THE HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1883.

The Rival Railroads.

For a number of years Canada had but one great railroad; she has two now, and there is between them a clashing of interests. The Grand Trunk runs from the city of Quebec right into Chicago, and has branches, as feeders, equal in extent to many respectable roads, all along the great main artery. Since the Canada Pacific Railroad sprang into existence—with a bound almost—its rival has dedicated all its energies and resources to obtaining possession, either by lease or purchase of those lines, both in Quebec and Ontario, which might be of use to, or fall into the hands of, the Canada Pacific, and has succeeded, to a certain extent; but it has not rested on the defensive. As every one knows, the Grand Trunk is owned and run by English capitalists; it is rich and powerful, and had, therefore, not much difficulty in preventing the Canada Pacific Railroad floating its stock in London on a late occasion. This was open war, for though hostilities had been waged between the rival lines for years, this was the first time it had been formally declared. Nor have the Canada Pacific Railroad people been idle; they are as intelligent and aggressive, though as yet not as powerful as their enemies, and looking as far into the future as they could, they busied themselves checking their rival and counteracting its schemes in every way. When one bought the Western Division of the North Shore, running between Ottawa and Quebec, and called it the Canada Pacific, the other purchased the Eastern Division, and christened it the Canada Atlantic. Thus, the Grand Trunk is now in possession of two lines running between Montreal and Quebec, while the Canada Pacific Railroad has a complete road connecting Ottawa with Winnipeg and beyond, and is now engaged raiding into Ontario, its object being to get into Chicago, just as that of the Grand Trunk is to reach Winnipeg, and, who knows, British Columbia itself, in the sweet by-and-bye. There is a bill now before the Committee on Railways which, if passed, will authorize the Canada Pacific Railroad to lease the Credit Valley, the Ontario and Quebec, and Atlantic and Northwest Railroads. It is the desire of the Government that the Bill shall pass, and pass it undoubtedly will, and the young giant will then have placed one of its iron feet at Toronto, and the other at Winnipeg, preparatory to stretching them to Chicago and New Westminster. It is small wonder that the Government favor the Canada Pacific Railroad. It is the great national undertaking to which the country is pledged; and while, of course, not throwing any obstacle in the way of the older railroad, which is well able to keep the field against all-comers, feels, in duty bound, that the undertaking to which so large a subsidy has been given, shall march to a successful issue. The Grand Trunk has benefitted Canada, whether it intended or not to do so, and has also enriched its owners, the purpose for which it was originally called into existence. But the Canada Pacific Railroad is an actual necessity, if Canada is to take the place in the world she is entitled to. We need only point to the Northwest, as a result of what it has already achieved. But this is only the beginning of the benefit to Canada accruing from the Canada Pacific Railroad, for in another decade, if all the indications are not false, there will be cities, towns, and incorporated villages, where the buffalo is now grazing, and the population springing up beside the iron track as it goes west, will be reckoned by hundreds of thousands, perhaps by millions. Long ere then the lands of the United States worth cultivating will have been occupied, and the earth-hungry of Europe, must, perforce, satisfy it in our Northwest. The fear weighing on men's minds is, that those two great corporations may amalgamate, and form a dangerous monopoly. This amalgamation was all but an accomplished fact a month ago. Negotiations were only broken off at the last moment by the directors of the Canada Pacific, when they found, as they imagined, that Mr. Stephens, their President, was looking more to his own interests than to theirs. Affairs having gone so far, it is probable negotiations will be resumed; but the general opinion is that the amalgamation will not take place, and that the Canada Pacific will have to force its way into Chicago, and the Grand Trunk Railway into Winnipeg, each in spite of the other.

The Affirmation Bill.

MR. GLADSTONE would resign after each defeat, only that he thinks the country cannot get along very well without him. The fact is, Mr. Gladstone has been puffed overmuch in the newspapers; the title of the "Grand Old Man" was the last straw that broke the back of his modesty, and he now goes around with the air of a demigod, even before his death. His defeat on the Affirmation Bill, which was certainly a Government measure, is the second he has experienced since last February; but, because he is the "Grand Old Man," he will not resign. It is hardly probable the Conservatives wish him to resign, however; if they did, they could force it upon him at any moment. They have not a majority in the House exclusive of discontented Liberals, nor are they sure of a victory if they appeal to the country. In another year they may change their minds, for the Liberal majority is fast falling away. It is to their interest, just now, that Gladstone should remain in power until the breach widens between the Whigs and Radicals. Then will the proper time have come. In the meantime Gladstone is really carrying out the policy of the Tories. He is coercing Ireland in right Tory fashion, and he has settled the Egyptian difficulty in a manner that must rejoice the heart of the Jingo element. His Franchise Bill, which, if passed, might ensure a continuation of the Liberals in office, is fading away; the Tories and the Adullamites will not allow it to pass. So much for the "Grand Old Man," who has done wonderful deeds in his generation; but who has reached the limit of his energy and eloquence. The next thing we shall hear of will be that Gladstone will be created a peer, that the Whigs and Tories will have coalesced, and that Chamberlain and Dilke will be rivals for the Radical leadership.

