

POOR DOCUMENT

THE WEEKLY HERALD

CHARLES H. LECHE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
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A FLAG OF TRUCE

The British fleet appears to have made short work of the Alexandria fortifications. A few hours' cannonading seems to have been sufficient to demolish their structures and to place the city completely at the mercy of the British forces. A flag of truce has been hoisted. This result is very satisfactory. The power of England and her determination to act having been made manifest, Arabi Bey and his followers will probably prove amenable to reason. If, as is claimed, Arabi represents the National idea there is no doubt that a Liberal Government in England will feel bound to throw no obstacles in the way of the consummation of it, so far as is consistent with her obligations to the Sultan and the Porte.

The speedy success of the bombardment seems to establish the fact that the British fleet is able to maintain the prestige of the nation abroad. It is many years since the fleet has been called into action. During the Crimean war the part played by it was very unimportant, owing either to the timidity of the commanders or of the war office. In a few engagements even then the navy proved itself to have lost none of its power. At Alexandria they were confronted with armaments which were called formidable, but have been proved of very little value as against the heavy ordnance of the British ships and the superior skill of the gunners.

PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTE.

The Professional Educational Institute, which is in session in this city, ought, and we suppose does, play an important part in the educational affairs of New Brunswick. In its discussions a great many ideas of value ought to be elicited, and in the interchange of experience which it renders possible, the teachers should be able to improve, in a very high degree, their system of teaching. In common with other similar institutions, this labors under a serious disadvantage. The discussions are apt to be monopolized by a few, not because those who speak do not desire the others to take part, but on account of the diffidence of many who are well able to make suggestions of value. If we may be allowed to tender advice we would say to the teachers that they will never fully derive all the benefit they ought to from the institute, which indeed will not reach its highest degree of usefulness, unless all take part in the consideration of the various questions which come up during a session. Properly worked, such a gathering of teachers should do a vast deal of good, and it ought not to be forgotten that however earnest the Chief Superintendent or Principal Crockett or the other officers may be, his full purpose can only be accomplished by the personal co-operation of all the members.

PARTIES IN THE ASSEMBLY.

The experience of a good many centuries has been crystallized into an adage, and we are advised never to bid a certain personage good morning until we meet him. The news ought to bear this in mind when it sits down to discuss a Liberal, or as it calls it "grit," Local Government. No one yet has proposed to form a Local Government on strict Liberal lines; and until something of the kind is intended, to argue against it would appear to be to lose the labor lost. It would not, however, as our contemporary says, be impossible to form a Liberal Government in a House, the majority of whose members are Liberals; but it would be inexpedient to do so, seeing that other issues than those usually understood as dividing the Liberal from the Tory party, present themselves for the consideration of the local Legislature, and that upon these issues many persons sympathize with the Opposition, although in Dominion politics they are supporters of Sir John Macdonald. The Government which will be formed when the Westmoreland combination goes to pieces, will, we have no doubt, be one which both in policy and person will commend itself to progressive men in both of the great parties, as calculated to secure an honest administration of affairs and the inauguration of those reforms which the condition of the Province so urgently demands. Until everything has been done in local politics which needs to be done, it is time enough to divide parties in the Assembly by the same line as they are divided in Parliament. The Tories themselves may force the adoption of another course, and if they do, nothing remains but for the Liberals to meet them upon their own ground; but it is in every way advisable to keep the affairs of the two Legislatures as distinct as possible. No surer barrier can be set up against centralization than the division of parties in the Assembly upon local issues only.

TIMBER LICENSES.—By law all timber licenses in the Province expired on the first day of the present month. No provision having been made for their renewal all the timber which is being cut on Crown Lands now is being cut by trespassers. The operators are very justly annoyed at this extraordinary neglect on the part of the Government, and complaints are many and loud. It will no doubt interest the public to know that the Surveyor General, in the meanwhile, is enjoying himself salmon fishing with a party of friends.

THE REPRESSION LAW.

The counting out of Mr. Rogers in Albert, and similar wrongs in other constituencies resulting from errors made by the returning officers, is attracting considerable attention to the Dominion election law. We have reason to think that a careful examination of the returns in many other Counties would show that the blunders of officers have not been confined to those localities in which recounts have taken place. It is apparent that the stupidity or the wilful negligence of a returning officer may entirely defeat the expression of public opinion at the polls, and is quite possible for an unscrupulous administration to abuse the powers given them by the law and by the selection of partisan returning officers, secure the defeat of such candidates as they may desire to see left out of Parliament. In the County of York it appears that only fifty ballots were spoiled by the voters or rejected for irregularity. This small number out of an aggregate vote of nearly four thousand shows that the electors themselves do not find the law difficult of comprehension. Perhaps it is impossible to devise any system of voting by ballot which would secure a smaller per centage of errors than one and one quarter per cent. The fault of the law would seem not to be in those provisions which apply to the voters. It is folly to cry out, as some Ontario journals do, against the ballot because of the miscarriages of justice which have resulted from the blunders of the returning officers. There is a remedy for the evil, and it would seem to consist in a provision that a disregard of those provisions of the Act, which are merely directory to the returning officer, should not invalidate the election of a candidate who had a majority of the votes polled.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

