GET A FLAG

FOR YOUR

SCHOOLHOUSE

The movement for hoisting the Canadian flag on the schoolhouses on anniversaries of noted events in our history is spreading rapidly throughout the Dominion and evoking the hearty approval of all patriotic citizens. Already

The Empire

has done its share in helping on this movement, by awarding a handsome flag to one school in each county of Ontario, but the number of enquiries from all parts of the Dominion as to how flags can be obtained by other schools has determined the publishers of THE EMPIRE to offer a handsome

CANADIAN FLAG

of best bunting, 12 feet long (regular price $15), as a premium for 30 new yearly subscribers to the WEEKLY EMPIRE at $1.00 or eight new yearly subscribers to THE DAILY EMPIRE at $5 per annum, or a proportional one, one subscription to Daily counting for FOUR Weeklies.

Every school in the Dominion ought to have a national flag, and this offer presents an opportunity for each school to obtain it without cost, and with little trouble. Let those who are interested in getting a flag for their schoolhouse join in getting up a club, and while subscribers get full value for their money in the best newspaper in the Dominion, the school obtains its flag FREE OF COST.

The WEEKLY EMPIRE has recently been enlarged to twelve pages, and is now, without doubt, the best weekly newspaper in Canada, while the reputation of THE DAILY EMPIRE as the leading morning journal of the Dominion is well known.

Send for sample copies and special clubbing lists, and go in for a flag for your school.

ADDRESS THE EMPIRE, Toronto.

STOCK, ETC.

Will be sold by Public Auction, on Tuesday, 20th inst., in front of the Post Office, Chatham, at 3 p. m.

4 Shares of the Steam ship Navigation Co.
10 " Northwest Boom Stock.
115 " Southwest " "

the latter representing $25 per share. This stock for 11 years past has paid dividend averaging 8%;

—ALSO—

5 Debentures Restiguouche Boom Co.—representing $50 each; Coupon attached with interest at 6% payable yearly, 4th Sept., four years to run, maturity 4th Sept. 1895.

Wrought Iron Pipe

—AND—

FITTINGS.

GLOBE AND CHECK VALVES.

BABBIT METAL.

RUBBER PACKIN

Cotton Waste, Etc. Etc.

J. M. RUDDOCK.

Chatham, N. B.

HARD COAL.

Three hundred tons hard coal will be sold and delivered here from the schooner "Avenger" now on her way from New York; will also be sold, and delivered at Bathurst, at same rate as here as the schooner is to load with deals from K. F. Burns & Co. Send for quotations to

ROGER PLANAGAN,

Chatham Aug ust 23, 1890

WOOD-GOODS.

WE MANUFACTURE AND HAVE

FOR SALE

Laths,
Palings,
Box-Shooks,
Barrel Heading,
Matched Flooring,
Matched Sheathing,
Dimensioned Lumber,
Sawn Spruce Shingles.

THOS. W. FLETT,

NELSON.

Some little fortunes have been made at work for us, by Anna Page, Austin, Texas, and Jno. Bonn, Toledo, Ohio. See out. Others are doing as well. Why not you? Some earn over $500.00 a month. You can do the work and live at home, wherever you are. Even beginners are easily earning from $5 to $10 a day. All agrees. We show you how and start you. Can work in spare time or all the time. Big money for workers. Failure unknown among them. NEW and wonderful. Particulars free. H. Hallett & Co., Box 880 Portland, Maine

Closing Out Sale!

—AT THE—

GOGGIN BUILDING.

Now is the time to get

HARDWARE CHEAP.

As all the Stock must be disposed of this fall. Purchasers may look for bargains in

Joiners' Tools,

—AND ALL KINDS OF—

BUILDERS' MATERIALS,

together with all kinds of goods usually kept in

HARDWARE STORES,

which are too numerous to mention.

CALL EARLY.

TERMS CASH.

This Sale is positive and must be made to settle up business affairs.

Free Treatment FOR 1 YEAR,

remedies included, will be donated by Dr. Sweet the celebrated natural born healer and physician, to one worthy person in each town WITHOUT EXPENSE except $1.00 for drawing examination papers. Send no money until return of papers. Application must be endorsed by Minister or Postmaster. Send stamp for FREE EXAMINATION BLANKS and particulars to Dr. Sweet's Sanitarium for the Lame, 15 Union Park Street, Boston, Mass

F. O. PETTERSON,

Merchant Tailor

(Next door to the Store of J. R. Snowball, Esq.)

CHATHAM - - N. B.

All Kinds of Cloths,

Suits or single Garments.

Inspection of which is respectfully invited.

F. O. PETTERSON.

FOR SALE.

The two dwelling houses situate on Cunard Street, Chatham, at present occupied by Capt. McLean and Archibald Gamble, respectively.

For terms and particulars, apply to

L. J. TWEEDIE,
Barrister.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B. - - - - JANUARY 22, 1891.

Wool Manufactures, Railways and Free Logs.

