# THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1888.

## OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION.

When the House resolved itself into Committee of Supply yesterday afternoon, the following resolution was moved by the Hon. Leader of the Government:

*Resolved*, That it shall be lawful for the Lieutenant Governor in Council to accept and receive from the Government of Canada any sum of money, not exceeding $250,000, but the same shall not be accepted in full for compensation claimed by Prince Edward Island in regard to the failure of the Federal Government in carrying out the terms of union with respect to continuous steam service between this Province and the mainland.

The members of the Opposition, who had, during the whole session, been finding fault with the Government, because the country was, they said, a little in debt, when they heard this resolution empowering the Government to obtain money to pay that debt, turned right about and bitterly attacked them for undertaking to get this money. They, doubtless, saw that now their business would surely be gone; so they, one after another, obstructed and opposed until three o'clock this morning, when a division was taken on the resolution, which, of course, was carried, the eleven members of the Opposition voting against it.

## THE FISHERY TREATY RATIFIED.

The treaty for the settlement of the disputes between Canada and the United States, arising out of the fishery question, recently signed at Washington was ratified in the Dominion House of Commons last week, without a dissenting voice.

The action of the Opposition on this question may be taken as a fair sample of their conduct on all matters affecting the welfare of our common country. That being so, we must certainly conclude that it would be difficult to find a political body equally inconsistent, insincere and dishonest. They have clearly demonstrated that they have no influence in the national assembly; that they do not possess the courage of their simulated convictions, and that they oppose merely for the sake of opposition.

As soon as the commission was named, the opponents of the Government at Ottawa took exception to it, and from that time until the treaty was made public, there was not an obscure Grit paper, from one end of Canada to the other, but was filled with all kinds of rubbish concerning the questions which the commissioners were appointed to discuss. Every imaginable thing that was, in the least, calculated to prejudice the people of the United States against Canada's just rights, was painted by the Grit press in the most gaudy colors.

While the commissioners were in session, and when the outside world had no possible opportunity of ascertaining any knowledge of their deliberations, false and misleading statements relative to them were spread broadcast over the land through the press supported and inspired by the Opposition party.

Finally, when the question of ratifying the treaty was brought up in the House of Commons, it was denounced by the Grit orators, and by none with more unblushing effrontery than by Mr. Davies, of Queen's County, Prince Edward Island, as a base surrender of Canada's claims. The discussion was continued for several days, and during this time language sufficiently strong could not be found, by the exponents of Gritism, in which to characterize the men who framed that treaty. After days of frothy declamation, and after hurling all kinds of vile epithets at Canada's representative on the commission, the Opposition members, when the question was put, allowed it to pass without even the form of a division.

What are we to conclude from this? Nothing else than that the treaty is acceptable to the people of Canada in general, and that the Opposition party are well aware of this fact; consequently they dare not vote against its ratification. Had those who spoke against the treaty in the House of Commons called for a division, the probabilities are that the great majority of the Opposition members would have voted for it, and thus would the already demoralized Grit party have been irretrievably shattered.

Is it not a humiliating spectacle to see men in public life making themselves the laughing stock of the world, by their inconsistency, in opposing, in such vehement language, a question for which they intended to vote?

On the other hand, the Government of Sir John A. Macdonald have, in bringing about this treaty, and in having it ratified by the Canadian Parliament, established a strong claim upon the people of this Dominion. The question of the fisheries is one of the most important, for this country, that has engaged the attention of the Dominion Government, and whatever may be the ultimate fate of the treaty, certain it is that all true Canadians will remember, with pride, that it is to Sir John, as Premier of Canada, and to Sir Charles Tupper as our representative, and the fearless defender of our rights, that we are indebted for having shown the world that this question is capable of a mutually just and amicable settlement.

## WORK OF THE SESSION.

The Local Legislature has been in session since the 22nd of last month. During that time, notwithstanding the complaints of the Opposition regarding the shortness of the speech of the Lieutenant Governor, a very considerable amount of work has been done in the House of Assembly. A number of useful and necessary Bills have been passed, and a number of amendments made to Acts passed in previous years. The supply for the current year has been granted, and the probabilities are that prorogation will take place within a day or two.

The Opposition have, as usual, occupied considerable of the time of the House in speech making. This year they seem to know their speeches somewhat better than usual. This is, no doubt, consequent upon the fact of their having, by this time, repeated them for the hundreth time or so. They did not suggest any legislative reforms or move any amendments to the motion of going into supply, being, doubtless, undesirous of showing their weakness, as they are fewer in number now than they were when the present assembly first met. They simply opposed for opposition sake.

Mr. Farquharson has a notice on the Order Book to the effect that he intends to bring in a resolution relative to our trade relations with the United States. It is difficult to understand why such a resolution should be introduced in the Local Legislature, unless these Opposition gentlemen wish to convert the House into a debating society. Indeed that is what has been done in the Legislative Council Chamber. The majority in that end of the building have thought proper to introduce resolutions relative to the Quebec Conference, unrestricted Reciprocity, etc. This has, doubtless, been done by these sage gentlemen in order to show to the world that they are not disposed to hide their light under a bushel, and they will keep on talking, even if the most of their talk is nonsense.

