THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1888.

OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The second session of the thirtieth General Assembly of this Province was opened at 3 o'clock on Thursday last, the 22nd inst., by His Honor the Honorable Andrew Archibald MacDonald, Lieutenant-Governor of this Island. His Honor's approach was heralded by a salute of fifteen guns fired from Fort Edward by a detatchment from No. 2 Battery, G. A., under command of Captain John. A. Longworth. The Guard of Honor was composed of detachments from the Artillery, Engineers, and the 82nd Battalion, under command of Captain Crockett, and was headed by the brass band of the last named battalion. On his arrival at the Provincial Building, His Honor was received with a military salute by the Guard of Honor. The Council Chamber was filled with ladies and gentlemen who had come to witness the opening ceremonies. His Honor, accompanied by his suite, having entered and taken his seat on the throne, the gentleman usher of the black rod was despatched to summon the members of the House of Assembly. The latter body having come to the bar, His Honor was pleased to read to the members of both Houses the following

SPEECH:

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have convened you, at this time, for the consideration of the affairs of the Province, with full confidence that your labors will be resumed with a spirit devoted to the public service.

You will, I am sure, join with me in the expression of gratitude to Almighty God for the many blessings bestowed on the people of this Province during the past year. The harvest of the season has been abundant; and although our trade has exhibited, to some degree, the effects of a slight depression, I have reason to believe it has received no permanent check, and that the progress of the Province in general prosperity is now well assured.

The General Exhibition of last year will be remembered as one of the most successful hitherto held in this Province, and the County Exhibitions were also creditable. The fine Agricultural and Stock exhibits evidenced the great and increased care, industry and intelligence of our farmers and stock-raisers; while the display of mechanical and manufacturing products were eminently fitted to inspire our people with the fullest confidence in the future of our mechanics and manufacturers. All other departments of the Exhibitions were also characterized by great excellence.

During the recess, Commissioners were appointed by my government to revise and consolidate the Statutes of the Province, and I am glad to be enabled to inform you that they have made considerable progress in the work entrusted to them. In view of the early completion of the labors of the Commissioners, it is not deemed advisable to adopt, during the present session, much new legislation. Your attention will, however, be invited to Bills relating to the Administration of Justice, the office of Sheriff, the law of Replevin and other measures of immediate importance.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The Accounts for the past financial year will be laid before you.

The Estimates of Expenditure for the current year will be submitted to you; and I trust it will be found that they have been prepared with due regard to economy, whilst amply providing for the needs of the Province and for the efficiency of the various departments of the public service.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

Relying upon your patriotism and zeal in the public service, and commending your deliberations to Divine guidance, I leave you to the performance of your important duties.

Our Opposition friends complain that the speech is short. This has always been their complaint. But it is much better that the speech should not foreshadow all the legislation possible of realization than that it should contain numerous promises never to be fulfilled, as was usually the case with the speeches which the Opposition, when in power, put into the hands of the Lieut.-Governor. Besides, at the present day, it is not usual even in the speeches with which the Dominion and Imperial Parliaments are opened, to intimate all the important measures which the Government intend to submit to Parliament. Since confederation the volume of legislation reserved to the Provinces is not extensive, consequently it is not necessary that the speech from the throne should be very lengthy.

THE New York *Times* speaking of the Alaska Boundary question says: "The statement just made by Sir John in the House of Commons at Ottawa that negotiations are proceeding between our Government and the Dominion for settling the Alaska Boundary should be welcome to both countries. It happens that a part of the mining region is just about on the line between Canada and Alaska, and prospectors have taken up claims there. No doubt they are prepared to acknowledge the sovereignty of either country, but meantime in the effort to form communities and execute processes of law perilous conflicts may occur. This frontier question must one day be settled, so that the sooner this is done the better. The joint action indicated by Sir John Macdonald may perhaps take the form of a mixed delimitation commission, at least for the primary surveys and agreements. Should any irreconcilable differences of view be developed, these could be referred to arbitration, as in the San Juan boundary dispute, with a temporary arrangement for avoiding trouble among the miners. But it is not expected that any serious difficulty will occur.

Children Cry for
Pitcher's Castoria.

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Most of the Departmental Reports of the Provincial Government, for the past year, were submitted to the Legislature yesterday afternoon. The Provincial Auditor's Report on the Public Accounts being that in which the general public are most interested, we will make a few remarks concerning it. In the first place, we must say that the clear and satisfactory manner in which the report is presented, reflects much credit on the Auditor.

