the Dominion, winter and summer, thus placing the Island in continuous communication with the Intercolonial Railroad and the railway systems of the Dominion.

2. During no winter season since the time of the said Union has the service provided by the Dominion Government been efficient, or the communication with the mainland continuous.

3. The Dominion Government having shewn no sufficient disposition to fulfil their obligation towards the Island in this matter, we are reluctantly compelled to approach your Majesty, as one of the parties to the Articles of Confederation, and pray your Majesty's intervention to obtain for us that justice to which, as a Province of Canada, we are entitled by the Terms of Union.

4. Prince Edward Island is separated from the mainland Provinces of Canada by the Strait of Northumberland, and during the winter season, which generally begins about the first of December and lasts until the end of April, the harbors and rivers are frozen, while the passage of the Strait is impeded, though at no time wholly prevented, by floating ice. Previous to the Union the only connection with the mainland during the winter was by means of ordinary boats, dragged across the drifting ice, and propelled by oars through the stretches of open water between Cape Traverse on the Island and Cape Tormentine in New Brunswick—a distance of nine miles.

5. During the first winter after Confederation (1873-4) no attempt was made by the Dominion Government to provide such steam service. During the two subsequent years (1874-5, 1875-6) an old wooden steamboat, which had for years been engaged in ordinary navigation, but without a single qualification to fit her for the winter navigation of the Strait, was placed upon the route between Georgetown, one of the Island ports, and Pictou in the Province of Nova Scotia and, as was to be expected, she utterly failed in the service required of her. At the commencement of the winter of 1876-7 a new steamer, called the "Northern Light," was placed upon the route. This steamer was not constructed for the service, but was designed for another purpose and therefore her work can be regarded only in the light of an experiment.

6. The service performed by the "Northern Light" has been most unsatisfactory, her trips being irregular and the accommodation she has afforded has been neither continuous nor efficient. According to the official returns for the last four years, there has been an average in each winter of sixty-four days, during which she has been entirely laid up. Nor does this furnish any idea of the irregularity of her trips before she entirely ceased running in each of these years, but only of the continued period when she was laid up and inoperative. At times she has been ice-bound for periods ranging from 10 to 24 days to the imminent danger of passengers and mails. Upon one occasion, four years ago, some of the passengers, among them women and children, were forced, after remaining on board several days, to leave her and walk a distance of many miles to the shore, when night overtaking them, they received injuries from cold and exposure, which resulted ultimately in the death of one of the party.

7. During the time when the "Northern Light" is laid up, the people of the Island are obliged to resort to the old method of crossing between the Capes (Traverse and Tormentine) already described, a route attended with much hardship and great danger. In the month of January last, a party of twenty-two persons were detained on the ice for two days and one night, in an attempt to make the passage, when they suffered most severely from cold and exposure—the majority of them being badly frozen—and several have since suffered amputation of their limbs as a result of their injuries then received.

8. One of the principal inducements held out to the people of this Island to enter the Confederation was the promise contained in that clause of the Terms of Union quoted at the opening of this memorial, and they naturally expected that a Union with the Dominion would bring them uninterrupted communication, at all seasons of the year, with the rest of Canada and of the world. They believed that they would thereafter enjoy equal facilities for intercourse with the other Provinces, as those Provinces enjoyed between themselves, and that, thenceforth, they would participate in the many benefits and advantages accruing from the Intercolonial Railway and other public works upon the mainland, from which they had previously been debarred for a great portion of the year. Cut off, as they had always been, for nearly five months of the twelve, from all communication with the mainland, except by a most uncertain and dangerous route, the promise of continuous communication with the Intercolonial Railway and the Railways of the Dominion, was indeed a strong incentive to them to surrender their self-government and unite with Canada.

9. The inconvenience and loss which they have suffered in consequence of the failure of the Dominion Government to provide them with the efficient communication promised are incalculable, while the disappointment to their reasonable expectations has not tended to enhance, in their estimation, the value of a connection with the Dominion, but, on the contrary, has awakened a feeling of discontent which, though a matter of regret, is not unnatural under the circumstances. Were it only the transport of freight and merchandize that was stopped during the winter, they would have good reason to complain of being precluded from the benefits of the Intercolonial and other railways which their more fortunate neighbors on the mainland enjoy; but their chief grievance is that, in direct violation of the solemn compact upon which they entered the Confederation, and to which your Majesty was graciously pleased to be a party, the Dominion Government have not provided that efficient or continuous means whereby mails and passengers can be transported to and from the mainland.