## THE SEAL FISHERIES.

The St. John's, Nfld., *Evening Mercury*, of the 9th inst., contains the following account of the first arrivals from the sealing grounds:

As anticipated on Saturday, the first arrival from the ice fields put in an appearance yesterday morning, and since then three others, with full cargoes, have "answered their names." These arrivals have made things assume a lively aspect, and to-day, at the South Side, where the oleaginous treasure is being landed, all is bustle and excitement. The crews were engaged landing the fat, skinners in stripping it of its hairy coat, laborers were hoisting it into the vats, and the "irrepressible youngster" is skimming hither and thither over the blood-and-grease-covered wharf, grasping the odorous flipper; in fact, everything looks alive but the poor seal!

The first of the fleet to enter our harbor was the SS. *Falcon*, owned by Messrs. Bowring Brothers, and commanded by the veteran "swoil killer," Billy Knee. She was safely berthed at the South Side about 7 o'clock yesterday morning. Her cargo consists of 16,000 prime harps, not a full cargo it is true, but it is considered an exceedingly good trip and one that will pay remarkably well. The first and largest lot of seals were killed and panned on the 22nd of March in the vicinity of the Horse Islands, from then up to within a week ago scattered small patches of seals were killed and taken on board. The bulk was killed some distance from the ship, but owing to the heavy ice she could not steam to where they were panned. The crew report killing a full load, but say that several "pans" were appropriated by the crews of other steamers. But that statement will require to be taken with a grain of salt. The steamers *Neptune*, *Aurora*, *Iceland* and *Falcon* were in the same ice.

The next steamer to "show up" was the *Neptune*, Captain Blandford, with the unprecedented cargo of 42,000 splendid seals. This beats her famous trip of 1884 by about 500. Her renowned commander now takes the first place in the front rank of our daring seal killers. Under her present trip the noble namesake of the bluff old sea god is almost down to her rails in the water, and it was only by the most perfect seamanship and skill that she was safely brought into port. Every nook and corner on board is filled with the valuable cargo; coal and provisions had to be thrown overboard to make room for it. Her hold is full to the hatches, under the cabin floor is packed, and on deck she carried 1,500. The first whitecoats were seen on the 11th of March, but none taken; it was not till Palm Sunday, the 25th of March, that the main patch of seals was entered. This was in White Bay, between Canada Head and Horse Islands. After getting into the seals, it took but two days for the crew to kill and pan the ship's cargo, which plainly shows how hard the gallant fellows worked. Two more days were occupied by the steamer in getting to where the treasure was panned, but by Easter Sunday every seal was stowed on board, and the *Neptune* with her valuable cargo bore up for home.

When she first struck the seals, the steamers *Falcon*, *Aurora*, *Ranger*, *Iceland*, *Esquimaux* and *Eagle* were lying under the Horse Islands, where they found seals very scarce. On Monday the master-watch of the *Eagle* came on the ice where the *Neptune's* crew were panning seals and brought back the news to his ship, and on Tuesday the *Eagle's*, *Ranger's*, *Esquimaux' and Icelander's* crews arrived on the scene and engaged in the slaughter. On Thursday the *Aurora* steamed in and worked her way up to Partridge Point.

The *Neptune* reports the *Hector*, *Terra Nova*, *Greenland* and *Vanguard* almost clean. The *Panther* was sighted on Thursday steaming for Cape John. She also reports ice extremely heavy, but weather fine during the spring, with the exception of St. Patrick's and Sheelah's Day, when a heavy NE wind prevailed, accompanied by snow.

About two hours after the arrival of the *Neptune*, the steamer *Aurora*, Captain J. Fairweather, owned by W. Stephen & Co., entered the narrows with a fine trip of 25,000 old and young. On the 22nd of March she was jammed off the Horse Islands. While there, on Monday, the 26th ult., the crew started from the ship and Walked to Partridge Point, a distance of twenty-three miles. Leaving the ship at 3.30 a. m., they struck the seals in the vicinity of the above point at noon. From this, our readers can judge of the distance they walked. One-half of the crew returned to the ship for provisions, etc.; the same night the other half remained on the ice and commenced killing and panning. On Tuesday, all hands went on board, and the next day they all started off again to the seals, and the work of destruction continued. On Thursday, there were three "watch crews" out panning, and on Easter Sunday the work of hauling seals and putting them on board commenced. This continued every day till Wednesday, when the last were taken on board, and on Thursday the *Aurora* bore up for home, but finding the ice in close to the land, she went into Shoe Cove. On Friday she left Shoe Cove and steamed across Green Bay; but owing to the wind driving the ice in, she was compelled to seek shelter in Nipper's Harbor. While in there the wind changed to northwest, and the following morning she steamed out of the harbor and from there had a fine run home.