The total receipts for the year ending the 31st December, 1887, were $241,637.26. These receipts were derived principally from the following sources: Subsidy from Dominion Government, $183,537.20; Public Lands, $45,437.84; Registrar of Deeds, $5,078.92; Prothonotary, $2,079.67; County Courts, $1,910.43; Hospital for Insane, $1,300.97; Fees received by Provincial Secretary, $856.90; Casual Revenue, $117.27. The balance of receipts is made up of small amounts from several other sources, such as private bills, licences to peddlers, fines and penalties, etc. In connection with these receipts it will be necessary to bear in mind that of the twenty thousand dollars added last year to the annual subsidy from the Dominion Government, only ten thousand were received during the year. As the subsidy is paid semi-annually on the first of January and the first of July, we could not receive it for the first half of the year, as it had not then been voted.

In his budget speech last year, Mr. Sullivan's estimates of receipts from the sources which we have just enumerated, were extremely accurate. He considered that about $48,000 would be received from the Land Office. The amount received did not quite come up to that, but was only something over $2,000 less. He estimated that $850 would be received as fees by the Provincial Secretary, and the actual receipts from that source amount to $857. $1,900 was the estimate he made of the receipts from the Prothonotary's Office, while the amount received from that office is nearly two hundred dollars more than that sum, being almost $2,100. From the Registry Office $5,300 were expected, and nearly $5,100 have been received. The County Courts have yielded receips amounting to almost $2,000, being the sum estimated. From the Hospital for Insane the receipts were set down at $1,200, and upwards of $1,300 have been received. It will thus be seen that so far as the principal sources of revenue are concerned, Mr. Sullivan's estimates were almost absolutely correct.

The total expenditure for the year was $287,700.17 This includes $7,000 paid the Chairman of the City Board of Health in full for expenses incurred for the suppression of the Small Pox epidemic, and nearly $8,000 for the new Court House in Georgetown. These are certainly extraordinary items of expenditure, such as the Government are not likely to be called upon to pay again. The largest items of expenditure were: For Education, $110,484.54; Public Works, $82,589.06; Administration of Justice, $19,680.76; Hospital for Insane, $16,676.60; Legislation, $13,295.59; Boards of Health, $7,060.00. Other expenditures amounted to $35,481.27.

Of the amount expended by the Public Works Department, $19,956,58 were spent on bridges, and $22,646,52 on roads. $10,069,94 were spent on public buildings, and $7,160,06 on ferries. It will thus readily be seen that the public money has been spent for the best interests of the people, and none of it has been recklessly squandered. Surely no one will undertake to say that the people are not reaping the full benefit of the $60,000 spent during the year on public buildings, bridges, roads and ferries. The amount spent for education alone during the year, is about $55,000 more than the Davies Government paid during the last year they were in power. The Administration are deserving of all praise for having kept the revenue and expenditure nearly equal, considering that the people have not been taxed, and that every move for the people's benefit has been most strenously opposed by the members of the Opposition.

The opponents of the Government say that the Province is in debt. They forget to tell the public that when the present Government came into power they found the Province very considerably in debt, notwithstanding the fact that their predecessors had wrung about $40,000 annually from the people in the shape of taxes. The amount saved to the people of this Province by reduction of expenditure and exemption from taxation would, at the present time, were things permitted to go on as the Davies Government were conducting the business of the country, amount to upwards of $900,000. If, therefore, there is not a surplus in the Treasury, the country is better off by nearly a million dollars.

If the people of this Island will compare our financial condition with that of the neighboring Provinces, they must conclude that we are in an enviable position compared with our neighbors. This is the only Province in which the people are not taxed. Indeed, it does not appear that there is another country in the world where people do not have to pay taxes, except here. Both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, where taxes are very high, have public debts of over a million dollars each.

In consideration of these facts, it appears to us that our Government are deserving of the highest praise for the manner in which they have guarded the public interests and expended the people's money. Of the ways and means to be adopted to raise the necessary revenue for the current year, we, of course, at present know nothing; but we may be sure that the same prudence and economy which has in past years marked the conduct of the Administration, will be exercised in the management of the finances of the Province.

CANADA'S WORST ENEMIES.

THE discussion of the unrestricted reciprocity resolution introduced into the House of Commons at Ottawa by the Opposition, has afforded Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. Davies and other Grit pessimists, a rare opportunity for exhibiting their inconsistency and the rottenness of their trade docurines. Not only this, but the occasion has been taken advantage of by these blue ruin devotees for indulging in their wonted jeremiads relative to their own country, and for making a grand effort to place Canada in a false light before the world. Indeed, one is almost convinced that these gentlemen are holding briefs from Canada's enemies in the United States.

