

It is not "want of confidence" in the Government that worries the Opposition's heart, but Want of Office in the Government. So great is the thirst of Blair, and Ritchie, and Willis, and Fred Thompson, and Killam!

In the first place they have no grounds upon which to ask for the Government's defeat, and in the second place if they had, their party is so bankrupt of men of standing or ability, that no legislature would entrust the affairs of the country to their keeping.

We learn from a well-informed gentleman in Fredericton, that the reason Mr. Gillespie was asked to second the Want of Confidence resolution, was because "Earnest Hutchison thought he might slip out of the Opposition's hands, and one of these days" be found in the Government ranks.

Our informant further states that "Hutchison informed Blair, Willis, Covert and others, at a meeting they had had that "Gillespie was not to be trusted," and that it was better to nab him now, and get him committed."

We do know that Mr Hutchison berated Mr. Gillespie at a great length before the Legislature opened, and once went so far as to say he felt "humiliated" at being "on the same side with Gillespie" but it is a queer day, and I do not think that our opinion of Mr Gillespie may be as a public man, that we would consider Ernest Hutchison his equal as a man or as a politician.

But it matters very little, indeed, who moved or who seconded the resolution. It will be defeated by nearly two votes to one, even though it was a slim attempt to reach the sympathies of such members of the House as do not belong to the legal profession. It will be defeated, and overwhelmingly defeated because it is insulting to the intelligence of the House; insulting for Blair who is a lawyer to inspire and draw a motion for throwing out a Cabinet whose cause composed of lawyers, it will be defeated because there is no charge against the Government, because the Opposition have no policy save a policy of tearing down and raving the constitution; because as a body they have neither intelligence nor respectability, and lastly because they are hungry for power, and hungry for spoils, and have no other reasons at bottom for bringing in their fore-doomed want of confidence.

Since writing the above we learn the Government has been sustained by a vote of 25 to 13. We put it 2 to 1, and with the absent member voting we forecasted the result exactly.

REDUCTION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

We believe it was Mr Sayre who presented a bill two years ago, and again last year, providing for the reduction of the number of members in the Legislature. It has been presented again this session, though by whom the reports have not said, but we should judge by Mr. Sayre. Though the member from Kent has twice presented his bill now, he is strongly opposed to it, and is understood to be merely carrying out a pledge made at the last election to some of the more illiterate and absurd of his constituents.

We opposed this bill at its first presentation, and we oppose it now; and asking the Legislature to give it no quarter, we put forward the same reasons that we put forward before, and they are good for all time. Such a bill would work serious injustice to minorities. Let us take for example the County of Kent, and suppose the Protestant community there is far in the minority. If the members were reduced, Kent would have only one member, and the probability is he would always, or nearly always, be Catholic. Thus would an injustice be worked to the Protestants of the county, they being in the minority.

In a county now having three or four members, one particular denomination may be very strong, but the other must be very weak if it cannot send one out of the three or four to parliament. But cut down the representation to two and you fix the power of electing in the hands of the stronger denomination.

The advantages to flow from such a conclusion would be the saving of a few paltry dollars, while the confusion and injustice worked would be very great. It is folly to look for the cause of the heaviest funds of taxation in the few thousands of dollars spent in maintaining our institutions just as they stand. They are not to be found there, but in the

heavy public works with which to keep pace with the requirements of the public and the progress of the age, the Province has burdened herself. When taxation comes from building railroads and bridges it is folly to assail a small item that is not at all an appreciable cause, and reminds us of the quack who exercised his skill upon the corn on the toe of his patient, when the disease of the sufferer is centered in the heart.

MR. SNOWBALL.

Is homeward bound, but he comes as the unfaithful soldier comes after the battle of his country has been lost. He may feel indeed, and contend so too, that it reeked but little whether he stayed at home or went abroad while the Great Question was before the Commons, that the measure would have passed in any case, and that the sacrifice of his business would have benefited his country nothing, but the answer to such shallow reasoning is the question, What if every man on Mr Snowballs side had taken the same course, had deserted his party at such a momentous time? Where would be the check to Government excesses, if the Government were disposed to corruption? But at any rate, was it not rumored all through Canada for days before Mr Snowball set sail for England, on the very day he did set sail, that scores of malcontents would vote with the Opposition, that division had actually swept into the Council?