At 6 o'clock this morning the Dundee Seal and Whaling Co.'s steamer *Esquimaux*, Captain Milne, made her way into port. She hails for 23,000 prime harps, which were taken about the same time and place as those of the previous steamers. She was going for the main patch of seals in company with the *Aurora*, but falling in with a smaller patch, the crew were sent out to kill them, in the meantime the vessel getting jammed in the ice, was driven around Gull Island, Cape John, and it took her three days to recover lost ground. Were it not for this in all probability she would have a full load. She reports the *Eagle* loaded. The latter finished loading on Easter Sunday, and bore up for home, but must have been caught in the ice. It is more than likely that she will be in to-night.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

In our telegraphic columns will be found the announcement of the death of the Hon. Thomas White, Minister of the Interior in the Dominion Cabinet, which took place on Saturday night last. His death was very sudden and unexpected. Mr. White was a native of Montreal, and was in the 57th year of his age at the time of his death. In early life he engaged in mercantile pursuits. He subsequently studied law. But he afterwards turned his attention to journalism, and was for many years, till he became a Minister of the Crown, editor-in-chief of the Montreal *Gazette*. He was a man of extensive knowledge, an able writer, and a fluent speaker. He will be much missed in the Cabinet. He represented Cardwell in the House of Commons.

The Ottawa *Evening Journal* (Independent), makes the following reference to Hon. Mr. Thompson's speech on the Fisheries Treaty:

"When he (Davies), impugned Mr. Thompson's professional skill by his declaration that the treaty was badly and loosely worded, Mr. Davies was making trouble for himself, and a heap of it was developed when the Minister of Justice rose to reply. Speaking with his wonted judicial deliberation and gravity, and employing withering sarcasm, coupled with well-considered argument, Hon. Mr. Thompson had barely commenced when the whole House was laughing at Mr. Davies—the Tories openly and boisterously; the Grits vainly endeavoring to stifle their sense of humor, which impelled them to smile against their will. Mr. Davies several times interrupted to 'correct' the Minister, but the latter had been very careful, and always was able to raise a new laugh by showing how he had been correct from the first. It was no wonder that the Liberal champion looked exasperated; he had tackled a hard job, and now with his quick temper pitted against the unruffled serenity of one of the ablest men in the House, he was at a disadvantage, and apparently knew it."

Children Cry for
Pitcher's Castoria.

## DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

On the 13th, Mr. Jones, of Halifax, resumed the debate on the fishery treaty. He commenced by saying that he could not accept Sir Charles Tupper's statement that there was no pressure from Mr. Chamberlain to conclude this treaty. It was clearly made in Imperial interests and without any regard to Canadian interests. Everything for which the Americans contended had been granted and every point contended for by the Canadian government conceded. Indeed, the only thing Tupper was able to say in its favor was that it settled certain disputes. If it did, it settled them by giving up our contentions every time. He placed great importance on the American estimate of the value of our inshore fisheries, and the fact that they declared these fisheries useless should have made our commissioners more careful not to concede commercial privileges. For our fisheries and the privileges connected therewith were our best lever for obtaining free trade with the United States. As to Sir Charles Tupper's offer to settle the whole dispute on a basis of freer trade relations, he contended that it must mean either that Sir Charles was prepared for unrestricted reciprocity or that when he made that offer he was merely jesting. He then took up the treaty and argued at considerable length against its provisions, because it allowed American fishermen to buy bait and tranship cargo, and when corrected by Foster he took refuge in the plea that the modus vivendi gave them these privileges. He proceeded to say the government could not ratify this treaty at present, but wait and see what the American senate did with it. If we ratified it we would be bound by it in any further negotiations, whereas if we did not ratify it and new negotiations had to take place, we would be as free as the Americans to regard this treaty as waste paper.

Mr. Kenny, of Halifax, followed Mr. Jones. He regarded this as the most important question that had come before parliament since he had a seat in it. It was especially important to Nova Scotia in view of the large interest the fishery was in that province. It proposed to settle a number of disputes of long standing, and to settle them in such a way as that no Canadian interest would be prejudiced to any serious extent. Canada was not responsible for these disputes. They had been settled by the treaty of 1854 and by the treaty of 1871, both of which had been torn up by the congress of the United States. (Cheers.) Again, in 1885, our government had made a valuable concession to the fishermen of the United States in order to induce that country to negotiate a settlement, but the congress of the United States refused to act on the recommendation of the president and then there was nothing left for Canada but to enforce the treaty of 1818. This she did, not because she wanted to, but because she had to, in self-defence. Still when an opportunity presented itself to make a settlement, to arrive at an understanding satisfactory to both parties, we were only doing what we had always shown our willingness to do, in making a treaty with them. Regarding the terms of the treaty, he believed them to be equaitable. Points had been conceded, but that was always the case where men or nations submitted their disputes to arbitrators or commissioners to settle. So long as the treaty conceded nothing that would injure our fishermen, he felt the house would be acting wisely in supporting it. In answer to Mr. Jones, respecting bait, he quoted the Halifax *Chronicle* in denunciation of the treaty, because it did not concede the right to buy bait. (Cheers.) As to the headlands, Jones denounced the treaty of 1871 on the grounds that it did not settle the headlands dispute. Now he was found opposing this treaty because it did. For his own part he would vote for the treaty, as he felt he would be best representing the wishes of his constituents in doing so. (Cheers.)

