POOR DOCUMENT

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, M. B., APRIL 25, 1900.

R. T. W. RAINSFORD, Travng Agent for the Daily and My Telegraph, is now in orthumberland County. Subribers are asked to pay their bscription to him when he

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN. N. B., APRIL 25, 1900.

REFLECTIVE UTTERANCES. pects Sir Charles Tupper's eh at Montreal was an effort to modwhat he had said at Quebec. The inim had apparently been devoted to reion, but we cannot see that the rewas such as to cause his friends to I that one of the greatest blunders ever de by a political leader had been atonfor. In fact, in one essential regard he de matters worse. At Quebec the amen of his bitter attack on Sir Wild Laurier's imperialism was that par mentary union with Great Britain ould cast unsupportable burdens upon mada. With an eye to the sentiments his Conservative friends respecting the ar. he declared that the cost of Canada's are for the army and navy alone would \$48,000,000 a year. At Montreal he exhed that this figure applied only to the nt year. We cannot see that this ps his case. How does he know what military bill of England will be for current year? And supposing it ald reach the large figure involved in

calculation, does he think it was fair select an extraordinary year like the ent. when Britain has 215,000 men in eign field, for the purpose of criticiza measure of general application.

Leaving Sir Charles to popular judg nt on that score, the question remains be answered why he attacked imperialat all. Not many weeks ago his tune s set to quite another key. He was then ng Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Tarte the government as a whole, with inence to imperial interests. He took flattering unction to his soul that he elf deserved all the credit for send-

ons to South Africa, which was ral, seeing that he posed as the est imperialist in Canada and the er of an intensely pro-British party. ter the many things that Sir Charles

roachful term "imperialism," and we bound to see that such an ambition uld give rise to complicating problems among the armed nations of Europe. Coincident with this largely increased expenditure on the navy will be the con-

inned levving of the war tax. Last year the extra excise on beer, the license fees ources, and the stamp tax ncrcased revenue of \$100.000.-00, over and above an unusually abounding income from customs duties. The experience of the first two months of the current year warrants the expectation that Roberts. Since then Buller has not rethis sum will be swollen during 1900 by deemed his reputation. He has proved a further \$20,000,000; so that the problem of meeting the war debt may be regarded more. Since the relief of Ladysmith he as having been solved. It is not surprishas been torpid, and should be recalled. ing that many people should have looked for a reduction of these special burdens ST. HELENA. during the present year; but this does not seem to be the plan of those who are in St Helena was chosen as the prison of executive control. The taxes are to be Napoleon because it was the safest place continued and the money employed in enin which to keep the disturber of the larging the armament of the navy and inpeace of Europe. After his abdication in creasing the strength of the army. The 1814, he had been assigned the island of one feature which we may be permitted Elba as his residence, and within his own to remark upon in this connection is the cheerfulness with which our neighbors,

little realm could do as he liked; but he broke faith with Europe, again landed in already carrying relatively larger burdens France and was again overthrown at than we do, submit to these fresh drafts Waterloo. It was therefore very necessary upon their resources. The explanation is that he should be put in a secure place, and probably found in the large measure of so St. Helena was chosen. There were prosperity which they are just now enjoyisland prison, but they all failed and there Napoleon died.

LIBERAL WEIGHT AND GENIUS.

ing, in common with ourselves.

Helena, the British government has vio-The Conservatives who presented Sir lated no law, international or otherwise. Charles Tupper with an address at Mont-It is simply providing for the security of real recently, made the following statement to their chief: many of them attempted to escape as soon

"The people of Canada having had an opportunity of testing the principles and motives of the party now temporarily in possession of the reins of power, having weighed them in the balance and found as they got to Cape Town showed that extra precautions would be needed to retain them in the midst of a population, many of whom would be disposed to asthem lamentably wanting in the genius of sist them. At St. Helena, they will be administration, and recreant to every prineiple they advocated while in opposition, are turning confidently to the Liberalsafe and it will not be necessary to confine conservative party to replace an aggre-gation of opportunists by a Liberal-Con-servative government, founded on princi-ple and conducted on lines of patriotism than if confined within a stockade or in prison ships. There is, therefore, 10 as opposed to those of political expediground for protest against their removal

to St. Helena either on the part of the Disregarding the gratuitous assumption Transvaal government or of their sympaby the Conservatives of Montreal, that thizers in Cape Colony. St. Helena is the they know accurately the judgment of "the best place for them and there they will people of Canada" on these matters, we remain until the end of the war. permitted to ask when and where

THE ONTARIO OPPOSITION.