10. The people of this Province, we submit, have just ground of complaint at the inaction of the Dominion Government, and at the extraordinary apathy which has been shewn in regard to the interests of this Island in the matter of communication with the mainland. Nine winters have passed since the "Northern Light" was first placed on the route and notwithstanding the fact that her inefficiency for the service was apparent from the outset, no other steps have been taken to fulfil the terms of Union. From the time the "Northern Light" ceases running until she again resumes her trips, a period averaging, as already mentioned, sixty-four days each year, the P. O. Department transmits the mails by the route between Capes Traverse and Tormentine and during this period in each year, the Dominion Government have, at no time since Confederation, made any provision whatever for the transport of passengers, who are forced to make such arrangements as best they can for crossing to and from the mainland. This unaccountable neglect on the part of the Government of Canada is the most direct violation of the Terms of Union which we are called upon to represent to Your Majesty. Moreover the Dominion Government have established no communication between the Intercolonial Railway and Cape Tormentine, so that travellers are compelled in passing between these points to drive in open sleighs a distance of forty miles in the coldest and most stormy portion of the year. Between Cape Traverse and the line of the Prince Edward Island Railway, a distance of about 12 miles, railway connection has been opened and that but partially, only this winter, although provided for by Parliament three years ago.

11. The derangement of business consequent upon the irregularity of the mail service when, for many days at times no communication is had with the rest of Canada, exercises a most prejudicial effect upon the interests of the Island. The hardships of travelling which only the strong and robust are able to endure, and the dangers attendant upon the present mode, which have been most painfully exemplified this winter, are other disadvantages from which the people of this Province suffer most acutely.

12. The feeling that they are being unjustly treated is not without strong foundation. In order to fulfil the terms of Union with British Columbia, a Province of less than 15,000 of a population, exclusive of Indians and Chinese, Canada has contracted for the construction of nearly 300 miles of railway, at a cost of more than eighty millions of dollars. This gigantic undertaking is being pushed forward at a rate unparalleled in the world's history, and a vast expenditure is being made, and still more is contemplated, in acquiring and subsidizing other railroads, and in forging the links to bind the scattered provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Yet the fulfilment of the terms of Union with this Island, by providing the means of communication over a Strait only nine miles wide, is postponed from year to year without any thought, it would seem, that thereby a sacred obligation is being violated, and an immense injury being done to a large body of people

13. This grievance of which we here complain, has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the General Government while, session after session, the representatives of the Island in the Dominion Parliament have called attention to the non-fulfilment by Canada of her pledged faith with this Island. In 1881, we addressed the Governor General in Council upon the subject and prayed for the adoption of measures to remedy the state of affairs complained of, as well as for compensation for the loss sustained on account of the non-fulfilment of the Terms of Union. This Address was duly acknowledged, but no practical results followed and, upon the notice of the Dominion Government being again directed thereto, assurances were returned in both of the years 1882 and 1883 that the question was under their consideration. Again last year we addressed His Excellency in Council with a like petition and claiming five millions of dollars for the loss sustained to that time, on account of the non-fulfilment of the said terms and we also informed the Dominion Government that we then approached them for the last time and that, unless a favorable answer was accorded without delay, Your Majesty's interference would be invoked. Beyond a simple acknowledgment of this Address, no attention has been paid to it. Again on 24th February last, the Executive Council of this Island called the attention of the Dominion Government to the various steps which had been taken by the Island to obtain a settlement of the question and reminded them of the decision at which we had arrived last year to appeal to Your Majesty, and that no alternative was left except to carry that determination into effect. To this minute the same unsatisfactory answer was received which has invariably been given. Copies of the correspondence referred to will be transmitted to Your Majesty herewith.

