

THE HURON SIGNAL

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GODERICH, ONTARIO.

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FRIDAY, FEB. 15th, 1884.

AT IT AGAIN.

The Orange Sentinel seems to take a great interest in Huron politics. Its latest efforts have been directed to endeavoring to prove that M. C. Cameron, M.P., who was the medium of bringing presents from Rome to three Roman Catholic clergymen in Huron, exercised his kind offices for the purpose of obtaining an undue influence with the priests in question.

We in Huron who know the circumstances of the case, and the part taken in the presentation by Mr. Cameron, are well aware that there is no ground for the innuendo thrown out by the Sentinel against the rev. gentlemen, and it comes with a bad grace from a journal professing to be a Christian organ to bear false witness in this instance.

This is not the first time that the Sentinel has, through oversight for the Tory party, proved itself a political marplot to those whom it professes to serve. In the election of February last it was universally conceded by the Orangemen and Tories of Huron that the intolerance of the Sentinel and the violent denunciations of Catholics in its editorial columns did more to raise the majority against the Conservative candidate than any other agency.

Its attack on three unoffending rev. gentlemen on the present occasion, simply to hit over their shoulders at a political opponent, will be remembered in the time to come by the parishioners of the insulted clergymen. If our make-belief pious confere would devote more of its space to a courteous discussion of the theological points at issue between the Protestant bodies and the Church of Rome, instead of its present style of blackguarding those opposed to it in creed, it would do a great deal more to forward the cause which it espouses than it has done in the past.

THE CHAPLEAU APPOINTMENT.

They who read the remarks of Sir John on Mr. Chapleau's appointment to the high shrievalty of the Northwest will be amused at the special pleading resorted to by the chiefstain. Sir John admits that Chapleau's being in collusion with the contractors when in the public works department was a "grave indiscretion," but contends that, as the delinquent resigned his position, and had for three years to do without Government employment, sufficient punishment had been meted out to him; and hence his appointment to the shrievalty of the northwest. Moreover Sir John states that Chapleau was a "man of marked ability," and of "good family" and therefore the country should not lose his services.

Which may or may not be good reasons for appointing the said Chapleau high sheriff of the northwest. For the information of the Premier we might state that there are many men of "marked ability" and "good family" (as families go) in the Dominion penitentiaries, but the fact of their being of such a high order of "ability" and of so heightened an extraction would not warrant the Government in appointing them to positions of trust in the State.

The Premier's contention in the Chapleau case is the weakest defence of a bad appointment we have ever known him to make, and is a good many removes from the real reason for the appointment, which is as follows:—Some years ago pet contractors were kept informed of the inward workings of the public works department. The fact became public, and a display of indignation was made by the head of the department. To show to the public that the chief was not in the ring, a scape-goat was selected, and Chapleau was dismissed the service.

For a couple of years the discharged public servant stood sign as scape-goat, but after a time he began to chafe. Then it was that he laid his case before the Government, stated he had carried the sins of the whole department long enough, and asked for another billet. Chapleau's brother had, in the meantime, entered the Cabinet, and espoused the cause of his brother against Tupper. The dismissed Chapleau was loaded with Government secrets, and was liable to "go off" at any moment, he was a safe man to be out of a Government billet, hence his appointment.

NEW LEGISLATIVE HALLS.

In the Legislature on Tuesday Mr. Clarke, M.P. for West Toronto, strongly urged the Government to at once make an appropriation for the construction of new parliament buildings in Toronto. He contended that the present structure was behind the times, inconvenient and insecure for the proper transaction of business.

After advancing his reasons for the pressing forward of the work, he stated if any opposition to the undertaking was made by the leader of the Opposition in the House, he would, although a follower of that gentleman, at once "go over to the enemy." Hon. Mr. Frazer replied on behalf of the Government, and showed that when action was taken before by the Government, the Opposition endeavored by every means in their power to make it a political issue.

He likewise stated that although Mr. Clarke had promised to desert his party if his leader took exception to the erection of the new buildings, the desertion would not be a temporary one and would not last longer than the two minutes necessary to take a division on the motion. Mr. Watters, M.P. for North Middlesex, speaking on the same question, said that when the subject was up before him had voted for the appropriation, and when he went back to his constituents for re-election the leader of the Opposition used the fact of his having voted as the strongest card against his candidature.