As respects Bradlaugh, he has shewn by his action that he realizes the Commons will have none of him. The majority against his admission was small, but it will grow larger; and although some kind of Affirmation Bill will be passed some day, it may be when the green grass grows over the breast of the Atheist. The Whigs and Tories of England excluded Catholics from Parliament for a century and a half, and only admitted them at last when O'Connell, with a nation behind him, knocked at the door. We are much afraid it was not through a love for insulted Christianity they voted against Bradlaugh; but it is consoling to know all the same, that Atheism is discounted as yet in England. The first great struggle between religion and Agnosticism has taken place, and the latter has recoiled vanquished, but not dispirited. It will come again some day, when the issue will be more clearly joined.

The City Hospital Bazaar.

WE deem it a most agreeable duty—in the sacred cause of suffering humanity—to call the attention of our kindly disposed readers to the Hospital Bazaar, which is to take place in July next. We perform this pleasing duty from a conception of our responsibilities as a public journalist, as well as from our deep personal friendship to an institution that has done incalculable good amongst us. It is our sacred obligation to promote the temporal welfare of any scheme for the alleviation of human miseries. The City Hospital has for its humane object the relief of the afflicted members of all denominations. Every community is bound to provide for the maintenance of its sick and its poor. The foul disgrace of not having a suitable place where our suffering fellow-beings could receive proper care and attention, existed too long a time for a city of the size and population of Charlottetown. That stigma has recently been removed by the establishment of the City Hospital. Surely, it is our duty to continue its benign influence amongst us, and to increase and extend its usefulness. Our generous and liberal-minded citizens will have an opportunity of showing the interest which they take in this institution on the 10th of July, the occasion of the grand Bazaar in its aid. An excellent Committee is hard at work to ensure its success. We are confident, from what we know of the unfailing generosity of our citizens, that their noble and self-sacrificing efforts will be liberally seconded.

A few words as to the charitable institution in question may be seasonable. The proper care of the sick and suffering always pre-supposes good, gentle, attentive nurses. The Sister of Charity excels in this department. She has left all to give her service to the sick, purely and solely for the love of God. Her charity towards the poor, her gentleness towards the afflicted, her sympathy and interest in the wounded are all founded on the supernatural motive of devotion to the suffering members of Christ.

The good, gentle, self-sacrificing Sister of Charity holds a prominent niche in the history of nations. She is to be met wherever and whenever human woes are to be relieved. In the dark night, she may be met in the lanes of our large cities, where she has been soothing the burning brow of some fever-stricken victim. She is to be found in the crowded hospitals, going quietly from patient to patient, and alleviating the many pains from which they suffer. In the pest-houses, in the plague districts, you always meet this gentle, refined, angel visitor. In the thickest of the battle-field, where soldiers fall in thousands, her delicate hand heals the wounds of the dying. Noblest creature of Heaven, who would not admire, honor and protect thee! Our City Hospital is conducted by the same kind, self-sacrificing Sister of Charity. They toil, from morning until night, in attending the sick and the afflicted. They have no earthly motive, no worldly gain in their care and attention to those under their protection. They have left home, friends, country—all to serve our Lord in his suffering members. It is said, in reproachful tones, that the influence of the Sister of Charity is all-powerful with the dying. Even if this be a fact—which we are not prepared to dispute—is it to be reprehended? When a poor soul is suffering the throes of death, is it to be considered a crime that a gentle Sister of Charity should speak to him of the eternal love of God, should whisper in his dying ear words of hope and encouragement? Is it any harm that she should awaken, in that abandoned soul, some interest in his eternal salvation. This is as far as the Sister can go; she cannot exercise the functions of a Catholic priest, or administer any Sacraments to the dying. All who have ever attended the Hospital can bear witness to the fact that there is never any interference with the religious convictions of the patients on the part of the Sisters, unless such patients express the desire of having the ministrations of some particular minister of religion.

Editorial Notes.

THE reports of the wheat crop in California, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, are most encouraging. California alone will raise 30,000,000 bushels this season.

FOLKS to the west of us affect to look with pity on the climate of the Island; but when it is considered that there has not been a week of spring weather in Toronto this season, and hardly two days in Ottawa or Montreal, we have no reason to envy them their good fortune. We have had some spring weather.

NEXT Sunday the St. Vincent de Paul Societies of Quebec will begin a Triduum in the Basilica, for the celebration of their fiftieth anniversary. Public prayers and devotions will make up the celebration. The Archbishop of Quebec will take a leading part in the grand and imposing ceremonies in the Cathedral. The Superior Council of Quebec is the head house of the Society in Canada. The Charlottetown Conference is to be represented at the Quebec celebration by the zealous and efficient Secretary of the Society, Mr. James A. McKenna, of the Railway Department. We congratulate our young friend on this important mission, and express the opinion that he will fulfil it with dignity to himself and honor to the Charlottetown Conference.