14. In this the twelfth year of their connection with the Dominion, instead of enjoying that efficient and continuous steam communication with the mainland, which was guaranteed them, the people of this Island are, for a very considerable portion of the year, dependent upon the mode which their fathers initiated upwards of sixty years ago, before steam power was ever applied for purposes of locomotion. During these twelve years they have patiently awaited the fulfilment, by the General Government, of the terms of Union in this particular, until we are reluctantly constrained to say that the Dominion Government have evinced a marked indifference not only for the welfare of this Island, but for the sanctity of their own obligations as well.

15. Satisfied that this state of things cannot longer continue without a breach of that harmony which is so indispensable between the Provinces of the Confederation, and feeling that the Island is being treated unjustly, and its prosperity seriously retarded, we appeal to your Majesty, and humbly pray that you will take the premises into your most gracious consideration, and require that justice be done by the Government of Canada to your Majesty's loyal subjects of this Province by immediate "establishment and maintenance of efficient steam service for the conveyance of mails and passengers between this Island and the mainland of the Dominion, both winter and summer, so as to place the Island in continuous communication with the Intercolonial Railway, and the railway systems of the Dominion;" and further, that your Majesty will be pleased to require that the Government of Canada compensate this Island for the loss which has resulted to its inhabitants by reason of the non-fulfilment of the terms of Confederation in the particular complained of herein.

Bills have been introduced to further amend the City Incorporation Act; to incorporate the Baptist Churches of the Island; to incorporate the P. E. Island Agricultural Mutual Fire Insurance Company; to enable the Trustees of the Free Church Congregation in Charlottetown to sell certain lands; to further amend the Act regulating the Registry of Deeds; to amend the Garnishee Act; to incorporate the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The Oratorio Concert.

To the Editor of the Herald.

SIR,—To the vain and frivolous youth with literary yearnings, nothing possesses such a charm as criticism, more especially if it can be indulged in anonymously. A youngster of this kidney appeared lately in the *Examiner* as the critic of the Sacred Concert. As this same individual has been for some time in the habit of acting the critic, and interfering with a somewhat inordinate amount of impertinence in the affairs of this community, it may not be amiss to test the value of the talents he brings to the discharge of his self-assumed duties.

The letters of "Steeple Cleydon" betrayed perhaps a greater amount of vanity and spite than was ever before displayed in the writings of any single individual on this island. Our Provincial habits, our accent and pronunciation, our domestic arrangements, the architecture of our city churches, and the very smells that pervaded their interiors, were dilated upon with much show of culture by this pretentious youth. Everyone thought that a disciple of Oscar Wilde, or one who had travelled much, and seen many peoples and cities, was surely in our midst; but when the ambush whence the critic nestled was explored, there stepped forth no distinguished stranger but one of ourselves, whom we had known from the days when he wore tunics and played marbles, and whose furthest distance from the paternal hearth was marked by a collegiate town in a neighboring Province. The Rev. Steeple Cleydon saw, I am happy to say, the incongruity that existed between the clerical character he bears, and the duties of a hidden scribbler in newspapers, and so betook himself to pursuits more in keeping, I trust, with his vocation.

It may be remembered that the Rev. Steeple plumed himself above all things on the correctness with which he pronounced English. Where did he get it? Neither Halifax, nor Windsor, nor Wolfville could give it to him, and if the surroundings of his boyhood were calculated to imbue him with pure tones, he must have made very little use of his opportunities, for as a talker and a preacher his mode of pronouncing belong to the class, which *Punch* long ago designated the "Haw, baw, yaw" school, only somewhat more highly seasoned with affectation and swagger. The word "glory," which he upbraids the chorus with pronouncing "in true Island style," is rendered by this master of the pronouncing art as if written "gloawy."

The Rev. Steeple is certainly a bold youth. He must, I conjecture, be the descendant of a race of warriors, for he rushes to criticise music which he may have seen, but never heard, as well as music which he never saw, and certainly never heard, till he heard it in the Concert on which he pompously sits in judgment. Still he talks of his "musical ear," his "musical taste," and of "his cultivated ear." Here again I am tempted to ask—where was the ear of the Rev. Steeple let out for cultivation? Fully to appreciate, and intelligently criticise the music of Handel, certainly demand a carefully cultivated taste; but our Rev. critic finds no fault with the choruses, save that the word *glory* was not pronounced according to his standard, and the chorus "Worthy is the Lamb," was too loud. Now, a critic at home in his business, would have had something to say about the precision with which the different voices took up their parts—the prominence given to the theme of the fugue as it shifted from part to part, and the proper subordination of the other voices, but of all these artistic points nothing is heard from the Rev. critic with the "cultivated ear." That ear is too shocked by the pronunciation of the word *glory*, to hear anything else. The fact is, he does not know when a chorus is well rendered, and very probably heard those he criticises for the first time on Friday, March 20.

