DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Closing Proceedings of the Fifth Session.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, May 9.

On motion of Mr. OLIVER, the reports of the Printing Committee were adopted.

Mr. YOUNG asked if in polling districts where there was a large German vote the Government would direct the Returning Officers to print the ballot paper in German as well as English.

Mr. MACKENZIE said he thought the Returning Officers had already power to do so, but that there might be no misapprehension special instructions would be given to that effect.

On motion of Mr. DEWNEY, the accountant was authorized to pay Mr. McInnes, M. P. for New Westminster, the full amount of his indemnity.

The House concurred in the further supplementary estimates for 1878.

On motion of Mr. CARTWRIGHT, the usual motions in Committee of Ways and Means were carried.

The Supply bill was then introduced, after which the House adjourned until the evening.

The House met again at 7.30 p.m.

Messages were read from the Senate, announcing that it adhered to its amendment to the Independence of Parliament bill with respect to superannuated persons, and had amended the Crimes of Violence bill by making trial summary.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie, the amendments were concurred in.

FRIDAY, May 10.

The Speaker took the chair at 20 minutes to 3, and the doors were opened at 15 minutes to 3.

Mr. SPEAKER read a message from the Senate acquainting the Commons of the passage of the Supply Bill, also a message acquainting the Commons that the Senate adhered to its amendments to the Supreme and Exchequer Court bill.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) rose to a question of privilege. He said the hon. member for Kingston had last night spoken of him in an unfair and unjustifiable manner, in proof of which he quoted from a local paper in which it was said that "Sir John Macdonald insinuated that the bill, the Pembina Branch bill, was merely an arrangement by which the Government rewarded a member of the House for his servile support, and that that member had been compelled to admit in the House that he was interested in this bill." In the first place, he (Mr. Smith) never made such an admission, and if he did the hon. gentleman had no right to speak of him in that way. As a member from Manitoba, he had done all he could to bring about railway communication between that Province and the outer world, and no sooner had he found that that could be done than the hon. gentleman (Sir John) and his friends put everyobstacle in his way, and stated that the Government was rewarding him for his servile support. He would like to ask the hon. gentleman (Sir John) whether he (Mr. Smith) ever asked any favour for the Company, the Hudson's Bay Company, which he represented. He would like to hear the hon. gentleman (Sir John) say whether any relative of his (Mr. Smith's) ever drew any money. He would not ask the hon. gentleman (Sir John) to say anything about his own relatives, because that would be unkind and ungenerous.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD (laughingly) — Hear, hear.

Mr. SMITH—Not that it was a crime to get one's relatives put into office, but he had always kept himself independent of all Governments. (Laughter.) He would like to ask if he had ever asked any favour from the Government, except the appointment to office under the Government of some of his own constituents, and there was nothing improper in that. But that was not all. The hon. member for Cumberland had attacked him at a meeting at Orangeville. Here the speaker produced a copy of *The Mail* and was about to read, when

Dr. TUPPER rose to a question of order.

Mr. SMITH continued to read.

Dr. TUPPER (raising his voice and amidst great uproar from the Ministerialists)—Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of order, and I would ask you whether it is not an abuse of the rights and privileges of the House for an hon. gentleman to read from a newspaper a speech he has had in his possession for months, at the moment the Black Rod is at the door, and at a time when he knows he will be sheltered from the answer he might get.

AN HONOURABLE GENTLEMAN—And from the punishment he would get.

Dr. TUPPER—A more cowardly thing I cannot conceive, and I am surprised at it from the hon. gentleman.

Mr. SMITH—If there is anything cowardly, it is on the part of the hon. member for Cumberland. (Oh! oh!)

Dr. TUPPER—I hold myself responsible for every word I have uttered on any platform in this country with reference to the hon. gentleman. Neither he nor any other hon. gentleman has ventured during Parliament to challenge any word I have uttered. (Hear, hear.)

SIR JOHN MACDONALD—Mr. Speaker, do not interrupt him; let the poor man go on. (A laugh.)

Mr. SMITH proceeded to read from *The Mail's* report of the Orangeville meeting that Hon. Dr. Tupper said there as follows:—

"Did the *Globe* suppose that the people of Canada had no memories, and that they did not know that Mr. Smith gave unqualified evidence that the Canadian Pacific Railway scandal had nothing to do with his changed attitude towards Sir John Macdonald? Mr. Smith was a representative of the Hudson's Bay Company, and he had been promised a claim on the right hon. friend for public money. Sir John had been holding back, and Mr. Smith came to the conclusion that it would be just as well to jump the fence it appears was to be exchange of Government."

Dr. TUPPER—Hear, hear.

Mr. SMITH (continuing his quotation)—

"Mr. Smith was a canny man. He held back, and got on the fence, and watched the course of events, certainly not in the interests of his country, because he did not want to jump too soon and find he had jumped into a ditch. But when he came to the conclusion that the Government was going out, he made the bolt, and he (Dr. Tupper) had no doubt Chas had had a great deal of reason since for congratulating himself on having jumped as he did." He (Mr. Smith) gave all this a most positive denial.

