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TORONTO, FRIDAY, JAN. 14, 1881. THE COURSE OF THE RAILWAY DISCUSSION.

Ir seems to be the aim of the Opposition speakers in the House to waste as much time as possible without throwing the alightest fresh light upon the subject. very day some fluent member of the hand monopolizes the major part of the sitting, to no earthly purpose that an nlooker can perceive, except the hardly unavowed purpose of delay. On Wednesday Mr. MILLS was telling Parliament and he country all about Lord MELBOURNE, Sir Robert Peel, and Mr. Dishaeli, and on Friday Mr. CHARLTON was emphasizing his own inconsistency. To-day some other long-winded orator on that side will be exhausting public patience to an equal extent. Now what is the use of this waste of time ? We defy the bitterest enemy of the Government to defend it on the score of public utility. The cry for petitions and meetings is altogether vain, because the agitation, having an artificial basis, is dead already. The House met on Tuesday, and not a single petition was submitted until Friday, when a few made their appearance signed by three or four hundred people. The country has heard all it wants to hear upon the subject; its mind is made up, and it refuses ject; its mind is made up, and it refuses to be aroused to indignation at the bidding of the Opposition. Why not then at once spare the time and expense involved in the obstruction plan, and come to a decision within some reasonable period? No one

party in turn, to construct the Paoific alway in its entirety through Canadian serricary. It will not do to get out of the sonstruction of the prairie section to General Hewson or anybody clas, to General Hewson or anybody cla ach party in turn, to construct the Pacific allway in its entirety through Canadian erritory. It will not do to get out of the

than has been made by any former Ministry, Retorm or Conservative; what more do the partisans want? If they were in earnest, as they protest they are, in their resolution to stand by the enterprise, why suggest an alternative scheme involving the postponement of the work for an indefinite time? Men who are bent upon fulfilling their promises do not usually amuse themselves with temporary substitutes for the engagements to which they stand pledged. In private life, he who thus strove to patter with his word would be at once compelled to take his proper position as adefaulter. In national matters the Turkish method is equally a bad one, dishonest and disingenuous both.

The criticisms passed upon the agreement are as captious as criticisms can be. The exemption of the lands from taxation was a necessary condition precedent to the disposal of the board. The exemption of the lands from taxation was a necessary condition precedent to the disposal of the bends. Mr. Charles did make one new point for which he should have been gredited. He fears that the syndicate will construct "buffalo parks" on their mile aquare allotments; pray what could not any company have done under Mr. Mackenzie's grants of twenty square mile blocks? Opposition pleaders find it convenient to ignore the fact that opposite every land section conceded to the syndicate, and on each side of it, there will be a Government section of equal size. How, under these circumstances, can there be a monopoly? The cry against the exemption on material has been exploded since the Government announced the facts—first, that ernment announced the facts—first, that there is no duty on steel rails; and secondly, that the Canadian iron-masters would be protected by a rebate of import duty. One by one the objections have vanished, and the Opposition shifts its ground accordingly. The parliamentary speechifiers repeat the old inventions, because they have nothing better to say, and must say something. Yet, after all, what purpose is served by going ever the well-worn ground ad houseans. ernment announced the facts first, that

worn ground ad nauseam !

THE POLITICS OF THE FUTURE. No one who studies the politics of the country as a continuing force can fail to observe that the future of the Opposition to the present Government is exceedingly dark. Even supposing it should happen that the public interests required a strong opposition to the Government of Sir John MACDONALD, or of his successor, it is manifestly impossible that such an opposition could come from the Grit party, whether led by Mr. BLAKE or by Mr. MACKENZIE. With every advantage which they seemed to demand in their favour, and after having made all possible efforts as an Opposition, Mr. BLAKE's party have come defeated out of every serious contest. Two great questions have now been exhausted. we think, as means of hostility to the present Government. The National Policy

has failed in only one particular-it has failed to support the Opposition by a single dangerous development. In the National Policy they can find no hope of future agitation. The future is on the side of the tariff. The Pacific rallway question must ject; but the result of the discussions in Parliament, in the press, and in the duel between Sir CHARLES TUPPER and Mr.

of the Opposition. Why not then at once spare the time and expense involved in the obstruction plan, and come to a decision within some reasonable period? No one desires either to force or restrain discussion so long as any profit cas he reaped from it; but where is the use of reiterating the same points over again, varied by irrejevant digressions and historical illustrations of every conceivable sort! If every one who himks himself a great Opposition light is to make it a matter of duty to waste half a sitting, what is to become of the general business of the country?