Generalities can to some extent hide ignorance; but the Rev. Steeple does not by any means consider himself ignorant, and so he particularises. Mr. Vinnicombe played "He shall feed His flock," as a violin solo. The performer's soul was in his work, and he copied, perhaps, a little too closely the great Oratorio singers, whose rendering of it he has heard so frequently. But this Rev. critic who never heard the piece artistically rendered, finds fault because the sentiment was not brought out, and he mistakes a difficult violin movement for a *slur*. Could conceit go farther? Mrs. Roome is also accused of not interpreting correctly. I venture to say that the lady in question has heard the music she sang interpreted by model artistes oftener than the Rev. critic has seen the music. The time of the piece was what it should be. Mr. Earle's accompaniments were played throughout the entire Concert with remarkable care. The Rev. Steeple, however, says they were "perfunctory," and the Rev. gentleman knows, of course, much more than Mr. Earle in the way of music. Effrontery like this, coming from a Divine, is certainly a model which a professional hypocrite might copy, and improve his calling thereby.

The selection from Rossini's "Stabat Mater" receives a perfect deluge of the Rev. critic's ignorance. He does not seem to know that Rossini set the words to the music, and that the music was not written for these words. I do not believe he ever saw the music of the "Pro peccatis," and I am perfectly certain he never heard it sung. The words he quotes are not quoted as they stand in Rossini's work, and if he wanted to show that the singer did not interpret his author correctly, he should have quoted the music, not the words. He talks gushingly of the grief the words convey—I think it highly improbable that the gentleman who sang the *Pro peccatis* will ever apply to a half-fledged Lutheran divine to be instructed in the meaning of the old Catholic hymn "Stabat Mater." It would be needless to tell this learned ecclesiastic that the word *cuius* occurs in a syncopated passage, for he would not understand my meaning, and would probably think that I borrowed some term from the science of medicine. "Musically" the division of the word was right, and "oratorically" it was not wrong.

When the Rev. Steeple talks of the Silver Trumpet March, and its memories of St. Peter's in Rome, he plays the hypocrite to the utmost of his bent. What memories has he of Rome? Yet he would lead men to believe that he had been there, and heard the march performed in the church of St. Peter's on the fifty silver trumpets, every instrument in the hand of a master. How funny such a memory, if memory it really be, especially to one who, like our critic, never heard the original—as vague and shadowy, indeed, as the idea of a Roman *Abbate*, gathered from the clerical suit and deportment of the Rev. Steeple Cleydon.

There is little use in further unmasking this vain and arrogant young man, who is of a piece with himself throughout, and never ceases to be absurd save to become impertinent. How he managed to gain access to the columns of the *Examiner* with such a composition, can only be explained by the well known deference with which the Editor of that Daily always treats a white choker surmounted by an air of sanctity. Indeed, the Editor has been heard to say that he did not agree with the remarks of his clerical friend, but that he thought they would stir up a little fun. The musicians of Charlottetown may perhaps take a note of this, and consider whether it is worth their while to study and practise high class music in order to afford diversion to the Editor of the *Examiner* and his clerical critic. I hope, however, for better things at the *Examiner's* hands, and that when classical music is next to be performed, the Editor will adopt the system followed in museums of art, and not allow naughty children to enter and smirch the beautiful works with their dirty fingers.