The amount collected during the past fiscal year for duty on goods imported into the Dominion from the United States, was upwards of seven million dollars, and during the same period over nine millions were collected from duties on English imports. The result of removing the tariff from United States imports by unrestricted reciprocity, would be a loss to the revenue of the Dominion, not only of the amount collected as duty on imports from the United States, but also of import duties on British goods, for it is altogether likely that, with the United States having full liberty to place their goods on our markets free of all duty, importations from the old country would be reduced to a mere trifle. The consequence then would be that all these millions of revenue would have to be raised by means of direct taxation,

During the five years the McKenzie Government were in power, with a seventeen and a half per cent tariff, the imports from the United States increased something like a million dollars, while the English importations fell off to the extent of over thirty millions. That being the case under a revenue tariff, what would be the consequence if all tariff restrictions were removed?

Much of the goods now imported into this country is raw material, but with unrestricted reciprocity the manufactured goods would be sent here instead; our manufactories would be stopped and our artizans thrown out of employment. The people of the United States are watching the movements of the Canadian people relative to the trade question, and while anxious to have the right to flood our markets with their goods, are quite unwilling to advance any proposition looking towards a mutually advantageous arrangement of the subject. They would be most happy were they only satisfied that Canada would be obliged to humble herself and accept their terms, and in the course pursued by the Grits they find great hopes for the accomplishment of their scheme. A number of United States papers taking their cue from Sir Richard Cartwright, are now in high spirits. They declare that Canada is on the eve of bankruptcy, and it is only a qestion of time till she will be obliged to accecpt any terms relative to trade which the United States may propose, and once entered into Commercial Union with the neighboring Republic, political union would be inevitable. The following extract from the Boston *Advertiser* is a fair sample of the speculations indulged in by our neighbors across the border, on this subject:

"The members of the opposition party in Canada have come out without reservation in favor of free trade between Canada and the United States. Sir Richard Cartwright, who is the recognized leader of the minority in Parliament, has made a set speech in which he has declared expressly, with the unanimous approval of his party, in favor of a commercial union with the United States. He goes to the extent of saying that if it is necessary in order to accomplish this result, Canada must adopt the tariff which the United States imposes upon English goods or shut out English manufactures from Canadian markets in preference to allowing the existing condition of things to go on, which impoverishes Canada and makes it a political tributary of Great Britain, while it should naturally be a commercial ally of the United States. The Montreal *Herald*, the leading Liberal paper in that city, declares in favor of breaking down all tariff barriers along our border, and defiantly declares its independence of the complaints of British manufacturers. * * As Sir Richard Cartwright pointed out, *the right to enter our markets free is the only commercial privilege which can make Canada prosperous* and without it she can never be so. The same fact the Legislatures of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and New Brunswick have declared, and have only been kept silent for the last two or three years by the promises on the part of Sir John Macdonald's Government that the outcome of the fishery agitation would be a Reciprocity Treaty between this country and Canada. Now that it is determined that this cannot be the outcome, it is only necessary to wait for the next elections to be held in those Provinces to hear the loud demand for steps to be taken to throw American markets open to Canadian fish, Canadian lumber and Canadian coal.

Senator Frye, who has given this subject more careful study than any other member of our Congress, has expressed it as his opinion that *it is simply a question of time when at least the Maritime Provinces of Canada will be* FORCED *to ally themselves to the United States on whatever basis they can obtain*, with this provision of a free market thrown in. He believes *Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, at least, will be* FORCED *by the necessities of the case to demand of Great Britain a peaceful separation from Canada* on conditions that they may be annexed to this country. It may be that this result may not happen directly, but the whole tendency of public discussion in those provinces looks in that direction, and while *it would be a severe blow at English imperial pride to give up these provinces to this country*, and to sacrifice the splendid harbor of Halifax, which for more than a century has been the headquarters of the British naval force in this hemisphere, yet WE BELIEVE THAT THE NECESSITIES OF THE CASE ARE SO GREAT THAT A LARGE PARTY IN CANADA PREFERS FREE TRADE WITH US TO ANY CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL PRIDE.

It will then become a serious problem for our statesmen to consider on what basis reciprocity with Canada can be entertained. So long as we maintain our present tariff, the first preliminary must undoubtedly be the same tariff for impotrs into Canada as we raise on our own borders, thus throwing Canadian markets open to our manufactures, we in turn buying at will all the products of Canada in the form of grains, potatoes, fish and coal. *It is easily seen that it would be impossible to maintain a political union with Great Britain under these circumstances and a commercial unity with this country.* * *

The unrest in Canada on these lines is sufficient reason for the anxiety which England has shown to bring out of this fishery dispute some method of opening our markets to Canadian productions. It also explains why England countenanced the unjustifiable conduct of Canadian cruisers to our fishermen. But as the United States has refused to be forced out of its proper policy thus far, the two countries are brought face to face with the more interesting problem of what step Canada will next take to meet her increasing debts, the growing discontent of her people and the unavailing statesmanship of her leaders, bringing into striking prominence the dependence of Canada upon closer relations with us for her future prosperity."

