OTTAWA LETTER.

Hon. Clifford Sifton's Ears. Must be Burning.

Mr. Bennett's Suggestion that Blair's First Class Clerks be Laid on the Table of the House.

Premier Compares Sir Richard Cart wright to a Mule for Natural Kicking Ability-Opposition Leader got the Best of the Debate.

OTTAWA, March 17-Parliament can week. There is also a disposition to leave solid work until after the appointment of the committees has been made and they have entered upon their duties. As this part of the parliamentseem that business for some days at least will be all of very minor import-ance. The only thing to indicate that something serious may be done is that the minister of finance has already laid upon the table of the house the main estimates for the year ending June 30, 1903-04. Should the house get down to supply at once the estimates may be advanced considerably, but this hardly to be expected in view of the fact that we have had in Canada two unusually short sessions during the past two years, and this sitting is likely to be devoted to very severe and broad criticism of the methods which have resulted in our federal expendi-ture increasing over 50 per cent, or \$20,000,000, since 1896.

The debate on the address in reply speech from the throne was short. However, it was not lacking in importance. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who has been stradding the free trade and protectionist fences since his elevation to the first minister's chair, has at last fixed in his min a definite policy for the liberal part. Not that any particular credit is due to the prime minister for the feat, because it was only after he had been vigorously prodded by the leader of the opposition and unnercifully twitted on the differences existing in the cabinet, that Sir Wilfrid

As this defiant attitude revealed itself one could hardly help sympathis-ing with Hon. J. Israel Tarte, who from his seat a few chairs removed to the study. The man who had declared that Canada for Canadians should be the policy of his party, and | had been ced to resign from the cabinet as a penalty for having the courage of his ions, was vigorously and in no unmistaken terms turned down in favor But Mr. Prefontaine did not escape the premier's wrath either. He had-informed the people of Montreal dur-ing a by-election contest in Maisson-

neuve that the liberal party was really which interpreted means sufficient protection to enable Canadian factories to cater to the demands of the dodid not stop there. He called Sir Wilhigh protection views of the cabinet, and in doing so he used this very strong language: "I am, as I always have been, in favor of legitimate pro-tection to our national industries, and er reinforcements on many occasions.

Section of the control of the contro

one, were declared robbers and enemed of the people, but the 2.22 per cent reduction seems to have transformed robbers into angels, and it will, of course, be a pleasure to old-time Liberals to feel, that while it was an injustice to pay \$2.00 in taxes to a legalized highwaymen. If will he a partition ized highwayman, it will be a privilege and a pleasure to part with \$4.00, when were to reduce taxation and slay the

The policy of the two parties in Car ada is now clearly defined. The Liberals stand for the Fielding tariff, which is practically the same as the Foster tariff of 1896. The Conservatives, on the other hand, noting the change in industrial conditions since their retirement from office, have de-clared it to be in the interests of this country that the indiscriminate importation of slaughter goods from foreign countries should be restricted to an extent sufficient to enable our home factories to at least have a fighting chance with the product of the underpaid foreign labor. That this should be done to the countries to a fighting the countries of the should be done to the countries of the cou

That this should be done is admitted by a section of the party in power, of whom Mr. Tarte is the most notable example. But the lower tariff element is still predominant among Sir Wilfrid Laurier's followers and have stayed the hands of those who would place country before party. In closing, a word or two might well

be devoted to the excellent showing made, so far, by R. L. Borden, leader of the opposition. Mr. Borden's criticism of the government's policy, inthe course of his remarks during the debate on the address, showed that he has greatly improved his position since the house last met. He shows a broader knowledge of men and affairs than he did twelve months ago. This no doubt may be taken as the imprint of right of the premier's, preserved a his western tour. Mr. Borden has also assumed a more confident tone in referring to the attitude of the government towards important question is growing. That is the opinion of men on both sides of the house. Only yesterday he and Sir Wilfrid had a little terusy he and our winter had a little difference as the result of the first minister's propensity for lecturing those who dare to question his dictums or refer to any particular subject which

tons will be raised. The only principle for which all Sir Willrid and his followers must now stand is embodied in the declaraction of the premier, "Our system was embodied in the year 1897 in a tariff that will live in history as the Fielding tariff."