THE Redemptorist Fathers will arrive in Charlottetown on Saturday, 16th of June next, and will open the Mission in the Cathedral on the following Sunday. It is customary in many places for persons from the surrounding parishes to come into town and remain to attend the mission. As it will last for nine or ten days, it would be well for all persons to avail themselves of this opportunity. The good Fathers are sure to make their influence felt forever in our community. We hail their arrival with unmingled delight.

THE OTTAWA HOUSE.

ITS MEMBERSHIP, ORATORY, APPEARANCE, TRADITIONS, AND GENERAL INFORMATION CONCERNING IT.

(*From Our Own Correspondent.*)

OTTAWA, May 11.

A stranger entering the Ottawa House of Commons for the first time, is struck with its common-place appearance. In looking down from the gallery he sees two hundred men, or so, seated behind small desks, writing, chatting, talking, or listening to the member in possession of the floor. This Chamber is an oblong square, of comparatively great height, for the purpose of hygiene, with a glass roof to admit the light, but at night three hundred and twenty gas jets, set going by the electric touch, illuminate the Chamber, and throw the heads of the members into relief. The average age of the members is about forty-five, a little younger than those of the Imperial House; but, then, there are representatives sitting down below whose ages are under twenty-five and over seventy. There are all sorts of people there, belonging to all races, but chiefly, of course, English, Irish, Scotch, French and German. If one could go through a large city, Montreal for instance, and collect two hundred men off a business street, he might, by throwing in a few orators, collect a *house* membership with as much intelligence and capacity for legislation, as the stranger from the gallery sees beneath him. As one enter the Chamber from the north (near the Speaker's Chair), and were allowed to go straight through before the Speaker takes the Chair, and when the members are pretty generally in their places, he could obtain a good idea of the *personnel* of the Commons. On his right he would find one hundred Conservatives, seated with their leader in front; on his left, seventy Liberals, and thirty or forty more Conservatives; in the centre, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk of the House; and near the side door opposite, the formidable Sergeant-at-Arms and his flaming sword, which fortunately leaves its scabbard seldom or never. In the centre also sit the short-hand reporters, of which there are seven English and two French, one sitting at one of the small tables provided for him, writing until relieved by another, until his ten minutes "take" is finished, when he goes to his room and reads his notes to an amanuensis. These short-hand writers—Hansard reporters they are called here—get $1000 each for the Session, and are not paid too high, as their work is hard. They are young men of great intelligence. Then thirteen Ministers sit together, eight on the front benches to the right, and five immediately behind them, and all conveniently situated as regards inter-communication. Sir John is the centre of these thirteen, and rises to speak oftener than any other. He is Minister of the Interior; but he has presided over each of the Departments in turn, and has a knowledge of the working of all. Sir John is tall, slight, and although near three-score and ten, looks as supple as a willow. His hair is long, grey and curly, very thin at the top, and his *tout ensemble* is decidedly literary. He might easily be taken for a successful painter or novelist; but, then, that is simply saying he resembles the late Lord Beaconsfield, which he does marvelously, as everyone knows. When thinking, or listening, in his place, he throws back his head, and seems to gaze into vacancy; but he is generally engaged in conversing with one of his colleagues, chiefly with Sir Hector Langevin, or Sir Leonard Tilley. He is not particular about his dress though Lady Macdonald scolds him considerably on the subject, and tells him he should be ashamed of himself, no doubt. In saying this, however, I would not have it inferred he does not dress like a gentleman; he is not a dandy, that's all, as one might judge from his closely shaved face. When he rises to answer a question, or when he makes merely a short speech, he hems and haws provokingly, and speaks in a low key, so low one can hardly hear him from the reporters' gallery. Indeed, a stranger would take the Premier for a new member on those occasions. It is only when he handles a grave subject, or is put on his mettle by an attack from the Opposition, that he is at his best. Then he speaks loud enough, his eyes kindle, he gesticulates, he looks all round him, then it is he flings out those epigrams and scintillations of wit for which he is famous, all the time keeping closely to his subject, and at times soaring into the higher flights of oratory, which he ordinarily strives to avoid. As a debater he has no equal in the House, though he is surpassed in eloquence both by Mr. Blake and Sir Charles Tupper. It is not considered unusual for Sir John to pass across the space that divides the Opposition from the Government, and sit down beside Mr. Blake, chat away with him for a pleasant ten minutes, while an hour later those statesmen would find it necessary to handle each other without gloves, except those authorized by Parliamentry procedure. Mr. Blake himself, though having a reputation for cynicism, which he deserves, finbends at times, and when he does, smiles sweetly enough to draw a tobacco sign down from its pedestal. Many and many a spar have he and Sir John across the floor; Blake's sabres, so to speak, strikes heavier, the keen weapon of Sir John cuts in deeper. Blake is a tall, lean man, what would be termed burly. He is, perhaps, the most academic speaker in the Commons; but he is heavy. His forte is logic, and though he attempts playful humor now and then, he fails, unlike his lieutenant, Mackenzie, whose speeches are—or, alas, were—interspersed with plasters of genuine Scotch humor. He is, indeed, the very antithesis of Blake in every respect; he is a light-infantry man, while Blake belongs to the heavy dragoons; and Sir John is master equally of horse, foot and artillery. Blake's pronunciation is perfect, his grammar is absolutely faultless, though in this respect he is not superior to Sir Charles Tupper, who, no matter how fierce he becomes, never permits himself to commit a solecism on grammar. If the Parliamentary tyro is capable of learning at all, it is here he divests himself of his powerful gesticulations. Gesticulation is not allowed in the Ottawa Commons to any extent. You see a platform orator on the stump shrieking, tearing his hair wildly, flinging his coat-tails about in the most aimless manner, as Carlyle says, throwing his arms appealingly towards the starry heavens, and otherwise acting like an inspired lunatic tearing a person to tatters. I'm sure neither Demosthenes nor Cicero ever behaved so, unless when preaching on the sea-shore, or before the mirror in their youthful days, and it certainly does not take in Ottawa. In this respect Professor Foster is the *beau ideal* of a good parliamentary debater; so is Mr. White, of Cardwell; so is Mr. McMaster, who delivered such a splendid harrangue on the King's election case; and so are many others on the Conservative side of the House; for it is a noteworthy fact, that the Tories have always given the country the best speakers, and undoubtedly since Confederation. Mr. Blake is at present the only real orator the Liberals have amongst them, and, consequently, he has to be on his feet half the time he is in the Chamber. I have heard most of the English orators myself, and have heard opinions expressed on this matter by those capable of judging, who have listened to the debates both here and at Westminster, and my impression is that the Ottawa Parliament will compare favorably with the Imperial, if Gladstone, and Gladstone only, be left out. Nor is there so much bitterness observable in the language used in our Chamber, though there is perhaps more personality. As a general rule, a Ministerial and an Opposition member speak alternately, except in cases where an important measure is dealt with, when, of course, the Government members, being two to one, exercise the privilege given them by numbers. It is not often the Speaker is called upon to give a decision; but when he is, it is respected and taken as final. He decided twice against Sir John during one evening at the beginning of the session, and the Premier, profoundly versed as he is in parliamentary rule and procedure, submitted without a murmur.