At the time of the Christmas adjournment, the organs discovered that Ministers had thrained every nerve to prevent Mr. Charlon speaking until after the vacation. The story was absurd, and now, at all events, the hon member has spoken; what has he made of it? What weight coild possibly attach to the utterances of a men who has changed sides, not once, but nearly half a dozen times? One good result followed, and that was the admirably satural speech of Mr. Patterson, from which more than Mr. Charlon suffered. All. Blark; "the member for Duluth," and Sir RICHARD. "the Cassandra in pantaloons," must have been made as unessay as the member for North Norfolk, who fairly ran out of hearing. The fact is too dovious that the Opposition has been fairly beaten at every assault.

Now the real points at issue lie within marrow compass. The country has been pledged, both by itself and at the hands of each party in turn, to construct the Pacific railway in its entirety through Canadian erritory. It will not do to get out of the sheat and the platform. But we must have some politics; and in the due to do the contracts of the contract of the abolition of the Senate s foesle plank for an Opposition of the sheat in the question by the public, make the question of the abolition of the Senate s foesle plank for an Opposition of the sheat of the party leaders to a beat of the contract of the party leaders to a some plants. The country has been pledged, both by itsel

position to shake; and when administra-tion, efficiently guarded by many cheeks, will be the chief duty of the party in power. Those who are in Opposition may not relish the idea; but we venture to

who said that the policy of the Government would have a bad effect on our financial status in the English market. Even the Opposition have never ventured to say compel him to believe that the people are it was other than a good lean. So good mot deserting the ruined country, and was it, indeed, that some of the Opposition harder still to convince him that the country repers attempted to claim the credit for Sir Richard Cartwright. The immediate result was the reduction of the rate planks in his personal platform, viz.,

ince that date.

The other transaction, as we find in Mr. Countries's report, was the large reduc-tion on the amount of Dominion 6 per cent. stock. This stock, Mr. Countries says, was created for ten years certain, with six months' notice of redemption; and as the period of each holding expired, noice of redemption was forwarded to cach holder, at the same time giving the option tice of redemption was forwarded to each of converting into 5 per cent. stock. effect has been to reduce the 6 per cent. stock by \$3,699,044, or from \$4,121,197 to \$422,152. Of this reduction \$3,005,095 was converted into 5 per cent. stock, and the balance was paid in cash. The effect of these changes has been to reduce the average rate on the gross debt from \$3.95 on July 1st, 1879, to \$3.82 on the 30th June, 1880; and on the net debt from \$4.51 to \$4.37; and on the debt payable in London, from \$4.57 to \$4.45. Mr. from \$4.51 to \$4.37; and on the debt payable in London, from \$4.57 to \$4.45. Mr.
COURTNEY calls attention to the fact that
the balance of the seignorial fund, \$385,
840, now bears 6 per cent. interest, and
that a large portion of the Indian fund also draws the same rate. The debt of the Dominion maturing by the 1st January, 1885, is as follows:

1881.....\$ 1,375,400 1885..... 33,419,089

To which must be added a six per cen Prince Edward Island loan to be rede in 1882 of \$1,091,106. As an offset this liability we have the sinking fund which Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT talked by abolishing, of \$5,489,073, leaving the balance to be provided for. The amount which the Government have still authority under various enactments to borrow is sel down at \$14,897,962. Mr. Courney suggests that Parliament should grant ad-ditional borrowing powers, and that the best way would be to wipe off all unissued balances, and grant a specific sum for al purposes. Mr. COURTNEY also says, in making this suggestion: "I beg further to "recommend that provision should be "made for issues of stocks, and that a "limit be assigned to such issues. At present power has been granted to create "a four per cent. stock, but the power
"has never been exercised; and as the
"five per cent. stock-list is closed prac"tically, there is, with the exception
"of the Government Savings Bank,
"no means by which a person resident
"in Canada may invest in Government
"securities." His suggestion is one of
great public interest, and will, no doubt,
secure attention. The savings banks deposit during the year increased by \$1,800,000. Mr. COURTNEY also calls attention
to the necessity for revising the balance
sheet of the Dominion and adjusting
doubtful items. He says: "Shortly after
"my return from England, I was request"ed personally and by letter by the
"treasurers of the respective provinces to a four per cent. stock, but the power treasurers of the respective provinces to furnish full accounts since Confederation, and I have been enabled to comply with "the demand. These accounts are now I believe, being examined by the officer "I believe, being examined by the officers
of the treasury departments of each
province, and the respective debits and
credits are being duly apportioned either
to Ontario or Quebec, as the case may
be. That this matter is of the utmost
importance to be early settled is shown by
stating one simple fact, which is, that
after the present half year the balance
of the clergy reserve fund in Upper
Canada will be exhausted, and that cun-

power. Those who are in Opposition may not relish the idea; but we venture to think they must entertain it.

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

The public accounts were laid on the table of Parliament on Friday, and invite the customary investigation. Two notice able transactions took place during the year. The first was the placing in July, 1879, of a 4 per cent. loan on the English market of £3,000,000 sterling at the rate of £95 is. 10 d. per £100 sterling. A portion of the loan was utilized in retiring matured 6 per cent. debentures amounting to £1,268,800 sterling. This loan, the last that will be needed for some time to come probably, was, as our readers know, the best that had ever been made by a Canadian Minister. It was in itself a sufficient reply to those who said that the policy of the Covern-

SIX MONTHS" FINANCES.

It is rather hard on Sir RIGHARD to compel him to believe that the people are result was the reduction of the rate of interest on the public debt. The general result was a far more favourable view of Canadian securities among foreign capitalists. The financial possibilities of the country have gone on improving ever the country have gone on improving ever the standard tracks that data trusted to silence him on the subject of finance and ruin. The study of the finan cial returns of the past six months are of the most cheering character. Month by month we have given the particulars to our readers, with such observations as they seemed to call for. The month of Decem-ber contines to give us the customary cheer-ful news. The returns for December are

> 1879.... ********************* Increase \$ 134,834 Other sources :- 260,815 1879 ... \$ 260,815 1880 ... \$ 222,475 Totals :-- 1,586,175 Increase..... \$ 467,992 The total figures from all sources for the six months ending the 31st December are as follows, from the 1st July to the 31st December: 879..... 6,500,0 1880 8,742,047 1879....\$ 2,031,69 1880. 2,031,699

> Other sources | 10 2010 | 1000 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 | 1879 1880. 2,507,927

The increases in each of the past aix months and the corresponding month of the previous year are as follows:

the National Policy.

AMERICAN LAND SUBSIDIES.

THE extent to which the United States have subsidized railways has often been the theme of other Opposition speakers than our friend Mr. Charleon.

The public hardly quite knows to how
great an extent public lands have been "Canada will be exhausted, and that con"sequently some arrangement must be at once made to pay the pensions to the "annuitants."

THE EXODUS.

As will be seen from our reports and correspondence elsewhere, the question of the "exodus" was up last week in the House of Commons. As usual, Sir Rien.

Michigan received 3.840 acres as an inci-

of land, and from Texas 18,000,000 scres. The Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, '786 miles, received 6,817,742 acres. The St. Louis and Iron Mountain, 604 miles, received 1,803,948 acres. The International and Great Northern Road, 236 miles of main line and 283 miles of branches, received 5,000,000 acres of land free from taxation for 25 years.