The Ontario opposition appears to be

was proceeded against for making illegal

returns of pine and other timber cut by

the republic. That the movement is thus in this unfit after the laffair of Queep, and American, not one of our theady new, and a great American, forgetful of the principles in where he lost eleven guns and a great which our institutions are rooted, and can many men. We concluded then that a ried about by every wind of imperialist general that had no higher ideas of stratdoctrine. He must be for sound mon egy and tactics than to make a front attack on a position defended by long-range and a pure civil service. He must be cannon and Mauser rifles, with a river in man of rugged, four-square build, able front, was not the man to lead a British to resist the 'ardor civium prava juben army to victory, and we did not hesitate tum.' If ex-Speaker Reed were a presithere and then to express an unfavorable dential poss bility, he would illustrate opinion of General Buller. This view did these necessary qualities. Even now, if not commend itself to some of our readers, he had it in his mind to put himself a but the British war office seems to have the head of the dissatisfied, the disgusted. been of the same opinion, for General the independent voters of the country, we Buller was promptly replaced by General do not doubt that he would soon display formidable strength. At any rate, he would be a candidate for whom men could himself to be a hard fighter, but nothing vote with respect both for themselves and for the office of president; and would at least meet that longing which we are convinced is widespread throughout the land, and which Admiral Dewey's entering

the lists has but served to accentuatelonging for a full sized man in the dency, to restore it to the honorable posi tion of an elder day." Such criticism cannot be regarded as he'pful to the gallant admiral

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

The return of famine in India after so many previous famines in recent years is a disquieting circumstance, and one which seems to demand the best thought of the many plots formed for his rescue from that British people and parliament for the pur pose of devising a suitable remedy. It was thought that by a large expenditure on In sending the Boer prisoners to St. irrigation works and the building of rail ways through the districts usually affected by famine all danger from that source had been removed, but the present famine the men it has captured. The fact that seems to be even more widespread than its immediate predecessor and the latter was one of the worst on record. There does not appear to have ever been an actual shortage of food in India taking the cour try as a whole, even in the famine years but food was short in certain localities some of which were not easily reache them within narrow limits. Their health for the purpose of relieving the searcity will be better and their comforts greater | In other words while India as a whole is able to provide its own food and some thing more certain districts are too densely peopled and cannot always be counted on to produce sufficient food for their inhab tants.

> British India has an area of 1.560,000 square miles and a population of 300, 000,000. That is less than 200 persons to

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ed this further appropriation light have been accepted by his friends least. But he will have himself entireto blame if they now question the vality of his claim. The man who could to Quebec in April and make the strong t anti-imperial speech ever delivered by party leader in Canada cannot wonder cople should question the absolute siniments held by him in rity of the sen mary. Nothing had happened in eantime to occasion a conversion radical and far reaching. We have said nothing had occured to ad unt for Sir Charles Tupper's change in is attitude to Great Britain. But we ust make allowance for the significant ict that he spoke to a Conservative audie in Quebec-an audience composed in ge part of the heads of the party organns throughout the province. He had et them in conference during the afteron. He must have felt that the thinz ost needed at the public gathering. was oic effort to neutralize what he deinated Sir Wilfrid Laurier's "imper-" and to do this he seems to have ught it expedient to boast of his overow of the Imperial Federation League, picture in lurid colors the taxation how rs of closer relations with the Empire, condomn the preference given in trade England, to hint darkly at the burans likely to fall upon Canada as the realt of our help to the mother country South Africa, and to indulge in an antiish round-up

The fact that Sir Charles should have osen the city of Quebec as the place to nounce his change of faith, rather than ne floor of parliament, may strike some ople as peculiar; but the matter is capble of easy explanation. He was talking Quebec. When he comes to speak in in the commons he will have some gard for the Ontario atmosphere which will then be breathing, and he may it convenient to harp again on failiar strings. The severity with which is party organs in the English-speaking vinces have ignored his speeches at ebec and Montreal will probably have rned him that he has been making a losal blunder, and no man in political fe has shown greater capacity for turning corner than has Sir Charles. He may ke the turn, or he may seek to bluff e thing through, with the help of such endments and corrections as expediency suggest. It is of little concern to iberals. Sir Charles has done his party a injury which cannot be repaired, though e task were in more skillful hands, and e and they must take the consequences.

AMERICAN AMBITION.