Dr. TUPPER—You are very late about it. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SMITH said he had never received any more favours from this Government than from any other Government. Did not the hon. gentleman know how members of the late Government had approached him, and wanted to know what he was going to do in the matter? Did he not know that the hon. member for Charlevoix requested him to meet him in the Speaker's chair:—(laughter)—no, he meant the Speaker's room. Did the hon. gentleman not know that the Hon. Mr. Campbell, a cabinet minister, for whom he had great respect, also met him, and that he (Mr. Smith) had a long interview with Mr. Langevin in the presence of another hon. member. Did he not also know that Mr. Nathan also met him and promised him to vote for the amendment to the amendment offered by the hon. member for Pictou, and did not all these gentlemen know that he said he could not possibly do so?

Dr. TUPPER, who was met with shouts from the Ministerial benches—Does the hon. gentleman deny that he telegraphed down to his friends in his district that he would be here to support the Government after he knew everything about the Canadian Pacific railway scandal?

Mr. SMITH—I—I—

Dr. TUPPER—Because if he does the telegraph office will show. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SMITH—I never telegraphed here that I would support the Government. I know that the hon. gentleman asked me to come down, but the hon. gentleman cannot say

Sir JOHN MACDONALD—But I can tell you what I can say—— (an uproar which took place here prevented the remainder of the sentence from being heard.)

Mr. SMITH—I know I did propose that there should be another amendment, and that they should throw themselves on the country and confess their faults, and then if the country condoned it, it would be a very different thing.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD—That is not what you telegraphed at all.

Mr. SMITH, evading a reply to the hon. gentleman, continued—Mr. Mitchell came here and met me, and let me say it to his credit that he had got up at many assemblages in which I have been and said there that I was perfectly justified in doing what I did, as he knew all the circumstances.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD—I am quite sure he did not.

Dr. TUPPER—Will the hon. gentleman name a single meeting at which Mr. Mitchell ever made such a statement, and where the record is to be found except in the hon. gentleman's own mouth, and that goes for very little in this House or out of it.

Mr. SMITH—I can bring forward a number of gentlemen whose word can be taken.

Dr. TUPPER—Name one.

Mr. SMITH—I can mention a dozen of the most respectable men in Montreal.

Dr. TUPPER—It is strange we have never heard of these meetings or statements before.

Mr. SMITH—And if necessary I will be prepared to do so on this occasion. I state that the hon. gentleman took me into another room, and the hon. gentleman asked me to vote for him, and the hon. gentleman will not dare to say that I said I could support him, and what did the hon. gentleman say to me? He said if I supported him I would be supported in an appeal to the country, Selkirk being a rotten borough. The hon. gentleman believed that Ontario was a "rotten borough," too, and that he would have

Sir JOHN MACDONALD—I would merely remark that there is not a single word of truth in that. The man is telling a downright falsehood.

An HON. MEMBER (to Mr. Smith)—"How much did the present Government offer you?"

Mr. SMITH—Then if the hon. gentleman says he did not say it, it was the spirit within him. The hon. member for Cumberland told him the next morning that the right hon. gentleman was not competent of knowing what he said.

Dr. TUPPER—I rise to a question of order. (Interruption from Ministerialists and cries of "order" from the Opposition). I want to ask you whether it is competent for an hon. gentleman to detail what he admits to be a private conversation; for a man who would detail a private conversation in public would falsify a private conversation. I have never seen such a mean, cowardly abuse of the privileges of this House as for an hon. gentleman to make a speech, and to give utterance to statements to which he knows at this time we cannot have an opportunity of replying.

Mr. SPEAKER said the hon. gentleman was defending himself against a charge, but he must say it was not Parliamentary to relate private conversations, although in such a case a latitude was allowed.

Dr. TUPPER (Strengthening his voice so as to be heard above the uproar which continued), "I don't complain so much of relating private conversations. I complain of the hon. gentleman falsifying private conversations, and detailing what he knows to be a falsification. That is what I complain of. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SPEAKER—The hon. gentleman was certainly unparliamentary.

Mr. SMITH—I don't consider it a private conversation. I was sent for——

An HON. MEMBER—Oh, and because you could not get what you wanted, you were ready to oust your leader!

Mr. SMITH, continuing—Will the hon. gentleman (Dr. Tupper) say that the next morning when I saw him he did not say to me that so soon as it was possible to make the right hon. gentleman understand right from wrong that he would——

Dr. TUPPER, (taking the floor,) the hon. gentleman has asked me to make a statement. I tell him that if he will allow me five minutes, I will show that the very first statement he commenced with, the statement that he never sought a favour from the late Government, is as false a statement as ever issued from the mouth of man. I tell him that he has continued with a tissue of as false statements as was ever uttered by man.