These figures give some idea of the liberality of the United States in aiding railways. No doubt, as Mr. Charatron said in 1878, some of these railways were too liberally aided; but, as Mr. Charatron said in 1878, no doubt also they largely aided the development of many States, attracted a great immigration, and rendered available for agriculture and profitable settlementenormous areas of land which but for them would, as Mr. Charatron said, have been worse than useless. In comparison been worse than useless. In comparison with the liberality of the United States, our subsidy does not after all seem so great

It is with the deepest regret that we are called upon to chronicle the death of the Chief Justice of Ontario. Intelligence of the sad event arrived here last week, and was received universally with feelings of the tenderest sympathy. Perhaps the Chief Justice's demise was not altogether mexpected, since the journey to Nice was felt by all to be more of a pallistive than a curative measure. It was probably a question of time only. None the less will those who remembered him feel a pang at his unimely removal from amongst us. Those who knew the kindly nature of the Judge, and his honesty of heart and purpose, can feel the loss with peculiar acuteness new. It is not given to many young men to have reached so early the summit of earthly ambition, for the Chief Justice was only forty-four years of age. He owed his rapid preferment, as most do, in part to fortune; but his personal talents and industry achieved it mainly. As a member Parliament for a brief season, he made his mark, but it was on the bench that he ound his fitting sphere. He was scrupulcusly conscientious and painstaking, and untiring in the discharge of his duty. It is the understood fate of a judge to be set apart from general interests, and in a reat measure removed beyond the sphere great measure removed beyond the sphere of popular sympathies; and as a consequence, the bench, while it dignifies, serves also to obscure. Still, a common-law, and more increasingly, a chancery judge is often brought into close contact with the people. The assizes and circuits make their personal as well as fheir judicial character known, and in the trial of election petitions they tread closely on the turmoil of party strife. Chief Justice Moss was emphasically one of the necole.

To family, wealth, or connections he ewed nothing; what he became he made himself.

Thomas Moss was born at Cobourg on the 20th of Angust, 1836; but when quite young removed with his family to Toronto, which thenceforward became his home, the centre of his life-work, the place where his aspirations were breathed, and where his hopes were crowned with fruition. In early life the quickness of his intellect was at once acknowledged, and all who knew him expected great things. Alse! that the promise should have been kept, only to be nipped so soon by the early frost. At Upper Camada College, his name, as winner of the Governor General's prize amongst a plethora of honours, is inscribedly upon the walls, and has often been made a text to incite and encourage those who have followed after him. In 1854 Mr. Moss, entered the University of Toronto, winning firstscholarshipsin classics and mathematics. That was the day of small things in Alma Mater, for only thirteen matriculated that year, while the seniors were still fewer. Amongst the graduating students at the time was the Hon. Edward Blake and Mr. Thomas Hodgins, Q.C., and others, some known to fame, were entering upon the third year. University life—and the writer speaks from personal knowledge—was then a tame affair. Mr. Moss passed his matriculation examination in the Parliament buildings, which had been a temporary lunaticasylum, and soon after became once more the home of the Legislature. The first convocation in Mr. Moss experience was held in the Legislative Council chamber, now the library of the Local House. The Chancellor whose dignified presence awed more, than one freshman was the late Hon. W. H. Blame, Chancellor of Upper Canada, while, in association with Dr. McCaul. at the oval, set another man of note, Hon. Robber Bald.

In what subsection of migratory Legislatures. In what subsection of migratory Legislatures. the "exodus" was up last week in the House of Commons. As usual, Sir Rien, And Carwayear clung to the last lingering shred of kope that the people have been actually going away as he said they were to the extent of something like 90,000 in year at Port Huron alons. We have often referred to this question, indicating our entire diabelief in the exodus theory, and expressing confidence that the calculations of Sir Rienars were erroneous. Year estimates, and the state of the minutes, completely put an end of the en

time ner diversity of path can deprive us.
They are an undying possession.