He was not in favor, therefore, of going on with the erection of new buildings, unless both sides united on the question. His own feelings now were that so long as the old roof was good enough for a Conservative it was good enough for him. The effort of Mr. Clarke to place the Government in a false position on this question thus ended in failure. If our Tory friends want new buildings erected all they have to do is to come out fairly and above board on the matter, and the Government will not be backward in providing the necessary accommodation.

"IT REFERS TO MR. MEREDITH."

The London Free Press got into a nice hobble on Monday last. In a garbled report of the decision in the Weeks' perjury case, that journal undertook to prove that Squire Hanna, the presiding magistrate, in giving his decision, censured strongly Rowland and his friends for their action in regard to Weeks. The absurdity of the contention of the Free Press was completely exposed by the Advertiser of Tuesday, which published an interview with Squire Hanna, in which the following occurs:—

With a view of being clear on a point or two in the Magistrate's decision on Weeks' case, an Advertiser representative called on Squire Hanna yesterday forenoon and read over to him the cloung few sentences of the decision, as read by the Magistrate on Saturday last, as follows:—"At the same time I think I am not going beyond bounds in despising the conduct of the parties who prevailed upon a weak young man to commit so glaring an act as demonstrated in the fraud practised on the defendant."

Reporter—Now, Squire, how am I to construe these words? Take the word "parties" for instance. Does that refer to Mr. Rowland & Co., or to Mr. Meredith & Co.?

The Magistrate—To Mr. Meredith, most assuredly.

Reporter—I see the Free Press has placed a different construction on your meaning. They wish to make it appear you despise the action of Rowland & Co. in trapping Weeks.

Magistrate—Then the Free Press is very much mistaken. I never sought to convey such an idea. On the contrary, I assert, or rather re-assert, that I thoroughly despise the conduct of Messrs. W. R. Meredith, Chas. H. Mackintosh, young Maclean and others in the room at the Queen's Hotel, Strathroy, for prevailing on a weak young man to commit so glaring an act as demonstrated in the fraud practised on the defendant.

Reporter—Yes, I see that makes it much plainer, and the public can now see at a glance who the "parties" are you referred to in your decision.

Magistrate—Yes, I might have been more explicit in the wording of the latter part of my decision; in fact, I omitted a few words which if I had put in would have made it much plainer.

THE PHARISEE STILL LIVES.

Some time ago Rev. Dr. Wilson, curate of St. George's cathedral, Kingston, identified himself with the working of the salvation army in that city. This action of the curate did not suit the aristocratic Christian notions of his superiors in the church, and at a certain stage it was suggested to him that his resignation would be accepted at an early day. The curate sent in his resignation accordingly and received his dismissal from Bishop Lewis. Now what is the head and front of Dr. Wilson's offending, according to the statement of his persecutors? Simply that he has seen fit to go out upon the highways and assist those who were endeavoring to comfort the poor and the afflicted and raise up the fallen. This did not suit the high-toned Christianity of the Kingston "chapel-of-ease" dignitaries, and hence the removal of the man who had dared to be seen at religious exercises with publicans and sinners. Now, we have no connection with the salvation army, and are of opinion that amongst the rank and file in connection therewith, zeal very often outruns discretion, but we do know that a little over eighteen centuries and a half ago, there was one whom the Christians of to-day are pleased to acknowledge as their Lord and Saviour, who did not disdain to go unto the highways to entice from sin the weary and heavy-laden, just as Dr. Wilson, in humble imitation, has been endeavoring to do.

And we know, also, that there were pharisees in the days of old, full of conceit and self-sufficiency, just as we have them to-day, who held up their hands in holy horror, and said, "Behold this man eateth with publicans and sinners." And the pharisees of old persecuted the Man, Christ, and rested not until they caused his ignominious death on the cross; and the pharisees of to-day persecute Dr. Wilson, and would do worse, were it not that the enlightenment of the nineteenth century limits their powers of persecution to certain metes and bounds. We have not written this in defence of Dr. Wilson personally, nor to advocate the cause of the salvation army as against other methods of religious belief, but simply because we believe religious intolerance should not be allowed to exist in a so-called free country. We care not whether a man is a Jew, a Mohammedan, a Buddhist or a Christian, no sect or creed should say that he must worship God otherwise than as his conscience dictates. We have been brought up to respect freedom of opinion and to abhor persecution of all kinds. For this reason we hate persecutors of all shades—and the worst kind of persecutor is the pharisee of to-day, as was his prototype in the days of the Saviour.

