

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Quebec, March 28.

The Speaker took the Chair at three o'clock.

Mr. McKellar reported from the general committee of Elections the names of members chosen to serve on the Niagara and Essex Election Committees. Niagara—Messrs. Wood, (Chairman) McDonald, (Toronto) Jones, (South) Leach, (Byram) Pinnonsmull, (Essex)—Messrs. Brown, (Chairman) Turcotte, Laframboise, Belle rose, Ryan.

Atty. Gen. McDonald said: I see my hon. friend the member for East Montreal in his place and as the hon. gentleman was kind enough the last day the House met to give explanations as to the progress made in the formation of a government, perhaps before I move an adjournment he will make such further explanations as are due to the house in view of the action to be taken after such explanations are made.

Hon. Mr. Cartier—I am happy to state to the house that such progress has been made as to enable me to say that the new administration will be formed which will possess the confidence of this house. I am in a position to state this.

Atty. Gen. McDonald: It is very gratifying to see a man who has been so long in the house as the hon. gentleman to make an announcement of the character which this house looked for and the country at large desired. I am sure we have all desired to see such an Administration formed as will command the confidence of the house and the people.

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A Oute Preacher.

The colored pastor of a church, not a thousand miles from Bridgeport, was once desirous that the Conference should meet at his church. The people being aware that they must board the minister during their stay in the city, were quite averse to his coming. At a meeting to consider the question of giving the invitation, the pastor stated the proposition, and said: "All those in favor of inviting the brethren here will say 'amen' all opposed, 'no'." He then proceeded to put the question; but not a yes was heard. Whereupon he paused, looked around, and remarked: "Silence gives consent. The Conference will come."

At the concluding meeting, when a collection was to be taken up for the visiting brethren, the pastor told his people that it was necessary for all the ministers to be back to their respective flocks, that they had no money to go with, and must stay in their present quarters till the money was raised. The dilemma was either board their visitors gratuitously, or pay their fares home. We can guess how they solved the problem.—*Bridgeport Standard.*

Professor Johnston says that a pound of cheese is equal in nutritive value to two pounds of flesh. The Europeans seem to be better acquainted with this fact than our people. With us, cheese is regarded rather as a luxury, while in England it is considered one of the substantial articles of food, and it is not uncommon for workmen there to make a full meal on bread and cheese alone.

NOT TRUE.—The report about the conversion of the German rationalist Strauss, the noted author of a life of Jesus, is not correct. A very recent number of the *German Journal of Scientific Theology* contains a contribution from his pen, in which he very distinctly denies the resurrection of Christ. "The resurrection," he says, "must be interpreted as a spiritual act."

CURIOSITY.—Eighteen years ago, in boring for salt in the valley of the St. Lawrence, a gas was struck, when the drill and rods, weighing 2400 pounds, were thrown out like the ramrod from a gun, and gas has been blowing therefrom ever since. A gasometer has been erected and the gas is used for boiling down the salt water which comes from the same hole, whereby 80 barrels of salt are made per day.

The Herald.

CARLETON PLACE.

Wednesday, April 8th, 1864.

Since our last issue, the corruptionists have been learning a lesson in the school in which even fools are said to profit. Cartier and John A. Macdonald found it an easy matter to obstruct the government, which in all things, did not accord with their wishes; but they found even greater difficulties in the way of forming a government to suit their own party. As the "Meagrey" very truly says, "It might well be supposed that there would be little difficulty in bringing together twelve dyed-in-the-wool followers of Mr. Cartier, ready at a moment's notice to declare themselves entitled to the ministerial salary. Modesty is not one of Mr. Cartier's failings, and perhaps there are few amongst his disciples who are not fully possessed of their peculiar fitness for high position. But the same experience which opened his eyes to the realities of the crisis is producing a most wholesome effect upon the aspirations of many around him. He learns that a politician may contrive to exact tribute as the leader of a party and yet be compelled to stand aside when the premier-ship is in question. And they are being taught that adherence to a party whose pretensions precipitated the crisis, and whose arrogance invests it with danger, does not absolve them from dread of the reckoning which is associated with the bustings."