Our American neighbors are just now power." truggling with a severe attack of what me of the more Democratic journals call nperialism. They want a large navy and arge standing army-both of which are tly luxuries for any country. The sum propriated for the navy last year was 4,000,000, which, following upon the war tith Spain, was not scriously nor generly objected to.' This year, however, the masked for is \$61,000,000, and it is not, rhaps, unnatural that such a demand aroused a great deal of adverse critism. It is charged by those who are on he opposition side that this large expend- Everyone felt that the business of conquerre simply means the United States is ing the Boers was in good hands.

was this weighing of the Liberal party done? Who manipulated the scales, and what was put in the other pan? These are important things to know before one can be satisfied that it was a bona fide affair. It is easy to understand that if Sir Charles Tupper himself had charge of the operation, the weight of his own opinon would probably be held to more than counterpoise anything which could be put on the other side. No one has ever heard him express an exact notion of the weight, of his judgment; but it is probable that the man who could look an audience in the face and say, "I am the history of Canada," would not be apt to use small figures.

him during the years 1865 to 1871 inclusive. and after a long investigation by the What warrant have the Conservative Crown Lands Department of Ontario, by a of Montreal for saying that the Liberals commission and finally by Sir Oliver have been found wanting in the genius of Mowat, a fine of \$20,000 was imposed and administration? Most people would be collected. Scott is now dead and his famdisposed to think they had been doing ily are now moving to have part of this very well. Is there a single department fine refunded on the ground that-it was of the government in which the minister excessive. At their instance a motion was has not made a record for capacity and made in the legislature to appoint a select administration far beyond that of his precommittee to inquire into the charges decessor? Who would think, for example, against Scott, and as it was sprung sud of comparing Mr. Daly with Mr. Sifton, denly on the government and received the in the hope that the work of the former support of several Liberals whose sympawould stand the test; Sir Adolphe Caron thies had been worked upon, and of the with Mr. Mulock. Mr. Ouimet with Mr. entire opposition headed by Mr. Whitney. Tarte, Mr. Haggart with Mr. Blair, or it was carried. Here we have a man who Clark Wallace with Mr. Paterson. It is expects some day to be leader of a governcertain that the Conservative ministers rement, using all his influence with his party ferred to were not conspicuous for the to reopen a case which was decided almost success with which they carried on the thirty years ago, and that for no other particular branch of the public service enpurpose but to embarrass the government. rusted to them, while their successors There could not be a better proof of the have been singularly zealous and effective entire unfitness of the Ontario Conservan that regard. This will not be denied tives to be entrusted with power. by any man who desires to be fair.

This reflection upon Liberals by the Montreal Tories also reads something like DOWN ON DEWEY. a suggestive taunt. If this view is correct

then everything turns upon what would Admiral Dewey does not seem to be considered a satisfactory test of "the making substantial headway in his cangenius of administration." Some men didacy for the presidential chair. His might hold to one standard, and some to free and easy announcement that he is another. It is not inconceivable, having regard to the cold facts of history, that the clever handling of the Curran bridge tone of American comments to hand are contract and the works at Quebec, might. distinctly hostile. Most of the journals wrote me. be regarded by some as the best possible talk lightly of the admiral, which is, to proofs of administrative genius. There is cot a shadow of doubt that such transwith the ecstatic encomiums heaped upon actions were successful in yielding hundreds of thousands of dollars to Tory election funds, and this remark in the Montreal address may after all have only been worshippers. Sic transit gloria mundi. a delicate way of alluding to the simple While moralizing upon the uncertainty honesty of Liberals, which Sir Charles of popular admiration, we cannot fail to would not fail to appreciate. The recollection of these bygone opportunities was see the whimsical s de of Admiral Dewey's probably the incentive to the expressed character as revealed by this new ambition. It suggests the question of what highsburg, Quebec, as follows: Dear Sir, -Owing to the persistent ob wish of the Montreal Tories that Sir-Charles persevere in his " lofty ambition to bring the Conservative party back to nation like the United States. "The Na-