After a speech from Mr. Eisenhauer, General Laurie took the floor. He commenced by alluding to the fact that in the protection of the fisheries Canada had shown she was more than a nation on paper. Though the cost of that protection was very considerable, no man in parliament and, so far as he knew, no one in Canada had complained of that expense. Indeed, the only complaint made was that the government was not doing enough. How different this from the condition of affairs in the United States over twenty years after they became a nation, where several States were threatening to secede for want of protection of their fishing interests by the federal government. He criticized Mr. Jones' statements and showed that they were founded on a misconception of facts. In reply to Mr. Eisenhauer, he pointed out that the member for Lunenburg was merely complaining that one class of our fishermen would have to pay another class a little more money, but still they would not have to pay any more than the American's did, and our inshore fishermen would profit from the trade of both. In conclusion he said that he had advices from his own county from those of both political parties, to the effect that the general opinion there among those interested in fishing was that the treaty should be ratified. For this reason and because it commended itself to his own judgment he would support it.

Mr. Peter Mitchell thought the treaty was a complete give away, so far as Canada was concerned; but it must be ratified. After making one of his characteristic speeches, Mr. Mitchell subsided, and

Hon. Mr. Foster took up the subject and made a fine speech, refuting the charges made against the manner in which the fishery protection service had been performed, and correcting Mitchell's statement that Great Britain had not stood at our back. As far as his (Foster's) experience went, it was wholly false.

On the 16th inst., Mr. Jamieson moved his resolution in favor of prohibition and spoke briefly in its favor. He felt that no material change in the conditions had taken place since the subject was last debated. In reference to the question of compensation to those engaged in the traffic he, for his part, would be willing to grant such compensation, but he denied that the liquor dealers were in a position to claim it as a right.

Mr. Mills, of Bothwell, then rose and made a savage personal attack on Mr. Jamieson, charging him with insincerity and inconsistency, and with being a Tory first and a temperance man afterwards. These charges Mr. Mills tried to make good by citing Mr. Jamieson's vote on Mr. Mills' motion to reform the senate and his vote on Mr. Mills' motion censuring the government for not amending the Scott Act. He closed by saying he would vote against the resolution.

Mr. Jamieson replied in a spirited speech. He showed that both of Mr. Mills' motions were moved in amendment to a motion to go into supply, and were clearly made with the view of embarrassing the government. Besides he (Jamieson) had always acted in accordance with the policy of the Dominion Alliance. When Mr. Mills in 1874 moved to amend the senate, he moved it as a substantial motion, because his friends were in power and he did not want to embarrass them. Moreover, after his motion carried, he went into the Government and remained in it four years without taking one step to carry out the object of his resolution. Yet this was the man who would stand up and accuse him of insincerity and inconsistency. (Cheers.) As to Mr. Mills' motion a few days ago, it had been condemned by numbers of Mr. Mill's political friends; indeed, by all of them who placed temperance before party. He deeply regretted that the debate had taken the course that it had, but he appealed to the house as witness that it was not his fault.

After recess, Mr. Mills resumed the debate on the fishery treaty. He complained of undue haste on the part of the government of Canada, in seeking to ratify the treaty before they knew what the legislature of Newfoundland and the senate of the United States would do with it. He then cited some old authorities in regard to the headland theory, contending that we had given away nine-tenths of the territorial waters we were entitled to. He abused the Imperial government for forcing us to adopt this treaty, which he regarded as a complete surrender.

Prof. Weldon, of Albert, made a brilliant speech in reply. He showed that some legislature must move first, and why should we wait for Newfoundland and the United States any more than they for us? As for Mr. Mills' authorities, they contradicted themselves and advanced impossible contentions that modern international comity wholly disregard. In defence of the Imperial government, he showed that England for the past thirty years was backing us up in contentions against the United States, that she had relinquished in her own waters. (Cheers.) She only held to the ten-mile limit for bays in regard to her own fisheries, while she supported Canada in refusing admittance to American fishermen in bays sixteen miles wide. (Cheers.) Yet this was the country that we were asked to believe had betrayed us. It was an accusation no Canadian should listen to much less make.

He was followed by Sir Richard Cartwright, who dwelt at length on the inconsistency of the government denying privileges and then yielding them.

