

THE HERALD

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1895.

Montreal Gazette.—"Prince Edward Island's case illustrates the rule that wherever and whenever in the Dominion there is a Liberal Government in power, there is an increase in the taxes or the debt or expenditure, or in all of them together. There are no exceptions."

Montreal Gazette.—"Liberal journals were made at what they called the unconstitutional proposal of the Government to dissolve Parliament a year before its time was up. Now they appear to be as much annoyed that Parliament is not to be dissolved. They evidently have a little hope of profit in a session as they had of gain in a dissolution."

Ottawa Journal.—"Prince Edward Island shows a considerable deficit in her financial statement for the past year. So has every province in the Dominion save Ontario. They are all Liberal Governments, too, except one. How much more forcible would be the diatribes of Laurier, Cartwright, McMillen, Davies, Martin, etc., against extravagance at Ottawa if only their provincial allies would show a little economy."

Lord Salisbury spoke at Limehouse, England, the other day, on religious teaching in the schools, and his remarks are somewhat interesting at the present juncture in Canada. According to the London Spectator he held that "the sound system is that under which a man would pay his education rate to the school which he approves, and it is towards that we must gradually advance. The state will not be suffered to act like a Russian censor, and black out any religious opinions of which it does not approve."

The Patriot is not satisfied with our review of the Provincial finances. We hardly imagined it would be, yet we think we were not very far astray in our estimate of the Provincial debt. The editor of the Patriot, being, no doubt, "a financial expert," considers himself qualified to juggle with the records, and draw from them such statements as may best suit his party. If a farmer or a business man contracts, during the course of the year, a number of bills, and at the end of the year, finding himself without money to pay these bills, mortgages his farm or other property, to raise the necessary funds, does he by that means free himself from debt? Is there anyone who will not say the contrary is the fact; that he, not only, does not free himself from debt; but converts a floating into a permanent debt. That is just the position of the Government. They find themselves in debt, and they issue debentures, and raise money in the form of loans, to meet these debts, pledging the credit of the Province for the payment of the money borrowed. If we erred at all, regarding the debt of the Province, it was because we put it at too low a figure. Sufficient has since come to light to warrant that belief. The report of the Public Works Department shows that the amount of \$11,292,100 due on contracts, was carried over to this Budget, and the Premier, in his Budget Speech stated that, up to the last of March, just past, almost \$80,000 had been raised in the form of loans. That makes over fifty thousand dollars more added to the debt of the Province than the Public Accounts for last year show. From this our readers will readily see that our estimate of the Provincial debt was not at all exaggerated.

As will be seen by our report of the proceedings of the Legislature, Premier Peters delivered his budget speech, on Friday evening last. The effort was not one of extraordinary brilliancy, and consisted for the most part, of laudation of the present Government and condemnation of the previous Conservative administrations for their innumerable sins and negligences. He claimed that there was really no deficit last year; that the deficit which did appear in the public accounts was only apparent. For the future, according to the Premier's ideas of things, deficits are to be unknown quantities in the public affairs of this Province so long, at least as the present Liberal Government are permitted to rule. He painted matters in such roseate hues that a stranger listening to him, and knowing nothing of the actual state of affairs, would be led to imagine we had an ideal Government in this Province, and that the people were not groaning under any burdens. He did not tell the House the extent of the permanent debt, which his Government had saddled on the Province; he did not even condescend to state how much that debt was