GENERAL BULLER. ter in a broad spirit. "What must be the qualities," it asks, "possessed by a man Before the beginning of the present war fit and able to come forward to put back General Buller was thought to be the best fighting general in the British army. This view was accepted mainly on the dictum

of Archibald Forbes, who had been with Buller in several campaigns. Forbes was regarded as a good authority, and when it was announced that the great Buller was to have the supreme command in South Africa, the whole Empire was satisfied. No, it is civic training which the times

many European countries. But India con tains much waste land, large areas of mountains in its northern districts and conducted on the principle that anything also large areas of jungle or forest. The that will injure or defeat the provincial mountain districts have but little land government is a good weapon to use, quite suitable for cultivation, while the jungle irrespective of the principle involved. On is of course incapable of producing any Wednesday last a notable instance of this thing in the shape of human food until ccurred when a motion was brought up it is reclaimed. In the cultivated districts by a private member for the purpose of of India therefore the population is greatly copening a case which had been decided congested, and it would been that the only many years ago in the time of Sir Oliver remedy for famine is the removal of a Mewat. A man named William A. Scott part of the populations to other districts that are less densely peopled. If after providing every appliance necessary to irrigate the land and guard against drouth famines still prevail a removal of a part of the population would seem to be the only remedy. Yet such a remedy will be most difficult to apply especially in India, where It is well to remember and we trust that caste has so much potency and where large

BRIBING THE CONSTITUENCIES.

It is well known that prior to the last general election Sir Charles Tupper exhausted every means in his power to obtain a majority and a return to power. Every source from which money could be extracted was drawn upon; contracts for large amounts of supplies were entered into with wealthy contractors and promises of subsidies were made to new railway companies secure their influence and support. A great deal of amusement was caused in the House the other day by the reading by Mr. Blair of the form of circular letter which was sent by Mr. Haggart, then minister of railways. This circular was drawn up by Mr. Dickey, then minister of justice, and it was thought would be effic ent for the purpose of stimulating the energies of those who wanted railway subsidies and inducing them to give their best support to the govcrnment. The circular was as follows: Dear Sir,-Owing to the persistent ob-

struction of the opposition, the government felt that it would be quite useless to bring down, as they had intended, a resolution about which you

I have every confidence that the next aim of all good men, the unity of the Em say the least, very sharply in contrast in charge of the affairs of the country, and pire. with the ecstatic encomiums heaped upon in that event the policy which was him a month or two ago. The "greatest thwarted this session by obstruction will hero of history" seems suddenly to have become the laughing stock of his whilom I have mentioned.

I am, yours faithfully,

Mr. Haggart received the draft of this see the whimsical s de of Admiral Dewey's character as revealed by this new am

make-up of the executive head of a great struction of the opposition, the government felt that it would be quite useless to bring nation like the United States. "The Na-tion;" in a recent issue, discusses this mat-with regard to subsidies for new railway projects, amongst which would have ap-peared a subsidy to the Montreal and Province Line Railway Company, for twenty miles of their railway from the town of the American presidency on its old pedes-tal? Evidently, no mere hero will do. We are glad to believe that Americans now a subsidy not exceeding \$3,200 per mile, nor exceeding in the whole \$84,000.

take their hero-worship more-easily; that we shall not easily make again the miswe shall not easily make again the mis-take of supposing that a successful mili-tary commander will be a successful provitary commander will be a successful presi-dent. The military habit as such is a will be carried to a conclusion, and parliadistinct handicap in the White House. ment will be invited to grant the subsidy

which I have mentioned. I am, yours faithfully, (Sgd.) - JOHN HAGGART.

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gart similar to the one we have quoted. That was the Tory plan of carrying election in 1896, yet it failed. frightful view.

THE TRINIDAD ARRANGEMENT.

the attention of the British government classes refuse to associate with each other. will be called to the fact that the proposed tariff arrangement between Canada and Trinidad which would have operated so beneficially to both countries was defeated similar to that which prevailed in these provinces a century ago: the governor is an autocrat, the members of the government owe their offices to his favor and therefore are subservient to his wishes. For that reason the vote in favor of a tariff arrangemajority were public officials who did not dare to disobey the governor's orders. This governor having done all the damage he could to British interests in the West Indies is going back to England to remain, and it is to be hoped that no more of hi and it is to be hoped that no allocation is housed will be sent out to any colonial possession. The British government she

exceptional in these respects. exercise more care in the selection of its governors and not appoint men to important positions who will be likely to thwart by their actions what is now the

THE WESTMINSTER CONFESSION.

of the Conservatives being successful at From time to time those distinctive the next general election there will be an tenets of faith which bear the name of "absolute necessity for improvement in Calvin form the subject of bitter controthe personnel of the next Conservative of the church holding to those particular cabinet." Sir Charles is told that the versy among ecclesiastics, or in the courts electors are growing independent and will succeeded to the pulpit of Plymouth not tolerate any more nonsense. "Sir loctrines. Dr. N. D. Hillis, who recently succeeded to the pulpit of Plymouth John A. Macdonald, by continuous years tration is all on one side, they accomplish the double purpose of flattering their leaddeal of public interest in a sermon redeal of public interest in a sermon re-specting predestination. The element o take some weak men into his cabinet and heresy enters into the discussion from the count on the electors condoning it. Not The opposition are seeking to make a fact that Dr. Hillis was at the time a so with the new leader. The very best point out of the fact that the imports of member of the Chicago Presbytery, al- material must be chosen by Sir Charles if though his name has since been struck he wins and if he hopes to retain public \$818,000 in 1899. When the Liberals were from the rolls. What he said in the ser- confidence. It would be well for Sir in opposition they repeatedly moved that

BAD GOVERNMENT MATERIAL.

