

THE HERALD

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1894. The treasury department at Washington is officially advised that British Guiana has passed the new tariff law by which the reciprocity agreement between that country and the United States is abrogated.

Dr. Dawson has returned to Ottawa from his season's geological work in British Columbia. He expresses the opinion that many deposits of auriferous gravel exist in the province which will pay, and believes the success of companies now conducting extensive hydraulic mining operations in Carbon county will be a great incentive to others.

J. W. Hodgson, the big produce merchant of Liverpool with branches at Montreal and New York, interviewed Hon. Mr. Angers and Prof. Robertson at Ottawa a few days ago. He visited the Experimental farm and was much interested. "Canadian cheese," says Mr. Hodgson "brings the best price in Britain today and is certainly the best quality in the market. The demand in England for Canadian products is excellent."

It affords us much pleasure to learn that Mr. Alexander McDonald, acting Superintendent since Mr. Unsworth's death has been appointed Superintendent of the Prince Edward Island Railway. We feel confident he is the right man in the right place, and we have every reason to believe that under his management the business of the road will be conducted in a manner satisfactory, not only to the Railway Department, but to the general public as well. We congratulate Mr. McDonald on his well-deserved promotion, and the Minister of Railways on the wisdom of his choice, and we trust the new Superintendent may long enjoy the position of trust and importance to which he has been elevated.

This is what the Montreal Star has to say of our friend Mr. L. H. Davies, M. P., in connection with a reference made to that gentleman in the Halifax Chronicle, and quoted below: Hon. L. H. Davies is a manly, impetuous politician, with the power of making himself understood if his auditor is not stone deaf. This is a quality that the editor of the Halifax Chronicle will probably better appreciate when he next meets Mr. Davies after that swift-tongued gentleman has read the following "pray-friends-stay-and-hear-the-poor-brother" paragraph in the Chronicle: We have reason to believe that the Hon. Mr. Davies, the Liberal Leader for the Maritime Provinces, is ready to respond to invitations to address public meetings throughout the province. An intimation of this kind ought to be all that is needed to induce our leading friends in the different counties to get together and prepare for an autumn campaign, not a half dozen but scores of meetings held everywhere, at some of which Mr. Davies can be present, and at which good speakers belonging to the province will be available. The Nova Scotia Grit says, the Star, who would not try to get the loan of a school-house for Mr. Davies to talk in after the above touching appeal, is plainly without a heart.

As winter approaches the wants of the poor become more pressing, and the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society find the demands made upon them for fuel and provisions greater than they are able to meet. As they have scarcely any fixed source of revenue, they have to depend for the most part upon the generously disposed for the means of enabling them to carry on their work of assisting the poor. In order that all may have an opportunity of participating in this good work, without bearing heavily on anyone, the Society has arranged for a series of entertainments to be held in St. Patrick's Hall during the autumn and winter months. These entertainments will be musical and literary in character, and the best talent available will be brought into requisition. The small sum of ten cents will be charged for admission, and the members of the conference feel sure that the intellectual enjoyment afforded will amply repay all who will attend; besides they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are assisting a most worthy charitable object. The first of the entertainments will take place tomorrow (Thursday) evening and the third Thursday of each month. It is to be hoped the hall will be crowded. Doors will be open at 7.30, and the entertainment will commence about a quarter to eight.

The Land Assessment Act.

DURING the last session of the Provincial Legislature provision was made in so many different forms for the collection of taxes, so many assessment acts were passed, and such multifarious machinery set in motion for the production of a revenue that it is not wonderful many of our people are confused and scarcely know what steps they are obliged to take in order to meet the demands made upon them, so as to avoid dire consequences. Of the income tax we have already spoken; the insurance and bank tax acts are not of general application, and will be dealt with as well as possible by the representatives of these institutions, while the commercial travellers may be depended upon to look out for themselves.

The Land Assessment Act, then, is the one most universal in its scope, as it is the one that affects every farmer in the Province. The act provides for the classification of all the farm lands under different valuations, and the Government in their most generous concession have left to each farmer the task of valuing his own land, but in the opinion of the Provincial Treasurer or any one of his deputies, the valuation is not sufficiently high, it is to be set aside, and the Government officials will value it to suit themselves.

The taxation imposed is at the rate of one cent per acre on farms not exceeding in value \$5 per acre. On all farm lands exceeding an average of \$5, and not exceeding an average of \$10 per acre, two cents. Exceeding \$10 and not exceeding \$15, three cents; exceeding \$15 and not exceeding \$20 per acre, four cents; exceeding \$20 and not exceeding \$25, five cents, and all exceeding \$25, six cents per acre.