Sir John, in reply to Cartwright's contention that Sir Charles Tupper's proposal for reciprocity was made at a bad time, quoted Cartwright's unrestricted reciprocity resolution, in which it was affirmed that the present was an opportune time for negotiating a reciprocity treaty. In reference to the suggestion that we should have referred the headland question to arbitration, he asked what friendly power could have given a decision in our favor, since every nation possessing fishing waters had already adopted the principle that close bays were bays less than ten miles in width at their mouth? The fact was we had only adopted in this treaty what England, France, Germany and Holland had already adopted in regard to their own fisheries, and we could not expect more by arbitration or any other method. The treaty was one of mutual concessions, made in the interests of peace and good neighborhood and should be ratified. The statement so often reiterated by the opposition that we had conceded everything and the Americans nothing was not true. In the matter of bait and of transhipping cargoes the Americans had clearly retired from their original position, and even the points we yielded them were not unmixed evils, since if we sold them supplies our people would get the benefit at whatever profit there was in that trade.

Mr. Laurier followed, declaring that the treaty was a bad one for Canada, but that the opposition would not oppose it, since its rejection might lead to trouble.

After wasting three days in abusing the fishery treaty, the Opposition on the 17th, when the vote was taken, allowed it to pass unanimously. It was then hoped that they would allow the bill ratifying it to pass through its remaining stages without any further obstruction, but this afternoon, when Sir Charles Tupper attempted to pass it through committee of the whole, the attack was again renewed. First Edgar, Mitchell and Casey assailed the Ministers of Marine and Customs for having been brutal to American fishermen. Silenced in their charges against the Minister of Customs, they concentrated their efforts against the Minister of Marine, making a loud lament over the case of Captain Meteo Rose.

Hon. Mr. Foster showed that Rose had subsequently withdrawn under oath his charges against the collector of customs at Shelbourne.

Mr. Laurier pointed out that Rose had made another affidavit withdrawing the affidavits read by Foster. He (Mitchell), Casey and Cartwright made a great outcry against Hon. Mr. Foster, because he had not read the affidavit quoted by Mr. Laurier.

Hon. Mr. Foster said it added nothing to the credibility of the witness on whom the Grits were relying, and as a matter of fact it did not contradict the affidavit read by Mr. Foster.

When clause six was read, Messrs. Mitchell and Jones favored the House with long quotations from recent interviews with U. S. Consul General Phelan, of Halifax, in which he contended that the treaty was a good one for the United States.

Mr. Davies wanted to know what construction the Minister of Justice put upon clauses six and seven.

Hon. Mr. Thompson said he must decline to be drawn into a legal argument at this stage, inasmuch as, occupying the position that he did, he was not prepared to give authoritative opinions off hand from his place in Parliament. With Davies it was different. He was untrammelled by official position and could argue anything he liked. He (Thompson) would, however, say in a general way that the fears expressed by Davies of the extent of the liberties conceded by these clauses were groundless. In reply to the accusation made against him by Mr. Davies and others, that he had before the treaty been strongly opposed to the admission of American fishermen to our ports for purposes that the treaty now conceded to them, he showed that what he then objected to was the making by American fishermen of our ports a base of operations for carrying on the deep sea fisheries, and he denied that under the treaty they could do anything of the kind.

Davies and Edgar still continued talking, insisting on having every word of the treaty defined.

Sir Charles could stand it no longer and he proceeded to administer a sound castigation to Mr. Davies. He reminded Davies that the treaty had just been unanimously ratified by the House, that its terms could not be changed, and that therefore the discussion Davies was trying to provoke could be of no pratical service. His object could only be to embarras the Government in a matter where it was his duty to render them all the assistance in his power.

This led to quite a passage at arms between Sir Charles and the syndicate of Grit leaders, in the midst of which six o'clock was called and the Speaker left the chair.

## Sessional Notes.

The business of the present session of the Legislature has, for the most part, been going along quite smoothly. Now and then, however, the debate has taken a somewhat lively turn, and it would almost appear that the people's representatives were disposed to handle one another without gloves, save those prescribed by Parliamentary usage. On the 17th inst. Mr. Farquharson, while discussing the Budget Speech, referred to certain money's which had been spent by the Davies Government for macadamizing roads, and appealing to Hon. Mr. Prowse, asked if that had not been an honest expenditure. "No," replied the last named gentleman, "because it was not authorized." On the following day the *Patriot* contained a very undignified article in reference to this matter, and stating that Hon. Mr. Prowse was at the Council board when the expenditure was ordered. On the 19th, Hon. Mr. Prowse, on a question of privilege, called the Speaker's attention to the *Patriot's* article and declared it an unmitigated falsehood, and took the Opposition severely to task for the manner in which he and the Hon. Mr. Gordon had been vilified by them through their press. Hon. Mr. Prowse is a gentleman of high character, who allows no one to tamper with his rights with impunity, and in this vindication he, doubtless, had the moral support of all right-thinking members of the House.