The press gallery runs along the north side of the House, half way between the floor and the spectators' gallery, and affords space to about thirty members, seated closely together. The general galleries seat about a thousand people, but I have seen as many as 1,500 pressed into them. They run right around the Chamber, but owing to fault of structure and a lack of knowledge of acoustics on the part of the architect, the hearing from them is not the best, unless the debate is loud and exciting. Special places are set apart and railed off for Senators, for members' wives, daughters, and female cousins and aunts, and for aristocrats generally.

THE Dublin murder trials still continue. Timothy Kelly, having been twice tried, the jury failing to agree each time, was put on trial a third time, and convicted on the 10th inst. It appears a conviction was much desired in his case. The jury were a long time deliberating before they returned a verdict of guilty. Kelly was sentenced to be hanged on the 9th June. He declares his innocence. Joseph Mullet has been found guilty of complicity in the attempted murder of juryman Field, and sentenced to penal servitude for life. O'Brien and Doyle pleaded guilty to the charge of conspiring to murder. On Monday Joe Brady was hung. This is the first execution in connection with the Phœnix Park murder.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

(*From Our Own Correspondent*).

OTTAWA, May 11th.

THE WEATHER.

The weather in Ottawa continues pretty miserable. Since the session opened there has been but little sun, and no heat, unless we except a few hours on Sunday, when the thermometer ran up through a mistake, but ran down again lower than ever towards evening. Then there was rain. A few buds came out about the 4th inst., but were soon nipped by the frost.

HANSARD REPORTERS.

Two of the Hansard writers are to resign after the session. There is now a regular staff of short-hand writers doing the Parliamentary debates. They are permanent, and receive $1000 a year each, which means, of course, for the session, as in the long interval they may do what they please with themselves as regards employment. There are seven English and two French reporters; each is supplied with an amanuensis, so that you see every facility is afforded them to make good and faithful reports of the debates. Honorable members have, however, made repeated complaints of their speeches being abreviated or muddled, and in consequence two men have resigned, one because he is really too slow, and the other because he refuses to make other than verbatim reports. The latter is a splendid short-hand writer, but has merely a mechanical talent; at least, so it is said. Now, it will be easily perceived how badly mere mechanical reporting would read in Hansard. Many members of the House—half them, perhaps—do not speak grammatically, either through ignorance or carelessness; others again, of even the best debaters, stop in the middle of a sentence, and strike off at a tangent, making a break in continuity, and Mr.——will not correct the errors. He has, therefore, to step down and out. Short-hand writing is fearfully wearing on the constitution, and though the remuneration is good, the work is so hard, that clever writers are always eager to accept offers of employment on large railroads, or to take editorial charge of newspapers.