Did not the Opposition scribes publish these rumors as facts in their papers, and in the face of all this, and not knowing but his vote, and his influence, (if he had any) might be important when two parties were nicely balanced, did he not set sail for England to sell his deal? If he think the people have not keenly noticed this, and set it by to use on the day of reckoning, he grossly deceives himself.

He cried through the county against Mr. Mitchell for living in Montreal, but Mr. Mitchell was always at his post in Ottawa, when the House was in session, nor did he sit there like a stick without voice or influence. But after all of Mr. Snowballs pledges, after all the vows that he would subordinate his private interests to his public duty, at the most trying moment in the history of his country he ran away to transact personal business in England!

He returns as the deserter comes after the battle has been ended; he comes back to us a politician with a blasted name, a man who has deceived the people, and broken his word. His doom is written all over his countenance, and the place which knew him once will know him no more for ever.

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WAS THE REST LIKE THIS?

Mr. Blake says a great many wild things some times. In replying to Sir Charles Tupper on the railway question, he referred to the confederation question in Newfoundland, and pointing how obvious the scheme was in the ancient colony said:

Such is the feeling that I believe it is an ordinary custom for the electors of that Province, to require from their candidates that they shall take a solemn oath not to advocate Confederation, before they will trust them with their suffrages."

This is simply untrue. The editor of the STAR is a Newfoundland, and in the Island in '69 and up to '75, and knows this statement of Mr. Blake to be untrue. We fear there is but too much of what Mr. Blake said in the railway question, about as reliable as the above extract.

HELD OVER.

Our Quebec correspondent furnishes us a lengthy and well-written account of a meeting of the Quebec Land League held in the Old City three days ago. Mr. John Costigan was the principal speaker, and his address is said to have been a very able one indeed. When he was leaving Quebec several bands, leading a thousand people escorted him to the station. Mr. Anglin was asked to attend, but learning that Mr. Costigan was to be there, his bitterness got the better of him, and he stayed home. In our next we shall publish "Three F's" excellent communication.

One hundred and three members of the House of Commons have now signed the memorial, asking that Davitt be treated only as a misdemeanant while in prison.

Advices from the Gold Coast state that the Ashantees threaten an immediate attack, and that there is much excitement. It will be interesting to see how the "peace at any price" party will act with a high of wars on their hands.

A despatch from Madrid states that it is estimated that 18,000 cattle have been lost by the floods in the province of Seville alone.

Don Juan has fallen and now the Chilian flag floats over the conquered city. Deceives are tracking Parnell.

A WINTER SPRING.

Far in the forests stately height, Where pine and hemlock, by inches meet, Where northern winds their requiems greet, And northern suns a warmth impart, Where winter reigns—I saw thee then, A laughing, sparkling thing of light, Far hidden from the haunts of men, A flash of dawn amid no-stares night, A thought of summer in thy crystals deep, A waking thought from Ceres' death like sleep.

And so in life!—When sorrows close Around our footsteps, and the way Seems all too dark. When e'en to pray Brings not the troubled heart repose, A kind word kindly spoken then— What precious, priceless gems it shielded, We little seek its worth till when We need it most, till when it yields, T'vo deep sweet draughts, of tender pity born, That changes sorrow's night to joyous morn.

B. MCG. Chatham, Feb. 1881.

OBITUARY.

We deeply regret to-day to announce the death of Mrs. Adams, wife of the Honorable Surveyor General. News of her sudden and dangerous illness was telegraphed by the family physician to Hon. Mr. Adams, who was in Fredericton, at 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. Mr. Adams took a special train to St. John where he found another special car awaiting him. He arrived at 8 o'clock in the morning, and found Mrs. Adams alive, but sinking fast. She died at 8 o'clock the same morning.

Decanal possessed a most generous heart, and her open doors and hospitality were known far and wide. She leaves six beautiful children, the oldest about ten years, the youngest only a twelvemonth.

To Mr. Adams we tender our deepest sympathy in his sad bereavement, and we are sure the people of Miramichi and elsewhere, share in our feelings. The funeral takes place to-morrow morning.

Speaking of the death, the St. John Globe says:—Mrs. Adams earnestly urged the physicians in attendance to keep her alive, if possible, until her husband's return, and it was only by the most patient personal efforts during the anxious hours of waiting that she succeeded in doing so. Mrs. Adams had many friends in St. John and Fredericton, who will hear of her sudden death with deep regret.