No doubt the system will disappoint thousands of people throughout this country. Mr. Sifton's dupes in the west, who expressed confidence in the minister of interior's ability to remove the duties on agricultural implements, will continue to pay the same ad valorem duty on such articles as under the Foster tariff in 1896. The people of Yarmouth, N. S., will be unable to derive the great and lasting benefits which Mr. Fielding promised should be theirs if they would only return a supporter of the present government. The sturdy farmers in Raise and lasting benefits their sit free would only return a supporter of the present government. The sturdy farmers in Raise and lasting benefits their sit free would only return a supporter of the present government. The sturdy farmers in Raise and lasting benefits their sit free would only return a supporter of the present government. The sturdy farmers in Raise and lasting benefits which Mr. Fielding promised should be their sit free would only return a supporter of the present government. The sturdy farmers in Raise and lasting benefits which Mr. Fielding promised should be their sit free would only return a supporter of the present government. The sturdy farmers in Raise and lasting benefits will have to meet another large deficit.

An amusing incident occurred last veening in connection with Mr. Blair's expenses by Hon. Messrs. Prizagarick, Paterson, Fisher and Bernier, will now come from Surely no such welcome conditions such as pictured by these minister's calculations did not any other than the promise of the people but the existing saving of il. 800 per annum. However, we make a condition such as pictured by these minister's calculations did not any of the proposition expression of the people but the existing saving of

opposition started in to discover his whereabouts. Mr. Blair endeavored to locate him, but got himself into a maze, from which no number of suggestions from other members could extricate him. As head of the department of railways and canals, he might have been expected to know something of his first class clerks at least. But no, he could not determine whether he had eleven such officials ast year and should have ten this year, last year and should have ten this year, or whether he had ten last year and should have nine this year. Mr. Bennett suggested that a final settlement might be reached if the clerks were produced and laid on the table, but this proved unnecessary, as the min-ister finally satisfied himself that there had been no saving, as there were ten clerks before and now.

Hon. Clifford Sifton's ears must be burning these days. He is one of the most talked of men about Ottawa. Mr. Sifton has a penchant for leaving the capital when the session open and it is now three years since he has condescended to personally submit his estimates to parliament. One year he went to Australia for medical treatment. Last year he was south for his health. This year he has busied him self about the Alaskan boundary. Now, there has been more or less conjectur there has been more or less conjecture in and about the capital as to whether Mr. Sifton would face Mr. Tarte during the present session. It was confidently predicted by many, that the minister of the interior would find some excuse for conveniently absenting himself from his duties, and such has proved the case. The advantages of this course to a minister, whose deof this course to a minister, whose department is more or less surro by unsavory rumors, is apparent. The ster who replaces him cannot be expected to answer in detail the enduiries of the opposition. In this way Mr. Sifton is able to suppress any undue curiosity, without having recourse to the drastic measures which were required to shut off the investigation of the Yuken scandals. It is ost convenient during short sessions, but as this sitting of parliament is likely to last for some time, Mr. Sifton will probably get a chance to unburden

limself before prorogation. We have been devoting all our atten-These who dare to question his dictums or refer to any particular subject which might be included in the category of his weaknesses. W. F. McLean of East York was the gentleman who provoked the wrath of the premier, and before the little debate was finand before the little debate was finand m. Borden took a hand in it. And Mr. Borden took a hand in it. And Mr. Borden took a hand in it. And Mr. Borden did not come out of the little skirmish second best. He in fact touched Sir Wilfrid with such accuracy and so pointedly that two ministers of the crown, Mr. Fielding and Mr. Fitzpatrick, and a private member and to come to the rescue. Those who know Mr. Borden have every reason to believe that before the session closes Sir Wilfrid will need even greater reinforcements on many occasions.