Mr. SMITH—I never asked a favour.

Dr. TUPPER—I will tell him the favour he asked. The hon. gentleman begged me, implored me, to urge the Government to make him a member of the Privy Council of Canada. (Hear, hear.) Its was refused, and it is his mortification at that refusal that has inspired to a large extent his falsehoods to-day.

The Usher of the Black Rod here gave the customary three taps at the door, and the Sergeant-at-Arms walked towards the Clerk's table to inform the Speaker the Messenger was without asking for admission.

Mr. SMITH, who kept the floor, was understood to say that he adhered to his original statement. He was met with cries of "Order." "Coward," "Sit down you mean, treacherous coward," and "Pembina Branch."

Amid the din the Speaker was heard to call out, "Admit the Messenger." Mr. Smith then took his seat. The door was then opened, and Black Rod made his bows, advanced towards the table, and said in English and French:—

"Mr. SPEAKER,—His Excellency the Governor-General requests the attendance of your honourable House in the Chamber of the honourable the Senate."

Black Rod left the Chamber without a cheer.

The Sergeant-at-Arms then shouldered the mace and hon. members rushed to the doors with the view of arriving early in the Senate Chamber.

As Sir John Macdonald and Dr. Tupper left their seats, and walked towards the door, Mr. Smith descended from his place and exclaimed:—"Sir John Macdonald is the d——est scoundrel in Canada." Sir John and Dr. Tupper treated the insult with contempt, but other members of the Opposition intimated to Mr. Smith that, at all events, he (Mr. Smith) had not a great regard for the truth.

In the Senate.

His Excellency, attended by Captain Hamilton, A.D.C., was as usual received at the door by the gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, who preceded him to the Chamber, when he was pleased to read the following speech from the throne:—

"*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

"I am glad to be able to relieve you from further attendance in Parliament after a somewhat long and laborious session.

"I shall take the necessary steps at an early day after the close of the financial year to give effect to the measure you have passed for the better auditing of the public accounts.

"I shall call the attention of her Majesty's Government to your address praying that all of British America, except Newfoundland, shall be by Imperial action declared to be within the Dominion of Canada.

"I rejoice that during the term of my administration, this final step to consolidate British interests on the continent of America has been taken with so much unanimity, and that henceforth the Dominion Government will, under her Majesty, exercise undisputed sway over the northern half of this continent.

"I am happy to be able to state that pending the final settlement of the question of boundary, a conventional line has been adopted by my Government and the Government of the United States between Alaska and British Columbia on the Stickeen river.

"The large sums required for the prosecution of the great works of internal improvement will be expended with the most rigid regard to economy, and in the expectation that the principal canals under construction may be nearly completed within the next financial year.

"The settlement of Manitoba and the North-West territories has been proceeding this year with unexampled rapidity, and if the efforts of our Government to obtain a railway connection with Winnipeg at a very early day should be successful, I anticipate next year a still larger increase to the population. It is specially gratifying to find so many Canadians, who had in former years emigrated to the United States, now returning to the newly organized territories of their native land.

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

"I thank you for the supplies which you have granted for the various public services.

"*Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate:*

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

"Nothing could have given me more gratification than the joint address with which you have honoured me on the eve of my departure. My interest in Canada shall not cease when my mission as her Majesty's Viceroy shall have terminated, and I am glad to know that you have taken so favorable a view of my efforts to fittingly represent our Most Gracious Queen in this the most important of her Majesty's colonial possessions.

"I now bid you farewell, and earnestly trust you may find in the future the manifold blessings which I shall ever pray may be continually showered upon you."

The scene was most imposing, the Governor-General evidently spoke the closing sentences of his speech with much emotion. There was a large attendance of ladies, and if the sun had not been propitious the sheen of the silks and the snow of the laces would have added grace to a quite historical scene. Notwithstanding the very heavy rain, there was a large crowd of people outside to see the Governor-General drive away. His Excellency was for some time detained, but at last, in a regular downpour, he took his departure, and drove off amid enthusiastic cheers and the strains of the band of his Body Guards, who played with energy "God Save the Queen."

POLITICAL PREPARATIONS.

WELLAND.

WELLAND, May 9.—The Reform convention for the County of Welland, held at Crowland this afternoon, nominated Mr. Edwin Hershey, Reeve of Bertie, as candidate for the Commons at the coming election.

NORTH PERTH.