NORTHWEST LANDS.

Mr. Charlton is one of those unfortunate Opposition leaders who, until lately, labored under the impression that Sir John Macdonald is a played out politician—old, feeble, nerveless and demoralized. It would not matter a *thraneen* what illusion Mr. Charlton hugged in his bosom, it was the unfolding of it in the House of Commons that entailed humiliation and disaster on the future Minister of Finance. Sir John simply annihilated him; he was merciless in his castigation, his eyes flashed, his nostrils dilated, he threw out his chest and threw back his head, and for a full half hour poured out the vials of his wrath upon the devoted Charlton, who shrank and shrank on his seat, until you could see nothing but a shining hat and a quivering frame. All this time the House held its breath, and as the galleries listened to the points made—the epigram, the irony, the fierce gesticulation—they confessed, and Mr. Charlton agreed with them, that though Sir John may be old, he is far from feeble. The debate was about the Northwest lands, and the manner they are distributed to favorites of Sir John. There seems to be a misconception about those lands, even among Conservatives. The Grits have spread the report that, what between Temperance and other Colonization Companies, the Hudson Bay and Pacific Railroad Companies, the "heritage of the people" is gone. It is a mistake. It is true, there are applications for land, as will be seen elsewhere; but as the conditions of allotment have not been carried out, three-fourths of these applications have not been complied with. After deducting the lands given to the Canada Pacific Railway, two square miles in every section are set apart for school purposes, and two to the Hudson Bay Company, leaves the Government—that is the people—in possession of the vast bulk of arable land. Up to this only 33,000,000 acres have been disposed of out of 250,000,000.

REPORTING AND ENTERPRISE.

Sir Charles Tupper spoke three hours and three quarters on the Pacific Railroad question and the short-hand writers of the Hansard staff reported it so correctly, that it was absolutely without a fault, pronounced so by the Minister himself. Mr. Blake spoke almost exactly the same time, but more rapidly than Sir Charles, and was also reported correctly; but a greater marvel is, that both speeches, containing about sixty-four thousand words, were telegraphed without a mistake, one to the *Mail* and one to the *Globe*, an hour after they had been delivered. Let the Americans beat that if they can.

ANOTHER GREAT RAILROAD.

A petition and letter to the Governor General, from the managers of the great American and European Air Line Company, has been distributed among the members of Parliament and members of the Press Gallery, the object of which is to obtain a bonus of $1,200,000 towards the construction of the balance of the road now in progress and acquired. The company, if matters are made favorable, will construct an air line from Montreal to Louisburg, C. B., and thus connect with the great Canadian Pacific at Montreal. The railroad is to run through Quebec, New Brunswick, the State of Maine, Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, on to the most eastern point possible on the east coast of Newfoundland, beyond the region of fog and ice, thereby giving the shortest and safest route to Europe. The entire distance between Quebec and Louisburg is 784 miles, of which 490 miles have already been either built or acquired. This road when completed, if it be completed, will, it is said, interfere with the Intercolonial; but as traffic and population grow apace, it may become a necessity, and it is, besides, only right that a little of the money voted for public works should go to the Maritime Provinces.

INCREASED INDEMNITY.

It is now, I think, eleven years since the indemnity to members was increased by four hundred dollars, thus raising it from six hundred to one thousand dollars. There are some of the people's representatives who think the time has arrived for another increase, and have, therefore, set a round robin circulating during the past ten or twelve days, asking for $1500 indemnity. When the newspapers got hold of this piece of information, they ridiculed the idea, and rang the changes upon the "salary grab," till their hearts were almost content. The Grits were very jubilant at first, thinking they had got hold of another Tory job; but when they learned the whole truth, their under jaws dropped considerably. It is now known that, while there was actually a Liberal caucus meeting held to discuss the indemnity affairs, the Conservatives, as declared by Sir John in the House, did not entertain the idea for a moment—that is, the Conservatives in a body, though, in justice, it must be said whatever blame there is in the premises—if blame there be—must be borne equally by both sides of the House. Still, the Grit names on the round robin mustered stronger than their opponents in proportion to numbers. It is doubtful if the increase would have been granted, even if matters went smoothly; but the Ottawa correspondent of the *Mail* spoiled the whole thing. In the Ottawa despatches of that paper it was stated that Mr. Charlton, Mr. Ross (of Middlesex), and Mr. Somerville, were the leaders in the round robin conception, and this brought Mr. Charlton to his feet on a question of privilege. He denied that he had anything to do with inaugurating what he termed a salary grab; on the contrary, had frowned it down, and, when the matter came up at a caucus meeting, had threatened to divide the House in opposition to it, and that he was the only man who had gone thus far. This announcement created a shout of laughter from the Conservatives, and a suppressed storm of sorrowful groans from the Grits. The fact is, Mr. Charlton has the unhappy knack of letting cats out of bags on all possible occasions, and this was one of them. He will never do for Chancellor of the Exchequer; he cannot keep a secret. Mr. Davies rose in indignant protest against the impeachment, and Mr. Blake laughed sweetly and softly to himself at the touching unanimity of his followers. This settles the grab for the present.