This officer is giving a great deal of dissatisfaction to persons having business with him by reason of the extraordinary manner in which he attends, or rather does not attend, to the public business. He is a terrible man to procrastinate, and many matters which ought to have been decided long ago are still in abeyance. This causes a great deal of complaint, and people naturally ask what the Surveyor General is for. He gets a salary and a pretty good one, about a hundred dollars a day for every day he spends in his office. The Legislature, in creating the office and attaching a salary to it, intended that the incumbent should render a reasonable part of the time in his office and discharge some of its duties. Mr. Adams, however, seems to consider that nothing of this kind is called for from him.

THE SHERIFFS.

A correspondent draws attention to the fact that the Sheriff's have not yet been gazetted for 1882 and asks whose axe is being ground by the delay. The law says that the Sheriff shall be appointed in April and the fact that this has not been done this year is certainly a matter calculated to give rise to some comment. There can be no good reason for departing from the plain provisions of the Statute, that is no reason which will bear investigation. It is possible that the Government has overlooked the law, just as they did the provision in respect to vacancies in the Legislative Council.

It is stated on good authority that petitions will be at once filed against the four members elect for Westmorland and the two members elect for Albert. The evidence against these gentlemen is very strong and it is said that one or more of them will certainly be disqualified.

It appears from a London despatch that the Canadian Parliament has been, or is to be, rapped over the knuckles, for speaking its mind in reference to home rule for Ireland. Probably the representatives of the Home Government will not greatly disturb our people.

As will be observed from a paragraph elsewhere, the Madawaska election is to be protested. Mr. Theriault claims the seat. Although we are in possession of a very full statement of the case we deem it advisable to express no opinion at present.

COLLEGIATE SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—The midsummer examination of the Collegiate School was held Thursday afternoon. Among the visitors were Dr. Harrison, Dr. Bailey, Prof. Rivet, the Secretary of the School Trustees, Mr. Foster, of the Park Barrack School, Principal Crockett and others, including a number of former pupils and ladies. The classes were examined in classics by Mr. Parkins, in geography, history and arithmetic by Mr. Horseman, in English grammar, analysis and composition by Miss Gregory, and in geometry by Mr. Parkin. Mr. Parkin, in referring to the work of the school, said that the pupils of this school had taken during the past year, high positions at different schools and colleges in Canada, among them being three gold medalists besides a number of other prize winners. The prizes awarded were as follows: Lorne Silver Medal and mathematical prize, the latter given by the University, Frank Jarvis, of St. John; Douglas Silver Medal to William Anderson, of Fredericton. Dr. Harrison made a few remarks, praising the efficiency of the school, after which the examination closed.

HONORED.—Judge Steadman was honored with an address at the Victoria County Court.

WAR IN EGYPT.

A rumor spread that the Khedive was going adrift. There was great excitement in consequence. Arabi Bey is now commencing operations against the Suez canal. Barges laden with stone have been sent down to be sunk when necessary. Explosives are also being hurried down. England is most dilatory in not sending gunboats to guard the canal. Arabi is now at Damietta looking after the coast defenses. Gen. Stone, it is feared, is throwing in his lot with Arabi and endeavoring to do his utmost to hamper English action. His conduct, generally inscrutable, is universally blamed.

The New York Herald says: "The massacre of all the inhabitants of a little village on a railroad line in Dakota Territory by a band of Indians is reported by Gen. Terry, the commander of the military department. It will largely depend upon his vigor and discretion whether the murderers shall be reached and punished without the repetition of a costly Indian war in that region, and we are glad to believe that he is entitled to confidence as one of the most energetic and prudent officers the army possesses for such an exigency."

London, July 11.—The British Government has taken a decided stand on the Egyptian question. It is expected that the army reserves will be called out at once, and a force of 1,000 European and 3,000 native troops is being organized at Bombay to proceed to Egypt.

The following is a summary of the news from Egypt:—A despatch to the Times from Alexandria states that Admiral Seymour has sent an ultimatum to the authorities demanding the instant stoppage of the construction of earthworks under threat of opening fire. The work has ceased for the moment.

