The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1874.

NOTICE.

Subscribers are reminded that the coloured address-label of each paper sent to them shows a figure which indicates that future number of the paper up to which their subscription has been paid, serving, in fact, as a date. The current weekly number can readily be ascertained by reference to the volume and number printed on the title page.

LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

WE have received several letters from friends throughout the country who are office-bearers in newly formed Liberal-Conservative Associations, or are desirous of forming Associations, asking for information as to the way in which they should proceed, and for copies of the Constitution of the Toronto Association. We take this means of informing our friends who have written us, as well as others who may be in the same position, that they will best get the information they desire by addressing "The Secretary of the Liberal-Conservative Association, 85 York street, Toronto," who, we have no doubt, will be pleased to give them all the information they may require.

THE FIRST FATAL STEP.

IN the years 1865 and 1866, immediately after the United States Government had notified the Government of Canada that the Reciprocity Treaty must lapse, negotiations were carried on between the two Cabinets, with a view to arriving at some settlement which would be satisfactory to both countries. Mr. GEORGE BROWN was at this time a member of the Canadian Government. He was a consenting party to the negotiations until they reached a stage at which, to his mind, they became objectionable and dangerous to Canadian interests. When, in the early part of 1866, Mr. GALT went to New York to meet Mr. WELLS, the United States Revenue Commissioner, it was on the special invitation of that gentleman. The interview between them led to the then Finance Minister proceeding to Washington, where he had many interviews with Mr. SEWARD on trade matters. These led to Mr. GALT making certain offers to the American Government, with a view to immediate legislation by Congress, and the subsequent consideration of a new Treaty. Mr. BROWN protested against the course which Mr. GALT, supported by the majority of his colleagues, had taken, and resigned his seat in the Cabinet. When the house met in June explanations were made by several of the leading members of the Government, by Mr. BROWN, and by Mr. MACKENZIE, to whom Mr. HOWLAND had offered the vacant place in the Ministry. In the course of a long statement Mr. BROWN protested vigorously against our Government making any proposals whatever to the Government of the United States. The following extract, explicit and unequivocal in its terms, sets forth the spirit and drift of his speech:

"He desired it to be distinctly understood that his resignation *was altogether on the question of Reciprocity.* * * The conclusion arrived at by the Council was, *that it was neither the duty nor the policy of Canada to tender concessions for a renewal of the Treaty. We were satisfied to renew it as it stood. If the AMERICANS objected to its conditions, it was for them to state their objections, and we were prepared to discuss them candidly. If THEY could show unfairness, we were prepared to make them*

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from the false position in which they have placed themselves and the country.

THE TRUTH CONCEALED.

FOR his dexterity in concealing the truth about the Treaty from the Press both of England and Canada Mr. BROWN perhaps considers himself sufficiently rewarded by the opportunity afforded of abusing the London *Standard*. In common with the Press generally, and with the Manchester *Examiner* in particular, as we showed on Saturday, that journal attacked the Treaty on the ground that it discriminated against England. It now appears that there is to be no such discrimination, but why was the Press on both sides of the Atlantic, and on both sides of politics, suffered to fall into this error? This journal was the first to make public the truth of the matter, and there are those who say now they knew it all the time, although, strange to say, they were remarkably successful in keeping it to themselves. The Montreal *Witness*, published at the commercial capital, claims to be particularly well "posted" on commercial affairs, and yet this is what it says, commenting on the London *Standard's* criticism on the Treaty:

"The scope of the Treaty is to inaugurate a system of partial Free Trade between Canada and the United States, leaving our trade relations with other countries as they are. The argument that this is to admit American goods free, while British are to be taxed, is fallacious, seeing that, as a rule, the articles so privileged are such as Britain does not export here, and, in this respect, it would be a dog-in-the-manger policy to forbid free trade in them with our neighbours. One objection to the Treaty from the American side, is that under it British goods will gain admission to the United States through Canada and compete successfully in the former market with native products. This shows they consider the Canadian tariff, a purely revenue one, amounts virtually to Free Trade."

It is evident that the writer of the above, which we find in the *Witness* of the 16th instant, believed that the duty on English goods was to remain as at present, and that there was to be a discrimination in favour of the United States, and so, we verily believe, did ninety-nine out of a hundred in Canada think, until we published the truth of the matter last Wednesday.

THE DWELLINGS OF WORKINGMEN.

THE question brought before Mr. DISRAELI's Government soon after its accession to office this year by a large deputation of working men, respecting the dwellings of artisans and labourers, is one of the most important, and, we may add, difficult, which can be submitted to the attention of social reformers. It has for years been before public men in England in one form or other, and confronts us here in Canada, where increasing rents and a scarcity of dwellings within the compass of families with small incomes threaten to be one of the most serious obstacles to our progress, as well as to the permanent settlement of new comers, and the success of our emigration agents. In a recent trade circular, Mr. JOHN MACDONALD justly observed upon this matter, "that the price of real estate "and consequently high rentals have at-"tained to a point" which can "benefit "nobody but landlords." Say that in the next twenty years this city doubles its size and population, can anybody tell us where the workingmen's houses are to be built, at suitable rentals, and within any reasonable distance from their place of occupation? In England this question has become so urgent that many public men have come to the conclusion that a legal, comprehensive and compulsory power must be provided to effect what is wanted. One formidable fact now getting slowly recognised is that in most parts of the world capitalists and private speculators have ceased to invest their money in the erection of houses at a rate sufficient to meet the requirements of increasing populations. This is due,

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PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Convention of Delegates.

Last Friday afternoon a Convention of delegates appointed by the Public School teachers of Ontario was held in the theatre of the Normal School. Messrs. Watson and Dickenson, President and Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Public School Teachers Association were elected President and Secretary of the Convention. After prayers, the President opened the proceedings by stating that they had met to nominate a candidate to represent them in the Council of Public Instruction. There were two names before them, those of Dr. Sangster and Mr. Goldwin Smith, and it was for the Convention to decide between the two. Mr. R. Dawson, of Belleville, then moved, "That Mr. J. Herbert Sangster be and is hereby nominated as the most fit and proper person to represent the public school teachers of Ontario on the Board of Public Instruction." He said that Dr. Sangster had been a public school teacher and now held a first-class certificate. He had moved in individual capacities, in medium capacities and in the highest capacity in the educational army of the country, and had been an organizer of one of the best known systems of education. He was, therefore, peculiarly well qualified to become their representative. He then proceeded to refer to the gross attack made upon Dr. Sangster by the *Globe*, and as a staunch Reformer regretted that that paper should have prostituted itself to such vile purposes. (Cheers.) Dr. Sangster's position had been made very unpleasant ever since he allowed himself to accept the nomination to represent them upon the Council of Public Instruction. Since then, an undeserved storm of obloquy and reproach had been heaped upon him, and every little act of his past life had been dragged to the surface, and every surmise, exploded rumour, and old woman's tale had been laid before the public in order to secure his defeat. The opposing delegates who had been directed to vote against Dr Sangster, no doubt bitterly felt

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