Under the heading "a hint to Sir

bate and comment was this: he must have a clean government and a "On one page Jonathan Edwards says: God holds the unconverted over the put The electors of Canada are in the humor of hell, as much as one holds a spider or a loath-some insect over the fire, and from to let party leaders know that they will purpose in view. The farmers of Canada

a loathsome insect over the fire, and from time to time the generation in darkened not tolerate bad men." have got the benefit, and the Tories ought not to complain, since it was Sir John This article is double leaded and there-fore intended to attract an unusual share future as the housewife lifts the lid from of public attention. The "hint" to Sir the glowing coals and sweeps flies into of public attention. The mint to Sir the glowing coals and sweeps flies into the flames And today one of our great reparing to challenge the supremacy of the raile of the supremacy of the raile of t

sidies to the amount of upwards of \$8,000,- faith, saying that certain men and angels done. The Star's hint, therefore, is really 1000 had been promised for that single year, and no doubt every railway promoter in the country received a letter from Mr. Hug ent in the country or diminished,' and every young man who will be a good deal of curiosity to learn enters the Presbyterian church has ti who is aimed at by the Star, which of the solemnly swear to believe and teach this Conservative candidates for a cabinet

position are to be thrown aside and who "And every attempt to revise and exthe Star has in view for promotion. Of bel that statement from the creed has been successfully combated by a majority course when Sir Charles is asked to construct a good Conservative government that wishes to retain the doctrine. would seem that if men believed it reason out of the material he has in hand he is would be shaken to its foundation. It would seem as if a man would prefer to be burned at the stake rather than hold, or assert, or charge such infinite cruelty upon the all-merciful and all-loving God. Charles is asked to construct a good cabiby the efforts of the governor of Trinidad, The day the scholastics wrote that chapter net out of rubbish. We will say nothing an imperial officer, and one whose senti-in the Confession of Faith they got the devil confused with God. What: Read awkward when he is told that the electors ments ought certainly to have been in favor of an intercolonial arrangement the story of Christ's life, love, suffering, and death, and then charge God with of Canada will not tolerate bad men. If rather than one with a foreign country. In Trinidad the system of government is the majority of His children to eternal age the electors have not yet found it out, torment? I would rather shake my fist in the face of the Eternal, and fling every the same Sir Charles that he has been for vile epithet toward His stamiess throne where eternal Mercy sits with the world' | the past forty years. Now what material atoning Saviour, than lift my hand with has Sir Charles out of which to construct that creed toward God's throne and affirm a cabinet if he should be called upon to that I taught or believed it. For the man form one? By his side sits Mr. George E. who does believe that hidcous doctrine Foster, who cannot be regarded as a very dad council was not a free vote because nine out of the twelve who formed the majority were public official to the twelve and the formed the to give their light."

These views have been endorsed by These views have been endorsed by some of the secular papers, treated in a and not one of them likely to inspire renon-committal way by others, and con spect. It is true that Taylor, Davin and demned by a few. The controversy is Dr. Sproule have been making a strong still active. Such discussions are usually bid for recognition among the leaders of marked by warmth and fruitles ness, and the party, but they are even less available this particular one will probably not be

servative party in the House of Commons is a wreck and it does not contain the material out of which to form a government of respectable ability. But there is no danger of Sir Charles being required to form a government: when the next Charles," the Montreal Star warns the lominion general elections are over leader of the opposition that in the event the Tories will be even weaker in the House of Commons than they are now.



When the Conservatives of Montreal tell Sir Charles that the genius of adminis-

binder twine rose from \$227,000 in 1895, to non which has given rise to so much de Charles Tupper to rise to the fact that binder twine should be on the free list. When they came into power they put it capable government or it will not last. on the free list, and the larger importation shows that the change accomplished the

St. John, N. B.

Clarke Wallace, Haggart, Montague,

than the others we have named. The Con-