Could anything more clearly demonstrate that Sir Richard and his friends are doing their best to injure their own country and advance the interests of the United States. What patriotic (?) men those Grits are.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

ACCORDING to a statement published by the Cape Ann *Advertiser*, no fewer than ninety-eight lives were lost, by means of the straying and upsetting of dories in connection with American fishing vessels, during the last five years. Of this number a great many were from the Maritime Provinces, and not a few from this Island.

THE schooner *Sapphire*, Captain Petit, recently cleared from Victoria, B. C., for the Behring Sea sealing grounds with a hunting crew of sixty Indians. These same Inidans suffered severely last year through the seizures of the American cutters, and they say they will kill anyone of the officials who will cross the rail of their vessel while sealing on the high seas.

MR. L. H. DAVIES is trying hard to get out of the corner into which Hon. Mr. Foster put him, during the discussion of the unrestricted reciprocity resolution before the House of Commons. But the more he tries to explain the worse does he make his case. He has given his hearty support to Sir Richard Cartwright's unrestricted reciprocity resolution, but only a few months ago he declared before the Charlottetown Board of Trade, that such a trade basis was most ridiculous, and the people of the United States would not be such "arrant fools" as to accept it. No matter how much he wriggles, he cannot explain away his inconsistency on this question.

AH SIN, a Chinaman living in Indianapolis, Ind., finds himself just now, in a rather peculiar dilemma. It appears that he left China a few years ago without permission, and the other day he received information from his native land that his father had died and left him a fortune of something like $20,000. He cannot return to China to claim his estate without subjecting himself to imprisonment, unless he is an American citizen. He has consequently applied for naturalization papers, but has been informed that, according to the Act of Congress of 1881, a Chinaman cannot become a citizen of the United States. The poor Chinaman will, therefore, either have to abandon his fortune or suffer imprisonment.

THE estimates of expenditure for the current year were submitted to the House of Assembly yesterday afternoon; they are as follows:—Administration of Justice, $21,157; Corones' Inquests, $100; Executive Council, $500; Elections, $700; Education, $109,530; Exhibitions, $2,200; Hospital for Insane, $17,000; Inspectors of Licenses, $600; Legislation, $12,800; Legislative Library, $500; Lieutenant Governors office, $25, Miscellaneous, $3,200; Poor House, $4000; Paupers, $3600; Postage, $400; Provincial Secretary, Treasurer and Commissioner of Public Lands, $5,905 22; Provincial Auditor, $1,400 Public Works, expenses of department, $3,990; Public Ferries, $4,450; Public Works, right of way and new roads, $2,000; Public Works, public buildings, $3,950; Docks and ferry slips, $3,000; Bridges, $20,000; Roads, culverts and small bridges, $17,000; Salaries and commissions of supervisors, $3,000; Rushing ice, $450; Miscellaneous and unforseen, $1,000; Packets, $2,950; Coast and river steam service, $350; Steamers, *Elpis* and *Southport*, repairs, etc., $2,000; Printing and Stationery, $300; Provincial Buildings, 1,700; Registrar of Deeds, $3,900. Total, $253,242,22.

This is what the Toronto *Empire* of the 20th has to say regarding unrestricted reciprocity: "Mr. L. H. Davies is finding it difficult to show that he is not about to vote for a commercial policy which not long since he declared "impracticable." Correcting a statement of the Minister of Marine, he admitted that what he said in a speech before the Charlottetown Board of Trade was this: "If Canada had one tariff and the United States another, the importations for the country would come in at the ports having the lower tariff. Therefore unrestricted reciprocity was impracticable." Now that Mr. Davies in the Commons declares unrestricted reciprocity practicable, it is a fair inference that he looks to the tariffs of the two countries being equalized under the scheme he is supporting. That this is really the Opposition scheme, first promulgated by Mr. Wiman and recently adopted by Mr. Hitt, whose bill is now before Congress, is shown by Hon. Mr. Jones' remark in yesterday's debate when he said that "Mr. Wiman's ideas are in accord with the policy announced in this House at the opening of the debate." That is to say, that Sir Richard Cartwright's resolution, which the Opposition have adopted as their policy, is really Mr. Wiman's and that unrestricted reciprocity, as Mr. Goldwin Smith confessed, is only another name for Commercial Union tariff-making power transferred to Washington. What Commercial Union really means, what the Opposition *know* it means, is clearly shown by Sir Richard Cartwright's statement at Ingersol, which Mr. McNeill recalled yesterday, namely, that "Commercial Union would strengthen the hands of those who wished to see our political system absorbed into that of the United States." Of the truth of Sir Richard's admission there can be no question. Under all the circumstances, the debate which the Grit leaders have precipitated is most fortunate for the country. It is showing exactly where the Grit leaders are going and where they would like Canadian Liberals to follow them.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