Besides this taxation of the regular farm lands, the act provides a special taxation of plots of land of ten acres or less, which cannot properly be regarded as farms, and which are not situated within the bounds of the city of Charlottetown or the town of Summerside. The rate of taxation on these plots is as follows: on plots not exceeding in value \$250, fifty cents; on plots exceeding \$250 and not exceeding \$500, one dollar; exceeding \$500 and not exceeding \$1,000, two dollars; exceeding \$1,000 and not exceeding \$1,500, three dollars; exceeding \$1,500 and not exceeding \$2,000, four dollars; exceeding \$2,000 and not exceeding \$2,500, five dollars; and all exceeding \$2,500, six dollars.

From these figures it will readily be seen that the government framed a land assessment act sufficiently comprehensive to bring within its provisions almost all the land in the Province, not subject to taxation in some other form.

Now, as to the manner of levying the tax. The owner of every farm or plot of land subject to taxation is required to appear before the Provincial Treasurer, or before the deputy treasurer appointed for the township or district in which the land is situated, and make a declaration regarding the quantity and value of his land. We imagine that no farmer will have very much difficulty in finding a deputy treasurer, as the country is filled with those minions of the government. These land taxes are due and payable on the first day of December, but all who pay on or before the fifteenth day of November will be entitled to receive a discount of five per cent on the amount of their tax bill.

These, in brief, are the main provisions of the land assessment act, saddled on the country by the Provincial Government. We have given this information for the benefit of our readers and friends who are taxed, so that by no misunderstanding may be put to any trouble or inconvenience by the government tax gatherers.

The trial of Mr. Keating, White-waite member of the legislature for St. George's District, Newfoundland, was concluded at St. John's on Friday last. Justice Little unseating and disqualifying him for bribery and corruption. This makes the sixteenth White-waite unseated for these offences. There is now one more trial.

The United States Consul at Dundee, Scotland, reports to the State Department at Washington, that 31,745 tons of potatoes, valued at \$554,288 were shipped from that port to the United States, from October last year to June this year, inclusive. The tariff was then twenty-five cents a bushel, which has been reduced by the Wilson Bill to fifteen cents, but it is not thought that this fact will affect the size of shipments in the future as much as a short crop and high prices in the United States, and over-production in Scotland. The crop this year in the Dundee district shows a considerable decrease, and it is not likely that American potatoes will suffer much by Scotch competition.

Read Beer & Giff's change of advertisement in this issue.

Popularity.

Popularity is a fickle goddess that has many votaries. "Trimming sails to catch the popular breeze" is a humely metaphor, yet it is a true one, and perhaps never more true than at the present time. It typifies never more prevalent than in our day. It does not follow, however, that there is not a popularity worthy of acquisition, and, when acquired, worthy of the highest appreciation and the most zealous guardianship. This genuine popularity comes unthought and is the recompense of deeds well done. It is that consensus of favorable public opinion which, an exemplary life and great works elicit. Perhaps no more striking example of genuine, unqualified popularity of the present day could be cited than that of the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, who died recently in Boston. He seems to have been a man of noble character and unblemished life, who achieved enduring fame in the republic of letters. During his life, as well as after his death, there was no one to say anything but good of him. That is true popularity in its highest and noblest sense. It was not sought or acquired by peddling to the prejudices of this one or that; but by his great qualities of head and heart.

There is another popularity which does not rise spontaneously but which is eagerly sought. A popularity which would sometimes seem to constitute the object of a person's highest ambition. There are not wanting those who seem willing to break off life-long friendships; to flatter the vanities of the ignorant and to connive at the silly frivolities of the addle-brained, in order that they may hear themselves favorably spoken of. Such a popularity is empty, vain and unstable, and as evanescent as its modes of acquisition are unworthy and unmanly. Such a popularity is worse than useless.

True popularity, whether in the statesman, the professional man, or the man in the ordinary walks of life is that which springs from genuine worth; from a life well lived, and from a conscientious and faithful discharge of the duties of one's station. "Act well your part, there all the honor lies."

For the first ten days of September there was a deficit in the Washington treasury of \$1,336,765.

The Victoria, B. C., papers contain long accounts of the return of the Canadian International Boundary Commission after six months absence. The result of the commission's observations is that the whole ground from Junken, Alaska to Mount Fairweather is new surveyed. One thousand photographs have been taken. Many of the photographs it is said do relative justice to the northern scenery. The exploring parties brought back strawberry plants from the neighborhood of Lituga Bay, where the berries were "abundant beyond conception." The work of the commission has been eminently satisfactory.

We are pleased to know that Mr. J. J. Chappell has been promoted to the position of Store-keeper and Mechanical Accountant of the Prince Edward Island Railway and that Mr. H. W. Anderson has been made Mechanical Foreman with an increase of salary in each case. These promotions are suitable recognitions of the long and faithful services of these gentlemen. Mr. H. S. Coffin of the Mechanical Department has also received an addition to his salary. Congratulations.