It goes turns out that the number of ballots counted at several of the polling sub-divisions in Kent during the recent electoral contest between Smyth and Sanson, was largely in excess of the number of voters on the list. The Philadelphia, as of old, "got Sanson where his hair was short."

THOMAS CHENEY, for some years past editor of the London Times, died on Sunday. He was a superior original scholar, but was not successful as a moulder of public opinion. During his regime the Times lost to a considerable extent that grasp upon the public mind which it had taken when it was under the able management of Delane.

A significant fact in connection with the C.P.R. resolutions before the House of Commons is that Le Canadian, the personal organ of Sir Hector Langevin, is bitterly opposed to the demands, and speaks of them as ruinous to the country and as not having been justified, thus far, to Parliament. If Sir Hector should see fit to step forward as a supporter of Sir John's, the Dominion Government would collapse like a house of cards, despite its present seemingly abnormal majority.

It is now generally conceded that Meredith did not exercise prudence in the conduct of the debate on the address. He forced a division of the House at too early a stage, and at once laid bare the falsity of the assertions made by the Tory press that Mowat had not a good working majority at his back. The majority is now clearly defined, and will not vary materially during the session. The Mail cannot cry "Mowat must go" with its accustomed vigor now that it has been clearly proved that he retains the confidence of so decided a following.

COUNCILLOR "Law" Elliott in the course of his rambling remarks at the Wednesday evening council meeting, stated that THE SIGNAL had spoken of his economical notion—the joining of the offices of assessor, collector and street inspector—into a "cheeseparing measure," and tried to get sympathy for himself thereby. Councillor Elliott if he were wise would have swallowed his words. We must exactly what we read. Councillor Elliott is a "cheeseparing" demand of education, with no legislative ability, no measure of knowledge, and lacking in enterprise. It is just because such "sticks-in-the-mud" as Elliott are pitched forth into seats in the council that Goderich remains half a century behind the times.

BRADLAUGH has been again excluded from the Imperial House of Commons. It is time this farce closed. The intolerant action of the majority in the House has done much toward gaining sympathy for the free-thinker. Bradlaugh, and those of his school, have always contended that professing Christians are nothing at the hands of the majority in the Imperial House of Commons—many of whom are as sadly in need of regeneration as himself—will not tend to change his former low estimate of Christianity. If a new general election were held, and Bradlaugh were again elected, he could not be hindered from taking his seat. Such being the case why is he debarred now?

PRESS ECHOES.

Hon. G. Mowat's Majority.

It is rather a curious instructive coincidence that on the first square party vote of the third Parliament of Ontario, taken on the 21st of December, 1875, the Mowat Ministry was sustained by a majority of 11, viz., 44 to 33. This shows that, at the very worst, it is now one better than it was more than eight years ago. This does not look very much like "roving," at least if one may judge from the past.—[Olebo.]

An Outrageous Demand.

The last call of the Syndicate is for \$30,000,000 of the taxpayers money. That is, they ask the people of Canada to pay \$6 a head, man, woman and child for their benefit. As to their paying back the money, who believes that when the time comes they will have either the will or the ability to pay one single dollar of it? How many of the men who now form the Canada Pacific Railway Company will be members of that company in 1891 is a question which even the famous Philadelphia lawyer would find it impossible to answer.—[Cornwall Freeholder.]

Soup Kitchen Statistics.

The average attendance at the Toronto soup kitchen is 450 persons each day. From this fact various conclusions may be arrived at. In the first place would be monstrously unjust to induce operatives to emigrate from Europe to Ontario. In the next place it is clear that a population subsisting by manufactures and working in factories are subject to greater vicissitudes than a farming population. But the whole principle of the N. P. is to raise up an operative class. It succeeded partially. It has raised an operative class in the cities, and in the Toronto 450 each day beg for soup at a charity kitchen. So much for the N. P.—[Bobayevan Inde send for.]

