THE HERALD

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Please send in your subscriptions without further delay.

IT appears that Premier Farquharson intimated at a public meeting at Wood Islands a few days ago, that it was the policy of the Government to borrow more money on debentures. This is the Government's method of making revenue and expenditure meet; by increasing the public debt and adding to the annual interest. Surely $600.000 is a sum quite sufficient to have saddled on the Province, by our Grit rulers, and it requires the most brazen faced effrontry to further insult the people by telling them that this enormous debt is to be increased. Are the people prepared to swallow any such statement?

THE Government and their candidates in the Belfast and Murray Harbor district, well know that they have completely lost the confidence of the electorate; they find that all the sophistries of Sir Louis Davies and the other Grit orators are powerless to stem the adverse torrent of public feeling. Hence they plainly see that a supreme effort must be made to carry the elections; consequently they have recourse to the usual tactics of Gritism, in desperate cases, viz., boodle. They undertake to bribe the people, if possible, with their own money. Jobs on the roads and bridges are given out with a lavish hand. What a nice time of year this is to repair the roads; what great benefit will accrue from money paid out for road making just now! The most bare faced and scandalous corruption is attempted in this direction, as is evidenced from the following petition circulated for signatures in the Belfast district: "We the undersigned promise to vote for D. P. Irving if work is commenced on the road known as Bolger's road, before the 13th of December, and made passable for winter." It appears this is the same right-of-way which the Government made such use of to obtain votes at the general election of 1893, and upon which 30 men were employed on the 12th of December, the day before the election. Nothing more was heard of until the elections of 1897. All the money paid the 30 men for mixing up the mud and snow, might just as well have been thrown into the sea. In 1897 this right-of-way bobbed up and was made to do duty again. Now it is presented for the third time, as the above memorandum indicates. Are the honest electors of Belfast prepared to condone such scandalous corruption?

LITTLE more than a month ago, the people of the United States were shouting themselves hoarse over Admiral Dewey, the hero of Manila Bay. Triumphal arches were erected for him; torchlight processions escorted him through the streets of the most populous cities; he was feted, dined and wined, and the whole community seemed at their wits ends in the endeavor to invent some new honor for this man, who was described as the greatest naval hero the world had seen. To such extremes had their adulation gone that it actually became nauseating. A great arch is in course of erection in New York which was to be a permanent momento of his great achievement, and it was to be called the "Dewey arch." The Admirals name was mentioned as a possible Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States, and, no doubt, should he have consented he could easily be elected. In fact he was the most popular man in the country and almost any honor in the gift of the nation was at his disposal. Among the presents bestowed upon him by an admiring people was a splendid, elaborately furnished house in Washington, the gift of forty-two thousand citizens of the United States. Behold what a change. In the midst of all this rejoicing, the Admiral took unto himself a wife, and in the exhuberance of his joy, he gallantly presented the house to his bride. As soon as this became known, the people, in the twinkling of an eye, turned against him; praise was turned into vituperation, adulation into execration. The man, who but yesterday the whole community almost adored, is now held up to public view as a dishonor to the nation; columns of letters traducing him appear in the public press. The man who was most honored is now the most hated, all because he was simple enough to believe the house presented to him did not have a string to it. It is vain for him to say he thought he could do as he wished with the peoples' gift. He is given to understand the house was given to Admiral Dewey, and no one else, even his wife, was to have no part of it. His name is to be erased from the great arch. Such is fame. "But yesterday the name of Cæsar might have stood against the world; now lies he there and none so poor as do him reverence."

THE desperation to which the Government are reduced in the matter of the Belfast and Murray Harbor elections is plainly evident by the wriggling of their afternoon organ. The Patriot is so rattled over the affair that in its endeavor to rake up campaign matter it makes a rather sorry exhibition of itself. It dives into ancient history in its endeavor to find something to place to the credit of the Grits. It shamelessly tries to make political capital for the Government anent the matter of education, when it is well known that the present Government contributed towards the advancement of education, only by lapping off the supplements to teachers; establishing a number of political school districts and granting third class pay to second class teachers. Wonderful concessions, surely! The organ would like to take credit to the Government for what has been done for the advancement of agriculture. The Government's principal effort in this direction has been the abolition of agricultural Exhibitions. Do they expect support from the farmers of Belfast and Murray Harbor for this beneficent action? The abolition of the Legislative Council is harped upon It is well known that every attempt of the Conservative Government to abolish the Council was thwarted by a Grit majority of the Councillors. But the Peters Government did not abolish the Legislative Council. Instead of that they amalgamated both houses, giving us a hybrid Legislature such as is unheard of in any other country under the sun. So certain is the organ that the Government candidates are to be defeated and with them the Government, that it begins to speculate as to the future Conservative Premier, and to cast slurs and insults upon Hon. Mr. Gordon, Mr. Shaw and other prominent members of the Conservative party. It may be said in passing that any political party would be at a very low ebb, indeed, if it could not furnish better material for a Premier than is embodied in the present Leader of the Grit Local Government. Dont fret neighbor, when the Conservatives come to form their Government they will have ample excellent material from which to draw.