Despite all denials to the contrary, work on the fortifications continues. Admiral Seymour delays for many days the cessation of work until all British residents are on board the vessels in the harbor. They are now hastily embarking.

The French Cabinet has considered instructions to be given to Admiral Conrad, commander of the French fleet, in view of the possibility of the English fleet bombarding the defenses at Alexandria. It is understood that they decided to remain passive, and only participate if provoked by some act or incident.

Sir Herbert Macpherson will have chief command of the forces sent from India to Egypt.

The Spanish Government has received a despatch from Alexandria asserting that Egyptian bands have attempted to cut the Suez Canal. Admiral Seymour has received a reply to his ultimatum, stating that the report as to work upon the batteries and forts is not true.

Alexandria. The Channel fleet, with the 8th and 9th regiments, and a company of engineers, will leave for Cyprus on Saturday.

Five hundred fresh placards offering £20,000 reward for the discovery of the murderers of Cavendish and Burd were posted on Friday.

Abou Bahamieh Pasha, President of the Council of Ministers, has resigned. Radji Pasha has been summoned from Adrianople.

In the Commons, on Friday, the report on the repression bill was finished. At 11 p. m., Trevelyan moved the third reading, which was carried, Messrs. Collins, Lyden, Lambourne and Story being the only dissentients. In the House of Lords, to-night, the repression bill passed its first reading.

The Powers intended yesterday morning to ask the Sultan to intervene in the affairs of Egypt and he was to be given until Wednesday to decide upon his course. If the Porte refuses or seems afraid to take action, 25,000 men with 15,000 in reserve will be concentrated in the neighboring powers. The army will land at Aboukir and will be divided into two parts. One will march on Alexandria and will move into the outer harbor, alongside the "Monarch."

The Ministry continues to declare their resolve to resist. They have taken precautions to ensure the safety of the Khedive in the event of troops being landed.

The Standard's correspondent at Alexandria telegraphs that the French Admiral has received orders to conform with the English if the latter opens fire.

All officers of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards are ordered to rejoin their regiments. The 2nd Battalion are ordered to embark for Egypt.

A portion of the Grenadier Guards and Household Cavalry have undergone medical inspection, with a view of foreign service, and the Reserve have been called out.

Arabi Pasha yesterday was formally summoned to Constantinople by the Sultan, but refused to obey.

London, July 11.—The bombardment continues. The forts are suffering severely from the heavy and disastrous fire of the ships Alexandria, Sappur and Tamerlan.

A despatch just received from Alexandria says the magazine at Fort Ada has been blown up.

Alexandria, July 11.—Admiral Seymour recommenced the attack on the forts in the morning. The small effect of the 81-ton and other heavy guns on the earthworks caused some disappointment in the fleet. The Invincible had four men wounded. The Inflexible was hit five times.

A British naval officer states that the bombardment commenced at 7.45 this morning. The Ironclads Superb, Sultan, and Alexandria were engaged and totally destroyed Fort Pharos and the Light-house batteries at the entrance of New Port, and intend to dominate the approach to the new harbor. The flagships Invincible, Monarch and Penelope took up commanding positions inside the reefs and, assisted from the outside by the Tenebris, attacked with destructive effect the strong position of Fort Alex with the light-house and shore batteries. The Inflexible was stationed so as to command the lighthouse batteries, Fort Pharos and Fort Mex, at the same time, and was thus in a position to cooperate both with the division outside and that inside the reefs. The gun vessels Bittern, Condor, Beacon, Decoy, and Cygnet attacked Marabout batteries at the entrance to the harbor and, taking a close destructive range, soon silenced them, after which they ran in and shelled Fort Mex on the southern side of the entrance to the anchorage or outer harbor. The Invincible, under cover of her own guns and those of the Bittern, then landed a party of blue jackets and marines, who entered Fort Mex and blew up the heavy guns.

The bombardment practically ceased at noon, though some heavy guns were still shelling Fort Napoleon, a large work, situated at the southern angle of the inner harbor and dominating the town. The fort does not reply.

On the whole, the Egyptians fought the batteries with more determination than expected. Several earth works, behind which guns were mounted, were found to be mere heaps of sand.

A SENSATION IN PARIS—ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

Paris, July 11.—The news that Admiral Seymour had bombarded Alexandria this morning created a great sensation. The belief gains ground that England all along had a secret understanding with Turkey. It is said that Defreyndt knows of a secret treaty between the two powers.

The popular feeling in Alexandria grows more hostile to Arabi.

FEELING IN VIENNA.

Paris, July 11.—Despatches from Vienna say it is admitted in Government circles that England is perfectly justified in her vigorous action against Arabi Pasha's attitude of provocation, and as long as England pursues this line of conduct she will meet no opposition from the powers.