Tory "Progressiveness."

Truly this is a progressive country. Sir John Macdonald telegraphed "I want another \$10,000." Craig, the ascending president of the Exchange bank, telegraphed Sir Leonard Tilly, "I shall require another \$100,000; and though this was the second time of asking Sir Leonard let him have not only that sum, but still another \$100,000, making in all \$300,000!"

And now the Pacific syndicate say, "We must have \$25,000,000," and the two willing ministers and subservient ministerial majority in the house will let them have it.

This is an enterprising country and we are a fast people.—[Lindsay Post.]

Mr. Joly's Open Letter.

Mr. Joly, ex-premier of Quebec, has written an open letter to the people of his province, in which he states that if it is right to grant a future loan or subsidy to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, there is no need to bribe any province in order to gain its support. Speaking of the idea that is gaining ground in the next place it is clear that an opportunity for Quebec to fill its treasury at the expense of the rest of the Dominion, he says: "But even supposing that it were allowed to support a wrong measure on such grounds—supposing that the feelings of fairness and honor which rule us in private life should have been completely banished from our political life—What would such an arrangement lead to? Each province would claim its fair share of compensation, to use a mild term. Who will pay that compensation? If it is established on a fair basis, will not each province have to pay, indirectly, if not directly, for its own share of the compensation?" Continuing, Mr. Joly says the adoption of the dangerous system of bribing provinces to vote for big compensations and political grabs "will ultimately result in general ruin."

Those Cypher Despatches.

The cypher messages sent by the agents of the Ontario Government do not reveal as much as the public was led to believe they would. They show that applications were made for money to assist in carrying on the Algoma election, but they do not show that the money was given. They also show that the Conservative were too smart for their opponents and secured control of the local newspaper which it was proposed to buy. There is nothing extraordinary in the Government receiving telegraph messages in cypher. Their agents were in a territory which was in dispute, and it was not necessary that every move they made should be known by the enemy. Even the railway contractors have their own cypher in which to send messages, so that the mere fact that messages sent to the Government were in cypher proves nothing.

A government conferring with its agents and sending instructions by telegraph could not depend upon the ordinary means of communication. There may be more behind these messages than appears upon the surface, but it must be said that, so far, the Opposition has not established its charges of personal corruption against any member of the Government. Whether any better success will attend it in the courts remains to be seen.—[Toronto Telegram (Ind.)]

Pointing at Sir Leonard.

If any employer had a servant who misappropriated his master's money and used it to promote his own interests, on a discovery being made he would at least be dismissed, if not made to answer according to law.—[Grit Brockville Recorder.]

The Orange Middle.

It appears that the Orange bill is to be handed around parliament again, and an effort made to have it put through. Having been thrown out last session in the face of Sir John's promise to have it enacted, it is not at all likely that it will find favor in the eyes of the French Tories this session. It could be put through if the Reformers would vote for it; but the Reformers naturally take the ground that as the Orange vote has always gone for Sir John Macdonald and helped to put him in power and keep him there, as is the person who should be looked to to pass it, not the party against which its influence has been used, and which has never received any favors at its hands. If Sir John Macdonald is the head of the party he is understood to lead he should put the bill through. If he is not, he secured support on false pretences when he entered into a compact with the Orangemen that if they withdrew their opposition to the elevation of Mr. John O'Donohoe to the Senate he would give them incorporation.—[Toronto Telegram.]

TILLEY'S TROUBLES.

The Tory Finance Minister Criticized.

His Remarks on the Banking System of the Dominion Discussed by Toronto and Other Bankers.

Financiers and banking men throughout the country are much agitated over the remarks of Sir Leonard Tilly, the Finance Minister, on the banking system of the Dominion. What answers bankers most is the rash and unfounded statement that certain banks might be called upon to redeem their circulation, a theory claimed by some to be as wild as it is impossible. Mr. C. F. Smithers, of the Bank of Montreal, in that city, said he believed the statements were made as a substitute to make the Government's case, in the matter of loaning funds to the Crippled Exchange Bank, as strong as possible. Mr. G. Hague, of the Merchants Bank, Montreal, thought the remarks were probably not accurate. If Sir Leonard was correctly reported, he had only to say that the speech was very injudicious. Other gentlemen in the same line expressed themselves as amazed at the Minister's "foolish" utterances. Mr. James McLaren, president of the Bank of Ottawa, characterized them as "ridiculously untrue," and calculated to do an amount of mischief. The press he thought, should unite in the endeavor to counteract the evil effects of such thoughtlessness.