increased last year in order to bring about the "apparent deficit" in the financial statement. His speech from beginning to end, was a continuous boast of what he and his colleagues in the Government had accomplished, as compared with the "wicked Tories," when they held the reins of power. He claimed particular credit for the reduction in the expenditure for the administration of Justice, last year, this was his own special branch of the public service. After recounting to his own satisfaction what wonderful things had been done by his Government, the Premier proceeded to outline the ways and means by which revenue, sufficient to meet the expenditure of the current year, would be raised. So satisfactory did he find his calculation of revenue, to be derived from different sources, that he exulted in the anticipation of a small surplus at the end of the year. At this point he took occasion to tell the House that Liberal Governments do not want large surpluses. To those having much knowledge of the history of Liberal Governments, either Provincial or Federal, such information was altogether unnecessary. Referring to the surplus, recommended by the Government under the temporary loan act, he told the House that, up to the last of March, just past, nearly \$90,000 had been thus raised. That is important information, as it shows that at least \$50,000 have been added to the debt of the Province since the 31st December last. The Premier estimated that \$300,000 would be received from the Land Office. In order that this would be effected, he admitted that the delinquents would have to be compelled to come forward. From land tax he expects to receive \$32,500; from income tax, \$6,300; from commercial travellers, \$4,200; from succession tax \$700 or \$800. In addition to all those, a very large sum is expected from the seamer Florida. Perhaps so. The total revenue he figured out at \$282,000. But the crowning glory of the financial year, would be the advent of the Grits to power at Ottawa. The Premier expressed himself as most sanguine regarding their prospects in the next Dominion general election. If only they get the Federal Government, he feels satisfied, a large amount of money will be received from them, by the Government of this Province. We are very much afraid the Premier's hopes will be ruthlessly shattered.

Hon. Mr. Gordon, Leader of the Opposition, although at a great disadvantage, being obliged to reply, at once, to the Premier, who had severely criticised the late Government's financial management, but he (Mr. Gordon) showed that for the thirteen years they had been in power, the average annual deficit amounted to only \$7,500. Look at the state of affairs now. We were in debt \$185,000 for debentures; over \$40,000 for loans; \$45,000 had been wrung from the people in taxes. This was what the poor people of this province had to face, in a poor year. Notwithstanding the plausible story told by the Leader of the Government, the people were not satisfied, and this dissatisfaction would break out in a voice of thunder before long. The Premier had brought up the Registry Office once more. In 1893 the Leader of the Government had told the House, he thought that this matter had come to an end, and that everything was lovely in the Registry Office; but it appears it has not been dragged in once more. He pointed out that the Leader of the Government was wrong in his comparison of the amounts paid for education by the respective governments. In 1890 the late Government spent \$113,000 for education. The Leader of the Government, he said, boasted of the correctness of his estimates, but what about the estimated receipts from poll tax? He considered the claim against the steamer Florida a most extraordinary item to put in a capital account. The road machines, he said, had improved the roads where improvements were not wanted; but, in the swamps, where there was the greatest need of improvement, they were of no use. Notwithstanding the Premier's predictions when he assumed power, the era of deficits had not yet ended; the golden age had not yet arrived, and he had not much more confidence in what had been said now by the Premier than when he came into power. \$25,000 was too large a sum to be spent in operating the ferries. Good Government and care and economy in the expenditure of the public money was what he desired. The speech of the Leader of the Opposition, couched in graceful and courteous language, was well received and heartily applauded.

Sessional Notes.

During his speech on the budget, in reply to the Leader of the Government, on Friday evening last, Hon. Mr. Gordon, Leader of the Opposition, showed his keen sense of humor by unearthing a rather amusing passage from the budget speech of Premier Peters in 1891. Mr. Peters was referring to the deficit which, he claimed, had occurred in the year previous to his taking office, and is thus reported in the "Debates" of that year: "I will lay the flattering unction to my soul, and the souls of the members of my Government—if they have any—that we will not be that much astray, at all events." It must be admitted that this adaptation of the words of the immortal dramatist, was by no means "flattering" to the "members of my Government."

When the bill taking the appointment of the Sheriffs out of the hands of the Judges, and relegating it to the Leader of the Government, was before the House, the Leader of the Opposition and his colleagues fought it from stage to stage. When it was reported from committee, and again on the motion for the third reading, the Leader of the Opposition, seconded by Mr. Shaw, moved the "three months hoist." But the only argument used in reply was to vote down the motion and pass the bill. This is the mode of action of what our morning contemporary would call the "Brute Majority."

The other day when the legal points of a bill before the House were under discussion, Mr. McKinnon, junior member of Murray Harbor, undertook to express his view of the matter. But his views did not agree with those of the Premier, and the latter took his follower rather severely to task, as much as telling him he did not know where he spoke. This roused McKinnon's Highland blood and for a moment, it looked as though there might be "wigs" on the floor of the House; but the Premier did not then further provoke his stalwart antagonist, biding his time to whip him into line. "Thus freedom now so seldom waxes,"

In view of the fact, that the Opposition are small in numbers, and the Government have such a large following in the Legislature, one would suppose that, when a member on the Government side addresses the House, no matter how briefly, it would be quite unnecessary to make a great hub-bub over it. Nor is this applause which usually follows a speech from the Government side confined to the members; but it is usually most vehemently participated by the numerous Government officials planted in every corner. Even the coal-heavers taking a leading part. A worthy cause should scarcely need encouragement of that kind.