THE electors of Belfast and Murray Harbor should remind our Grit friends, who are at present most lavish in their promises in the hope of gaining their votes, of the numerous unfulfilled pledges and broken promises already made by Grit Premiers and their supporters. In 1897 Mr. Peters ran the elections on the cry that our claims against the Dominion Government were to be submitted to arbitration, with the prospect of obtaining for this Province some millions of dollars. Mr. Peters managed to deceive the people on that occasion, as they all know to their cost. When the elections were won, he left for British Columbia, laughing at those whom he duped into supporting himself and his friends. Just now, on the eve of the elections in Belfast and Murray Harbor, Sir Louis Davies, Premier Farquharson and other leading Grits, are promising a railway and a bridge; but when the elections are over, we shall likely hear no more about these public works for some time, until the eve of a Dominion election probably. The advertisement calling for tenders to construct a portion of the road which is now running in the Government newspapers, supplies a safety valve in this respect. It announces that tenders will be received up to the 18th day of December next. The elections take place on the 13th, thus leaving the Government five days in which to formulate a plausible excuse for refusing to go on with the work. They are not obliged by the terms to receive the lowest or any tender, and they may for instance tell the public that no tenders, coming up to the requirements, were received. This is not the time of year, in the midst of snow and frost to construct railways in this Province. The people know this very well. They also know that the Grits deceived them in the matter of arbitrating the claims of this Province against the Dominion; they know now that it was only an election cry. Therefore, the electors of Belfast and Murray Harbor should say to the Grit standard bearers: "You deceived us in 1897, your arbitration scheme was only a shibboleth to catch votes; you are attempting to deceive us now by your railway and bridge story; you have proved false to your former promises, you will do so again; you have been weighed in the balance and found wanting; depart from us, we want you not."

The Markets.

CHARLOTTETOWN dealers are paying 28 cents per bushel for oats this week. The amount offered for sale is very small. Potatoes sold for 20 cents per bushel yesterday, and eggs sold at 20 cents per dozen. There is a continued active export demand in Great Britain for fresh and pickled eggs. It looks now as if there was hardly going to be enough good stock of eggs on this side to do till spring. Choice fresh handled eggs are quoted at Montreal at 18 to 19 cents, and strictly new laid at 20 to 21 cents in large lots. The dealers here are paying from 18 to 19 cents for print butter; tub 16 to 17 cents. Dairy butter is reported scarce in Montreal.

Dressed hogs are worth from 4½ to 4¾c lb. Live hogs weighing from 175 to 200 lbs. are worth 3¾c. those weighing 200 lbs and over from 3¾ to 4c. The Trade Bulletin's cable re Canadian bacon reads thus: The market has steadied up since the recent decline, under an improved demand, and prices have advanced 2s. from the lowest point. Large quantities of turkeys have been contracted for in Canada for the British market. Many of them will go forward soon. Sales have been made of dressed turkeys delivered at Ontario points at 8½c per pound.

Geese were selling here yesterday at from 60 to 70 cents.

ONE LAXA-LIVER PILL every night for thirty days makes a complete cure for biliousness and constipation. That is, just 25 cents to be cured.

AT OTTAWA.

THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF PREFERS THE WRONG COUNTRY.—REAL ADVANTAGE OF FIELDING TARIFF IS WITH THE UNITED STATES.—WHOSE SALES TO CANADA ADVANCE BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS, WHILE GREAT BRITAIN SENDS US NO MORE THAN BEFORE.—A COSTLY BUT USELESS EXPENDITURE—THE FRANCHISE AGONY—ELECTION OR SESSION.

(Special Correspondence to the HERALD.)