LISTOWELL, May 9.—A convention of the Liberal-Conservative party was held here to-day for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the Commons, this having become necessary by the resignation of Mr. T. M. Daly, who had previously been nominated. Six delegates from each municipality had been appointed, and when the roll was called every delegate responded to his name. Messrs. S. R. Hesson and William Alexander were proposed, and a vote having been taken, it resulted in a tie. Mr. Alexander then, in the most handsome and magnanimous manner, retired in favour of Mr. Hesson, and the nomination was, therefore, made unanimous. This having been announced to a large number of electors who were waiting for the result, a resolution conveying the thanks of the party to Mr. Alexander was carried amidst much enthusiasm. Mr. T. M. Daly was present and was also the recipient of a cordial vote of thanks for his past services to the party as candidate, member, and worker in the ranks. Mr. Daly replied with evident emotion, and amidst hearty applause expressed himself as still prepared to work as of yore for the standard-bearer of the party. Resolutions affirmative of the national Policy and condemnatory of the outrageous constitutional government perpetrated by Mr. Letellier de St. Just, were then carried amidst loud cheers, Messrs. James Fahey, S. R. Hesson, A. Alexander, and Jon D. Macdonnell, political agent of the party, then addressed the meeting, which dispersed with hearty cheers for her Majesty, Sir John Macdonald, and the candidates.

WATERLOO.

GALT, May 9.—Messrs. W. H. Fraser and A. W. Wright addressed a large and influential meeting in the Town Hall here last evening. Mayor Blain occupied the chair acceptably.

Mr. W. H. FRASER was the first speaker, and dealt with the subject under discussion in his usual clear and logical style, demonstrating the evil effects which the present trade policy is having on all the industries of the country, and clearly showing that only by the adoption of a national policy can we hope to return to commercial prosperity.

Mr. THOMAS HIRAM, of Waterloo, spoke in opposition to Protection, and dealt with the subject in a gentlemanly way, his principal point being that the national policy as enunciated by the League and as laid down in Sir John Macdonald's resolution was indefinite, inasmuch as no alteration in the tariff was specified.

Mr. A. W. WRIGHT closed the debate, going over Mr. Hilliard's speech point by point, and replying to it. In answer to the charge of indefiniteness he said it was no part of the duty of either the leaders of the Opposition or of the Government to specify intended changes in the tariff, as such a course would place the poor at the mercy of the rich, which last would be able to anticipate changes in the tariff and speculate on them. He closed with an eloquent peroration on the duty which the electors owed to their country at the coming elections, and on the effect of their exercise of the franchise on the future of the country.

After a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman the meeting, which was fully four-fifths Protectionist, closed.

KENT.

CHATHAM, Ont. 9.—The Reform convention for Kent was held here to-day. Mr. Hugh McMahon, barrister, of London, was nominated as candidate for the Commons.

WEST MIDDLESEX.

STRATHROY, May 10.—Mr. G. W. Ross was renominated by the Grits here to-day as their candidate for the Commons.

WEST YORK.

Mr. Clark Wallace met a number of the electors of West York, on Thursday evening, in the Workingmen's Liberal-Conservative Association Hall, at Seaton Village. Mr. Michael Ryan occupied the Chair, and Mr. Frank Turner was appointed Secretary. Committees were formed, and considerable preliminary business gone through. Mr. Wallace was enthusiastically received, and a liberal support promised him in the division. The meeting broke up about 11 p.m., to meet again early in the ensuing week.

LONDON.

LONDON, May 11.—The Liberal-Conservatives will hold a mass meeting on Wednesday evening to nominate candidates for the Commons and Local Legislature.

WEST HASTINGS.

BELLEVILLE, May 11.—At a meeting of Reformers held here this afternoon, Mr. James Brown, M. P., was nominated for the Commons.

KENT.

CHATHAM, May 14.—At the Conservative convention held here to-day, Mr. Stephenson, M.P., was unanimously nominated for the Dominion Parliament, and Mr. Coutts, M.P.P., for the Local Legislature.

MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, May 11.—The opinion is gaining ground here that the general elections will be delayed until the fall, as no decision regarding the time appears to have been come to before prorogation. The Conservative candidates will not, therefore, be formally nominated here at present.

GRAND TORCH-LIGHT PROCESSION.

Magnificent Demonstration in Honour of the Opposition Leaders.

The Liberal-Conservative demonstration in honour of Sir John Macdonald and the Hon. Dr. Tupper on Saturday night, was the largest and most enthusiastic political demonstration that ever took place in this city. About eight o'clock the procession was formed on King street, and to spirited music from the four bands, proceeded to the station of the Nipissing railway, Berkeley street, where it was arranged the distinguished gentlemen should be met. They were found in waiting and were requested to take seats in a carriage drawn by four horses. Sir John and Dr. Tupper were accompanied by Mr. Samuel Platt, M.P., and Mr. Barwick, President of the Liberal-Conservative Association. At the signal to proceed, the glare of a thousand torches lit up the scene for a quarter of a mile along the street, and cheer after cheer arose as the carriage bearing the honourable gentlemen took its place in the line. The procession proceeded along King to Yonge, up Yonge to Queen, along Queen to Brock, down Brock to King, and thence to the United Empire Club, the windows of which were gaily illuminated.