The debate on the Cartwright resolutions was continued in the House of Commons on the 19th by Mr. McNeill (Conservative.) He quoted Cartwright's admission that the Americans had abrogated the old reciprocity treaty for the purpose of punishing the Canadian provinces for alleged sympathy with the South in the war of rebellion, and said it was also for the express purpose of coercing Canada into annexation. It had been acknowledged by Mr. Wiman, the great apostle of this movement, that many Americans favored the abrogation of the former treaty, as he said "to force Canadians to sue for political alliance, but that it had an effect entirely contrary to that which had been expected." (Cheers.) Nevertheless, the Opposition members had encouraged the Americans into this belief. They are desirous of educating the people up to annexation.

[A voice—"It's not so."]

Mr. McNeill—An hon. gentleman says "not so." Why then did Cartwright, in moving the resolution, state that Great Britain stands friendless, alone and unable to help Canada in time of trouble, and that the people of Canada are under no obligation to Great Baltain? Why did he tell the House that it would be better for Canadians to throw in their lot with the United States? (Cheers.) Was that not educating the people of Canada up to annexation? (Cheers.) Mr. Charlton (Opposition), also had drawn a pleasing picture of Canada united to the States, and had stated that it did not make much difference on which side of the line they might live. Mr. Lavergne (Opposition) also had drawn a picture of London on one side of the Atlantic and Washington on the other, and thought the latter might be a more convenient capital for Canada. The speeches of the Opposition had shown that they were weighted down with the consciousness that they ran great danger of annexation. At Ingersoll, in October last, Sir Richard had uttered these ominous words: "There is no doubt whatever in my mind that we cannot overlook the risk that the increase of commercial intercourse with the States may strengthen the hands of those who desire to see our political system absorbed in theirs."

Mr. Jones, of Halifax, followed for nearly an hour, till the Speaker left the chair at six, and then resumed at eight. Jones said he felt considerable delicacy in approaching the question. (Government members, "Hear, hear.") Hitherto the question was an abstract one, and never deliberately considered. They had been met by a cry of disloyalty to the old country, but when sentiment stood between his duty to Canadian interests, he would consider Canada first. That has been the policy of hon. gentlemen of the Opposition.

Sir John—It is our policy now to consider Canada first.

Jones—This measure is largely in the interests of Canada, and largely in the interests of the United States as well. They demanded either reciprocity or repeal.

Cries—Oh! Oh! It is dead as a door nail! Dead and buried! etc.

Jones—We are not in a position to go to the country.

Cries—Hear! Hear!

Jones—I mean we are not in a position to dissolve the House; but we challenge them to go on that issue.

Cries—We have just been there.

Jones—The market of the United States is also the only market we can look forward to to develop our fishing industry. In closing he moved an amendment to the amendment, that all words after "that" be struck out of the original resolution, and the following added:

"That in any arrangement between Canada and the United States providing for free admission into each country of the natural and manufactured products of the other, it is highly desirable that it should be provided that during the continuance of any such arrangement the coasting trade of Canada and the United States should be thrown open to vessels of both countries on a footing of complete equality, and that vessels of all kinds built in the United States or Canada may be owned and sold by citizens of either and be entitled to registry in either country and all benefits thereto pertaining."

C. H. Tupper arose to reply at 9.30 o'clock. He quoted from the Toronto *Globe* in discussing the zollverein, in which that journal had deprecated the opening up of unrestricted trade with that country on the ground that only a small portion of their market would be available to Canada, while the English markets were far more important to Canada. Now they had made an entirely new departure in adopting this scheme. Jones had said that if the scheme contemplated direct taxation he would not agree to it, yet he had before him Cartwright's argument to show that direct taxation would be beneficial, and Charlton's statements that direct taxation would be necessary to make up the deficit in the revenue. In the face of this Jones had stated that he would not favor the scheme if direct taxation were involved. Unrestricted reciprocity had also been advocated as a way of relief from combines. Various American combines were discussed at length, and it was clearly shown that this scheme would but admit scores of more powerful combines than now hold sway in Canada. But the scheme was impracticable as well, and was merely raised as a pretext to gain political support. Hon. gentlemen opposite were informed that the British and Canadian commissioners were authorized to settle all difficulties on a trade basis. They had brought the report of the Imperial government containing this authorization to the attention of the houses. The British and Canadian commissioners had made proposals to settle on a trade basis. Tupper then read from the proposals offering to settle the disputes on trade basis.

Laurier—But there are previous proposals which are not brought down.

Tupper—Does the hon. gentlemen insinuate that the government have been guilty of a dishonest and cowardly act in suppressing documents in reference to trade?

