

THE DAILY TIMES

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THE WEEKLY TIMES

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THE TIMES P. & F. COMPANY, Wm. Templeman Manager

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, December 1, 1893.

A TARIFF REFORM VICTORY.

It is quite impossible to misread the verdict returned by the electors of Winnipeg on Wednesday. Even if Mr. Martin had been able to do nothing more than cut down to a small figure the 500 majority given the Conservative candidate in 1891, the result would still have been significant as a revolt against the high taxation policy; but when he secured a majority of over 400 for himself there could be no doubt in any reasonable person's mind as to what the electors meant. Some attempts are made by Conservative papers to show that the contest hinged entirely on the personality of the opposing candidates. This looks a little childish, and of doubtful wisdom. It is quite freely admitted that Mr. Martin's victory is largely due to the votes of Conservatives, who for some reason chose to cast them against their party's candidate. We have too high an opinion of the intelligence and fidelity of the Winnipeg Conservatives to believe that they would find any such reason in the personality of the two men. Their past conduct quite precludes the idea. Nothing can be more certain than that the Conservatives who supported Mr. Martin did so with the purpose of impressing on the government the necessity of some tariff reform, and that being their intention they have surely furnished the government with a strong enough object lesson. We have no doubt that the lesson was made all the sharper on what seemed like a direct invitation from Ottawa. When Ministers Foster and Angus returned to the capital they were interviewed by the Empire correspondent and were represented as minimizing the extent of the dissatisfaction with the present tariff which had found in the Northwest. As the people of Winnipeg had made an effort to convince the two ministers that they really wanted tariff reform, this looked like a gratuitous insult, and it is not surprising that Conservatives as well as Liberals resented it. There is good reason to suppose that Mr. Martin's majority was very considerably increased by the foolish utterances of the two ministers. Whether they and their colleagues will take the hint conveyed by Winnipeg is a question that remains to be decided, but we should suppose that as they are not utterly devoid of intelligence the members of the government must see what the Winnipeg verdict means. In face of this reverse the ministers cannot well persist in affirming that there is but slight discontent in the country and that the protection system has still as strong a hold on the people as ever it had. Sir John Thompson can hardly assert so positively that the principle of protection must be maintained as the chief feature of our tariff, while Minister Foster will surely be less ready to declare that even higher duties will be imposed if "infant industries" seem to require them. If they are conscientiously determined to adhere to the doctrines they have preached all along they must regard the result in Winnipeg as a rather gloomy omen.

PURCHASE WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Nanaimo Telegram sets forth a new explanation of its position in these words: "What we did do was to point out the mistake of a community electing representatives to the provincial legislature who can be so blindly led by the Times and other opposition organs like it, in the sole effort to defeat the government, that they overlook the interests of their constituents." This seems like repeating in different language the statement that hitherto the local government has refused to do justice to Nanaimo because Nanaimo had failed to send supporters of the government to the legislature. Whether the Telegram sees the full force and meaning of this conclusion we know not, but other people will have no difficulty in doing so. An honest and conscientious government would

take care to do justice to every locality, irrespective of the character of its representatives. The Telegram finds that the character of Nanaimo's representatives has led the provincial government to deny justice to Nanaimo; therefore the inevitable conclusion from the Telegram's premises is that the government is dishonest and wanting in conscience. The only fault that the paper can find with the representatives, as appears from the extract above, is their preference for the opposition as against the government side; if they had been able to sink their opinions and their consciences and support the government they would have been classed among the "right sort" at once. We need say nothing more of the base and degraded character of the political principles which the Telegram thus preaches in cold blood; all decent and self-respecting people in Nanaimo or any other place must resent the imputation that their suffrages can be bought by the government with the expenditure of public money. The insult is made all the worse when they are told that this expenditure is their just due, but that the government withholds it until they elect representatives who will support the government. We very much mistake the character of the Nanaimo people if they do not show their contempt for such teachings as the Telegram offers them.

WHAT IT MEANS.