THE IRISH PROBLEM. THE GLADSTONE Cabinet has met Par nent, and stated, although not in th clearest language, its intentions. A lengthy paragraph in the Royal speech, one sentence of which is long enough to take an ordinary man's breath away, gives all the information forthcoming for the present. Her Majesty is made to request certain powers at the hands of Parliament,

one of these being presumably relief from the requirements of the Habeas Corpus Act. Whatever the coercive measure to be introduced may amount to, it is quite be introduced may amount to, it is quite certain that unless it is speedily passed and acted upon little good can be effected. Mr. Pannell and his followers have resolved to obstruct it at every stage, and the ordinary legislative forms give them ample opportunities for doing so. Probably at least two members of the Cabinet will not be sorry to see obstruction used against measures to which they have reluctantly assented. Had the Government been unanimous the first measure would have been a safeguard against obstruction. Ministers knew well enough that whatever course the Home Rulers might take against their Land Bill, they would resist to the uttermost any measure of coercion; yet they most any measure of coercion; yet they have propounded no remedy for the obstructive policy. The Premier proposes to give the Irish measures precedence de die in dien; but of what avail will that prove as the session advances?

Messrs. Bright and Chamberlain ar

Miessrs. BRIGHT and CHAMBERLAIN are averse to repressive measures, and insist, if report may be trusted, that both the reform and coercive statutes shall advance step by step. The former cannot be passed by itself, because the need for the latter is pressing. Consequently, by delaying the punitive legislation the Leaguers will, for some months, succeed in defeating both. The Lords would not pass a Land Bill without some accompanying device for sacrains. Lords would not pass a Land Bill without some accompanying device for securing safety to life and property. Indeed, moderate Luberals—and even some Radicals—as well as the Conservatives, demand that the rod should be presented in advance of the clive branch. What the Government propose, in either shape, has not yet appeared. So far as remedial legislation is concerned, they already have the assurance of Messrs. Paryett and Drillow that, however comprehensive it will be will be

ance of Messrs. Parsett and Dillon that, however comprehensive, it will be rejected. Of course that is no reason why the Government should not persevere in doing what they consider a duty to the Irish tenant, but it is a very strong reason for forcing through the other measure first and promptly. Ne Government worthy of the name can so far abnegate its functions as to leave life and property in so precarious a state as they are at present in a large portion of Ireland.

The major part of the mischief is plainly to be attributed to the fluctuating and dividing views of the Gladstone Cabinet. The Commons might now be in a position to discuss a Land Bill calmly and deliberately if Parliament had been summoned a month age merely to adopt the necessary means of securing peace and order in the sister island. As it is, there is no assurance that anything will be done either to conciliate or to repress lawlessness for conciliate or to repress lawlessness for months to come; and the culpable delay has given a new lease of life to all who flourish by the anarchy at present rampant in Ireland.

NEPOTISM AND JOBBERY AT KINGSTON.

For a gentleman who enjoys a reputa-tion for honesty and straightforwardness his private dealings, Hon. Mr. lower has a most remarkable taste to crooked methods in public affairs. If there is a tortuous course to be discovered, Mr. Mowar is sure to discover and pursue it, not because it is the wisest or best course so much, apparently, as because he loves to explore its crockedness and follow its

we have the best of reasons for believing that the people of Kingston will soon experience an illustration of this peculiar feature of the honourable gentleman's character. For a considerable time it has been an open secret, in well-informed political direles, that Mr. Mowar was giving the vacancy caused by the death of the late Police Magistrate of Kingston his "best "consideration," and that the result of his cegitations had not been favourable to the aspirations of Mr. WILLIAM ROSINSON, ex.M.P.P. Mr. ROSINSON has all the claims that recreancy to almost life-long political principles and years of parliamentary helotry can give him, but his personal friends aver that the hostile influence of Mr. Fraser and his Grit "co-religionists" has stood in his way. On the other hand, it is but fair to say that the refusal of the Ontario Government to appoint the rejected of Kingston is defended upon the ground that he lacks the educational and professional qualifications necessary to an incumbent of the important position which he seeks. Be this as it may, the fact of the Government's refusal is undeniable, and it would naturally be supposed that the decision arrived at upon so plain and straight an issue would end the matter. But discerning a crooked path out of the difficulty, and towards a project of his own, Mr. Mowar proceeds to take it. A brother-in-law of Mr. Mowars, one Mr. JOHN DUFF, is Division Court Clerk in Kingston, and the present scheme, as understood by the faithful, is to appoint Mr. BOHF's ancessor. Thus two birds are to be killed with one stone. Many of the Reformers of Kingston object to this huffle upon several grounds. They contend that Mr. Rosinson is no better fitted for the ene position than for the other; that Mr. Bourses is no better fitted for the ene position of Police Magistrate, and that even if he were, his personal unpopularity would render the appointment an unwise one from a party point of view. If we are as rightly informed as we flatter ourselves that we are, the quarrel is a very pre We have the best of reasons for believ-

friend.