Montreal advices of the 15th say that a correspondence has been opened up between Premier Taillon and several well known Montrealers with a view to offering the treasurership to R. B. Angus, a director in the Bank of Montreal and a many times millionaire, and one of the ablest financiers in the country. If he would accept the portfolio it would be a great hit, the idea being for Angus to hold the portfolio a couple of years, put the finance in a good condition, and then retire to Spencerwood as the first English speaking governor since Confederation.

Winnipeg Commercial: "An effort is to be made to introduce one cent coins into circulation in Winnipeg. At least this will be the result of a new departure in the newspaper line in Winnipeg. The Free Press is advertising an evening edition at two cents, and a supply of one cent coins has been secured for change. If the move is a success, it will mean the final introduction of one cent pieces here. Up to the present time the smallest coin in circulation in Manitoba and the west generally has been the five cent silver piece. An effort has been made on two occasions to introduce the copper coin, but failed. Business people were opposed to the innovation, and they did not encourage the attempt to bring the small pieces into circulation. The one cent coin, however, is bound to come, and if the two cent paper is a success, it will go a long way towards bringing it into general use. There are many little things which now sell for five cents, though not worth that much, because there is no smaller money in use here. This, however, will eventually be changed, to the annoyance of trade people and the outlying districts of collection returns."

"He's bilious," your friends say when you are irritable. Take Hawker's Liver Pills they will cure biliousness.

Entertainment at St. Teresa's.

The entertainment given in St. Teresa's Church, Cardigan Road, on Monday evening was a decided success. All those who took part in the performance are to be congratulated on the efficient manner in which they rendered their different parts. Great credit is due the Pastor Rev. M. J. Macmillan for his untiring zeal and unwearied energy in drawing up the programme, and preparing for its successful execution. As it was said by one of his parishioners, Father Macmillan is not content with doing what duty demands of him, but he must consecrate even his leisure moments to the betterment of the flock entrusted to him. The large number, who notwithstanding the bad weather, were present at the entertainment, show how well his faithful people appreciate his devotion. At sharp seven the programme was opened with a chorus of welcome by the choir. Then fourteen young men, whom seven were farmers and seven school teachers recited in turn a series of selections descriptive of the life and labor of O'Connell the great Irish Agitator. This part of the programme was intensely interesting. The subject in itself was one calculated to rivet the closest attention, whilst the admirable theatrical ability displayed by the various performers elicited the applause of the vast audience. The story of O'Connell's wrestling Catholic emancipation from a tyrannical ministry was vividly described, and his saintly death at Genoa, amid the sighs and tears of his grief-stricken people was feelingly and pathetically portrayed. The recitations were interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, of which a vocal duet by the Misses George and Griffin of Cardigan Bridge deserves special mention. The solo "Marguerite" by Miss Lottie Macdonald was sung with much feeling, and a solo and chorus "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground" merited the rounds of applause it received. Towards the close congratulatory remarks were made by Rev. Father Macmillan, pastor, Rev. J. C. McLean of St. George's, Rev. J. Macmillan of the Holy Trinity, and Rev. P. Curran of Tracadie. Mr. Robert Money too, started in to make a speech. It was his intention, we believe, to have given a detailed account of all the events that transpired in Irish history from its beginning down to the latest pronouncements in the Parnellite and anti-Parnellite camps. But as the hour was late, and none of the audience possessing such an emergency, had brought books with them, a society of young ladies, headed by Mrs. M. B. Dakin and her son, Kenneth, and Mr. Money, however, would not be deterred by such manifestations of impatience. He held his ground bravely till Brian Boru had driven on the Danes, and O'Rourke, Macmurchugh and Brien were about making things pretty lively in Erin when a general stampede was made for the gates, and the speaker had to retire in a huff, and not without a good deal of the National Anthem followed and brought to a close this most enjoyable and interesting entertainment.

COMMUNICATED. Electric Railways. St. John San. It is a rather ambitious scheme that Mr. Franking Cleaveland, of Toronto, and certain Boston Capitalists with whom he is associated have taken in hand. The company is to be incorporated for the purpose of constructing an electric railway from Yarmouth through Nova Scotia to Amherst and the Bay of Fundy. The Boston partner in the project is a hydraulic engineer. An electric railway is a novelty, but the building of one for the purpose of conveying passengers is not. It is a novel thing to be turned into electric power. As a sort of side issue it is intended to reduce the quantity of marsh lands with the help of the same break both dikes like pipe stems. Whether this particular scheme is a success or not, it is certain that the era of electric railways is at hand. So far the electric railway has been confined to the suburbs and is found to serve certain purposes much better than the steam railway. 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