Bishop McDonald sets out for Rome

After the high Mass in St. Dunstan's Cathedral on Sunday last, His Lordship Bishop McDonald, approached the sanctuary railing and addressed the congregation. He told them of his approaching departure for Rome on his visit ad limina Apostolorum, to lay before the Vicar of Christ, the success of the Prince of Apostles, an account of his stewardship. It would be a pleasure to him, he said, to be able to tell the Pope of the faith and devotion of the Catholics of this diocese. He then referred to the new Cathedral, the success of the people to contribute as generously as possible towards this much needed undertaking. He expressed the hope that about a year from now work would be commenced on the building. The intention was to finish the basement and use it for service till the main building was finished. It was the hope, if possible, to lay the corner stone on the 24th of June, 1897, the four-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the Island. In conclusion he recommended himself to the prayers of his faithful people, during his absence and bestowed upon them his blessing. Since then great numbers have called on His Lordship, at the Palace to bid him good-bye and wish him a safe journey, and he has been the recipient in many ways, of tokens of esteem from his diocesan. On Tuesday he was waited on by Senator McDonald and Thomas Handrahan Esq., who, on behalf of the Cathedral congregation, presented him with a purse of gold, to defray his expenses on the journey. His Lordship was completely taken by surprise, and expressed his heart-felt thanks and gratification for the valuable gift. His Lordship, accompanied by Rev. Dr. Walker of Rollo Bay who accompanies him to Rome, leaves this afternoon for Georgetown, so as to cross to Pictou to-morrow, en route for Halifax whence they sail on Saturday on board the Allan line Steamer Parisian. At Halifax they will be joined by Bishop Sweeney of St. John and Bishop Cameron of Antigonish who are also going to Rome. His Lordship expects to be absent about three months. Bon Voyage.

READ the advertisement of the Steamer "Sunrise" in another column of this day's Herald.

In consequence of His Lordship's absence from the Cathedral on Holy Thursday, he will bless the oils in St. James's Church, Georgetown, early in the morning.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

John F. Muncy, one of Halifax's oldest and most highly respected citizens, died last Thursday, aged 95. It is stated on good authority that no insolvency bill will be introduced during the coming session of the Dominion Parliament.

A bucket shop kept by Philipus Bros., St. John N. B., was raided by the police on Friday last who seized their apparatus. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has made a contract with Spring-bill for a two years' supply of coal for its Atlantic division.

The Dominion Government has been informed that New Zealand is willing to negotiate a trade arrangement with Canada. The schooner Mildred A. Lee, of Gloucester, Mass., with her crew of sixteen, has been given up as lost. The crew were all Nova Scotians and Newfoundlanders.

Henry McKinley, of Albert County N. B., was found dead in a snowbank at Penobscot, on Friday last. Liquor and exposure to the cold were the causes of death.

Oscar Wilde was arrested on Friday last, in London, and taken to Collin Wood street station. When the charge indicated by his testimony in court was read to him, he stood with his hands in his pockets, silent and apparently unconcerned.

This week the organization of the Colonial Iron and Coal Company will take place at St. John N. B. It is stated that English and American capitalists are interested with Mr. Leckie, and that blast furnaces producing one hundred tons of pig iron per day will be in operation in Carleton by this time next year.

The London Chronicle of April 6th, commenting upon the conference between the representatives of Canada and Newfoundland for the admission of Nfld into the Dominion says; the fact that the Canadians persist in their involution when the new term is finally embraced, proves the strength of their desire to create one strong compact nationality from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The big profits of the Alaska company which have carried on the sealing business up there are revealed in a lawsuit now brought by a discontented stockholder. For 20 years the company paid dividends of from 20 to 15 per cent on the capital stock invested. The banner year was 1890, in which there were three dividends, aggregating 115 per cent. One was 50 per cent, or \$2,000,000. Small wonder the sealers don't like to be disturbed.—Boston Herald.