The Colonist tries to take comfort out of the Winnipeg election by asserting that the much-discussed school act was responsible for the return of Mr. Martin. The News-Advertiser and the Telegram wish their readers to believe that Mr. Martin won because he had greater personal popularity and wider experience in politics than his opponent. Now there is not an atom of evidence in support of either of these theories, and the papers quoted must be well aware of that fact. We are afraid that they cannot be acquitted of the charge of deliberately attempting to mislead their readers. From first to last in the Winnipeg campaign the one issue prominently presented, and in the press, was tariff reform. It is true that some endeavors were made to bring in side issues; for instance, Mr. Martin was accused of being an annexationist and also of being an opponent of the Hudson Bay railway project; but the electors brushed these aside with a promptitude that emphasized their perception of the one important question. They declared most unmistakably that they were in favor of tariff reform and that they were not satisfied with the government's position in regard to that question. There is no room for doubt on that point, and we do not see how anything by ignoring the truth.

Some days ago we had occasion to comment on an Ottawa dispatch referring to Minister Foster's position in relation to the export of sawlogs. Another dispatch from the capital seems to indicate more strongly that the export duty is to be renewed. It reads: "Ministerial organs publish an interview with Hon. Mr. Foster, finance minister, in which he intimates that the government intends to reimpose the export duty on logs. He says an inquiry is being made regarding the matter and that if the conditions remain as at present when parliament meets, that is to say if the U. S. congress does not reduce its duty upon lumber, the export duty upon logs will be reimposed." Ottawa lumbermen do not approve of Foster's proposal as the reimposition of the export duty on Canadian logs will be followed by the doubling of the American import duty on Canadian lumber without any legislation by congress. They are also of the opinion that Foster's announcement will tend to spoil the chance of having Canadian coal, lumber and iron ore placed on the United States free list, and it is unwise to propose new restraints upon international trade at the present juncture." Minister Foster seems to be plentifully lacking in a quality quite necessary to a finance minister, namely, discretion.

Montreal Herald: In his letter to the Globe Principal Grant said that so far as he knew there is only one man in the Canadian parliament who was qualified to speak authoritatively on financial matters. That man is Sir Richard Cartwright. This will seal the principal's doom with the Tories, for to say a good word for Sir Richard is an unpardonable offense in their eyes. Yet the statement is quite correct. There are many excellent business men in parliament on both sides of the house, but not one who in the discussion of financial matters can rank with Sir Richard, who has all his life been an assiduous student of such problems. Principal Grant attributes the acidity which sometimes marks Sir Richard's utterances to the fact that he has to occasionally "let out quite a little of the contempt he feels." A great deal of contempt is permissible to him in view of the attainment of the men who usually undertake to reply to his criticisms.

This new indication of the near approach of a Dominion general election comes by way of a dispatch from Montreal, N.B.: "It is reported here that the engineer's department has instructions to send men out surveying prospective branch lines for the Intercolonial railway with a view of promoting a canvass for the general elections, which will be much sooner than generally supposed. Two engineers start to-morrow to survey a branch line to Sydney, Cape Breton, to Jordan river, a distance of 20 miles." Sir John Thompson stated to

an interviewer some time ago that the general election would probably come "like a thief in the night." Liberals should be on their guard, and prepare for a contest during the next year.

Mayor Desjardins, lately had something to say about the proposal to establish a vice-regal residence in Montreal, and a portion of the conversation is reported as follows: "In connection with the proposal to have the residence in Montreal, the mayor said he had had the matter over with the president of the C. P. R., and Mr. Van Home had said that the presence of the general-governor in Montreal would induce many rich Americans to come here who were in the habit of spending some time in London every year in order to be invited to official receptions given by the court and high personages. These would be glad to come to Montreal, were there a vice-regal residence here, and great good would be done to trade in many directions." The snobs seem to be increasing in number instead of diminishing.

At a recent meeting in Soutlanges Mr. Tarte told the audience that he would "give them a piece of authentic history" in regard to Minister Outimet. And he proceeded to do as follows, according to the report: "At a private conference Mr. Girouard, Mr. Outimet, Mr. Chapleau and he (the speaker) took a solemn oath not to take office if Mr. Chapleau was not promoted to a higher cabinet position than the one he held as the representative of the province of Quebec. Mr. Girouard and Mr. Outimet were summoned to Ottawa by the late Sir John Abbott and were offered positions. Mr. Girouard kept his promise; he (Tarte) declined. Both resigned his seat at once. When Mr. Chapleau heard of it he went to Mr. Outimet and told him that, though he was six feet three inches in height, he was a miserable traitor."