Conservatives, not less than Reformers will be glad to learn that Mr. Mackenzie i recovering from his illness. The hon, gentle-man has worked hard, according to his lights, for his country for some twenty years; and we are sure his political opponents cordially wish him a speedy return to robust health.

by the property of the propert

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Grit agitators have faith in the " thr s's" faction, fiction, and fustian.

Mr. Blake's Montreal meeting was a ticket of-leave affair—those who had no ticken were compelled to leave.

At last we have caught Mr. Blake in an act of consistency. He favours minority repre-sentation, and the minority are represented at his meetings. He does it with his little

The manufacture of indignation is the only ndustry in which the Grit leaders have ever engaged. As the N. P. does not protect this business, Mr. Blake shields it with a piece of

The Bobcaygeon Independent, though opposed on general principies to building the Canada Preific, admits that "it cannot be said that the payment made to the speculators is excessive.

Two months ago the North-West was being epopulated by the National Policy and the land regulations; but now the value of the land has risen from \$1 to \$4. Reform logic a marvellous thing.

The Sydney, N.S.W., News was fined £250 for contempt of court for saying that the decision of a judge named Windeyer was unjust and one-sided, whereupon its contemporaries appeared next day with broad mourning borders round their culumns. We do these things better in Canada.

The Opposition speakers, besides exaggerate ing the value of the North-West lands, exaggerate the value of the completed sections of the road. It is not what they cost but what they are worth. What, for instance, is the intrinsic value of the Fort Frances look? And does anybody suppose the Kaministiquia townplot and the Neebing hotel would fetch \$60,000 to-day?

Mr. G. W. Ross, M.P., would not give his opponents a fair hearing at his Strathroy meeting, and ran away from Mr. A. P. Macdonald's meeting on a subsequent evening, leaving his case in the hands of some drunken owdies; who had to he removed by the police. No wonder the lightning interest calcu-lator telegraphed to the Woodstock Grits "I am badly used up."

Mr. Bake declined to say why he expressed a desire to join a syndicate which he de-nounced as an organization of plunderers. He has also persistently refused to explain why he refused to speak for the candidate of his party in East Toronto. He will, how-ever, be afforded numerous opportunities to explain these ugly facts in the future.

Messrs, Bertram & McKechnie, of the Canada Tool Works, Dundas, have increased the wages of their employes fifteen per cent. "all round." It will take Mr. Bain, the member for North Wentworth, some little time to convince the workingmen of the Vailey City that they are being "ruined by the N.P." In fact they are apt to feel that, having taken the bane, they are now enjoying the antidote.

The St. Catharines Journal hits the mark when it says that "the opposition to the syndicate terms is to a great extent farcical for those who are loudest in condemning the Government scheme offer nothing as a substi-tute. If the Opposition had a well-defined scheme to offer the people in lieu of the one now proposed, the agitation of the past few weeks would have been more successful."

M. McKim, M.P.P. for West Wellington has an insatiable appetite for office. He insisted upon being Reeve of Peel Township, and, of course, the faithful elected him. The Arthur Enterprise is troubled to know how he can discharge his dual duties. There need be no trouble about that. He will never be missed from the Legislature, and may, with

A Beaverton religionist, who was preaching in a Gamebridge church last Sabbath, deflected his prayers from heaven to direct them to the House of Commons, and called upon the congregation to sign a petition praying the House not to ratify the bargain with the syndicate. A few of the hard-shell faithful responded, but the more moderate-minded members of the congregation were much scandalized by the intrusion of politics upon uch an occasion.