Hon. Mr. Angers, Minister of Agriculture, was at the Association Press despatch from Washington, on the 5th inst., denying that pleuropneumonia existed among cattle in the western States. Mr. Angers said that his information was received from a reliable correspondent in Pueblo, Colorado, that Prof. May, the Veterinarian of Kansas, State Agricultural College, reports that the disease has found footing in Kansas. Eight cattle have died with it, and about fifty head are now suffering from the disease. Mr. Angers said he thought it his duty to call the attention of quarantine officers to this report.

The cyclone of a fortnight ago, which swept diagonally across the middle and the south of England, is said to have done more damage than any previous hurricane in the memory of living men. Some of its destruction is irreparable. All the churches of the diocese of Exeter, the Vicar of Mark Castle, which were almost prehistoric, and had been familiar to tourists and writers for centuries, were blown down. Sandringham and the adjoining estate lost together 5,000 trees; the Marquis of Blandford, who had been the finest in England, and probably in the world, was wholly wiped out. The Peterborough Cathedral lost unique spires, and the newspapers are filled with appeals from country rectors for subscriptions to rebuild ancient churches smashed by the gale.

The Newfoundland delegates arrived in Ottawa on Wednesday last and were cordially received. Sir MacKenzie Bowell and Hon. Mr. Haggart met them and the delegates were formally notified that a sub-committee of the council had been appointed to meet with them to discuss terms of union. The first conference was held on Thursday morning in the Premier's office. It was decided that the meetings should be private and the visitors stipulated that nothing shall be divulged until they had had an opportunity of presenting to their legislature such conclusions as might be arrived at. Sir MacKenzie Bowell, Sir Adolphe Caron, Hon. John Haggart, and Hon. Geo. Foster were present, representing the Dominion. Four delegates, Messrs. Morris, Emerson, and Harwood, were in attendance for Newfoundland. The business transacted was purely of a formal character. Sir MacKenzie Bowell, on the motion of Mr. Bond, appointed president of the conference, and John L. Payne, the Premier's private secretary, was made secretary. The hours for holding the meetings were then arranged. It was decided to meet from 10 a. m. to 12 30 a. m. in the forenoon, and from 5 to 5 1/2 in the afternoon. A statement of the affairs of the colony was then asked for, particularly as regards the financial obligations of Newfoundland. This was presented at a meeting held Friday forenoon.

The solemn offices of Holy Week commence in St. Dunstan's Cathedral at seven o'clock this evening with Te Deum, which will be said at the same hour on Thursday and Friday evenings. The solemn morning services, tomorrow and Friday will begin at 8 o'clock, and on Saturday morning at 7 30. On Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, there will be the devotion of the Way of the Cross.

Provincial Legislature. MONDAY, April 1. House met at 3.30. Hon. Mr. McLean submitted the report of the Commissioner of Public Works on Mr. Peters the Public Schools Report. On motion of Mr. Rogers (Charlottetown) the House went into committee on the bill amending the Seduction Act, with Mr. Forbes in the chair. Mr. Rogers explained that the object of the amendment is to provide that no person against whom a judgment has been recovered under the Seduction Act of 1870, shall be entitled to obtain relief under the provisions of the "Indigent Debtors Act," or the "Act respecting Arrests and Imprisonment for Debt." Hon. Mr. Peters explained the provisions of the Seduction Act as it existed at present, and showed under what circumstances the offence came within the criminal code. He pointed out that if the proposed change was made a person who was fined \$200 could be kept in prison for three years and six months. He thought this was altogether too long a term of imprisonment. He did not think the measure should pass, but he would have no objection on the passing of a section which would provide that the term of imprisonment should not exceed six months. Under the law as it exists no person can "sweat out" who is able to pay. He thought this was altogether too long a term of imprisonment. He did not think the measure should pass, but he would have no objection on the passing of a section which would provide that the term of imprisonment should not exceed six months. Under the law as it exists no person can "sweat out" who is able to pay. He thought this was altogether too long a term of imprisonment. He did not think the measure should pass, but he would have no objection on the passing of a section which would provide that the term of imprisonment should not exceed six months. Under the law as it exists no person can "sweat out" who is able to pay. He thought this was altogether too long a term of imprisonment. 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