Mr. DAVIS, then addressing Sir John Macdonald and Dr. Tupper, said that as an exceptionally large meeting of the Liberal-Conservative Association, and of the Young Mens' Liberal-Conservative Association, a resolution was passed to give the leader of the Opposition and his distinguished colleague a reception, and the following address was agreed to, which he, as the President of the Young Men's Liberal-Conservative Association, in the absence of the Hon. M. C. Cameron, the President of the Liberal-Conservative Association, was deputed to read:—

To the Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald, M.P., K.C.B., and Hon. Dr. Tupper, C.B.

SIRS,—We, the Conservatives of Toronto and friends of Constitutional Government, desire once more to renew the expression of confidence in your patriotism and political capacity, and to say how much we appreciate the noble fight you made during the past session for Conservative and Constitutional principles.

A session is closed in which not only constitutional principles were upheld with great ability by her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, but a national policy was strenuously advocated for the amelioration of the condition of our suffering country. We are on the eve of an election in which that national policy will be the main issue, and it will afford you pleasure to know that while you were fighting in Parliament for that great cause your friends throughout the country have not been idle, that the country is fully awake to the importance of a wise revision of the tariff, and ready when the opportunity arrives to rise and replace incompetence and corruption by statesmanlike capacity and sage and fostering attention to our languishing industries.

The time is at hand when the Americans must not be allowed to pour in their goods and farm produce free, or at a nominal duty, while they raise in most instances a practically impassable barrier against our produce and manufactures.

We have the honour to be, sirs,

Your obedient servants and devoted followers,

M. C. CAMERON,
President L.-C.A.

GEO. P. DEGRASSI,
Secretary.

NICHOLAS FLOOD DAVIN,
President Y.M.L.-C.A.