OTTAWA, Nov. 25.—When Mr. Fielding introduced his preferential tariff, so called, he told the country that it would increase our imports from Great Britain as compared with unpreferred countries. If it had given a genuine preference to Great Britain the tariff might have had this effect. Had Mr. Fielding taken the old tariff and applied the preferential clauses to it he would have given the producers of the mother country an advantage over their competitors equal to one quarter of the customs duties. Or if he had made such tariff changes as seemed to be called for by the platform of his party and then applied the preference the result would have been helpful to the British exporter. But this is not the way the minister of finance proceeded. He prepared his general tariff with a view to the preference clauses, advancing the general rate on all articles which would get the advantage of the preference, so that in the end the British producer got either no preference at all, or at least a much less advantage than the tariff professed to give. In this way it came about that while the present government professes to have cut down the general tariff, and then given a special reduction to Great Britain, the reduction to British goods in the first year was less than one-twelfth part of the old duty, and the average duty on goods imported from the United States was actually reduced more than the average rate of duty on English goods.

THE REAL PREFERENCE.

It is a simple matter of fact, which can be proved by a comparison of average rates of duty, as well as by the course of trade, that the present tariff, as compared with the Foster tariff, is more favorable to the United States than to Great Britain. It can be shown that it has accomplished the following results.

We have increased our imports from the United States much more than from Great Britain.

We have increased the free list of goods imported from the United States much more than that of goods from Great Britain.

We sell less to the United States and buy more from the United States than we did under the old tariff.

We buy less from Great Britain in proportion to what Great Britain buys from us than we did under the old tariff.

THE PROOF OF IT.

Now for the figures in support of these statements. The returns of trade for the fiscal year ending last June are just made public. This is called the year 1899, and is the first in which the alleged preference tariff was in full operation. We compare them with the fiscal year 1896, the last full year in which the Foster tariff was in effect.

We bought from Great Britain:	
In 1896	$32,979,000
In 1899	$37,000,000
Increase	$4,021,000
We bought from the United States:	
In 1896	$58,574,000
In 1889	91,000,000
Increase	$32,426,000
That is we increased our purchases from the United States eight times as much as our purchases from Great Britain.	
This government is supposed to favor reciprocity. How much did it secure in the way of a market in the United States in return for this enormous expansion of our imports from that country?	
As a matter of fact we bought a smaller quantity of goods from Great Britain in 1899 than in 1896. The advance in prices more than accounts for all the increased values. Great Britain bought from Canada as follows:	
In 1896	$66,690,000
In 1899	99,000,000
Increase	$32,310,000
The United States bought:	
In 1896	$44,480,000
In 1899	36,000,000
Decrease	$8,480,000

A NATURAL CONSEQUENCE

Thus, while we have since the change of government increased by fifty per cent. our imports from the United States, the people of that country buy less and less from us, while from our best customer, and our mother country at that, we are buying much less than half as much as we buy from a foreign country, which has almost forced Canadian goods out of her market. How does this happen? A glance at the tariff will show. High duties on British woollens, cottons, and other textile goods, and on all articles such as the mother country exports. Greatly reduced duties on such articles as we import chiefly from the United States. A large increase in the free list of goods of United States production. No increased free list for British goods. As a large producer of raw material, the United States would always have an advantage in the free list, but this government has extended that advantage away beyond the schedule of raw materials. Under the National Policy the total value of free goods imported from the United States was never, except in 1895, three times that of the free imports from Great Britain. Usually it was a little over double. But in 1899 the value of free goods imported from the United States was $48,000,000, while only $10,000,000 worth was admitted free of duty from Great Britain.

A FURTHER COMPARISON.

The free imports from Great Britain were last year $1,500,000 more than in 1896, an increase resulting from higher prices and not from an enlargement of the free list. The value was almost exactly the same last year as in any of the years from 1889 to 1893.

But the value of free goods imported from the United States last year was just double the value three years ago, and much more than double the value in the years from 1889 to 1893.

The average rate of duty on goods imported from the United States and on goods imported from Great Britain is not yet reported for 1899, but in 1898, the first year of the alleged preference tariff, the government collected $6,649,429 on the total value of $32,043,461 of British goods imported for use in Canada, the average rate of duty being 20 3-4 per cent. In the same year $74,824,923 worth of imports from the United States paid $9,941,624, an average of 17 1-4 per cent.

To be very exact the Canadian who bought an average one hundred dollar lot of British goods, paid $20.75 1-10 duty thereon. The Canadian who bought an average one hundred dollar lot of United States goods got off by paying $17.26 1-2. This is the true inwardness of the preference.

A COSTLY ERROR.