J. S. D. Thompson, turning to Tupper—Wait till he answers that question.

Laurier—The proposal brought down refers to a previous proposal which was not brought down.

Thompson—The hon. gentleman has been told time and time again that all the proposals made by the commission in reference to that were now on the table. He was told that Sir Charles Tupper would ask permission of Sir Lionel West and Mr. Bayard to bring down all these trade proposals. They have been brought down. It is disingenuous to contend that a proposal not brought down contained a reference to trade.

C. H. Tupper then proceeded to show that the Canadian and British commissioners had made unconditional trade proposals to the United States, which they had categorically refused to consider. But, say members opposite, that government cannot consistently oppose this resolution after making that proposal at Washington, but the fact was that they had received a point blank denial to their proposal to open up any measure of increased commercial reciprocity. Cartwright's statement that Nova Scotia had been purchased by bribes of public works was then alluded to. Tupper showed that in 1878 Cartwright himself, in Halifax, had asked support on the plea that the Mackenzie government had expended a million and a half per year more on public works than the previous Macdonald government. Jones at the same time had amplified the statement and canvassed support on the ground that the grit government had expended six millions during the time the previous Conservative government had expended three millions on public works. He also read Jones' canvass last election, promising an extension of the railway to Wood's wharf, Halifax. Cartwright had said that these grants of public works could be cut off with advantage to the welfare of the people, not only in this world but also in the world to come. After quoting Jones' amusing reference to Thompson in 1878, as Baron Statistics, and amusing the house with several good stories at the expense of the opposition, the speaker closed at midnight by telling then that, "They might fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time, but they cannot fool the majority of the people all of the time." The speech was delivered in capital style and completely carried the house.

On the 20th Mr. Rinfret, (Grit) spoke in French. Mr. Gigault followed in opposition to the resolution. After one or two other speakers Wood, of Westmoreland, made one of the most excellent speeches of the session. In clear and logical arguments he revealed the many fallacies underlying the arguments of the Opposition, and contended that the scheme in its present form would never be accepted by the United States, as it would divert American importations through Canadian channels; Nor could Canada accept the scheme of a customs union, which would divert Canadian trade to American cities, destroy the identity of Canadian industry and commerce, and inevitably lead to separation from Great Britain.

On the 21st, Mr. Welsh of Prince Edward Island engaged in a most unique and erratic discussion of every phase of every question under the sun, including the matrimonial relations of some members of the House.

After recess the discussson was resumed by Mr. Cockburn of Toronto, who had spent a long time at Washington while the recent commission was sitting. He declared that he had yet to meet an American Congressman who favored the scheme of unrestricted reciprocity or a scheme of customs union unless political union were made a prerequisite. It was utterly farcial to discuss the question except with that understanding, while if they were to believe the statements of the Opposition that Canada had lost five hundred millions on railways and was as heavyil mortgaged as the Opposition fallaciously alleged, the United States would never heed our prayers, though, like Lazarus, we waited for the crumbs which might fall from their tables. He proceededed to show that the United States could never become a Canadian market in the sense of commercial exchange, and that instead of expanding the profitable commerce of Canadian cities would be contracted. At the present time New York absorbs seventy-five per cent. of the entire emport trade of the United States, but Wiman and his New York confreres were equally anxious to absorb the trade of Canada to advance the mercantile interests of Statan Island and vicinity, and this scheme was a deliberate attempt organized for the express purpose. The importance of the British market for Canada was discussed at length and an excellent point scored in showing that under the national policy the mode of importing and the quality of the goods imported had entirely changed, for what was formerly imported in manufactured products is now largely imported in a crude state, the difference in cost going into the pockets of Canadian artizans. This was the policy under which the United States had, according to Cartwright, grown rich and prosperous, and the only policy under which Canada could develope a vigorous nationality.