A. O'N. BEATTY,
Secretary.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD,—Gentlemen,—I am quite overwhelmed and overpowered by the magnificence of this demonstration, and by the warmth and kindliness of your reception. I feel elevated in my own opinion when I find it so appreciated by the electors of Toronto, the people of this metropolis coming out in this magnificent manner to meet us on our return from our parliamentary labours. In this kindly address says, we have had three months of hard work, fighting the battle of the constitution, fighting the battle of the working man, fighting the battle of the industries of Canada. (Applause.) We have endeavoured to raise up this country from the depression into which it has fallen through the incapacity of the men who unworthily hold the reins of power. Of them I may say that I believe their reign is to be a short one, and that the people are going to rise in their might at the coming election and sweep jobbery, corruption, and incapacity into one common ruin. (Applause.) I believe the people will rally round the leaders of the Conservative party and acknowledge that those men, with all their faults, with all their errors of omission and commission, have done the best according to their light to forward the interests of this country. (Cheers.) In our time there was prosperity. (Hear, hear)—the country was advancing with all the elements of greatness. (Cheers.) We saw the towns prosperous, we saw the farming population satisfied, and the workingmen employed at a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. You did not see starvation at every corner then. (Hear, hear.) You did not see the industries of Canada swamped and destroyed in consequence of this country being made the slaughter market for the Americans. No. We governed the country on the principles of patriotism and common sense. We made no professions which we did not carry out, and we now lay down our policy, believing that the country can understand and appreciate it. After three months' fighting you can know what both my friend and colleague, Dr. Tupper, and myself want a little rest, and we have come to rest among you. I will not occupy your time longer by keeping you out this time of night, but I have to tell you that this warm and hearty meeting, and this kindly shake of the hand have sunk down deep into our hearts. (Applause.) They will nerve us to renewed exertions; they will lead us to bestow the best of our abilities, the best of our strength, the best of our energy in the cause of Canada, in the cause of the people, in the cause of the development of this great Dominion. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Hon. Dr. TUPPER—Electors: No language at my command will adequately convey to you the feelings excited within me by the magnificent ovation tendered to our worthy chieftain, Sir John Macdonald, and his humble ally, myself, on the present occasion. As he has told you, we have, like good soldiers, been endeavouring to fight the battle of our common country, and we have had the Parliament of this country; and we are proud to find that our efforts are appreciated. (Hear, hear.) A little more than four years ago a strong Government—strong in numbers, but stronger still in professions of what they would do for the country—came into power. The time that has since elapsed has shown not only that their numbers have rapidly diminished, but that all the promises they made, all the expectations they held out to the country, have ended in disappointment, so that we are in a position to say that there is not one single principle which they promised and advocated when they came into power, that they have not trampled in the meantime under their feet. (Applause.) Under these circumstances I am not surprised to find the great heart of the people beating in the direction of its interests. What have you got for the four years of misrule of the present Government? You have got increased debt. (Hear, hear.) You have got increased taxation. (Hear, hear.) You have seen all the industries and interests of this country paralyzed. (Hear, hear.) The Opposition, who have fought the battles of the people, have hung out their banners to the country; they have given expression to the principles which they believe are necessary for the good government of Canada, and they have pledged themselves to the people of this country that if restored to power—as we believe we shall be—there will be able, by the policy they have propounded on the floor of Parliament, to restore the languishing industries of this country, the great manufacturing, mechanical, and mining interests of Canada, to that degree of prosperity that will bring Canada back to the proud position it occupied when Sir John Macdonald laid down the seals of office. (Applause.) If we may judge from what we have learned from the country during the last four years, the people are only waiting for the hour, that is close at hand, to say that they understand what is necessary to restore prosperity to Canada. The Government which took power with a majority of constituency like ninety-seven members, on the last test vote in Parliament, a majority of thirty-four. (Loud cheers.) And, I believe the people are not only ready to take away that majority, but to turn it into at least thirty-four the other way. (Cheers.) The people, wherever they have had an opportunity—in Ontario, in Quebec, in Prince Edward's Island, in Nova Scotia, in British Columbia—have proved that they feel the country has been deluded and deceived, and I believe the electors are only wanting the opportunity, which, thank God, cannot be much longer delayed, when the great voice of the sovereign people shall be able to express an opinion, as between the present Government and those who stand in opposition to it. I say we look proudly and confidently forward to that hour as the hour in which Canada will reassert its control of public affairs, and reasserting that control, will place power again into the hands of men, who, when they held it before held it for the good of Canada, who believe that all that is necessary to make Canada one of the most prosperous countries on the earth, is wise and judicious statesmanship, and who are ready to devote their entire energies in the direction of restoring the prosperity of the country. We handed over, when we laid down the seals of office, a happy, contented, prosperous country, extending from sea to sea, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. (Hear, hear). Hope is it now? All has been changed. But I believe the time is close at hand when a new and different policy will bring back to Canada and Canadians that which every patriotic Canadian would desire to see. We believe that we can knit this country into one by promoting interprovincial trade, and by joining the interests of which this great confederation is composed. We believe that we can again revive our struggling industries by adopting a policy not offensive, not aggressive, but defensive, and, by doing that, Canadians will be able to do for themselves all the manufacturing they require. I tell you that his Government, within four years, have spent one million dollars in bringing immigrants into this country. What for? To starve! (Hear, hear). They have spent that money to bring immigrants in, to whom they have denied work. (Hear, hear). The Finance Minister says his remedy is to tell the people to work harder and to be more frugal. Well, we may be willing to eat and drink less, to spend less on dress, and to be more frugal and we are willing to work hard. But, we want work to do. (Loud cheers.) We want Canadians to be something else than hewers of wood and drawers of water to our neighbours across the line. (Hear, hear.) We believe that a policy can be inaugurated that will permit Canadians who are ready and willing to work, to do the work Canadians require, and at the same time to increase the prosperity of the masses of the people. (Applause.) I thank you heartily for this most enthusiastic ovation to your chieftain and his humble ally. I say we are proud to know that today we go into the battle armed on every hand. We have a noble, patriotic and trusted leader—(loud cheers)—in whom we all confide and to whom we are all devoted. (Applause.) We have what is better than all—a good cause—a righteous cause—a cause which commends itself to the judgment and confidence of patriotic and intelligent Canadians everywhere. (Cheers.) Under these circumstances we can be surprised if at an early day victory will perch upon our banners, and if the people of Canada again occupy the same prosperous, pre-eminent position that they held before under their great and distinguished leader—Sir John Macdonald. (Loud applause.)

Cheers were then given for the speakers, the National Anthem was then played, and the large assemblage which had gathered on King street shortly afterwards dispersed.

CURRENT EVENTS IN MANITOBA.

The Immigration of the Season—Some of the Right Sort—Where to Locate—Transactions in Scrip—Neglect of Immigrants—A "Dog in the Manger" Policy—The Land Office Muddle—The Coming Elections—Custom House Obstructions—The Action of the Senate.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

WINNIPEG, April 27.

The large immigration setting in this season is a gratifying fact to the people of Manitoba, more especially as those coming among us this year seem to be less of the class of adventurers and more generally of the industrious yeoman farmer category. The arrivals this spring seem on the whole to have a far better understanding of what the country is like and to have the determination and means to at once go upon land. It is true there have been some instances already of persons having arrived by one steamer and gone home on the next, cursing the country about which they know nothing; but the large majority of those who have landed this spring lose no time in procuring an outfit and making their start for the promised land. It is astonishing though how men will prefer to move out a hundred and fifty miles west of the line of railway facilities when there is an abundance of good farms to be purchased within a few miles of the Pembina Branch for from $1 to $3 per acre according to situation. Surely it would be wiser to locate somewhere nearer to the present centre of population than to go out so far to seek for Government lands to be obtained free by homesteading, involving the necessity of conveying one's belongings over bad roads for a great distance.