The small remainder of the troops in the Yukon will soon be home, and it will be possible to figure out what it has cost to send and keep them there. Their absence has greatly impaired the usefulness of the military schools, and it is generally admitted that their presence in the Yukon has been of no benefit to any human being. The mounted police have done splendid service in that country, but the soldiers had no mission, and have been only a bill of expence. Before last session the cost of this experiment had exceeded a million dollars, and probably when the accounts are closed up it will be found that $1,500,000 will not meet the bills. Our prudent government cannot afford to pay 50 cents per day to the Canadian volunteers in South Africa, but the amount spent in sending Dr. Borden's army to the Yukon would pay the whole Transvaal corps fifty cents per day for seven years. When it is said that no one was benefited by the Yukon expenditure, exception must be made. The Ottawa friend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who supplied provisions without tender, in his own town at Pacific Coast prices got something out of it. The United States railway, which carried the soldiers to a United States Pacific port, so that they could be forwarded thence in a United States ship, got some good out of it, as also did the United States steamship owners.

MORE TROUBLE THAN ITS WORTH.

Now that the government has got its franchise law, the measure is a perpetual torture to the secretary of state and his officers. No one was more jubilant than Mr. Scott over the project of restoring the federal franchise to the control of the Provinces, but he little dreamed that as head of the department which would have to receive the lists and print them, he would have occasion to curse franchise reform so often and so bitterly. The local officers should have had the lists at hand long ago, but many of them are not here yet. The government has little or no control over the officers who are in default, and the law makes no provision for their failure to come to time. So the clerk of the crown in chancery can only labor earnestly with these distant and irresponsible people in whom parliament has vested the control of the election lists. Either the general election or a number of by-elections must be held soon, and in either case the lists are not ready.

ELECTIONS.

As yet it is not known whether it will be an election or a session. The results of the Manitoba provincial contest will be known on the 7th of next month. The provincial by-elections in Ontario will be heard from a week later, and by that time Prince Edward Island by-elections will have taken place. After that the ministers may have a better understanding of the situation. Meanwhile we are within two months of the time when parliament ought to be called, and there are five vacancies in the house of commons. Winnipeg, Sherbrooke, Lotbiniere Vercheres and Labelle are waiting for writs of election.

THE hill which the British infantry stormed at Glencoe, is 1,000 feet high. The scaling of it by the Dublin Fusiliers and the King's Royal Rifles in face of the deadly fire they encountered, may safely be put down as one of the most brilliant deeds in the records of the British army.

BORN.

At Tignish on the 13th. inst, to Dr. and Mrs. Doiron, a son.

IT PAYS TO BUY AT

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4.75 for 2.00	4.20 for 2 25
5.90 for 3.75	4.50 for 2 95
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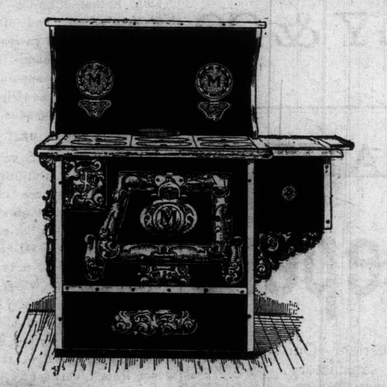

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THE WAR!

The British forces under Gen. Lord Methuen defeat the Boers at Belmont and Gras Pan.—Gen. Buller at Pietermaritzburg.

At Belmont, Cape Colony, some score of miles from Kimberly, Gen. Lord Methuen's flying relief column has had a bloody but most successful fight. Lord Methuen, on the 23rd, telegraphs:—

"I attacked the enemy at daybreak this morning in a strong position on three ridges, which was carried successfully, the last attack being prepared by shrapnel. The infantry behaved splendidly, and received support from the Naval brigade and artillery. The enemy fought with courage and skill. Had I attacked later I should have had severe losses. The victory was complete. I have 40 prisoners. I am burying a good number of Boers, but the greater part of the killed and wounded were taken away by their comrades. I have a large number of horses and cows. I destroyed a large amount of ammunition. The British loss was three officers and 35 men killed, 22 officers and 120 men wounded and 18 men missing."

STORY OF THE FIGHT.

The entire western troops moved on the Orange River Thursday morning—two companies of mounted infantry and a detachment of Lancers, who were sent to hold a farm. Their pickets prevented the Boers from advancing. The Boers fired cannon and the British artillery arrived on the scene and silenced the Boers fire. At two in the morning the Guards brigade moved steadily forward to a hill a few miles east of Belmont station. The Scots and Grenadiers advanced to within fifty yards of the base, when the Boers poured in a scathing fire, which staggered the Guards momentarily, but quickly recovering, they returned a deadly fire into the Boers. The duel was continued for half an hour. When the artillery commenced the Boers evacuated their front position and the Scots Guards rushed the hill with the bayonet and amid lusty cheers.