Mr. Bell, member for Bedeque, is a man who makes long speeches on nearly every subject. He may have some ideas regarding the questions which he undertakes to discuss, but, if so, he hedges them round with such a network of verbal frippery that it is doubtful whether or not he himself could determine what they are. He has great staying powers; but is altogether incapable of infusing this spirit into his hearers, for they certainly do not *stay* long after he takes the floor. His most attentive listener and greatest admirer seems to be Mr. Bell. All this would be quite harmless so long as he did not try to mislead the House on matters of importance. On Thursday evening last he undertook to explain a question of law, for, be it remembered, he is a member of the legal profession. His interpretation of the question under consideration, however, was not such as is generally accepted by the members of the bar. Thereupon Hon. Mr. Sullivan administered to him a most severe castigation. The Attorney-General conclusively proved, to the intense amusement of all present, that the hon. member was wofully ignorant of the law he undertook to explain, or extremely desirous of misrepresenting facts. This castigation seems to have done Mr. Bell considerable good, as he has not since troubled the House with any great amount of his "verbosity."

Mr. Shaw, a few days ago, broke in upon the monotony, which is necessarily not of unfrequent occurrence when the House is in committee for any length of time. The subject of expenditure for ferries was under consideration, and as Mr. Farquharson, in his seal, for the welfare of his constituents, no doubt, generally has very considerable fault to find with the Government regarding the accommodation afforded the people of West River and Rocky Point, the hon. member for Cardigan thought it was but right that this question should be inquired into. This year, he said, the Government had gone to considerable expense fitting up the ferry boat to ply between Rocky Point and the city. She had been newly painted and fitted up in grand style, and on the very day previous made her first trip. It was expected, of course, that a large number of Mr. Farquharson's constituents would take advantage of the accommodation thus early afforded them, and for that reason a large concourse of people had gathered on the wharf to await the arrival of the boat. But, said he, the amazement of the beholders could be better imagined than described when they saw the only passenger was a solitary Squaw. Wilberforce did not live to enjoy the consummation of the work to which he had given his life; Lincoln fell before he saw his hopes realised; Gladstone might not live to see home rule granted to Ireland; but the hon. member for West River (Mr. Farquharson) had reached the goal of his political ambition. He had been preaching blue ruin to his constituents, till he had driven the people away. Deserted farms and desolate homes could now be found there, and the lowly Mic-Mac was the only inhabitant.

## LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Monday, April 16.

After routine, the Bill to amend the Charlottetown Water Works Act 1887, was, on motion of Hon. Mr. McLeod, read a third time and passed.

On motion of Hon. D. Ferguson, the Bill to incorporate the Marchfield Hall Co., was read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Sullivan, the House went into committee on the Bill to prevent the profanation of the Lord's Day. The Bill was reported agreed to, and ordered to be read a third time on the following day.

After recess Hon. Mr. Ferguson, Provincial Secretary, resumed the debate on the motion to go into committee of Supply. He showed that the hon. member from New London (Mr. Sutherland) was astray in the figures which he had presented to the House, to the extent of $250,000, and that in all the statements which he (Mr. S.) had made he directly contradicted his speech of last year. He went on to prove most conclusively that the finances were, at the present time, in a much better condition than they had been since Confederation. We were now $600,000 better off than we were when Mr. Davies went out of power. The receipts in the Land Office, thus far, this year, he was happy to say, were very encouraging. He expressed his regret that we were unable to control the expenditure for Education. The encouragement of district effort was what the Education Law was intended to promote. But at the present time the efforts of the districts were falling off. This question would not be settled satisfactorily until certain anomalies of the School Act were removed. The Government have thought it useless to introduce any legislation in this direction, as the Opposition in the Upper House seem determined to baulk any measure brought in by the Government.

Mr. Bell continued the debate. He spoke till 6 o'clock and adjourned the debate.

The House then adjourned till the following day.

Tuesday, April 17.

After Mr. Bell finished speaking, Hon. Mr. Prowse continued the debate. He showed how the present Government had saved thousands upon thousands of dollars to the people of this Province. If there was not a surplus in the treasury at the present moment, the people had the money in their pockets, and they had it in the public works throughout the country. During the last year the expenditure for Education had been larger than the Government had anticipated; but all their efforts to remedy this matter had been thwarted by the Opposition. He then presented to the House figures which showed the utter ridiculousness of Mr. Sutherland's calculations, and which proved our financial condition at the present time to be much better than ever before since Confederation. Referring to the question of loyalty, raised by the Opposition, Mr. Prowse said it was just like a man who had been guilty of theft, and finding himself pursued by the officers of the law, joined in the cry of "Stop thief." The Opposition party would be sure to be found at the bottom of any project in Canada that savored of disloyalty. Great progress, he said, had been made in the settlement of our claims against the Dominion Government, and he had every confidence that we would get justice from the Dominion and from England. But the Opposition had, from the very start, pooh, poohed the whole question, and had done all they could to hamper the Government in the prosecution of their claims against the Dominion. The Quebec Conference had been referred to, and fault had been found with the Government because they were not represented there. This conference, he believed, was called for no other purpose than to try and upset the Government of Sir John Macdonald. Regarding the reduction of the members of the Executive, he said the policy of the Government was to bring about this reduction by abolishing the Legislative Council; but the Opposition succeeded in defeating that measure.