It is not usual for Manitoba to be visited with heavy rain in the early spring. As a rule the wet time and the worst roads occur in June. We have just had a dose of both, which it is to be hoped will not soon be repeated, and new arrivals can now say they have seen our thoroughfares at their worst. Prudent immigrants made up their minds to put up with the few days' delay suggested by the situation. The unwise either hitched up their teams and set their faces westward only to get perpetually "mired," or, discouraged with the outlook, abandoned their wavering intention of settling in Manitoba. The steady fine weather of the past three days has now put the roads in travelable condition, and the journey westward will be quite a pleasure trip. The favourite destination for homesteaders this year seems to be the Little Saskatchewan country, which from all accounts possesses great attractions for settlement, though many landhunters are also setting out for Pembina Mountains. The only objection to either locality is the distance from the railway, but I cannot understand how men with the money to buy land close to Red River and the railway, prefer to go far out simply because they can secure 160 acres for nothing by homesteading.

The price of scrip has not advanced so rapidly this year as it did upon the opening of navigation last spring, the reason probably being that those who do not homestead prefer to buy choice selections already patented or allotments in the half-breed reserve and close to hand. Scrip is, however, a safe investment, and readily convertible into money at the market price. Eventually, as the quantity now unlocated is slowly but steadily diminishing, it must approach a value very close upon par.

Immigrants who arrived last week complain bitterly of the want of care for their comfort and safety evinced by the Ottawa authorities. It is now several years since Fisher's Landing has been the point on Red River for transferring freight and passengers from the railway to the steamboats; yet no provision has been made there for the shelter of the passengers. The hotels are generally overcrowded, and immigrant passengers, women, and children—have sometimes to bivouac in the rain without any tent or other shelter. The Immigration Department has been well aware of the gambling and other immoral practices notoriously in vogue at Fisher's; yet not the least effort has been made to save the innocent and weak from falling into the remorseless talons of the harpies of this villainous hole.

The little consideration shown for Canadian immigrants has just received further manifestation by the final refusal to grant the use of a few of the empty barrack huts at Fort Osborne, Winnipeg, for the shelter of the women and children on their arrival at the end of their journey. It was announced by the local daily paper here that the Government had promptly granted the use of five huts, immediately Mr. Hespeler, the energetic agent, found that the accommodation at the immigrant sheds was getting overcrowded. He employed some men to remove by, as soon as the requisite authority by telegraph arrived, to clean out the premises and place them in proper order to receive the families expected by the steamer Manitoba. In the meantime it is supposed some militia influences were set at work in an underhand way at Ottawa, with the result that a telegram cancelling the previous authority reached here on Thursday evening, but authorizing the issue of tents instead. The natural inference from this is that there has been some conflict between the Departments of Militia and Interior, and, as the result, the poor emigrants must understand why women and children should be encamped in tents pitched in the mud, when there are comfortable buildings belonging to the Government standing absolutely idle, with conveniences for washing, cooking, etc., besides other adjuncts to decency and comfort within reach. No harm whatever to the buildings could have resulted by their use, and there would have been no expense involved in their utilization, while the wear and tear of the few tents in store here will probably be such as to require considerable outlay to make them fit for militia purposes when again wanted. It should be mentioned that no sidewalks have been provided at the existing immigrant sheds, so that after heavy rain to pass from one room to another, or to the cook-houses or latrines—let alone the city—the inmates must go from ancle to knee-deep in Manitoba mud. Verily the people have in the Mackenzie administration a most paternal Government!

I have mentioned by telegram the muddle our land office affairs are still in. Instead of Mr. Mills promoting experienced officers of the Department to take charge of the new branch Dominion lands office at Belmont and the Little Saskatchewan, for personal reasons he undertook to place greenhorns in those positions. The gentleman intended for Belmont is still, so it is said, at Emerson, being instructed in his duties, while Jaffrays, the successor of Macdougall, who was dismissed by the Minister within a week of his appointment, has not yet turned up to enter upon his course of departmental education. We are not over-sensitive people in Manitoba and the North-West; but we decidedly object to having carpet-baggers sent up here to fill all the offices. Anything more preposterous than appointing a Torontonian (who is perfectly ignorant of the topography of the country, and has yet to begin to acquire a knowledge of his duties) as the "guide, philosopher, and friend" of the immigrant land-hunter seeking information as to localities, routes, trails, landmarks, etc., it would be hard to conceive. However, Mr. Mills probably thinks if he does not pension off all those having claims upon him before next February, his chance of conferring such favours will be mighty slim.

Politics are quiet here just now. It is only in Selkirk that the Government will be able to find a champion, and, as there is a fixed determination to keep the head of the railway and Kittson line ring out of the House, the excitement of the contest will centre in the action of Selkirk. Dr. Schultz has never been so strong in his constituency as at present; and Mr. Morris is all right for Marquette. Mr. Dubuc has received great encouragement from the electors of Provencher.