London, July 12.—Despatch from a ship off Alexandria, says: At 12.40 o'clock a. m., Inflexible and Tenebris opened fire on Moncrieff fort, which had been repaired during the night. The first three shots greatly damaged the batteries. A signal has just been made to cease firing.

OF ALEXANDRIA, July 12, 1.30 p. m.—A flag of truce is displayed from the town. A steamer with a flag of truce is approaching the fleet.

London, July 12.—The Turkish Ambassador, yesterday demanded that firing should cease, but Earl Granville replied that could not now be done.

Recruiting is actively going on throughout England.

The gunboats did effective work yesterday. The Condor ran within 1200 yards of Marabout fort, a single shot from which would have sunk her, and before the signal had been given to cease firing, she had completely silenced three heavy guns on the fort. Admiral Seymour signalled "Well done Condor!"

London, July 12.—Admiral Seymour telegraphs that the party from the Invincible, which landed to destroy Fort Mex, burst three and spiked six of the guns on the fort.

Fire Investigation.

An investigation was held yesterday by the Police Magistrate into the origin of the fire in the Brayley House barn. Only one witness was examined, namely William H. Vanward who being sworn said: I am a merchant of the city; have a store on Queen street; I remember Monday the third day of July instant; I heard an alarm of fire; I was standing at my store door; I went down street towards the Brayley House; they were bringing horses and carriages out of the alleyway. I know Sheldon McNally; did not see him at that time; just before the alarm was given I was in the Brayley House street and as I was coming out Sheldon McNally ran past me out of the alley; he made some remarks about seeing some boy, or words to that effect, which I do not remember, as he passed me; I went straight to my store and just as I arrived there the alarm of fire was given; my store is in the fifth building above the Brayley House; I went to the fire; I found the Brayley House barn on fire; could not say what part of the barn the fire was in; I was not in the barn; was in the harness room up stairs in a shed attached to the barn; it was all on fire inside of the room attached to the barn; before the fire was subdued the barn was all burnt inside and destroyed to a great extent.

Cross examined by Mr. E. L. Wetmore, Q. C.—I was in the alleyway coming from the privy; I was nearer the street than the yard or the back part of the brick building; I did not observe the boy until he was just passing me; I could not say if he came from the barn or the back part of the building or where he came from; he passed me and went on the street; he was running; I walked at an ordinary rate up to the store; the first cry I heard was fire, and then I heard it was the Brayley House barn; I then went down to the fire; there was a great deal of smoke coming from the barn; judging from the dense volume of smoke coming out, the barn appeared to be all on fire. The roof was flat roof and would cause the smoke to spread over a larger area than the fire; the first blaze I saw was in the harness room coming from the barn.

DEATH OF HON. A. MCL. SEELY.—We regret to learn of the death of the Hon. A. McL. Seely, which occurred at his residence in St. John on Monday last. Mr. Seely was grandson of Seth Seely, a loyalist. He spent most of his life in St. John, where he was engaged in shipbuilding and lumbering. He was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1854 and in 1875 was elected President in the room of the late Hon. J. S. Saunders. He was a member of the University Senate, and a prominent official in connection with various Societies under the auspices of the Baptist Church. For several years he was President of the Commercial Bank in St. John. In all his relations in life Mr. Seely has preserved his career untitled. He was honorable not only in battle but in fact. He was twice married, his second wife surviving him. He leaves five sons and four daughters. His eldest son is Mr. A. Seely, Assistant Superintendent of the N. B. Railway. Mr. Seely has been in failing health for some time and his death is scarcely unexpected. His funeral will take place to-morrow at 3 p. m.

VICTORIA LODGE, I. O. O. F.—The officers of Victoria Lodge, No. 13, I. O. O. F., were installed on Monday evening, July 2nd, by N. A. Cliff, D. G. M.—John Palmer, N. G.; H. G. Creed, V. G.; F. E. Richards, Rec. Sec.; S. Withrow, P. G. Per. Sec.; W. F. Flewelling, P. G. Treas.; James Adams, P. G. W. G.; C. P. Morehouse, P. G. C.; H. Burden, I. G.; J. G. Black, P. G. O. G.; C. A. Sampson, P. G. R. S. N. G.; G. H. Simmons, P. G. L. S. N. G.; H. B. Clark, P. G. S. V. G.; Geo. E. Crescup, L. S. V. G.; Edward Brown, R. S. S.; J. B. Hawthorne, L. S. S.; Rev. J. E. Read, Chaplain; J. Z. Currie, M. D.; Physician; C. H. Hatt, Organist.