HON. MR. COSTIGAN.

Some of the Grit members think it is fine fun to bull bait the Hon. John Costigan; but as they are among the comparatively new, they may learn sense and manners as the years roll by, or, what is better, they may find out the Minister of Inland Revenue has a bitter tongue when aroused. The older members have enshrined within their memories that, on a certain occasion, memorable in Parliamentary history, Mr. Costigan gave the Hon. Mr. Anglin a castigation that gentleman will never forget. Now, every one knows, who has even the slightest Parliamentary experience, that what is called running a Government Bill through the House, is the greatest of bores, so much so, that it empties the House of all but the few who are to criticise it. But when it is considered that the Inland Revenue amendment bill is the *ne plus ultra* of monotony, having one hundred and sixty-four clauses, it is only reasonable to suppose the Minister in charge is anxious to have it put through in decent time; indeed, he is almost tied down to time. But the bull-baiter cared not; and because Mr. Costigan had to look over some papers for information on a trivial item about damp tobacco, the Grit press is almost unanimous in running him down. While in charge of another bill yesterday, another Grit member commenced a similar game by asking repeatedly why one Slattery had been appointed to a small position in his Department, but Mr. Costigan turned upon him and asked should he (Slattery) be excluded because he was an Irishman. This made the honorable member shut up, for all the world like a steel trap when it has captured a rat—or a tartar.

A HAUGHTY NEWSPAPER MAN.

Mr. Amos Rowe is a gentleman who was once an auctioneer in the capital city; but not realizing millions as rapidly as, perhaps, his legitimate expectations led him to hope, he went west and started a paper in Winnipeg, called the *Times*, a very bright journal, by the way, edited by Mr. Edward Farrer, whilom chief editor of the *Mail*, and decidedly the ablest political writer in Canada. A curious trait in the character of Mr. Amos Rowe is that he fancies a man should be Senator after a few years' management of a newspaper. What, therefore, was his surprise, leaving his disgust aside, when he saw the Hon. Mr. Schultz created Senator—Hon. Mr. Schultz who had never managed a newspaper in his life, but had lived in the Northwest twenty years ago, when Amos was making things go for the bare life in Ottawa, had been connected with the Government of the Territory, and is one of its pioneers. After this promotion of Mr. Schultz, the *Times* changed its policy. It first attacked Mr. Woodworth, M. P. for Marquette; then Sir Leonard Tilley, and then the Conservatives generally. The Government, however, still lives, while Mr. Rowe is dying of spleen. What makes the matter of any interest is, that Mr. Woodworth brought it before the House on Tuesday last, and demanded of the Government if one of the Ministry (meaning Hon. Mr. Bowell) was one of the proprietors of the *Times*, for that if he was, it was singular it should be allowed to abuse a colleague. Mr. Bowell replied in the negative, and that settled the business. It is probable that gentleman has had, but has not now, stock in the Winnipeg *Times*. What Sir John said regarding the circumstance was, that while glad to see newspapers supporting him, and sorry to see them attacking him, he would not like to see a servile newspaper, both for the sake of the press and the Government.

THE SENATE.

The Senate had its first night's sitting on the 8th instant, a sure sign that the session is drawing rapidly to a close. It is a pity there are not more young men in that body of legislators, as there might well be without impairing its usefulness. It must, however, be confessed that they get through their work more rapidly than do the Commons, and with far less abuse. Indeed, there is so little piquancy in the Senate debates that strangers in the gallery soon grow tired, and wander off to the other House, where they can indulge their vitiated tastes. Perhaps, if the parties were more evenly divided there would be more divisions, and, consequently, more interesting discussions. As matters stand, the great majority is of that political complexion which shows what party has been generally in power the past quarter of a century. Still, there are clever, eloquent, practical men in the Upper House. Above all, practical, and thoroughly conversant with the affairs of the country from Sarnia to Gaspe, from Charlottetown to New Westminster. Senator Macpherson, the Speaker, is a man of ability; so is Hon. Mr. Howlan, so is Mr. Plumb, and so are several others; but there are, also, a per centage of nonentities. As a rule, one hears more solicisms in grammar in the Senate than in the Commons, but less vulgar language, and personalities very rarely indeed. Hon. Mr. Plumb, the Niagara bard, is the authorized bore of the House, a distinction he also earned in the Commons. Not that he is not an eloquent, graceful and fluent speaker; too fluent, alas, and that's what's the matter. He talks on all possible occasions, and talks well; but then life is short, and the Senators are most of them old men. When, therefore, Mr. Plumb rises calmly and grandly, and looks around, one would think it was to intimate to the Senators that it was time to retire, for most of them do walk off and scatter themselves through the reading room, coffee room, library, or enter the Senators' gallery of the Commons to listen to something unruly, but strong. I think Senators should be elected instead of appointed, as they are in the United States, and it would be an improvement if they were elected for a number of years instead of for life. All the furniture and appurtenances in and around the Senate chamber are of the choicest and costliest. The chamber itself is magnificently furnished. There are rooms set apart also—committee rooms, I think they call them—for every two or three honorable members; and, on the whole, one may be appointed to a worse position than that of Senator of the Dominion of Canada.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE.