The Star says:—"The immediate cause of death—premature confinement—appears to have been brought on by the receipt of a sensational report at the time of the railway accident at Apolagoi, it having been reported all along the I. C. Railway line that a large number of passengers were killed and Mrs Adams having been under the impression that Mr. Adams was on the wrecked train."

We learn from the Telegraph that the President of the Council, Hon. Robert Young, on behalf of the Government, will attend the funeral, which takes place to-morrow forenoon at 11 o'clock. Mr. T. Adams of New York, brother of the Hon. Surveyor General was absent from New York City when telegraphed to, and did not return till too late to reach here before the funeral.

OTTAWA NOTES.

OTTAWA, Feb. 14.

There are many members and there, all it is believed in consequence of the three days thaw and the slush which is now changed to cold.

Sir Charles Tupper was taken very ill last night but is better today.

Sir John, Messrs Pope, P. E. I. and Pope of Compton, are all in bed. Conwell is reported better this afternoon by his physician. Sir S. L. Tilley has been laid up it is said with kidney complaint but is out today.

Mr Killam, of Yarmouth, has a very bad attack of erysipelas. Such a sickly time among the members was scarcely ever heard of before.

At length the budget speech is promised for Friday and it is said that business will be pressed thereafter with all possible speed.

G G Gilbert and A A Stockton, of St John; A McLean, J L Harris, J A Humphrey, Dr Chandler and G W McCready, of Moncton; G F Gregory and wife, and G L Wetmore, of Fredericton, and B G Lunt, Toronto, are here.

The Moncton deputation is understood to be seeking the incorporation of a company to carry out the projected harbor improvements. They also seek a Government grant for the same. It is understood Harris is seeking a further market for the products of the sugar refinery, which has already shipped a car load to Winnipeg.

A telegram, received at noon, today, says the Northern Light is in sight off Boughton Island, and coming into Georgetown under steam.

The members of the Syndicate had an interview with the Government on Saturday, it is said, about the allotment of lands. In the Senate, today, Mr. Wood moved for a select committee on the "Hobbs-Glasier claims. The motion was afterwards withdrawn on Sir A Campbell's promise to bring the matter to the notice of the New Brunswick Government and suggest the advisability of having the question reported.

In committee on the Pacific contract bill Speaker McPherson made a long speech in support of the contract. It is understood that Perrault, the unseated Conservative member for Charlevoix has requested the Government to issue a new writ forthwith. He will be opposed by Mr. Cimon, a Conservative, his former rival candidate and the petitioner in the election court.

It is said that writs for Northumberland, Charlevoix and Bellechasse will issue this week.

Vice Consul Stewart at this port has received a letter from Brazilian Consul Bently, stating that a company has been organized to operate a line of steamers between Halifax and Brazil. It will be remembered that the Brazilian and Dominion Governments each granted a subsidy of \$50,000 in aid of the scheme.

In the Senate to-day the Pacific Railway Bill passed its final stage, and nothing now remains but for it to receive the sanction of the Governor General.

The opposition proposed several amendments, similar to those in the Commons, and they met with similar fate. The first one was defeated by a vote of 37 to 14, the second by 34 to 17, and the remainder were declared lost on the same division.

NEWFOUNDLAND NEWS.

[Gleaned from our Island exchanges.]

The North Star, St. Johns N. F., has discovered that Mrs Smith who lectured on Newfoundland, is a fraud. It appears that she never was around the Island at all, and stated a deliberate untruth when she said she hired Bishop Field's yacht and went all round the Island in it. We thought so much. The tramps came here, and defrauded us to the extent of \$20 for printing.

While in St. Johns on his way to Rome Archbishop Hannen visited the R. C. Cathedral, and is said to have expressed great admiration for that noble building.

Mr James Murray, head biscuit baker at Rennie's mills, St. Johns, has patriotism and progress enough in him to set himself at the head of a faction who oppose the construction of the N. F. Railway. That is right Mr Murray. To cross the country on dog sleds in winter, and to travel to your knees in the marshes in summer is far preferable to sitting in a comfortable railway car; and the land and lumber lying across the province are far more valuable to the country lying untouched, uncut and uncultivated than to utilize both by running a railway through them. If Mr Murray would enter Barnum's circus and label himself "The prehistoric man," verily he would make a fortune.