The Government railways are doing well:-

\$1,620,149,59 \$1,768,070.96

The only completely successful meeting yet held in opposition to the N. P. railway was that of the Duluth Chamber of Commerce. There were no wicked Canadian Tories there There were no wicked Canadian Tories there to ask ugly questions or to demand the right of reply. Hence everything was carried unanimously in opposition to Canadian interests. How good a thing it would have been for Mr. Blake to have been present with his speech on the difficulties of the Canadian route and the follies of the Canadian scheme. If he is ever defeated for South Bruce again he should run

Dun, Wiman & Co. make the following return of failures in Canada for last year :

Province. Number. Amount of | Number | Habilities | S3,944.827 | Habilities | S3,944.827 | Habilities | S3,944.827 | Habilities | D1,000 | Habilities | D2,000 | Habilities | D2,000 | Habilities | D3,000 | Habilities | D3,000 | Habilities | D3,000 | Habilities | D3,000 | Habilities | Habilitie

In 1879 the total number of failures for Canada were 1,302, with liabilities of \$29,347,387. In 1878 the number was 1,697, with
liabilities of \$23,908,677. In 1877-1,891
failures and \$25,523,903. It must be borna
in mind that since the repeal of the Insolvent
Act there is no stated channel through
which the failures come, consequently some
are never heard of outside of their creditors,
but it is fair to assume they would form a
small percentage of the whole. A journal devoted to the paper trade fur-

nishes us with some interesting statistics regarding the circulation of newspapers and periodical literature in Great Britain and America. It appears that 8,211 American newspapers and magazines, whose alleged circulation is given, publish an aggregate per single issue of 20,677,586 copies. The average circulation of cach journal is 2,041, against an average circulation of 7,692 of each British publication, thus showing that the average American journal has but 27 per cent. of the circulation of the average British. The aggregate of all issues for one year from the 8,211 American presses mentioned is 1,830,473,592 copies, against 1,734,841,956 copies issued by the 2,928 British presses. It will thus be seen that Great Britain, with but little more than one-third the number of American publications whose circulation is known, sends out within one-sighteenth as many copies per annum. This seems almost incredible when it is considered that the English-speaking people of North America foot up to somewhere shout fifty millions, while the cutire population of the United Kingdom is not much more than two-thirds of that numbers America. It appears that 8,211 AmeriTHE PACIFIC CONTRAC

A Reform Breakdown at Rich mond Hill.

THE GOVERNMENT POLICY ENDORS

An Endorsation from the Mont Board of Trade.

MR. BLAKE'S CHAIRMAN OUT IN THE

Repudiations from Alleged Member the "New Syndicate." Lengthy Discussion of the Proposed Asment in West York-Condemnatory I lutions Rejected by a Grit Meeting Confidence Expressed in the Rai

A largely attended meeting called by

Reformers was held on Tuesday afternor Richmond Hill, Dr. McCounell, vice-pres the chair. Mr. J. A. Stewart. editor of Richmond Hill Liberal, acted as secret The meeting was held in Palmer's hall, lasted for several hours. THE SPEAKEES.

Mr. Phipps dilated upon the danger to country likely to result upon the consuntion of the syndicate agreement. He admittat the road should be built, but said that the road should be built, but said the policy of the Opposition was to com-it gradually, and in propertion to the adv-of the Dominion in financial prosperity. referred to the railway land finonpolic the States, and the likelihood of some-of the same sort in the North-V The privileges and advantages to be gra-to the syndicate were of such a character rebellions seemed likely in future to arise against kings and emperors, but are against kings and emperors, but a railway corporations. The speaker went on to give instances of the feeling now existing in various parts of the U

States against such monopolies.

Mr. LUKES, after acknowledging the tesy and liberality of the chairman, said the object of the meeting was nominal discuss the Pacific railway syndicate. Y hardly knew just what to discuss. Both great parties of the country had irretriev committed themselves to the building all-rail route across the continent on Cana soil—(hear, hear)—and this view being n sarily accepted, there was little left to sarily accepted, there was little left to about. It was surely undeniable that syndicate bargain was the best ever prope and the country, he hoped and belie would heartily endorse the Governm action. (Applause.) The speaker then on to refute the hackneyed objections by Mr. Phipps with the exposition of true meaning of the agreement. He poi out that the alleged freedom of syndicate to select the land where pleased was, in reality, freedom select fair average land wherever. Governor-General-in-Council allowed the Governor-General-in-Council allowed the take it. As to the imaginary freight mone which was to result, Mr. Blake had answ that question himself when only a few ago in St. Lawrence Hall, Toronto, he said re was even now an Actin force by which

railway not dealing fairly in its rates c
be brought to reason by the country.