In this respect, Mr. Cartier's Upper Canada friends are wise in their generation. They are not disposed to break their political necks because he has jumped at the chance of office, nor to risk their parliamentary existence because Sir E. P. Taché has consented to be his stepson. There is no Rinouski in Upper Canada, as the Coalition leaders should remember. Mr. Joseph Morrison's pilgrimage in search of a seat should at least have impressed this upon their minds. Besides, the case is not simply one in which half a dozen Upper Canadians are required to obtain re-election as ministers. In existing circumstances that were bad enough in all conscience. But the party are aware that the formation of a Cartier-Taché-Campbell government, or a Cartier-Campbell government, would inevitably be followed by a general election. They know that with the House constituted as it is a dismemberment of the old Coalition would entail a dead-lock from the commencement. They perceive that the majority are in no mood for trifling, and that from the onset a party government, with Mr. Cartier playing Sir E. P. Taché as his dummy, would be environed with difficulties too serious to be overcome. Hence it is seen that the construction of an administration by Mr. Cartier would be merely the precursor of an appeal to the people. Such an administration ought not to be, and would not be, allowed to move a step. A brief respite to test the question of re-election might be granted, but that is all. Beyond that, nothing. And therefore, we take it, dissolution would follow as a matter of course.

So far as the Cartier-Campbell combination is concerned, dissolution means certain defeat. Upon this point the Upper Canadian sympathizers, at any rate, are convinced. The fate which has attended the overtures made to supporters of the 'late' government presages the result of an appeal on a larger scale. Mr. Cartier has been called in as cabinet-maker by reason of his pretensions as a Lower Canada leader; and there is not an Upper Canadian in the House who is not in the face of a conflict urged against sectional domination. We do not undertake the influence of government in an election. We do not ignore the reminiscences of bygone elections carried on by the Cartier Coalition, with the public purse in its hands.

We do not deny another Cartier cabinet, aided by the Grand Trunk, and with all the auxiliaries of the corruptionist camp to serve them, might be expected to count every constituency. But the result does not admit of doubt. The Treasury and the Grand Trunk, potent though they be, would be as nothing in the presence of excited sectional feeling. It would be irresistible. It would sweep Upper Canada as with a whirlwind, and Mr. Cartier and his Lower Canada backers would find themselves face to face with a sectional power which no man desirous of maintaining peace would wistfully provoke. The beginning may be seen, thus. The first stage of the conflict may be scanned with but feeble prophetic vision. But the war begun, who will undertake to say where it shall end? Upper Canada thoroughly roused to put down such domination as that which the Cartier party would exercise, who amongst us can determine the exact point at which it would be inclined to stop? Challenged to assert its rights, dared to defend itself from insult and aggression—is it not possible that Upper Canada, once excited, might demand terms much less amiable than those which one short week ago her representatives were willing to accept.

The Cartier party, then, are really inimical to more than Upper Canada. They are the worst enemies of the very section in whose name they insolently speak. By asserting their title to rule the province, they incur the responsibility of disturbing the conditions upon which the Union exists. And by provoking sectional strife they imperil the institutions of Lower Canada, which are safe only so long as there is peace.

The compromise proposed by the Macdonald-Dorion Ministry, and tendered by Mr. Blair to Sir E. P. Taché, had the merit of being just to both sections. It gave to each a degree of strength in the cabinet proportionate to its strength in the House. The Upper Canada Reformers reserved to themselves four seats in the Cabinet, but it was on condition that the Lower Canada opposition, as represented by Sir E. P. Taché, should have the seat of themselves. In this way, the two sections were brought together, to labour for the common good; Upper Canada and Lower Canada respectively wielding an administrative influence corresponding with the nature of its preponderating vote. This was a truly conciliatory measure. It was a policy dictated by an earnest desire to avert sectional quarrels, to carry into effect administrative reforms, and to promote legislation adapted to the admitted wants of the country. It was, moreover, a policy implying no ordinary amount of disinterestedness on the part of those of whom Mr. Dorion was the leader. In this way, the two sections, though often called in question by partisan antagonists, today stand unassailable and unassailable. They have contended as steadfastly for the rights and interests of their section, as have the reformers of Upper Canada for theirs. By consenting to a compromise at the seat of themselves, therefore, the Dorion party manifested in the strongest possible manner their devotion to public interests. They were anxious, though to their own individual detriment, to secure a government representing the majority of each section, and so offering to both a guarantee of harmony and stability. We never knew the consequence of the present state of things, the equity and wisdom of the proposition made in the name of the Macdonald-Dorion alliance may be properly valued. The popular judgment may err sometimes in its estimate of men and things, but there is an instinctive sense of right which, in the heart which ensures the appreciation of a step taken to form a strong government on the basis of mutual conciliation.