Her Royal Highness is making up by activity for her long absence. Hardly a day passes she does not visit some charitable institution, and altogether indiscriminative of its religious complexion. She called, a few days ago, at the Congregation Convent, Gloucester Street, one of the most justly celebrated educational establishments in Canada, and which, perhaps, turns out the most accomplished young ladies, all things considered. The day following she visited the Catholic Hospital, and addressed a few words of comfort to many of the inmates. One young woman there attracted her attention, and excited her sympathy in a remarkable degree. This poor creature was afflicted with paralysis on the occasion of her confinement, which was premature, owing to the shock she received on hearing her husband was arrested on a serious charge. The Princess said: "My poor woman, can I do anything for you?" and the reply was, "Oh, yes, madam, you can; have my husband released, I shall then be cured." (He had been sentenced to three years in the penitentiary). The Princess instructed Dr. Grant to represent the case to the Minister of Justice, using her name, and the result is that the man has been released; and if the poor sufferer has not been cured of her paralysis, her mind has, at least, been rendered easier. The Princess Louise often drops into the library, and after looking at anything new there may have come in since her last visit, goes quietly out. On those occasions there is no fuss or demonstration. Her Royal Highness so wishes it; but at all events there would not be, for so modestly does she dress, that unless some aid-de-camp, or the Marquis was with her, few would recognize her. She was in there yesterday, and your correspondent had an opportunity of obtaining a good view of her dress. It was not by any means gorgeous in its Oriental splendor. I have seen many a thousand dollars a year Civil Service clerk's wife, who could discount the favorite daughter of the Queen in the fashion. She had on one of those ladies' woollen ten dollar ulsters, and under it a blue cotton gown. I am sure her hat could not have cost more than seven dollars. I do not know whether Her Royal Highness wishes to teach a lesson to the poor but fashionable people of Ottawa. If so, it is lost upon them altogether, for they will dress above their means. Why, it is known that several of our local aristocracy have sold their stoves in winter to buy a ball dress. The Marquis is more particular. He is somewhat of a swell, but generally appears in something like an army officer's patrol jacket.

PARNELL.

A committee has been formed in Ottawa to receive subscriptions towards the movement giving a national money gift to Charles Stewart Parnell. Rev. Father Whelan, Parish Priest of St. Patrick's, is Treasurer. Among those who attended the meeting, at which the Canadian Committee was organized, were Senators Howlan and O'Donohoe, Father Sloane, Father Barrett, Mr. Baskerville, M. P., and other prominent gentlemen. A considerable sum of money has already been received.

A VERACIOUS CORRESPONDENT.

It would be giving one's self a Sisyphyean job to keep track of a Grit correspondent, and contradict every fib he tells. Still, one can occasionally, without distressing one's self, correct little inaccuracies of detail now and then. In the *Patriot*, of the 7th inst., I notice in its Ottawa Correspondence that the Government has only placed $50,000 on the estimates for the P. E. Island railroad for 1883-4, when the truth is the sum is $50,000, plus $188,200, the fifty thousand being supplementary for 1883. I am afraid the correspondent of the *Patriot* is more of a hardened sinner than a boggler in addition; it would be fearful were he both.

SIGNAL STATIONS.

On the 7th inst., Mr. Brecken moved for copies of correspondence relative to the erection of Signal Stations at the Light Houses at North Cape and East Point, in the Province of Prince Edward Island, and the construction of two short lines of telegraph connecting the same with the telegraph system of Prince Edward Island and the Dominion, with a view to lessen the dangers of navigation in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

STEAM COMMUNICATION.

Mr. Brecken, on the 7th inst., moved that the report of the Select Committee appointed to consider the question of Steam Communication between Prince Edward Island and the Mainland, in winter and summer, be concurred in. Sir John Macdonald said it could not be well adopted, as it involved the expenditure of money, and this being so, it could only be done by recommendation from the Crown, and on the responsibility of the Government. Sir John said the Government were quite sensible of their obligations towards Prince Edward Island, and to carry out the terms of Union between it and the smaller districts of the Dominion, not only constructively, but literally, and in a liberal spirit. The report he said would receive the consideration of the Government, who would come to some decision on it, which he hoped would be satisfactory to both the Island and the Mainland. Messrs. Brecken, Davies and Hackett spoke on the subject. As the objection to the adoption of the report was a correct one, the motion was withdrawn.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

Mr. Brecken has had several interviews within the past few weeks with the Postmaster General, relative to the establishment, in Charlottetown, of a postal delivery by messengers from house to house, as also of letter boxes in prominent parts of the city, the same as obtains in Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto. The Postmaster General's reply causes Mr. Brecken to think that the Island capital will, ere long, be in line with other cities as regards postal facilities.