HAMILTON BANKERS.

The bankers of the Ambitious City are fully as outspoken in regard to the arrangements of Sir Leonard Tilly's remarks. The Minister's excuses were, in the opinion of the majority, fallacious in the extreme and calculated to harm the money market. It is generally believed that the safety of the banks had little weight with Sir Leonard Tilly when he came to the rescue of the Exchange Bank. It is stated that Canadian bank bills in Buffalo have been refused, owing to Sir Leonard Tilly's remarks.

TORONTO BANKERS AND THE SPEECH.

Mr. Yarker, manager of the Bank of Montreal, in this city, on being shown the obnoxious paragraph, said he did not wish to discuss the subject, and the less said about such matters the better. Sir Leonard Tilly's remarks resolved themselves into two points, whether any bank could be forced to liquidate in the question. He thought the banks are perfectly sound, and do not require to be "written up," no matter what is said about them.

Mr. Stracey, of the Federal Bank, Toronto, went further. "I think," he said "that the remarks of the Minister of Finance were unjust, unfounded, and uncalled for. So far as our local banks are concerned there is not one in my opinion who could not meet all its circulation within a week if called upon to do so. It is not the duty of the Government to bolster up a bank unless in case of a panic, which certainly was not the state of things when it went to the aid of the Exchange Bank."

Mr. Bethune of the Dominion Bank, said he shook his head and refused to speak.

The other bank managers were equally reticent, but it was easily perceivable that they, like the gentlemen mentioned above, were "nursing their wrath to keep it warm."

The following are the objectionable remarks of Sir Leonard Tilly, quoted from his speech in defence of the \$300,000 loan to the Exchange Bank: "We all know by looking at the returns that to-day two-thirds of the banks in the Dominion were called upon to redeem their circulation when these banks had secured control of the local newspaper which it was proposed to buy. There is nothing extraordinary in the Government receiving telegraph messages in cypher. Their agents were in a territory which was in dispute, and it was not necessary that every move they made should be known by the enemy. Even the railway contractors have their own cypher in which to send messages, so that the mere fact that messages sent to the Government were in cypher proves nothing."

According to the annual report of the Ontario Commissioner of Public Works for 1883, the total mileage of the railways of the province, exclusive of the portion of the Canadian Pacific west of Lake Nipissing, amounts to 3,847 miles. Of this 1,464 miles were completed prior to Confederation, and 2,383 subsequent to that date. Upwards of 705 miles are at present under construction or contract. The number of miles built during the year was 102.

TERRIBLE FLOODS.

The Ohio River Rises Dangerously.

By High Water.

News of the Ohio River Rises Dangerously—Many Lives Lost and Immense Damage Done—The People Suffering for Want of Food and Shelter.

Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 10.—The river has receded slowly. The disappearance of water only reveals the extent of the ravages of the flood. The sight exposed is disheartening. Hundreds of large houses and barns are gathered at points where the surface water was obstructed by trees. Fifty houses are jammed up and against each other at the south end of the city. The Baltimore and Ohio track between here and Newwood is covered with buildings and drift which had to be pulled to pieces by engines to clear the track. Every bucket in the city has been distributed to homes—sufferers. There is a great scarcity of breadstuffs. At Martin's ferry last night Dr. Hyneman, under bail for malpractice, was robbed by a flooded store. He was killed nearly dead and is missing to-day.

The outlook for the future is gloomy. Many cases of premature confinement are reported. Some sufferers on the south side are reduced to the extremity of eating bread from cows found dead as the floods recede. The Ohio river railroad is believed to be entirely ruined. Section after section of trestle work, bridges and cars are washed away.