In reference to the McGreevy-Connolly case an Ottawa dispatch says: "Such surprise was expressed at the fact that no evidence was taken with reference to the British Columbia gravestone contract, and other important matters, and there is a suspicion that these omissions were the result of a lengthened interview which took place on Thursday evening at the Rideau club between Osler, the Dominion government lawyer, and Sir Adolph Caron." It can be quite easily understood that the government did not care to make out too good a case against the accused, since there were so many chances of others being implicated. The manipulation of the Esquimaux contract was pretty well exposed by the inquiry of the privileges and elections committee, but there were no doubt some fine points left untouched by that inquiry. The government does not want the whole truth revealed in connection with these scandals, and it may be confidently assumed that some of its members at least are sorry the affair has gone so far.

Probably the most disappointed spectator of the government's Winnipeg reverse is A. W. Ross, M.P., whose hopes of succeeding to the Manitoba governorship are said to be crushed. Having lost the Winnipeg seat, the government must needs regard Lisgar as at least extremely doubtful in the event of a bye-election, and Lisgar is therefore not likely to be opened for a contest. Mr. Scarth will probably get the gubernatorial plum and Mr. Ross will have to look for some other reward for his faithful support of the government.

DETROIT'S GREAT FIRE.

Detroit, Nov. 23.—By the burning of the five-story iron and brick building Nos. 195 to 202 Jefferson avenue, occupied by Edison, Moore & Co., wholesale dry goods, this afternoon, seven employees lost their lives, a fireman was badly injured, and the loss will reach \$800,000. The fire started between the fourth and fifth floors, at the rear of the building and spread with frightful rapidity. The great majority of the employees were at luncheon when the alarm was given, but there were eight or nine of them lost on the upper floors. Those who were first at the scene saw a terrible sight. The whole upper floors were a mass of flames. On the window sill of the fourth window of the fourth floor stood Bradley Dunning; two windows south of him stood James McKay. "Don't jump, wait for the hook and ladder," shrieked the crowd; but before the ladders could be raised the flames rolled to the ledge where Dunning stood. He bowed his head, grasped the window ledge with his hands and then dropped. The people watching him had just time to throw a bale of jute beneath him, and it was no sooner in place than Dunning struck it. He bounded up like a rubber ball and then fell to the sidewalk limp and mangled. He was taken to a nearby drug store, and afterwards to Harper hospital, where he shortly afterwards died from his injuries. The fall of James McKay followed in a few minutes.

When he appeared at the window he made no sign that death was staring him in the face. For a few minutes he looked over the people, who appeared at a dizzy distance below, as though wondering what he might do to save his life. There was no sign that he was even evidently could not hear what was being said. The roar of the flames drowned all the noise that came in from the street. After this short hesitation he threw his feet off the window and slid until he was holding on with only one hand to the sill. He hung this way for several seconds before he released his hold. The blazing fire was bursting out the window when the terrified man finally gave up all hope of saving himself and slipped loose from his hold. He struck on the casement of the second window and partly turned over. This threw him so far out from the window that part of his body struck on the elec-