Nor is there any likelihood of mistake as the party upon whom rests the responsibility of producing a crisis more grave in its character than any which has befallen Canada for years. If public business be brought to a standstill, it will be because the leaders of the old Coalition assert their right to be masters of the situation. If necessary legislation be indefinitely deferred, the early summer be consumed in a general election, it will be because the party are trying to rule the majority and to bring back to power a party detested by the people. If Upper and Lower Canada instead of laboring cordially together, be separated once again by sectional struggles, with all their seriousness and danger, it will be because of the selfishness of the leaders who are trying to rule the majority and to bring back to power a party detested by the people. If Upper and Lower Canada instead of laboring cordially together, be separated once again by sectional struggles, with all their seriousness and danger, it will be because of the selfishness of the leaders who are trying to rule the majority and to bring back to power a party detested by the people.

There is one feature of the late Ministerial crisis at Quebec, that must be highly gratifying to the friends of honest government and of which Reformers may well feel proud, and that is that their representatives have been true to their principles and have repudiated the offers of Cartier & Co. to buy them up. It appears, from the most reliable reports from Quebec, that hardly an Upper Canada Reformer can be named who has not been approached in one way or other, during the protracted and extraordinary offers made to form another coalition. None have flinched from their position. The answer to those who would bid for them has been uniform and emphatic. "No alliance with the Cartier-Macdonald Combination." No help in any shape to restore the corruptionists to power. No treaty with the party of Lower Canada domination.

The terms with those whose arrogant pretensions are an insult to the feelings and "invasion of the rights" of Upper Canada. This result is that the government which is now said to be on the eve of its birth will be a strictly party government. There will be no danger of its being mistaken for a Reform organization. It will be a revival of the corruptionist empire, with the old Coalition hands directing its affairs, and the old Coalition crew doing its work. To this extent the aspect of matters is satisfactory. Reformers know where they are, and with whom they must fight.

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The political troubles of the last few days, and the extreme difficulty experienced in trying to form a government, that will be supported by a majority of the House, forebode the trouble that is likely to arise out of the present system of working the union of the two Provinces. A ministry having the majority in Upper Canada is almost sure to be a minority in Lower Canada, and vice versa.

So long as party trammels do not give way to common sense, on both sides, the difficulty will be likely to increase; and we see no remedy for the trouble without a further incorporation of the Union, and representation by population, to do away with division lines, so far as politics are concerned. So long as we have double sets of laws, double majorities, and imaginary lines, we may expect to have sectional troubles, sectional feelings and sectional jealousies.

THE LATE MINISTRY.

The short life of the late Ministry is not a circumstance that need excite any special wonder. It fell to their lot, not only as a policy dictated by the position of Provincial affairs, but by the fact of their own repeated professions, to have to oppose themselves to many powerful interests, and to a system which has for many years been gaining strength—very pleasant for those who would enter within the circle, which moreover was not made very exclusive; but sadly injurious to the general interests. This system began with Mr. Hicock, and was by no other person so loudly decried as by some who became its successors in office; but no sooner were they in his shoes than they began to walk in his footsteps, ignoring all that they had said, accepting his assistance, and carrying on the government in that same spirit of corruption of which they had declared him to be the author. That was how Mr. John A. Macdonald began his last term of office. Mr. Galt, however, continued to protest, until room was made for him, and then he too had forgot all he had said and done down to a week or two before; found everything that had been done exactly right; and set himself to work to push on still farther the system of denying nothing to any one who was willing to act with the understood offer of equivalents. Had the late Ministry adopted the same political course—had they named a whitewashing committee instead of appointing a commission such as that which they named, and had they contrived to assure everybody interested, that no one would be hurt, it is not too much to suppose that they would have made a much less virulent opposition. They adopted a different course—once, perhaps, not with quiet much the wisdom of the serpent about it; but still one characteristic of men who have not opposed others for the sake of merely taking their place; but who believed that there were reforms to be effected, and that it was their duty to effect them. It does not require much sagacity to know the political dangers which attend such a course; for the masses are proverbially inert, while "interest" are as proverbially active. We are very out against extravagance, in Government yet we are rarely indisposed to sympathize with the extravagance of the masses. Nevertheless, when we look at the late Ministry, we are struck by the fact that they were not so much the victims of an unwarrantable hostility to their measures, as they were the victims of the fact, that the virtues come leaders are at this moment raising the tempest before whose premonitory murmurs their western followers naturally shrink.

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The political troubles of the last few days, and the extreme difficulty experienced in trying to form a government, that will be supported by a majority of the House, forebode the trouble that is likely to arise out of the present system of working the union of the two Provinces. A ministry having the majority in Upper Canada is almost sure to be a minority in Lower Canada, and vice versa.

So long as party trammels do not give way to common sense, on both sides, the difficulty will be likely to increase; and we see no remedy for the trouble without a further incorporation of the Union, and representation by population, to do away with division lines, so far as politics are concerned. So long as we have double sets of laws, double majorities, and imaginary lines, we may expect to have sectional troubles, sectional feelings and sectional jealousies.

