

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1886.

Meeting of Provincial Legislature

The fourth session of the twenty-ninth General Assembly of this Province was opened on Thursday last, with the usual ceremonies of guards of honor and military salutes. Having arrived at the Council Chamber and taken his seat upon the throne, the House of Assembly having responded to the usual summons, His Honor the Honorable Andrew Archibald Macdonald, Lieutenant Governor, was pleased to deliver the following SPEECH:

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: It gives me great pleasure to meet you again for the discharge of your legislative duty. The time of your assembling, although later in the season than usual, is as early as practicable this year, and will, I trust, occasion inconvenience to any of you.

Answers to Problem and Charade. The answers to Problem and Charade in Herald of the 1st March were, for the 123rd and 124th, "Penelope." The first two persons answered both, and the remainder the Problem.

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Gladsstone's Pronouncement.

Few events in the political history of modern times have been looked forward to with greater anxiety, associated with deeper interest or received with more general appreciation than Gladsstone's declaration on the Irish question.

The general elections in December last those who had watched the course of British politics knew that some scheme of Irish local self-government must, in the near future, be proposed to Parliament. When it finally became known that the eighth of April was that on which the veteran premier was to make his formal announcement, speculation became rife as to what the announcement might be, and all eyes were turned towards Westminster Palace; and even those who never before had known politics to take any interest in Imperial affairs, awaited with bated breath the formal declaration of the great British statesman. It might have been asked why all this anxiety, why this speculation as to the announcement of Mr. Gladstone? The answer is plain. Because the Prime Minister was a great and world-wide Empire was about to introduce a measure of legislation, which, if happily carried through Parliament, was calculated to eradicate a great and crying evil; to remove a national grievance of long standing, and to ameliorate the condition of five millions of people. He was about to take a step which no British statesman had ever dared to take, which was likely to cause the overthrow of his government, and which had already cost him the loss of two Cabinet Ministers. But great minds are not deterred from giving to the world the benefit of some grand scheme of their own creation, which they know must be of incalculable benefit to posterity, because all are not of their way of thinking; and a man of Gladstone's extraordinary mental capacity, rare intellectual gifts and long experience in the affairs of the country, who had long seen too far into the future to allow even deflections from his own Cabinet to prevent him from promulgating a plan for carrying out a legislative reform, for which he knows the time has arrived, and which is calculated to benefit millions of his fellow creatures. With these facts before him, and conscious of his power to impress his schemes favorably on the assembled wisdom of the three kingdoms, he made known to the civilized world his plan for the settlement of the Irish question.

We give, elsewhere, in this issue, an outline of the speech of the "grand old man," and of the scene and around the Parliament buildings on that memorable occasion. About half-past four o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday last, Mr. Gladstone rose in his place amid enthusiastic cheers, and commenced to address that House which had long acknowledged him its master. Although bowed with the weight of seventy-six years, and although his voice, has, perhaps, lost some of its wonted vigor, yet he, immediately, by the power of his matchless eloquence, captivated and held spell-bound to the close the attention of the largest audience ever assembled in the House of Commons. In the opening of his speech he explained that, close as was the connection between Irish land tenure and government reform, yet it was found impossible to deal with both questions at the same time. He declared he knew of no task ever laid upon him which required so diversified an expedition, he magnified the question, he said, filled him with a noblest of mist, and the responsibility which would rest upon him if he neglected to explain it in its various aspects, alone encouraged him to grapple with the herculean task. The measure which he was about to propose to the Commons was calculated, if carried through, to liberate Ireland from the restraints under which it had of late years ineffectually struggled to perform the business of a country and reform British legislation, to its former unimpeded course, and to establish friendly relations between Great Britain and Ireland on the basis of those two institutions, which Englishmen, Scotchmen and Irishmen were so unalterably attached. Reviewing the history of Ireland for the past fifty years, he showed that the habitual coercive measures of that period had failed to produce anything but unfavorable results, and said that Ireland wanted was law which did not bear a foreign aspect. He then entered fully into an explanation of his scheme, showing how Imperial unity and diverse legislatures might co-exist. As examples of this he pointed to Austria and Hungary, Sweden and Norway, and pointed out that the first condition of a civilized people was freedom of law and sympathy with the law. The focal unity of the Empire, he said, was to be maintained; no Parliament was to be established in Dublin in which two orders of representatives were to sit; and Irish members were no more to sit in the House of Commons or Irish Peers in the House of Lords. The Viceroy was to be maintained but not to be a party officer. The Queen might designate to him any power which she saw fit to confer, but she was to be a party officer. The Queen might designate to him any power which she saw fit to confer, but she was to be a party officer.

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Legislative Proceedings

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1886.

The members of the House of Assembly having attended His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in the Council Chamber, and having returned to their place, the Hon. Mr. Sullivan introduced a Bill to expedite trials in the Supreme Court. The Bill having been received and read a first time, the House proceeded to the appointment of the different select and standing committees, and after some other routine business, adjourned until the following day.

The Speaker took the Chair at 4 o'clock, p. m. The reports of Committees having been received, and other business transacted.

Mr. ALEXANDER MARTIN presented a Draft Address in answer to the Speech of the Hon. Mr. Sullivan, Lieutenant Governor, and moved that it be made the Order of the Day for Saturday following.

On the 10th inst., by Rev. G. J. Prescott, Frederick S. King, formerly of Boston, and the Rev. M. Campbell, Dominion Messenger, Charlottetown.

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Local and Special News

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FOR SALE OR TO LET

THIRTY ACRES OF LAND adjoining the village of Souris West.

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LOCAL AND OTHER

ISLAND FISH is selling in 8 cents per lb.

Next additional Grey Nun Hospital arrived here last week.

W. W. BIRD, of here last week, returned from purchasing tin and summer stock of goods.

THAT celebrated horse, Keogan, of Augusta, Me., large paragon, and still w Boston Market.

As a general rule, the value of a horse is determined by its speed and endurance.

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