tric wires below, which partly turned him over again. He struck on the sidewalk within a few feet of the building. Policemen, firemen and spectators quickly came to the rescue and he was placed in an ambulance. He was unconscious when picked up and it was thought that life was extinct. He lived, however, for a couple of hours. The awful spectacle of the death of McKay and Dunning was only over when the spectators saw another man creeping towards the upper windows nearest the cornice. He was evidently on his hands and knees, blinded and suffocated in the dense smoke. He reached the sill, laid one arm on it, and as he endeavored to shield his face from the fiery heat with his hand he tried to draw himself to the open air just beyond. He was too far from the window, however, to be able to get around him and the horror-stricken beholders saw his head drop, his arm drag slowly back and his body sink from view in the flames within. Meantime a general alarm had been turned in and nearly all the companies in the department responded. The corner of Jefferson avenue and Bates street was the scene of intense excitement and the street extending up to Randolph street was filled with fire apparatus, thousands of people crowding their way to the ropes, which had been stretched by the police. By the time Company No. 1 was on the scene the upper story was a mass of flames, and they were spreading with incredible rapidity. The smoke rolled out in huge volumes, and at times almost completely enveloped the surrounding buildings and the firemen. The big extension ladder was raised and the firemen dragged a line of hose up and down the side of the building, and the heat and smoke soon drove them down and the truck itself had to be removed a few moments afterwards, the flames scorching the upper portion of it. The water tower on the corner of Randolph street, but the firemen swarmed on the adjoining buildings and poured torrents of water on the hot, smoking roofs. The floors of the Edison-Moore building began falling in short time after the fire started, and at 1:20 the roof of Woodbridge street wall had collapsed. A moment later there were two loud reports, and the entire interior of the building apparently collapsed. This air-raising caused the spread of the flames, and at 1:50 the fire was practically under control. After the fire had been got under control and the excitement had somewhat subsided, rumors of a still greater loss of life began to be spread, and the fire immediately opened a register at an adjacent store, and the rumors became certainties as the employees registered their stories of their narrow escapes and spoke positively of the men who knew the way out on the top of the building. Edward L. Ebert was one of the freight receivers working on the fifth floor of the building at the time the alarm was given. He had to run the stairs to the top of the building, and the floor following people that he saw Patrick Markey, Edward Genter, Daniel Barker, Henry Rider and Edward Viot. Ebert says that he had hardly reached the floor below when the roof fell and he was thrown down. He could not have followed him down, the only manner in which they could have escaped would have been by jumping, and they could not have jumped without being killed. Ebert says that a few moments after he got down he saw Genter at one of the windows on the fifth floor. He disappeared without making any sign, and he supposed that he was going to find a way to get down. This was the last of the last. Eddie Leach, the elevator boy, also tells a story that leads to the conclusion that these men perished. When he learned that the whole upper part of the building was on fire he ran to the top of the building to see if any one wanted to come down. He says that he saw the men mentioned by Ebert. He told them that they had better come down with him, and cried that there was no other way of escape. He was very much excited and cannot remember what they said, but they would not come, as they feared the elevator would give way. Ebert was in this party and refused to come. Shortly after he got down he saw Ebert on the top of the building, and he says that he saw Ebert for them to get down after Ebert had come down. He could see the stairs and says they were impassable. None of the men were arrested, and none of them have been seen since the fire started. There were no fire escapes on the front or side of the building. There were fire escapes in the alley, but they were of no use to the imprisoned men.

ROBBERY AND EXTORTION

Some Facts About Canada's Beautiful Government.

HOW THE PEOPLE ARE SWINDLED

Nothing Paternal About Dominion Government Rule—Stand and Deliver, Their Motto—Outrages and Ridiculous Customs Laws.

To the Editor: I have examined the accounts showing British Columbia's share in the receipts and expenditures of the Dominion, taken from the auditor-general's report for the year 1892. These accounts were supplied on motion of Col. Prior, M. P., a staunch supporter of the present government, and published in the Vancouver World, the mainstay government organ. We may therefore rest assured that no mistake has been made, certainly not on the debit side. The immense amount of money extracted from the province and the small portion she receives back justifies me in coming to the conclusion that very few of our people outside of the government clique have the slightest conception of what extent, and how unmercifully, they are robbed under the pretext of protection, or how grievously they are injured in their trade and in the development of industries.

The following accounts are manifest and irrefutable evidence of Dominion extortion. I feel confident that nearly every disinterested person, residing in or out of the province, will after going over these accounts, agree with the writer that no expressions, written or oral, can adequately denounce the infamous "national policy," inaugurated and kept up by political schemers to plunder people.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Dominion Revenue (Net customs duties, Net inland revenue, etc.) and Dominion Expenditure (Legal expenses, Advertising, Printing, etc.).

Domestic receipts from B.C. \$2,067,508.30. This is \$2.00 for every man, woman and child in the province. Granting that our population was, when the census was taken, 98,173, it is very far from that number now, nor can we expect to have that number again unless under honest administration, provincial and Dominion.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 24.—Charles Nostrom, a well dressed man, called on Jas. R. Walker, of the Tacoma Safety Deposit Vault Co., 176 Prairie avenue, last evening, and asked to see Walker. Being shown into the parlor, he asked Walker to assist him out of his financial difficulties. Walker declining to give him any money, Nostrom drew a revolver, and pointing it at Walker's breast said: "Write me a check for \$10,000, hand it over, I will put a hole into your hat." Walker knocked up the pistol with his arm, and opening the street door with his right hand, pushed Nostrom out. Walker then shut the door and telephoned for the police. Some hours later Nostrom was arrested. It is said he has been under arrest for house-breaking.