Mr. LIVINGSTONE, of Toronto, followith a vigorous and effective speech from
same point of view, impressing particu
upon the meeting 'the danger attendant
the execution of such vast enterprise governments even of the most upright honourable character. It was far better far safer for a private company to do work. Looking into the syndicate agree conscientiously and carefully, he beli conscientiously and carefully, he beli that it was a good thing for the country that the country should endorse it.

plause.)
The CHAIRMAN introduced Mr. A. F. of Toronto, referring to him as one of best known men in Canada. He was a A Voice-No sir-ree - he's a 'des

Leformer. (Laughter.)
Mr. JURY referred to some statemen previous speakers. As to the building croad, he considered that it would be fa road, he considered that it would be far ferable for the Government to build the itself, if built at all. But why should road be built at once? Why should fail kept to the minute with British Colum which had not kept faith with us in the ter of the fifteen millions of good promised by that province in aid of the way? The road should be built in sect built so as to keep abreast of the wants of country, and in the meantine Mr. Bl country, and in the meantime Mr scheme would meet all requirements. road was to cost one hundred millions absorb eight millions more annually, to it not be built, for it would swallow to money which properly should be left affectively and benefit the workingmen of country. The road if built may be the state of the state tions proposed, would be what it was

-a gigantic monopoly.

Mr. EDWARD MEEK, of Toronto, followers.

He pointed out the necessity of consi

He pointed out the necessity of consider the question from a national, and not from the point of view, and after disposing some of the propositions of the precopposition speakers went on to dissect Blake's proceedings. Mr. Blake was a good man to tear a proposition to pie There was no one more effective than he that sort of work. But he had put form no alternative of his own; he could destruct the could not replace. His old less but he could not replace. His old lea Mr. Mackenzie, had been a different sor man, for he was at all events a true Canad But Mr. Blake was not imbued with the spirit of patriotism, entering public life a had done subsequent to Confederation. did not understand that Canada was a country. It had never occurred to him we were a people, and not a depende "Let the portion of the line passing nort Lake Superior go," he said in effect, "with it British Columbia," was the practorollary. Was there a man before him night who would say the same thing? was willing to see British Columbia b was willing to see British Columbia be away from us? Not one. But Mr. Be was. Mr. Blake's theory was that the Un States lines should be utilized, that all treshould be through American territory, the asympathy should grow up with the Stand Canadian people naturally take to the until finally the sections of the Domi drifted apart altogether. The true parwas he who asked for the building of a C diap road. It was not "utter madness dian road. It was not "utter madness undertake that road. In the construction such a road it was not the numbers of a ple that were to be looked to, but their sources—not the "four millions," but vast heritage allotted to them. We had given a country from which we could cout a great nation. The moment the was built the value of the millions of acr the illimitable west would be doubled trebled, and with the returns from the of these lands the treasury of the Done of these lands the treasury of the Dom would be filled to overflowing and the penriched. It would pay us to build the to build it as quickly as possible—an build it on Canadian soil. (Cheers.)

Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Lang

Conservative Government."

Mr. French, seconded by Mr. B moved in amendment, "that this mecomposed as it is of all shades of positive processing the proposed as it is not all the propose opinion, records its unqualified disappro-the syndicate bargain," etc., as sellin Canadian birthright for a mess of potta something of the sout.

The CHAIRMAN then asked all who we

moved, "that this meeting approves of scheme of constructing the Canadian Prailway by the contract with the syndinow before Parliament, and proposed by

favour of the amendment to signify it is assual way. Thirty-live hands were helicalleding those of the secretary and on the platform.

The CHAIRMAN asked for the contrary

of hands appeared.