Speaking of Island shipping the Newfoundland Star summarizes it:—In 1878 the vessels numbered 95, of 3770 tons; in 1879 there was a remarkable increase, the figures having reached as high as 155 vessels and 5958 tonnage. In 1880 the figures were 132 vessels of 4998 tons, showing a falling of 23 vessels of 960 tons on the work of 1879; and an increase of 37 vessels of 1228 tons on that of 1878. The amount of bounty paid was \$11,088 dollars in 1878; 17,614 in 1879; and 14,896 in 1880.

Summer seems to linger unaccountably late this winter in Newfoundland. The Advocate says: "Here we are, in mid-January without a speck of snow, a total absence of ice, and the thermometer high above freezing point; persons may be seen in our streets in spring costume, and we are credibly informed that in many places around the suburbs of St. John's the blackbird or robin has never left the trees, and that his warbling may be heard as plainly as in the summer months."

The North Star, St. Johns, has changed the name of Neagles Hill to Mount-Winton. The change is a euphonious one. Let it be Mount-Winton. Of course Mr. Winton is the Star's Editor.

The Newfoundland Star says the coastal herring fishery is fair this winter; and that in Fortuna Bay the catches in some cases have been very good.

The Patriot has been enlarged recently, and appears in a new dress, gladdening once more the many readers who look upon it as one of the institutions of the Island.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The remains of the late Mr. O. R. Lytle were conveyed on Wednesday evening to Dunfermline, for burial in Haddington Cathedral by the side of his wife.

The French Senate has adopted the Bill passed by the Deputies, removing all restrictions hitherto hampering the right of public meetings.

North German Gazette, Berlin, makes a violent attack upon Mr. Gaubetta, President of the French Chamber of Deputies, accusing him of attempting to drag France into a warlike policy.

Prince Bismarck has expressed to Herr Bennigsen deep regret at the wrong done him by Herr von Lottwitz in charging him with a breach of his oath to the King of Hanover. Lottwitz though restraining his charges, refused to accept Bennigsen's challenge.

Mr. Parnell's mother addressed a large Land League meeting in Brooklyn on Wednesday night. A Ladies' branch of the League was organized.

A. & R. LOGGIE

Have on hand and are selling low a large assortment of

Dry Goods and Ready-made Clothing!

ALSO— MEN'S hand-made BOOTS, Men's Youths' and Children's Factory-made BOOTS, ALSO—Large assortment of Women's and Misses' BOOTS and SHOES.

SHELF AND HEAVY HARDWARE A Full Line of Cheap Furniture.

STOVES! STOVES!! STOVES!!! In all the best patterns at the lowest prices. All kinds of TINWARE!

CROCKERY, GLASS AND EARTHENWARE A FULL STOCK OF GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS, &c. &c. Dried Codfish, Dried Ling, No. 1 Fall Herring, Winter Apples.

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Harness. Harness.

Having commenced business in my new factory, I am now prepared to manufacture Harness of all descriptions. A few of those celebrated

VICTOR HUGO COLLARS always in stock. Carriage trimmings neatly executed. Orders from abroad punctually attended to and shipped with care.

A. W. PALLEN, Opp Ulloak's Stables Chatham Feb 16—3 mos

Just Received!

Layer Raisins Currants &c &c Essence of Lemon Essence Peppermint

ALSO—

MYRTLE NAVY TOBACCO and LITTLE MAJOR TOBACCO

For sale low by NICHOLAS BARDEN Chatham—Dec 22-17

Mothers! Mothers! Mothers!!! Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth? If so, go at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. Depend upon it; there is no mistake about it. There is not a mother on earth who has ever used it, who will not tell you at once that it will regulate the bowels, and give rest to the mother, and relief and health to the child, operating like magic. It is perfectly safe to use in all cases, and pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States. Sold everywhere at 25 cents a bottle.

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Yourselves by making money when a golden chance is offered, thereby always keeping poverty from your door. Those who do not improve such chances waste in poverty. We want many men, women, boys and girls to work for us right in their own localities. The business will pay more than ten times ordinary wages. We furnish an expensive outfit and all that you need, free. You can devote your whole time to the work, or only your spare moments. Full information and Circulars sent free. Address: Stinson & Co, Portland, Maine. oct30 adwly

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established 1844, and has kept up to the times. From a little one it has grown to be a strong one. We thank our patrons for past favors, and solicit a continuance of their trade. All the people within fifty miles must know where LEON'S ORIGINAL VARIETY STORE is, and that in it they can find the largest, best selected, and Cheapest Stock of HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS in the City.