No Cure, No Pay. Men who are weak, nervous, broken down; men who suffer from the effects of disease, over-work, worry, from the failure of youth, or the excesses of manhood; men who have failed to find a cure, do not despair, do not give up! Forty years experience has proved that Dr. Clarke's celebrated method of treatment can be depended on with absolute certainty to effect permanent cure. So confident am I, that it will cure even the worst cases, that I am willing to let you deposit the money in your local bank to be paid me if you are cured, and not until then; this makes you absolutely safe. If unable to call, send for free Question List and be cured at Home. Everything sent sealed, secure from exposure. Call or address, naming this paper. Dr. F. D. CLARKE, Merrill Block, Detroit, Michigan.

NEUTRALITY

Mello's Agents ask to Interfere WITH THE PREPARATION To Send Warships to Fight M.

They Say It is in Disregard of the Neutrality Laws of the U.S.—Denounce it as an Act of War.

Some time back "missing word" guesser was all the rage. Sometimes the right word was hit upon. I like to encourage such puzzles, and beg to offer, through the Times, two prizes, a leather medal and a bamboo speaking trumpet, for the best solution of the problem—What benefit does British Columbia derive from her present Dominion representation? I have not one word to say against a soldier or officer. The item shows how low they are. They are too expensive for this poor province. They are superfluous, and a luxury we cannot afford. Harbors and rivers are dredging. This item is very large, but the details of expenditure are lacking. We must not forget to credit the Victorian M. P.'s with having secured \$6,000 for our harbor, and six times that sum for a harbor shed, which was of considerably more importance than your harbor; at least it was thought so.

On river work, I take upon myself to speak with some authority, based on many years' study of cause and effect. Over six years ago I condemned the works then carried on from time to time. Since then I have done the same. Were it not for the great volume and velocity of the current, caused by the melting of the snows, the noble Fraser would long ere this have been rendered unrecognizable except in its debris. I have no hesitation in declaring that I firmly believe that the destruction of the Fraser for ocean-going, deep draft vessels has been determined upon from the first. I further say that I know of no river so easily conserved and rendered navigable for the very largest size vessels at low water.

The item for lights and coast service shows that 19.25 per cent. only of this sum is paid for maintenance. The very large item put down for Indian maintenance must be left for those who understand the question. British Columbia has to pay the money, but the British North America act, 1867, decides we can have no voice in the matter.

The item for customs salaries may be set down as the last straw on the camel's back. The Dominion sends her agents to make us pay for her salaries at least 33 1/3 per cent. on nearly everything we eat, drink and wear, and then with noble generosity charges us with the salaries of the officers. The item postoffice service shows that there is a good many screws loose somewhere. I shall have something to say on this subject in another article. There is a silver lining to every cloud. British Columbians, rejoice and be thankful. The Dominion returns us in subsidies 11.23 per cent. (that is if there is not included in the subsidies a few small Dominion items) that our very own heaven-directed administration may have a finger in the pie.

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H. J. ROBERTSON. Moresby Island, Nov. 11th, 1893.

just so long will British Columbia be deprived of liberal representation. We have three senators, each costing us \$1,557 a year, yet we very rarely hear of them opening their mouths for our province. We have six M. P.'s, each costing us \$1,477, and the only one against slave labor is dead. The person elected in his place declared himself a partisan of the "Moloch." Neither senator nor M. P., though cognizant of mercifully robbed, ever made the matter known.

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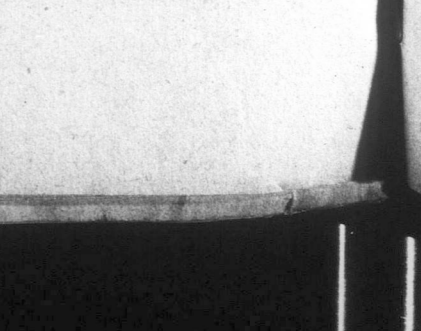
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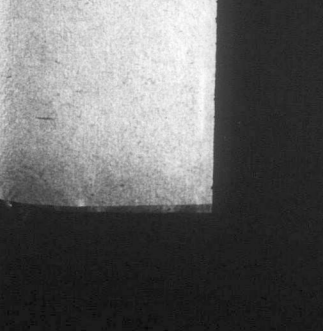
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