Wednesday, April 18.

In answer to a question put by Mr H. L. McDonald relative to sending the deaf and dumb children of Michael Burke to the institution for the deaf and dumb in Halifax, Hon. Mr. Sullivan said that these children did not belong to this Province but to Nova Scotia, and that that Province should provide for them. There are four of these children and two of them were now supported in the Halifax institution by this Province. Hon. Mr. Bentley, in answer to questions asked by Messrs. McLellan and Matheson, said the roads and bridges enquired about would be considered.

Mr. Matheson presented a petition praying for the incorporation of the Presbyterian congregation of Tignish. Petition received and read and referred to a special committee.

Mr. Matheson, from said committee, introduced a bill which was read a first time.

Hon Mr. Bentley then resumed the debate on the Budget, which he had adjourned the evening previous. He made an excellent speech and showed up the false line of argument pursued by the members of the Opposition.

His colleague (Mr. Bell) had made a long speech. He was a regular Sampson according to his own way of thinking, and, no doubt, in his own mind had slain the Philistines on the Government side of the House. He (Mr. Bentley) would not say whether Mr. Bell had used the same weapon in his deadly work as Sampson of old had used.

Mr. Davies, he said, had spent $100,000 over his estimates the first year he was in office, and $130,000 the second year, making $230,000 in two years.

Hon. Mr. McLeod made an excellent speech, completely exposing the hollowness of the Opposition's contentions and the falsity of their reasoning, and showing to the satisfaction of all reasonable men the soundness of our present financial condition.

Mr. James R. McLean "offered a few observations on the financial condition of the Province."

Mr. McLellan thought the receipts for the year should have balanced the expenditure. He trusted the Government would not be too severe on those who were indebted to the Land Office, as many of them were poor and not able to pay the full amount of their indebtedness.

Mr. Shaw thought the Government had conducted the business of the Province in a most satisfactory manner. They had relieved the people from taxation, and had economised the revenues placed at their disposal.

Referring to what the opponents of the Government had said about the delegates who had gone to Ottawa and London in the interests of the Province, he said they went in open day, and not as other delegates had gone some years ago, between two days. (Mr. Farquharson—At what hour did they leave? Mr. Shaw—They left at the hour the assassin goes forth to do his deadly work. The present Government, he said, would be remembered as the friends of the people, long after all thought of the Opposition had completely failed from the people's memory.

After recess Mr. Blake resumed the debate on the budget. He completely cleared up all the charges that had been made against the Government. We were now, he said, drawing about $35,000 a year more from Ottawa than we were during the Davies administration. If there was a little debt, the people had the money in their pockets.

Mr. Sinclair criticised the manner in which the Government were conducting the affairs of the Province.

Mr. Matheson wished to say a few words on the subject under discussion. While on his feet he, imprudently, undertook to lecture the Leader of the Government relative to some matters which he alleged had taken place during the late election in the Tignish district.

Hon. Mr. Sullivan took Mr. Matheson severely to task for the statements he had made. He said no doubt Mr. Matheson would wish the Government to carry on their financial business just as he (Mr. M.) carried on his business. He (Mr. Sullivan) was prepared to prove to the House that Mr. Matheson had made offers to persons who owed him to compromise for a certain per centage, provided they would vote against the Government candidate at the late election. He gave to the House the names of persons who had been approached in this way by Mr. Matheson.

Hon. Mr. Gordon said it was not remarkable that fault should be found with the Government, after nine years of office. The wonder was, indeed, that greater fault was not found. The debts of which the Opposition said so much amounted to about a year's revenue. Perhaps it was better that the debt had been allowed to increase a little, as it would show to the Dominion Government full justice had not been done us. The Government were in their tenth consecutive year of office—something that never before happened in this Province. We had over $500,000 more to our credit now than when the present Government came into power. He considered the Government would be justified in taking from capital sufficient to pay off the debt.

Mr. Wise made a few remarks. He thought the members should not be paid.

Hon. Mr. McDonald did not think the last speaker's idea would be a good one. In Ireland, for instance, large sums of money had to be collected to pay the expenses of members of Parliament, who received no pay from the Government, and who were not always able to bear the expenses of a long session.

Mr. Richards understood that the question had been very fully discussed. A great variety of opinion had been expressed on the question of our finances. He thought our expenditure would exceed our revenue this year.

Hon. Mr. Arsenault said the Opposition had been complaining about the Land Office for years. The Opposition did their best to prevent the Government from collecting money from any source. In cases where a person's farm was of an inferior quality of land, he should scarcely be expected to pay as much for it as for good land.

The House then went into Committee of Supply—Mr. John McLean in the chair. A few items were passed, then the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

Thursday, April 19.