Speeches were made on the 22nd by Mr. Baird of King's, N. B., Mr. Ellis of St. John, and alsa by Mr. Skinner of St. John, who although elected as an Opposition member, did not like to hear sentiments or expressions that Canada ought to consider her own interests whetner Great Britain liked it or not. If we secured free trade with the States, it could only be obtained by a treaty made through England, and in seeking such treaty we should go not only hand in hand, but shoulder to shoulder with the mother country. We should first ascertain her desire in this matter. In place of turning our attention solely to expanding our trade with the United States, we should now also to cultivate trade with the West Indies, Brazil, and the Argentine Republic. As a Canadian and a British Subject, he hoped yet to see every foot of British soil in America under Canadian confederation. He was in favor of reciprocity with the States, even more extended than in raw products only, but he was not in favor of cringing to that country nor in decrying our own Dominion. He emphatically denied the statement that the Maritime Provinces are in distress. They are as prosperous as any other part of the Dominion, and their fishery product is as valuable as the wheat product of Ontario. By the development of manufactures, St. John had been able to stand up against the loss of shipbuilding industry and the ravages of fire. No substantial vote could be obtained in the Province of New Brunswick against going out of the union. The people believed that all their grievances could be redressed without sacrificing the integrity of the Dominion. He would therefore favor reciprocity when it can be obtained in accord with the interests and dignity of Canada, even if it did to a certain extent infringe upon the national policy. He could not support Mr. Foster's amendment, which, if adopted, would seem to prevent infringement upon that policy. He also gave the House to understand that he was not in sympathy with the real import of Cartwright's resolution. Mr. Skinner will probably not vote at all. To the end his speech was vigorously applauded from the Government benches, while his forcible statements seemed to carry consternation into the ranks of the Opposition, who at the close looked utterly disheartened.

Mr. Kenny, of Halifax, spoke on the 23rd and made one of the most practical speeches of the session. In discussing the benefits which were to be derived from any such scheme at the present time, he said the balance of trade in favor of the United States was eight millions, and asked could Canada secure a better balance sheet under the new scheme. We at present export sixty-seven million dollars worth of goods to the United States, of which eleven millions are already on the American free list and the proposed American readjustment under the measure now before Cangress would place nine millions more on the free list, leaving sixteen millions of their imports from Canada on which Americans would still levy duties. Now, taking these classes of goods remaining dutiable, the United States purchases from Canada within $1,600,000, of the aggregate demand for those articles, so that if unrestricted reciprocity be obtained and Canada secure entire control of the American importations of these products, her export trade would only increase by $1,600,000. All other increase of trade would simply consist of exchange between border districts of the two countries which would not materially increase the wealth of either country. In other words, unrestricted reciprocity merely signified a net increase of less than two millions in Canada's export trade. (Cheers.) What would Canada lose? First, seven millions of revenue to be made up by direct taxation, but while Canada imports eight dollars per head from Great Britain the United States imports only two dollars per head. Under unrestricted reciprocity Canada would import no more per head from Great Britain than the United States does at present. This would mean an annual loss of seven millions of the customs or an aggregate loss of fourteen millions, to be made up by direct taxation. Mr. Kenney then dealt at length with the fishery, coal and farming interests, showing that the United States was not the chief market for Nova Scotia's products and that under the scheme proposed the advantages obtained would not compensate for the very obvious disadvantages. He spoke from 3.30 to 6 o'clock.

LOCAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

THE Prince Edward Island Railway advertises cheap fares for Easter tide. See ad.

L. E. PROWSE's is the place to go for bargains in clothing and hats. His advertisement will be found in another column.

MARK WRIGHT & Co. are better than ever prepared to suit the public in all kinds of furniture. Read their advertisement and be convinced.

DR. F. D. KELLY has opened an office on Upper Queen Street, a few doors from the Apothecaries Hall. His card will be found in this day's HERALD.

THE catching of smelts anywhere in the Dominion is prohibited in a recent order-in-council, from 1st day of April to 1st of July in each year, both days inclusive.

THE sale of the dappled-grey Barrister colt "Lawyer" is something those wishing to purchase a first-class horse should not loose sight of. See the advertisement in another column.

A TERRIBLE TORNADO took place in Minneacah, Kansas, on Saturday last, destroying almost the whole town, only three houses being left standing. Among the buildings torn down were two churches. Several persons were killed.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN HERALD is acknowledged to be the **Best Paper** published in the Province.

Telegraphic News.

OPORTO, Portugal, March 22.—While a performance was in progress at the Baquet Theatre on the 20th inst., an explosion of gas occurred. The theatre took fire and was destroyed. The house was full of spectators and a number of lives were lost. Eighty bodies have been taken from the ruins. Those most burned were in the third tier boxes and galleries, where whole families were suffocated. There was a terrible struggle at the doors when the spectators tried to escape, a large number being suffocated or trampled on. Many on reaching the street were so seriously injured that they vomited blood. Nearly all the victims were spectators. Many in the theatre, finding themselves unable to reach the doors, jumped from the windows. Some corpses were found in stage boxes. The gas was extinguished shortly after the fire broke out, thus adding to the confusion. The bodies of sixty-six victims of the theatre-fire were exposed for identification yesterday. Many heart-rending scenes were witnessed beside the bodies. There were also fifty-three heaps of unrecognizable remains. Several projects have been organized for the relief of the families of the poor victims.

CHAVENHURST, Ont., March 22.—A special freight train going south and a snow-plough coming north on the northern railway collided nine miles from here this afternoon. Five men on the plough were killed and six others were seriously injured. All the freight hands escaped.