Portsmouth, Ohio, is almost entirely under water and completely cut off from outside communication. The water is fourteen inches higher than the flood of 1832. The river is still rising, and many houses are floating away. There is great suffering, and worse is still expected. At daylight this morning fire broke out in a feed store in the midst of the business portion of the city, caused by slackening lines connected with rising water. Six buildings were burned to the water's edge, and the walls fell in. The churches are all under water. Every engine house and school house in the city is filled with our drowned people. The river is rising over half an inch an hour. It is raining hard, and has not been heard from any place for three days. The people are in great distress.

Ripley, O. Feb. 9.—The river at noon reached the flood point of last year. There is much destitution and a public relief meeting is in progress. All business has been suspended, as all the business houses are submerged. Several dwellings were swept away this morning by the devastating waters.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 9.—The impression that a large tract of the city is covered by water is erroneous, and the portion submerged, except in the suburbs, is not much used for residences. The main residences and business portion of the city stands on high ground far out of the reach of the highest flood.

Arrangements for preserving the peace and preventing crime are vastly better than where there is no flood. Not only are the police more watchful but they are reinforced by 100 militia who patrol the streets at night.

The relief work grows daily as the stock of provisions of poor families imprisoned in houses diminishes. The best men in the city are directing the work and giving it constant and personal attention.

In Newport, Ky., the burden has grown so great that the mayor has called on neighboring towns for help.

Two cases of drowning were reported to-day. One was Ed. Wren, leaning over a bridge across the Ohio. He lost his balance and fell into the river. The other was Michael Luckner, who fell from a boat into the Ohio river. Thos. Ryan, in the same boat, also fell out, but was rescued.

An unknown woman was drowned in the Fifth ward last night by falling from a second story window into the water. A baby of a family named Lash, on the island, also fell into the water and disappeared from sight. Neither bodies recovered. Many narrow escapes are reported and doubtless several lives were lost which have not yet been discovered.

Cincinnati, Feb. 10.—The flood of 1832 was surpassed at one o'clock this morning. The river has been constantly rising all day. At nine this evening the water was 65 feet 2 1/2 inches.

Vicksburg, Miss., Feb. 10.—The rapid rise in the river is causing great uneasiness, and there is great alarm in this section. It is feared the water will attain such a height as to seriously threaten the levee.

LATEST—The flood has not yet abated.

THE DOMINION ALLIANCE.

Annual Meeting—The McCarthy Act Discussed.

OTTAWA, Jan. 31.—The annual meeting of the Council of the Dominion Alliance commenced this morning in the City Hall under the Presidency of the Hon. Senator Vidal. The Chairman referred to the sad loss the Alliance sustained in the death of its Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Gale, and complimented Mr. Abbott, the temporary secretary, for the successful manner in which he had transacted his work. The report of the Secretary showed a satisfactory state of affairs, but regret was expressed that it was becoming more difficult to procure funds. A public meeting was held this evening in the Dominion Methodist Church. Senator Vidal occupied the chair, and there was also present on the platform Senator Girouard and Mr. Jamieson, M.P. The first speaker was J. J. McLaren, of Montreal, who condemned the act known as the McCarthy Act of the last session, which was drawn by an astute hand. He touched more particularly on the clause which required three-fifths of a vote of the whole municipality for prohibitory purposes, which he declared was impossible to get, there being only two members of Parliament who, in the general election of 1878, got the majority of votes of their constituency, and none three-fifths.

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Some Facts About the

Correspondence of Globe.

OTTAWA, Feb. 12.—It is very unfair that I make any reference to the Pacific Railway treaty and elsewhere.

Some of the subject member for Richwood refers to the Government to in-law a railway is equivalent when the Pacific Company asking that for the Co. tax of thirty dollars be easily in the Dominion.

Their wealth was profited by Jay Cooke, a day. It is the loss of required to construct it admit that. They say of the Company are a out their undertakings.

At daylight this morning fire broke out in a feed store in the midst of the business portion of the city, caused by slackening lines connected with rising water.

The building is of P the pillars, three of which support the balcony.

The furniture of the rosewood. The carved doorsteps to the entrance of solid brass, which leads to the entrance beyond the door.

The drawing-room, of ashwood, jasper tables of the same, case and mirrored human form divan from any point of lady looks in front.

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