House in Committee of Supply. A number of items were passed. Considerable discussion took place on the item for Exhibitions, in which Mr. Blake, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Sinclair, Hon. Mr. Ferguson, Hon. Mr. McLeod and others took part.

On Thursday evening the House met after six o'clock, for the first time during the session.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Sullivan, the House went into committee, with Dr. Gillis in the chair, for the purpose of considering the expediency of introducing a Bill relative to Joint Stock Companies.

The resolution was reported agreed to, and Hon. Mr. Sullivan, from the committee appointed to bring in a Bill, reported a Bill, which was read a first time.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole to further consider of the supply to be granted to Her Majesty—Mr. John McLean in the chair.

Considerable discussion took place on the different items, and the House sat till near twelve o'clock.

Friday, April 20.

After routine the Bill relative to Ancillary Probate was, on motion of Hon. Mr. Sullivan, read a second time.

On motion of Hon. Mr. McLeod, the Bill to Incorporate the Charlottetown Library Association was read a second time.

On Friday evening the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. A. A. McLean in the chair, to consider the City Health Bill.

The clause of the Bill which provided for the removal from the city of all pigsteys and slaughter-houses, evoked much discussion. Mr. Blake did not feel that he could support it, as it would entail a great hardship on many poor people.

Hon. Mr. McLeod pointed out that the City Council already possessed the power to make all sanitary regulations for the city, and it was not fair to ask the Legislature to do for them what they should do themselves.

Dr. Gillis was in favor of the clause, because he thought it would improve the sanitary condition of the city, which, he said, was far from good.

A number of members argued that it was not fair or just that country representatives should be called upon to legislate for the City of Charlottetown, and they would, therefore, oppose the clause. Finally a division was taken on the clause, and it was lost by a large majority. The vote was not a party vote, members of both sides of the House voting for and against the clause.

The committee then rose without reporting.

Saturday, April 21.

After routine the House, on motion of Hon. Mr. Sullivan, went into committee, Mr. Shaw in the chair, on the Bill relative to Joint Stock Companies.

Progress was reported and the House adjourned till Monday.

## Telegraphic News.

Toronto, April 19.—The Scott Act suffered a Waterloo to-day in Ontario. The repeal of the Act was carried in every county in which it was voted upon to-day; and the result is looked upon as a sign that the Scott Act must go. Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry, which had adopted the Canada Temperance Act by a majority of 1,706, to-day wiped out that vote, and gave a majority of 2,500 for repeal. Bruce practically reversed its former figures, in every instance the majority for repeal was a decisive one. The following are the majorities for repeal: Bruce, 1,400; Dufferin, 795; Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry, 1 706; Huron, 1,653; Norfolk, 1,037; Renfrew, 730; Simcoe, 1,183.

Montreal, April 21.—The water in the river is again rising, and last night the Mill and Commissioner Street pumps were set to work.

The Governor-General has accepted an invitation to receive an address on April 30, at a conversazione for conferring degrees in the Faculty of Arts.

Mr. Legsis, Liberal candidate in Maskinonge, is suing *La Monde* for $10,000 damages for alleged libel.

A half-yearly dividend of five per cent. without bonus, was declared yesterday by the Bank of Montreal.

Ottawa, April 21.—Hon. Thomas White, Minister of the Interior, died at 9 o'clock to-night, of inflammation of the lungs. He was ill only one week. Mr. White was conscious until an hour before his death, and took an affectionate farewell of the members of his family. In consequence of the death of Mr. White it is expected that the House of Commons will adjourn on Monday till Tuesday night, and the budget speech will not be delivered until Friday.

The body will be taken to Montreal on Tuesday morning and the funeral will take place on Wednesday.

Ottawa, April 23.—One of the most affecting scenes ever witnessed in the Canadian Parliament took place on the assembling of the House of Commons this afternoon. Sir John Macdonald rose to move the adjournment of the House, but so overcome was he with emotion that he was not able to say a word, and after standing silent for more than a minute, sank into his chair sobbing and crying like a child.

Sir Hector Langevin then rose and moved, that in view of the death of Hon. Thomas White, the House adjourn, and stand adjourned till Wednesday afternoon. He referred briefly to the immense loss the Government, the House, and the whole country had sustained in Mr. White's death, and paid a high tribute to the deceased gentleman's ability and urbanity, his clearness of perception, as well as his remarkable industry and carefulness. No man was more emphatically a martyr to public life than Thomas White.

Hon. Mr. Laurier seconded the motion in a brief but eloquent address in which he referred in touching terms to the sympathy the House felt with the venerable Premier in the loss of an able lieutenant and warmhearted personal friend. The House then adjourned till Wednesday. During the speeches a large number on both sides of the House were moved to tears and old members say they never saw the House so generally and powerfully impressed over the death of a fellow member.

Halifax, April 23.—The argument for a new trial for Prosper was continued to-day. Mr. Weeks, for the Crown, contended that the defence should have waited until sentence had been passed. The Judge has instructed the Attor