NATIVE INDUSTRY.

Mr. Brecken does not let the grass grow under his feet while in Ottawa. His eyes are always open to the interests of the Island. He has, for some time back, been in communication with Sir Charles Tupper, Minister of Railways, with the view of having the rolling stock of the Island railroads made in the Island, and has received the following letter on the subject:

DEPARTMENT OF RAILROADS,
Ottawa, May 2nd, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th ultimo, and have the honor to state, in reply, that when the present rolling stock of the Cape Traverse railroad wants renewing, I shall have it built on the Island.

CHARLES TUPPER.

Frederick De St. Croix Brecken.

There is another letter, a few days following, to the same effect, taking in all the Island railroads.

WE are in receipt of the current number of "Travel," a monthly magazine for the use of travellers, published at 162 Broadway, New York, by the American Exchange in Europe (Limited), of which Senator Joseph R. Hawley is President, and Henry F. Gilig, General Manager. It is an elegant and most effective publication. The cover and the elaborate maps are the best work of the kind, and the text is of equal excellence. It contains all sorts of interesting and valuable notes for travellers; information about manners and customs, and a large number of skeleton routes in Great Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, the Spanish and Italian Peninsulas, the Orient, and around the world. It is edited by C. A. Barattoni, the experienced traveller and manager.

MARKET PRICES.

CHARLOTTETOWN, May 15, 1883.

Beef (small) ℔ lb.	5 to 12
Beef (quarter) ℔ lb.	4½ to 9
Mutton, ℔ lb.	5 to 9
Lamb, ℔ lb.	5 to 8
Pork (carcass) ℔ lb.	6 to 7½
Pork, small	10 to 12
Turkeys	1.00 to 1.50
Geese	00 to 00
Ducks	30 to 40
Fowls	35 to 00
Chickens, ℔ pair	00 to 00
Butter, fresh	24 to 26
Butter, tub	22 to 24
Eggs, ℔ doz.	13 to 15
Flour, ℔ 100 lb.	4.00 to 5.00
Oatmeal, ℔ 100 lb.	5.25 to 5.50
Oats, ℔ bush., black	42 to 44
Oats, ℔ bush., white	00 to 00
Hay, ℔ 100 lb.	80 to 00
Potatoes ℔ bush., white	30 to 35
Potatoes, ℔ bush., blue	25 to 30
Turnips, ℔ bush.	14 to 16
Sheepskins	90 to 100

GEORGE LEWIS, Market Clerk.

LOCAL AND OTHER

THE members of the I Society attended the funera Cahill, yesterday morning.

CAPTAIN LAWRENCE KICKI on Saturday evening last, f co. He is one of our most captains.

A MAN named Henry W ployed unloading the steam Monday afternoon, had hi a box falling on it.

MR. JEREMIAH MCCARTY manufacturing whiskey il bound over to appear at th in Georgetown, in July nex

ABOUT noon yesterday t sounded. A slight fire to roof of the dwelling of D gineer Large, and a few with buckets of water.

THE remains of Mrs. P. died in Chelsea, Mass., on rived by steamer *Worcest* were conveyed to Baldwin afternoon train, and will morrow.

CORRESPONDENCE, and o tended for this issue, we an over. Next week we w local parliamentary proc then be in a position to more of a variety of news.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS—J. R. Bourke, jr.; Regul Bros. & Co.; Agricultural & Robertson; Orphan Boy, Railway, Jas. Coleman, Sup T. O'Connell; Vital Questi

MR. CHARLES E. LEFURGE Hon. John Lefurgey, of suddenly in Baltimore, on was a young man of much death is deeply regretted family, with whom we syl sad bereavement.

THE *Weekly Times*, Mo been enlarged, and change an eight-page paper. It type, and presents a very ance. The *Times* is a liv the enlargement is rendere increasing advertising further improvements are

A BOY ten years of ag Edward McLean, living West River, committed s himself on Saturday last, held, and from the evidenc was no cause for commi boy having been kindly tre and appearing cheerful an

THE steamer *Worcester* a at 2 o'clock this afternoon of freight and the follow D. McKinnon and family, bell, J. Wilson, James Bu Miss Bessie Jamieson, Lucy McPhee, Isabella Mc Evans, Mrs. Cantello, Ja J. W. Merrill and daughter,

WE have lately receiv which we are, for want to publish. "M. K.," Su accept our thanks for y play," King's County—th of force in what you wri a discussion on this