FREDERICTON, March 22.—Passengers by the train which arrived tonight from St. John bring news of a drowning accident to-day, a short distance below Fredericton Junction. It is known that two men were drowned and that a third narrowly escaped with his life. Particulars are very meagre. It is stated that a party of three men, two of them being brothers named Alcorn, were returning from the woods on a sled; that at Blissville the horses got beyond their depth in a flooded piece of meadow and were drowned. The men tried to save themselves but the two brothers were unsuccessful and sank for the last time just as help was within a few feet of them. The freshet is within four feet of the height of last spring, and people living in the vicinity are in dread of witnessing another such disaster as last year. Five highway bridges between Fredericton Junction and Enniskillen were swept away by the floods.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., March 22.—A terrible wind storm occurred at Calhoun last night. It demolished the Methodist and Baptist Churches and several houses. It unroofed every house in town. Numbers of cattle were killed. Four or five persons were wounded. The storm in the vicinity of Calhoun pursued a northerly direction through North Georgia, into and beyond East Tennessee, bound across to Chilhowee mountains. It was next heard from at London Town, on the East Tennessee road, eighty miles northeast of Chattanooga, travelling from Calhoun to London Town, 100 miles in 30 minutes. The path of the tornado from Calhoun to London was through a section remote from railroads and telegraph lines. The damage cannot be known for some days, but must have been fearful.

GRAVENHURST, Ont., March 23.—The coroner's jury to-day returned a verdict finding Engineer Foster and Conductor Glasford, of the snow plough, responsible for yesterday's fatal collision, and both men have been arrested. The jury also censured the railway company for their imperfect signal system.

DUBLIN, March 23.—The sentences of P. O'Brien and Mr. Hayden to three months' imprisonment, and Mr. Byrne to four months' imprisonment, under the Crimes Act, were confirmed upon appeal at Athlone to-day.

The Orangemen of the south division of Tyrone are agitating against T. W. Russell (Liberal-Unionist), member of parliament for that district, because of his support of Parnell's arrears bill.

Lord Guillamare has offered to sell his holdings in County Limerick to the tenantry for twelve years purchase.

BERLIN, March 23.—A decree authorizing the Crown Prince William to represent the Emperor in the transaction of official business, in the event of the Emperor's being unable to act for himself, will shortly be issued and proclaimed throughout the Empire.

NEW YORK, March 23.—William Henry Trescot, a well-known diplomat, contributes to the *Herald* a long letter to the effect that the fishery treaty is a surrender of the privileges and a concession of Canada's claims. He thinks that valuable rights under the treaty of 1830 have been lost, and only trivial points gained.

OTTAWA, March 24.—Mr. McShane, Commissioner of Public Works for Quebec, has resigned his seat in the Provincial Cabinet. He felt called upon to take this step, pending the result of the proceedings taken in Court to disqualify him.

SMITHVILLE, Ont., March 24.—Great excitement has been raised in this locality by the discovery of coal equal to the best Lehigh on the land of Israel Wilcox. A twelve-foot shaft will be immediately put down. The thickness of the seam is not known, as they have not drilled through it yet.

DUBLIN, March 25.—Wm. O'Brien addressed Ponsonby's tenants at Youghal early this morning, and afterwards attempted to hold a proclaimed meeting. He mounted a car with the intention of addressing the people, but was seized by a policeman and dragged to the ground. The police then charged the crowd with drawn batons, and a serious melee ensued. A number on both sides were wounded. It is alleged that several policemen were stabbed. Magistrate Plunkett was thrown down, beaten and received a cut on his head. O'Brien escaped to a private house, and subsequently harangued a crowd in a stable. The police and soldiers are parading the streets.

OTTAWA, March 25.—Judge Lyon, of Carleton County Court, died this morning.

Gold has been discovered in the Nippising district, in the township Cartier. An assay gives $800 to the ton. The mine is within a mile of the C. P. R. track.

A MOST heart-rending occurrence took place near Bathurst, N. B., on Sunday last. A Mrs. Bertin, living in that vicinity, left her house to attend Divine Service at 10 o'clock, a. m., leaving in the house three children, two girls and a boy. When the people were returning from church they saw that Mrs. Bertin's house was burned almost to the ground. Hurrying to the scene, the oldest girl, about thirteen years, was found in the doorway burning to death. After several attempts she was extricated from her awful position, but so badly burned that that she died three hours afterwards. The charred remains of the other girl were found after the building was burned down. The boy had left the house some time before the fire to go to a neighbor's, and says his sister was lighting the fire in the stove when he left. No clue to the origin of the fire has been ascertained.

THE bark *Moselle*, owned by Peake Bros. & Co., sails from Boston for this port about the 10th of April. See the ad.