J. D. McKENNA.

OTTAWA, March 24.—The Canadian branch of the royal mint, which has done done to the royal mint, which has weaknesses. W. F. McLean of East York was the gentleman who of the misters of the crown, and commerce was strongly opposed to any increase in the number of cabinet time a occasion was a time when the ministers of the crown, Mr. Borden to the premier, and commerce was strongly opposed to any increase in the number of cabinet time a occasion was a time when the ministers of trade and commerce was strongly opposed to any increase in the number of cabinet time a great admirer of commercial union, reciprocity, free trade, and the other evils akin to annexation, which the attention of the intercolonial such a great admirer of United States has to believe that before the session of cabinet to the right of the cappanal of the intercolonial states of the crown, Mr. Fielding and the company of notables incomplete. There was at that time a great ad

some stale story he will get rid of pub-lic responsibility in this matter? I do not think that his method of dealing with the matter of this kind is con-sistent either with public interest or with the dignified position which he holds."

with a bump. It was then that he promised Mr. Borden to give all possible information in regard to the prospective minister of mines, if a question were placed on the order paper.

The leader of the opposition expressed his pleasure to find that Sir Wilfrid was willing to deal with the matter in a fairer tone, and expressed himself as certain that if it had been approached in the same spirit earlier

Bernier, in reply to a question by Clancy, stated that during the year 1902, the duties collected on foreign raw lear tobacco amounted to \$1,137,279. Mr. Tarte moved for copies of all correspondence, between the govern-ment and the Grand Trunk Pacific Walnwright. Hon, Mr. Blair asked to been dismissed for cause, although Railway, or C. M. Hays, per William Wainwright. Hon. Mr. Blair asked to have the motion deferred until the government was in possession of additional fabts, and Tarte assented to the proposal. Objection was made to this course, but Laurier reconciled the opposition by promising the papers at an early date.

Tarte also made a motion for copies of all correspondence between the gov-

an early date.

Tarte also made a motion for copies of all correspondence between the government and Mackenzie and Mann. This was agreed to.

Tarte called attention to the deplorable condition of the South Shore.

"God only knows what has happened in connection with the read," exclaimin connection with the road," exclaimed the ex-minister. He urged the government to make immediate inquiry into the company's affairs. Casgrain declared it was bankrupt, and supported Tarte's stand. He suggested

that a winding up order be issued so that the creditors could secure their Blair promised to do his best to have undesirable conditions remedied.

Tarte also got after the South Eastern Valley Railway, which is closed down. It is owned by the same persons who control the South Shore Railway. He wants the government to interfere and provide for the operation of the road.

Blair failed to see what could be done in the matter. The government could not take over a road which did not pay. Tarte declared that the road would

tice of holding up to constituencies bribes of public buildings. Only four items passed during the night.—Ad-

provides for the uniform inspection of hides in cities,
Fitzpatrick's bill to provide increased penalties for offences against the law

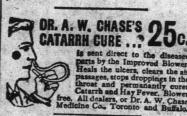
Leonard moved an amendment having as its object the definition of the word immoral, which he proposed to insert after the word obscene. The amend-ment will stand till the bill has passed its last reading.

Mr. Fielding introduced a resolution

to legalize the action of the govern

were not urgent. The resolution was adopted and a bill founded on it was introduced, Laurier brought down his motion to restrict Chinese immigration by imposing a head tax of \$500 for payment of which, vessels carrying such persons will be held liable. He claimed the present tax was insufficient to stem

rnment's action was that the act o



respecting obscene performances was taken up for its third reading, when

mons a large number of petitions was ment in allowing a fraction of a year presented supporting the cattle guards over six months to count as a year in George Grant, member elect for North Ontario, was introduced amid great applause from the government benches.

Over Six months to count as a year in cases of superannuation. The auditor general objected to this, despite the order-in-council allowing such procedure passed 32 years ago. The mother than the count as a year in cases of superannuation. The auditor general objected to this, despite the order-in-council allowing such procedure passed 32 years ago. The mother than the cases of superannuation. The auditor general objected to this, despite the order-in-council allowing such procedure.