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To the Editor of the Herald:

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to occupy a small space in your valuable journal, as I wish to make a few remarks in reference to our newly elected Councillmen. They have a strong inclination to framing and passing By-laws. The By-law imposing a tax or licence of $15 on parties selling milk is nothing more or less than an ignorant Act. The most money that will be derived from this piece of botchery will be in the neighborhood of $150. For this amount the citizens will, at the least, be compelled to pay about $1,200 to those milk vendors. They may not raise the price of milk above five cents, as it is at present; but, during the summer months, milk could be purchased at the rate of four cents per quart. Now, I am informed on good authority, it will remain at five cents the year round, and citizens will pay the sum of $1,200 for the sake of $150 been paid into the city treasury, to be squandered, as I will hereafter show. Instead of interfering in the above matter, they should have directed their attention to the appointment of an efficient City Surveyor. By so doing they would save over $1,000 during the year. At the time the party now in the minority held sway, they had no hesitation in rejecting the nomination of Henry Boyer Smith as City Surveyor, on account of the salary asked being too high. On the 25th of March, 1885, we find those same men, backed up by one of our newly elected Councillors, voting away $100 of the citizens' money as a raise of salary to a person who is not competent to fill the position of Surveyor. With regard to the present City Surveyor, he may be a good mechanic, but, honestly speaking, he is unfitted for the position which he now holds. In the opinion of the writer and many others, it would be impossible to get a more suitable person to fill the position of City Surveyor than Henry B. Smith. During the time he acted in the above capacity, he performed his duties faithfully, as likewise did those who were under his control. From the manner in which the present City Council have conducted the affairs of the city for the short time they have been in power, the citizens have no reason to look for many beneficial measures at their hands.

Yours, &c.,

TAXPAYER.

March 28, 1885.

"WHICH WAY?"

That every article used for the same purpose is of equal value no one admits. As in all natural productions, so in the manufactured; all have their degree of merit, and Soap is as conspicuous in its variety as anything else. But in this, as the demand for the *Pure* and *Reliable* increases, so does the value of the productions of CURTIS DAVIS & Co., especially their "WELCOME" and "UNRIVALLED EXTRA" brands, being practically recommended by other manufacturers, who imitate them in every conceivable way. But, while this compliment may be appreciated, what can be said in favor of such competition, or the character of such goods and their makers? No one should be deceived, as the original has the name of CURTIS DAVIS, in full, either on the bar or wrapper, and it is their purpose to let their reputation stand on this class of goods.

QUILTING PARTIES are very sociable and enjoyable, and many a bottle of gossip finds its way around the pleasant circle, but the best news you can give is old Rheumatics is that SCIATICINE cures Rheumatism *permanently* by neutralizing the Rheumatic Poison in the BLOOD. For sale by all Druggists and general dealers.

We are selling assorted Crock ery of all kinds very cheap to make room for new lots to arrive at W. P. COLWILL'S.

The ladies say that Philoderma is the nicest thing they ever used for the hands and complexion

"How are we ever going to get through our spring and summer's work? We are all run down, tired out before it begins." so say many a farmer's family. We answer, go to your druggists and pay five dollars for six bottles of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. This is just the medicine you need, and will pay compound interest on the investment.

'PHOSPHORIZED' EMULSION is particularly adapted to DELICATE FEMALES in those low states of the system that manifest themselves in so many of the ailments peculiar to their sex. Always ask for PHOSPHORIZED Emulsion, and be sure you get it.

Good Codfish at W. P. COLWILL'S.

In the months of March, April and May the blood should be purified, and the system strengthened, so that it be able to withstand the debilitating effects of the changing weather, and resist the attack of disease. The most reliable medicine to take to bring about the desired result is Estey's Iron and Quinine Tonic. For sale by all Druggists.

A large assortment of Tea Pots will be sold cheap at W. P. COLWILL'S.

North West Rebellion.

LAST week's despatches from Winnipeg stated: Excitement is intense over the uprising in the North West, which the absence of reliable news tends to increase. Terribly exaggerated reports have been sent to the American and Canadian papers. There is little doubt but that French half-breeds are mustering to bring pressure on the Dominion authorities to redress grievances in regard to land claims, and raids are believed to have been made on the stores of both Hudson bay posts and Indian agents and officials have been arrested to be held as hostages for immediate action by the federal authorities. Telegraph lines have been cut, and operators arrested to prevent communication with the mounted police posts. Not more than five hundred of the rebels are armed, but they possess Remington and Winchester rifles, and from long experience on the plains are skilled in their use. The Indians have not yet been induced to join the rebels. Piapot is the only chief of whom the authorities are afraid, as Riel and agents have been operating with Indians north of Regina and Qu'Appelle with some success. Poundmaker and Big Bear are two hundred miles northwest of the scene of the troubles and not likely to be induced to rebel.