LEMON'S VARIETY STORE is a household word. We don't have to pay any \$500 Store Rent, as we own our Establishment. Our expenses are small. We buy our Goods for Cash, consequently can sell them CHEAPER than any other storekeeper. We employ workmen in our CABINET WORKSHOP making

Furniture to Order. We have more Goods than Money, as for money will give the best value to all who are in want of the Goods we keep. LEMON & SONS. Fredericton, Sept. 18. 1880.

To our Country Subscribers Some of the gentlemen in the county who have not paid for the Star yet, might bring us a load of good hard wood—or any kind of wood for their matter

LOCAL MATTERS

THIS IS THE FORTY SEVENTH DAY FOR HIM.

To Correspondents. The letter of the three "F's." Quibly we hold over till next issue—unavoidably.

The Press. The Moniteur Acadien, having taken the report of the Gloucester Municipality Council from the Star, might have made the usual acknowledgments.

Advertisements. Mr F Pallen's advertisement appearing in the Star, might have made the usual acknowledgments.

"A Winter Spring." This exquisite little fragment by B. McG. so well known for her beautiful little poems published in the Telegraph we commend to our readers, in another column.

Trout. Trout just now are very plentiful the head of Dunganron. A man from Chatham lumbering up there, took three or four dozen in a short time on Sunday last.

Accident. The friends of a young man named McKinnon who left here in the fall of the Pennsylvania lumber woods have just heard that while working a couple logs rolled over him, and he is seriously hurt.

Seizure. Last Tuesday week, four smelt were seized by Warren Kussel, between Oak Point and Sheldrake Island for violation of the Fishery Act. The vessel belonged to Phineas Gunn, and from what we have heard of the matter the case is distressing enough on Mr. Gunn. When we learn the particulars correctly we shall refer to the matter again.

Cleared away. Before the close of the fishing season Overseer Wyse pretty generally informed the fishermen that they would be required to be prompt in clearing their nets, off the ice, within 48 hours of the closing time. The Wardens visited the fishing grounds on Saturday evening, and found everything removed, and nothing of the disagreeableness of vindictive duty to perform.

Sudden Death. Mr B T Millar of Douglastown, died suddenly at his residence Saturday last. The news of his death was so startling here because he had been seen in town the day before, active as usual. His remains were interred in Newcastle Monday, and a large number of people from Chatham, Newcastle, Douglastown and adjoining parts followed the remains to the grave. Deceased was universal respected.

STAR BRIEFS.

—Mr James Buckley lost a fine horse on Saturday last by the destemper.

—The roads to Black River are perfectly impassable.

—Some of our smelt fishers intending to go to the Northwest to fish base.

—Messrs. Shank and Burbridge are manufacturing 125,000 lobster cans for next seasons operations.

—Daly's ball which came off last night in Nelson, was well attended, principally by parties from Chatham.

—A man named Robins on who lumbered over river had his foot badly injured by coming in contact with a sled loaded with provisions, at Morrison's bridge yesterday.

DIED.

Suddenly, at Newswest, on Monday, 14th February, 1881, KATE, beloved wife of Hon. S. Adams, aged 35 years, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends.

Funeral to-morrow, Thursday at 11 a.m.

A BRITISH DEFEAT IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Late accounts from Durban describe the British defeat. The enemy were on horseback when first shot, but upon shell taking effect among them at about 1,500 yards distance, they rode off, and having dismounted under cover behind the hills, opened fire. From 12 o'clock until dusk it was a rifle duel under cover.

The British guns from time to time took part in it, but the enemy's fire was so severe that it was impossible to work the guns continually, the men falling almost as soon as they stepped up. With the sole exception of Lieut Parsons, who was wounded late in the day, every officer, driver, gunner and horse in the battery was hit. Shortly after the action began the guns were completely silenced for an hour. Some of the infantry then assisted. One piece was thus kept in action throughout the day and it was a dangerous duty, and those serving it had to be continually replaced.

The guns were actually whitened all over with the marks of bullets, and for any body to stand up beside them was certain death. The enemy occasionally crept up to within 200 yards of the position, but never attempted a rush. The greater portion of the fight was at a distance of six or seven hundred yards.

The tactics of the Boers were described as admirable. They moved from flank to flank, opening fire time after time from unexpected positions. For the British to advance and charge at the point of the bayonet was quite impossible, for the whole all have been shot down before reaching the enemy. The fight was witnessed, where the Boers were vastly superior to the British troops.