I have alluded in my telegrams to the most inconvenient results of the parsimony shown by the Customs Department in relation to the staff here. Some two months ago the messenger at the Custom House was suddenly dismissed, and also the man who opened packages in the examining warehouse. I don't know whether the collector now sweeps out the offices and lights the fires himself, or whether these duties are assigned to him or the clerks; but I do know that every merchant has to send one of his own clerks to open and close the packages of goods entered by him to the immense inconvenience and annoyance of the various houses of business. I hear that telegram after telegram has been sent in remonstrance to the Minister, and matters have reached a high point of aggravation. The merchants take consolation in one reflection, however—that the Government will not be run by incapables another season, if people down below do their duty as Manitobans will.

Great interest is felt in what will be the action of the Senate in regard to important Government measures sent up by the Lower House, and it especially concerns, as a matter of course, in the bill to permit the leasing of the Pembina branch. We are very, very anxious for railway communication, but fully comprehend that we may have to "pay too dear for the whistle." A few parties here will endeavour to raise a howl if the project for perpetuating the monopoly of the Kittson ring be knocked on the head; but the Province will submit to disappointment rather than struggle in manacles for the next ten years. It is felt that the Senate deserves well of the country, in that it is blocking new legislation upon which the people have had no opportunity of expressing themselves, or such as is in contravention of the principles formerly professed by the Ministerialists, and that by thus securing to the electorate the rights guaranteed them by the constitution the Senate is incidentally justifying its *raison d'etre.*

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

The Norfolk *Reformer* refers to the cost of distributing $14,000 to the High Schools in the Province, and states it as $4,380.

The Stratford School Board have rented a Lutheran church as a school to relieve the over-crowding of the town schools.

The conversazione which took place at the Queen's University on 25th April last, closed the 37th session of the University.

The average attendance at the Cobourg schools for the past month was as follows: Public school, 592; Separate school, 147. Total, 649.

The students of Victoria College, Cobourg, have resolved to issue a quarter sheet eight page paper. The prospectus will be issued shortly.

The average attendance at the Kingston Model School for the month of March last was 389, for whoes instruction seven teachers were employed at the Institute.

The many friends of the Rev. G. M. Grant, Principal of Queen's College, will be pleased to hear that the University of Glasgow, of which he was a distinguished student, has conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

The next meeting of the Wellington and Guelph Teachers' Association will be held at Elora on 31st May and 1st June. G. W. Ross, Esq., M.P.P., and W. Johnston, M.A., President of the Ontario School of Agriculture, are to take part in it.

The Carleton Place *Herald* again urges the adoption of military drill in schools, on the ground not only of the physical benefit to the pupil, but also as giving them some knowledge of the principles on which volunteer drill is conducted.

A Pickering school house was struck by lightning recently and the whole of the east side of the roof fell in, but none of the pupils were injured. The children all made their exit through the windows, which were being blocked up with the falling bricks.

The *Queen's College Journal* says: "The widely regretted death of Dr. Bell, of Montreal, has caused a vacancy at the University Council Board which has been filled by the election of Mr. P. C. McGregor, B.A., High School Principal, Almonte."

The restoration of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, (destroyed by fire in 1876), is now completed and it contains a spacious dining hall, four large lecture rooms, a reading room and the residence. The college chapel is being enlarged to nearly double its present size.

Mr. Patrick Bennett, an old school master who has laboured for forty out of the eighty years of his life in the walks of education, has presented a very quaint petition to the New Brunswick Legislature for support. The St. John *Herald* refers to him as a scholarly writer and appeals to both sides of the Local House with confidence for a hearty response to his plea.

At the last meeting of the Lennox and Addington Teachers' Association, the following were unanimously elected officers for the ensuing year:—President, F. Burrows, P.S.I., re-elected; 1st Vice-President, W. J. Black, re-elected; 2nd Vice-President, Nicholas A. Asselstine; Secretary, Wm. Tilley, re-elected; Treasurer, R. Mathieson, re-elected; Managing Committee, W. Chipman, Miss Gillen, George Kimerley, Miss Belfour, Mrs. Pomeroy.

The Education Block of the Royal Military College of Canada is almost completed. Its complete cost is $65,000, and it is expected it will be occupied after the summer vacation. The building is 182 feet by 54 feet, and is of stone, with a main tower of very handsome design rising to the height of 101 feet. The block contains the class rooms, laboratory, library, reading room, dining room, offices for the commandant and staff, etc., etc.

Hellmuth Ladies' College celebrated May day in royal fashion. Miss M. Attrill, the May Queen, was crowned with the customary ceremony by the Bishop of Huron, President of the College. After this ceremony the following Nursery Rhyme characters appeared acompanied by appropriate music: "Jack and Jill;" "Three Blind Mice;" "Little Jack Horner," &c., &c. The novel entertainment closed with an admirably acted charade.

The Grenville Teachers' Association holds its next semi-annual meeting on the 22nd and 23rd May. At the last one, a year ago