The following telegram from Lt Col. Irvine to the Rt. Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, dated at Fort Carleton via Winnipeg, 27th March, 1885, was read by the Premier to the House of Commons:

Party under my command have just arrived. When near Fort Carleton they found that Crozier with a party of one hundred went to Duck Lake to secure a large quantity of supplies there stored; were met by some hundred rebels, who held an advantageous position at Beardy's reserve and endeavored to surround the police and civilians. The rebels fired first, when firing became general. Crozier, owing to the disadvantage at which he was taken, retreated orderly, arriving at the fort the same time as my party. Ten civilians of Prince Albert, and two policemen were killed and four civilians and seven constables were wounded. The number of the rebels killed is not known. The police and civilians acted with the greatest bravery under a heavy fire.

The Tenth Royals, the Queen's Own and the School of Infantry at Toronto, have been ordered to proceed at once over the C. P. R. to the North West. It is expected that 550 men will be obtained from this draft. The 65th Montreal have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness. Eighty volunteers well armed stationed at Battleford, have left that station to join Irvine in Fort Carleton. Gen. Middleton has gone to the disaffected region. It is understood Riel, frightened at the serious aspect of affairs, has retired from command of the rebels to save his skin. All points will be watched to prevent his escape.

Archbishop Tache expresses indignation at being suspected of giving countenance to the Riel insurrection. He says he got him out of one scrape, but now that he has got into another he must take the odium of it as he deserves.

It has been ascertained that there are not probably over five hundred armed men among the insurgents altogether; could arms and ammunition be procured probably three times that number could be placed in the field.

The report of the burning of Fort Carlton and its evacuation by the mounted police is true. Col. Irvine with two hundred and sixty police and volunteers left the post on Friday, 27th, after burning the stores and other supplies likely to fall into the hands of the rebels. Its evacuation was rendered necessary from lack of provisions to supply the increased force and the exposed character of the post in the event of an attack by rebels from the surrounding hills. They have gone to Prince Albert, it being easier to defend and a larger settlement requiring protection. The only means of news now from Prince Albert will be by courier to Battleford, a distance of 120 miles, and then by telegraph to Winnipeg. The following additional particulars have been received of the fight at Duck Lake. Firing was begun by the rebels while Major Crozier was holding a parley with Riel under a flag of truce. The engagement then was brisk, the police and volunteers having responded with vigorous fire. The rebels are reported to have lost forty-seven killed and wounded. The cannon of the mounted police rendered effective service in covering the retreat to Fort Carleton, and but for them inevitable disaster would have followed. Fort Carleton lies in a hollow on the south bank of the North Saskatchewan. The only buildings in the place are the fort and a house to the east of the fort about fifty yards. There are no residents in the place save the mounted police and Hudson Bay officials. The Canadian Pacific Railway authorities have resolved to organize a regiment after the style of the Grand Trunk Brigade to operate along the line for protection of the property of the company. The students of colleges under Manitoba university are enrolling to be ready for either home or active service, as emergency may demand.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—Battleford has been captured, and the Indians have got possession of every house. The inhabitants have escaped to the police barracks, where they are now expecting an attack from the Indians, who are gathering on the south side of the Battle River. Telegraphic communication is expected to cease at any moment. A despatch from Qu'Appelle reports an outbreak of Indians on File Hill reserve. Gen. Middleton has ascertained that 300 Indians have joined the Rebel movement. Indian agent Nichols has been killed. The citizens of Calgarry are excited to-day over the rumored signs of an outbreak among the Blackfeet. Battalions are being raised throughout the province, and recruits are volunteering freely.

Despatches from Battleford are most alarming. The Indians, 500 strong, threaten an attack on the Barracks. Many families are coming to Winnipeg for safety. The troops at Fort Qu'Appelle have gone to try and quell the Indian rising at File Hill Reserve. These Indians were considered very peaceable. Twenty-four teams are taking detachments to the Reserve. Col Irvine is now reported to have reached Prince Albert safely. The people are organizing in every town and village in the Northwest, and are clamoring for arms. In Winnipeg two regiments more are nearly fully organized. One under Lt. Col. Scott, is now en route from Ottawa, and another under Lt. Col. W. Osborne Smith will follow. The Fenian scare at Fargo does not trouble Winnipeg, as 20,000 armed men would give them a warm reception.