Fielding stated that under the super-annuation law amounts paid in only are refunded to persons dismissed for

Borden cited the case of Capt. Stew-

he a case of a death of a civil servant under the old law, although the money might have been paid into the fund for years, no return was made to the beneficiaries

of deceased. The cases referred to

npire. Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick followed the provincial legislature was ultra

Laurier promised to bring down ad-

OTTAWA, March 27.-In the house oday McCarthy introduced a bill to mend the general inspection act. It

THEIR DASH FOR

political partizanship.

present tax was insufficient to stem the tide of immigration which was deemed dangerous by the province of British Columbia. The tax proposed would be practically prohibitive.

R. L. Borden asked why the acts passed by British Columbia prohibiting oriental immigration were disallowed., and Laurier replied that it was in the general interests of Canada and the general interests of Canada and the and stated that the reason for the gov-

And wond

And wo

Pure Hard Soap.

RAILWAY LINE

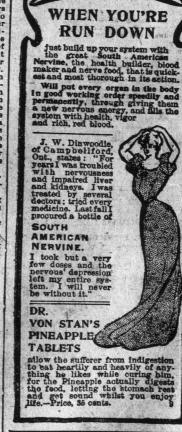
(New York Herald.)

ork.
The convention adopted resolutions deanding provincia! autonomy and self-govrament, followed by others in favor of inreased transportation facilities, for a reistration act for voters in federal politics,
aore members under the new redistribution
ill, and the looking forward to party lines
in local politics. THE SOUTH POLE

Gaptain Scott and Party Bars Out Liquor All Along the Road. Railroad managers are showing & Reached Lat. 82 deg. growing opposition to the use of intoxicants by their employes and to the sale of liquors in towns where their shops are located. The most radical and effective step yet noted has been taken by the St. Louis, Watkins & Gulf. 17 min, South,

line, running from Lake Charles to Alexandria, La. The projector of this road, J. B. Watkins, bought and incorporated all the town sites along the line. The deeds for all lots sold contain anti-Many Perils Encountered---The Dogs All Died and the Greatest Hardliquor clauses as follows:

"The said purchaser, his heirs or assigns, shall not at any time manufac-ture or sell intoxicating liquors upon said premises, except for medicinal, ship Followed---An Account mechanical or scientific purposes; and, should this condition be broken, this of the Explorations. deed shall immediately become null and void, and the title shall revert to said vender, and said vender shall not be under any obligations to return any part of the purchase price." LYTTLETON, New Zealand, March 27 .-Further particulars obtained from the An-The legality of this clause was re-cently passed upon in a case brought tarctic relief expedition ship Morning Star, which arrived here Wednesday, show that



NEW-BRUNSWICK LEGISL

(Official Report.) His honor the lieutenant having returned to the cha having approved of the sei Mr. Robinson as speaker, rea lowing speech :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the tive Assembly:

It affords me much pleasure to you on again assembling for the of your legislative duties since general elections, and to extend greating to those of you who a first time assuming the important of legislaters.

The prosperity of the province a minion generally for the past yes gratifying, and we have good rethanksgiving for the many blessiour people are enjoying.

The successful progress in a which has been made in all sectifying the straight of the mineral development of this most importantly; while the mineral developme is taking place justifies the hope the very long a considerable revenue wrived from this source, while the prosperity will be greatly prometed. The ceremonies connected with the ation of our beloved sovereign created according to the interest throughout the empiliness of His Majesty, which previaking place at the time appointed expressions of profound sympathy, among his own subjects, but through the grief which was caused by his and in the universal rejoicing over resoration to health.

During the recess my government unremitting in its efforts to arrive interesting in its Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of f

Brunswick shared to the fullest the grief which was caused by him and in the universal rejoicing over resoration to health.

During the recess my government unremitting in its efforts to arrive thement of the questions connected fisheries which are pending between provincial and dominion government have not yet been brought to a comparing the provincial and dominion government have not yet been brought to a comparing the provincial and dominion government have not yet been brought to a comparing the province.