The 9th Brigade then moved forward in extended order, and the Boers started a terrible cross fire from the surrounding hills. The Coldstreams supported by the Scots, Grenadiers, Nothumberlands and Northamptons, stormed the second position in the face of a constant and effective Boer fire. The 9th brigade then advanced the artillery in the meantime, maintaining excellent practise. The British infantry never wavered, and when a tremendous cheer notified them of a charge, the Boers fled and succeeded in gaining a range of hills in the rear, in spite of the Lancers flanking movement.

The infantry again gallantly faced the fire, and the Naval brigade came into action for the first time at a range of 1,800 yards. The infantry was well supported by the artillery, and the Boers, unable to stand the death-dealing volley, retired and were forced to obtain some other position. The British cavalry charged the Boers and pursued them for five miles, where posession was taken of the Boer laager, and the Boer stores were destroyed. The Boers hoisted a white flag over their second position, whereupon Lieut. Wilcox, of the Coldstream Guards, went forward and was immediately shot down. The Boers twice repeated the same tactics. This was the first great battle fought on Cape soil, and the victory would have been much more decisive if the British had had more cavalry. Gen. Methuen ordered the burial of the Boer dead found by the British, The wounded were well cared for.

THE WHITE FLAG TREACHERY.

Further despatches from Belmont, confirming the treacherous use by Boers of the white flag, are arousing indignation. The troops engaged are bitterly complaining, and it is feared the result will be the refusal to give the Boers quarter. Gen. Methuen has sent a message to the Boer commander saying: "I must ask you to warn your wounded not to shoot our officers. I must warn you not to use the dum-dum bullets nor use the flag of truce so treacherously. Such action is cowardly in the extreme and I cannot countenance it." All accounts confirm a splendid charging of the British infantry, the Scots entering the fight with drums beating and fifes playing. The second ridge was the strongest position. The Boers were sheltered behind ramparts of boulders. Nevertheless the Guards advanced steadily, many of them coolly smoking.

A BATTLE AT GRAS PAN.

Saturday afternoon the war office posted the following despatch dated Capetown Nov. 26, 12. 30 p.m. from General Forestier Walker:

Lord Methuen reports that he moved yesterday, Saturday, at 3 30 with the Ninth Lancers, Mounted Corps, Naval Brigade, and two batteries of artillery, the Guards following with the luggage. Near Gras Pan, about ten miles north of Belmont, a station situated on the railway line to Kimberly, 2 500 Boers with six guns and two machine guns opposed him. The action began at 6 a. m. Our batteries fired sharpnel very accurately till the heights seemed clear. Then the Naval Brigade and the infantry advanced to the assault. The fighting was desperate until 10 a. m, when the heights were carried by the British troops. The Boers, after being forced out of their position, retreated along the railway line where the Ninth Lancers were placed to intercept them. The result of further fighting was not known at the time of telegraphing. Early in the action 500 of the Boers attacked the rear guard. The brigade of guards met this and also protected the flanks. The naval brigade acted with great gallantry and suffered heavily, but no particulars are yet known. The enemy showed the greatest stubborness, and must have lost a great number of men. Twenty were buried by our own forces. It is known that 31 were killed and 48 wounded. More than 50 horses were found dead in one place. One of our batteries fired 500 rounds. Our force must halt one day at Gras Pan to rest and replenish their ammunition. They worked splendidly and are prepared to overcome any difficulty. The Naval Brigade, Royal Marines, Light Infantry, and first battalion North Lancashire regiment especially distinguished themselves.

A despatch from Pietermaritzburg announces the arrival there of Gen. Buller. He met with a splendid reception. Railway communication between Estocurt and Mooi River has been restored by Lord Dundonald's force, and the Mooi River column entered Estocurt Sunday.

The report which came from Berlin stating that Lord Metheun's force had been defeated with great slaughter beyond Gras Pan, proves to be incorrect.

The Sardininian, with the Canadian contingent on board, at latest accounts had not arrived at Cape Town. She was due there on Saturday.

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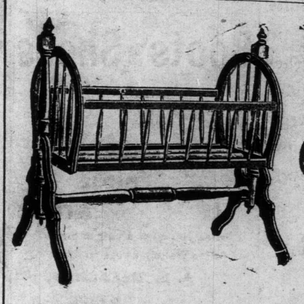

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