Northwest advices show that Gen. Middleton has demanded 2,000 troops, and asked that 2,000 more be prepared for an immediate advance. The whole commissariat staff will move from Ottawa to Winnipeg. A general uprising of Indians is now expected. It is impossible to get news promptly, owing to the cutting of telegraphic lines, &c. There are said to be many sympathisers with the Rebels in Winnipeg.

THE young men of the Union Dramatic Club have incurred considerable trouble and expense in preparing to present to a Charlottetown audience on Easter Monday evening Carleton's celebrated drama "More Sinned Against than Sinning," and they should be patronized by all lovers of histrionic art. The closing farce is one that will bring a smile to the face of the most morose.

The Trouble with Russia.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has demanded an immediate war grant and it is rumored that he has received overtures from Russia, offering favorable terms for an alliance. Lord Dufferin has been given plenary power to arrange terms with the Ameer.

The queen has sent a mess go to the house of commons calling out the British reserves and British militia for permanent service. Reports are current at Aldershot that orders have been received there providing for the raising of 15,000 troops for India. One battery of horse artillery will proceed from Woolwich to India immediately. The government of Burmah is sending a thousand camels to India to be employed in transport service on the frontier of Afghanistan by Gen. Stewart, the British commander. Orders have been sent to Chatham to supply immediately 5,000,000 cartridges. Orders for thousands of Martini-Henri rifles and revolvers have been sent to Birmingham. Arms are to be shipped to Bombay as rapidly as completed. The factories at Birmingham are working night and day.

A despatch from India says sixty thousand troops have been equipped and made ready for service at any moment. The Maharajahs of Scinde and Holkar met Earl Dufferin and in a formal and cordial manner placed their armies at his disposal.

Earl Dufferin, the Viceroy of India, has arrived at Rawal Pindi. He was recorded a most imposing reception by Abdurrahman, Ameer of Afghanistan. After the interchange of official and personal greetings, Dufferin proceeded to the camp. The route was lined with troops, and the military display made was very effective. The soldiers greeted the Viceroy with great enthusiasm. The authorities of Rawal Pindi later in the day presented Lord Dufferin with an address declaring their loyalty to the Empress of India and expressing their appreciation of the honor done Rawal Pindi in selecting it as the meeting place of the council.

The request for reinforcements made by Lord Dufferin, states that if war is to be declared, 23 regiments of infantry, 3 regiments of cavalry, 2 batteries field artillery, and 18 batteries of horse artillery should be despatched to India forthwith. Several of the swiftest ocean steamers have been chartered for transport service, including the *America* and *Arizona*. Orders have been sent to the Mediterranean stations to have all magazines overhauled to see that the ammunition in hand is up to the standard in quality and quantity and to prepare all gunboats and torpedo vessels for sea service.

The N. Y. *Sun's* correspondent says it seems certain that no Russian force, within military reach of the Afghan frontier, is able to cope with the Anglo-Indian army. Russia is not ready, England never so ready or so well prepared in spite of the Egyptian difficulties. The Indian princes and peoples continue to manifest a loyalty which enables the bulk of the Indian army to be thrown northward. Alarmists infer from all this military activity that the cabinet expects war. It does not, but means to secure peace by acting as if war were inevitable.

The N. Y. *Sun's* correspondent says it is impossible to predict either peace or war. All the ministers are tranquil, while court circles are convinced war is inevitable. In German mediation lies great hope of peace, but recent soundings at Berlin indicate that Bismarck is little inclined to prevent the enemies which he hates and fears most from cutting each other's throats. The Czar is in a pitiable state, dreading on the one hand Nihilist bombs and on the other deposition by the military leaders, who prefer his brother Constantine. Lord Dufferin and other Indian officials generally are doing their best for war on the ground that the present is a most favorable opportunity, and that the chance is unlikely ever to recur. If Indians hate the English, they certainly hate and dread the Russians more. The English preparations far exceed what the newspapers reveal. Every movement of the Russians is known and met. The Russians are rapidly getting ready a fleet of swift privateers, and England is doing likewise, only