My government has also pressed the decision of the province to receive a fair profit the Halifax award, which was the United States for the privilege ticipating in the fisheries along our being of the opinion that under the decision of the judicial committee privy council, the proprietary right privileges in respect to which comparing the province of the province of the province advisers have, therefore, jointly we governments of Quebec and Prince Island, asked the dominion governments and the decision of the statement of a case to mitted to the supreme count, in order termine the right of the province to protion of the award, with interest. In opening the last session of the lature, I called your attention to the provinces referred to, which will enacused in the dominion government the dominion government the ability of having the British North A Act so amended as to carry out the embedied in what are known as the Lor resolutions, at least in so far as to the readjustment of the allowand the dominion to the provinces, and now happy to be able to inform you the embedied in what are known as the lor readjustment of the allowand the dominion to the provinces has aubinitted to the opinion that their united request be favorably considered by the federation the province of the important duties are entrusted to it under the British America Act. The papers relating to subject will be submitted to you.

During the recess my government to mo fectively carry on the important duties are entrusted to it under the Bri

of the opinion that, as a result of the cent census, and under a proper contion of the British North America Act province is entitled to retain its purpresentation in the house of commons it to be its duty to urge its views in particular upon the dominion governs and as a result of its efforts, I am in a tion to inform you that, while it has concurred in the views expressed by government, it is prepared to co-opera securing an early decision on the query of the supreme court of Canada. Subject of representation is so impositiat I am sure you will feel that my erument has taken a proper course in plug this matter upon the attention of referral authorities.

ernment has taken a proper course in p ing this matter upon the attention of federal authorities.

The subject of reafforestation of federal authorities.

The subject of reafforestation of crown timber lands, with a view to serving for future generations this valuable asset, has been engaging the tention of my advisers, and a measureing this object in view will probably be mitted for your consideration.

I have directed that the accounts of the pome and expenditure of the past fiscal as well as a statement of the receipts expenditures of the present session, to the opening of the current fiscal year, to the opening of the present session, be laid before you.

Estimates of the probable income and penditure for the coming year will be mitted to you, and I think you will find the estimates of expenditure have been pared with a due regard to economy the public requirements.

The subject of the liability of employ to employes for injuries sustained in course of their employment is one inspect to which an amendment of the seems to be desirable, and a bill deal with the matter will be submitted for y consideration.

During the recess, an arrangement come to with the New Brunswick Rally Company, under which, for a small calderation, the company has greed to a way to the crown a portion of their lar for purposes of settlement. The terms this arrangement will be submitted for y peasals which my consider pressale which my consideration.

to purposes of settlement. The terms this arrangement will be submitted for yr approyal.

You will also be invited to consider p posals which my government will submit a view to ensure the opening for stement of other portions of the said lan pursuant to the provisions contained in each of the grants issued to the company. The commissioners appointed to conso date the statutes have concluded their laborate the statutes have concluded their laborater in the statutes are concluded to the consideration and passage.

Your attention will also be invited to oth measures of importance.

In now leaving you to the performance your legislative duties, I confidently truthat your deliberations will, under divirguidance, inure to the general welfare an prosperity of the people.

Hon. Mr. Pugsley introduced a bit amend the Towns and Corporation

so amend the Towns and Corporation Act of 1879. THE WINDING LEDGES DAM. Mr. Hazen, seconded by Mr. Robert sen, gave notice of the following mo

Whereas a bill has been introduce into the legislature of the state of Maine having for its object, amon other things, the incorporation of the "St. John River Dam Company," authorizing said company to construct equip, maintain and operate, with the right of flowage in the St. John site. right of flowage in the St. John rive at or near the Winding Ledges, in the town of Fort Kent, in the county of Aroostook, and state of Maine, from any point along the shore or bank of said river to the boundary line in said river between the United States and Canada, and with power to connect with a dam to be built from the opposition. with a dam to be built from the oppo site shore of said river, in the parish of St. Francis, in this province, provided and whenever authority is given to build such dam from the shore on the side of New Brunswick to make such connection; has been obtained by the said company or some other com-pany from the parliament of the doinion of Canada or other competer legislative authority; and whereas the said company is seeking such legisla-tive authority from the parliament of Canada at its present session; and whereas the construction of such dam across the St. John river at the point or place aforesaid, with the power for the company to hold logs floating down the said river, will, in the opinion of

our large lumber operators and others