THE LATE MINISTRY.

The short life of the late Ministry is not a circumstance that need excite any special wonder. It fell to their lot, not only as a policy dictated by the position of Provincial affairs, but by the fact of their own repeated professions, to have to oppose themselves to many powerful interests, and to a system which has for many years been gaining strength—very pleasant for those who would enter within the circle, which moreover was not made very exclusive; but sadly injurious to the general interests. This system began with Mr. Hicock, and was by no other person so loudly decried as by some who became its successors in office; but no sooner were they in his shoes than they began to walk in his footsteps, ignoring all that they had said, accepting his assistance, and carrying on the government in that same spirit of corruption of which they had declared him to be the author. That was how Mr. John A. Macdonald began his last term of office. Mr. Galt, however, continued to protest, until room was made for him, and then he too had forgot all he had said and done down to a week or two before; found everything that had been done exactly right; and set himself to work to push on still farther the system of denying nothing to any one who was willing to act with the understood offer of equivalents. Had the late Ministry adopted the same political course—had they named a whitewashing committee instead of appointing a commission such as that which they named, and had they contrived to assure everybody interested, that no one would be hurt, it is not too much to suppose that they would have made a much less virulent opposition. They adopted a different course—once, perhaps, not with quiet much the wisdom of the serpent about it; but still one characteristic of men who have not opposed others for the sake of merely taking their place; but who believed that there were reforms to be effected, and that it was their duty to effect them. It does not require much sagacity to know the political dangers which attend such a course; for the masses are proverbially inert, while "interest" are as proverbially active. We are very out against extravagance, in Government yet we are rarely indisposed to sympathize with the extravagance of the masses. Nevertheless, when we look at the late Ministry, we are struck by the fact that they were not so much the victims of an unwarrantable hostility to their measures, as they were the victims of the fact, that the virtues come leaders are at this moment raising the tempest before whose premonitory murmurs their western followers naturally shrink.

There is one feature of the late Ministerial crisis at Quebec, that must be highly gratifying to the friends of honest government and of which Reformers may well feel proud, and that is that their representatives have been true to their principles and have repudiated the offers of Cartier & Co. to buy them up. It appears, from the most reliable reports from Quebec, that hardly an Upper Canada Reformer can be named who has not been approached in one way or other, during the protracted and extraordinary offers made to form another coalition. None have flinched from their position. The answer to those who would bid for them has been uniform and emphatic. "No alliance with the Cartier-Macdonald Combination." No help in any shape to restore the corruptionists to power. No treaty with the party of Lower Canada domination.

The terms with those whose arrogant pretensions are an insult to the feelings and "invasion of the rights" of Upper Canada. This result is that the government which is now said to be on the eve of its birth will be a strictly party government. There will be no danger of its being mistaken for a Reform organization. It will be a revival of the corruptionist empire, with the old Coalition hands directing its affairs, and the old Coalition crew doing its work. To this extent the aspect of matters is satisfactory. Reformers know where they are, and with whom they must fight.

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Profit of Flax Growing.

From the *Stratford Examiner.*

Mr. Migg, of New Hamburg, has handed us the following statement of an experiment of his growing flax. Mr. Migg got 25 bushels of seed, with which he sowed 20 acres. The yield was as follows:—

232 bushels seed, from which deduct 25 bushels seed, leaving 207 bushels, sold at \$1.25.....\$258.75
Bottled straw, for which he has been offered \$400 but expects \$500, say.....450.00
Total expenses, preparing ground, pulling, retting, &c.....200.00
Leaving a profit of.....\$508.75
or \$28 per acre after paying all expenses.

Can the farmers find any crop that will pay so well?

The American war news is not important; little or nothing being done on either side; beyond boasting of what is to be done at some time in the future. It is said that the Federal armies are preparing for a great move in some direction not known. And the confederates are going to make another "terrible raid" upon a large scale, and overwhelm the Federal army in Kentucky and Tennessee. There seems to be no prospect of a cessation of hostilities.

We direct the attention of our readers to the new advertisement of the Northern Transportation Company, which appears in our columns to-day. We understand that the steamers are fitted up in a first-rate style, and that the travelling public may depend upon receiving the best of accommodations.

Surprise Party.

To the Editor of the *C. P. Herald.*

Sir—A number of the citizens of Elgin and vicinity met at the Wesleyan Church, on Saturday evening, the 19th ult., and after all necessary preparations were made for tea, &c., a deputation waited on the Rev