The New Brunswick correspondent of the *Canada Lumberman*, referring to the removal of the import duty on American logs says:—

"So far as the Dominion Government is concerned, its recent legislation on the import duty question is calculated solely to encourage the removal of our spruce and other woods for manufacture in American mills, thus encouraging foreign capital, labor and consumption instead of our own. Such legislation requires no comment, but should be looked upon with disgust and contempt by all patriotic men.

"If the Dominion Government would devote more attention to subsidizing manufacturers of our woods into articles of practical utility for export to all nations, instead of giving all to railways, it would hold twenty of our citizens where the railways will not hold one. Railway navvies and others are naturally shiftless, while mechanics are permanent, and materially assist in building up a prosperous community."

While there is something to commend in the foregoing paragraphs, it will be observed that the writer takes a very superficial view of the object of the government in subsidizing railways, and of the incidence of benefits involved in their construction. It is not in the mere work of building railways that the benefit to the country lies, but in the facilities they afford for developing all its interests. What, for instance, would we do in transporting our manufactures from our factories were it not for our railways? Let us encourage our mechanics, as well as every kind of industrial enterprise that gives promise of being self-sustaining, but let us not, at the same time, discourage the building of railways.

As to the removal of the export duty on logs, we think it a mistake, for the reason given by the *Lumberman's* correspondent. It seems absurd, when the government has adopted a policy, the corner-stone af which is the encouragement of home manufactures and home industries, that it should not only tax the supplies of lumbermen and lumber manufacturers but encourage the export of logs, so that our own people lose the benefit of working up the most important raw material found in the country. The free export of logs means the furnishing of raw material to be manufactured by the working people of other countries, while it deprives our own people of work which they can and ought to do in our own.

PARLIAMENT:—Notwithstanding reports to the contrary parliament is further prorogued until 28th February and is not then to meet.

Candidates, etc.

The pitiful contortions of the *Advocate's* "Liberal" last week indicated that his attack of political "wriggles" had reached a climax. To divert attention from his own position he referred to two other persons whom he brought upon the scene, and displayed them, all torn and bleeding, in which condition he alleged they were put by the ruthless ADVANCE, which, however had mentioned neither of them and, certainly, never, even remotely referred to the one not named but described. A person of the latter's description would, we may say, never write as "Liberal" has done, for his self-respect would prevent that.

In this connection it is not amiss to refer to the attempt made by "Liberal" to bring religion into the matter, because "Another Liberal" applied the term "apostate" to him. Webster is a standard authority on the meaning of words, and gives that of the one in question, as follows:—

"*Apostate*"—One who has forsaken the faith, principles or party to which he before adhered."

We are not of course, accountable for "Liberal's" pretended ignorance, any more than for his apostacy and misstatements. Such persons as he would have no employment were they not occupied as he has been since the regular editor of the *Advocate* resigned in his favor.

The use made of Mr. Mitchell's name by "Liberal" is, no doubt, more distasteful to that gentleman's friends than if the writer came out in his true colors, and condemned him. No one, save "Liberal," has yet thought it necessary to nominate candidates for the House of Commons, nor would any other writer think it necessary, in advocating the claims of one gentleman for the position, to abuse another, as that writer has done, especially if the relationships between the two were such as these existing between Messrs. Mitchell and Snowball. So far as we are aware and believe, Mr. Mitchell respects Mr. Snowball's influence and values his friendship quite as much as he did in 1886. At that time there was a feeling amongst a good many of Mr. Mitchell's friends that he might gracefully retire from the representation of Northumberland and assist in the election of some resident, independent liberal. Circumstances, however, led to Mr. Mitchell being selected as the liberal candidate, with the unanimous consent of the party. No member of the party gave more ready assent or loyal support to Mr. Mitchell's candidature than Mr. Snowball, and Mr. Mitchell declared, at that time, that should Mr. Snowball be a candidate at the next election, he would not oppose, but do all in his power to support him. It is, therefore, quite clear that Mr. Mitchell will not feel very grateful to the writer who, while pretending to boom him as the liberal candidate for the County in the next election, thinks it necessary to vilify Mr. Snowball. This apostate liberal was aware of the good understanding between Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Snowball, and as he desired to promote the interests of the alleged conservative candidate, it occurred to him that if he could awaken old antagonisms between the friends of Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Snowball, respectively, it might separate them into two hostile camps to the advantage of his new friends, who have, evidently set him at the not very cleanly or creditable work he has been doing for them through the *Advocate*. We understand that a few persons, hereabouts, who pretend to speak for Mr. Mitchell, are patting "Liberal" on the back. These, however, will, no doubt, learn enough, by and bye, to be ashamed of their course. If they do not, it will make little difference to anyone but themselves, for the disappointments, defeats and exposure which, sooner or later, overtake hypocrisy and double-dealing, surely await them. It is not probable that the liberals—any more than the other party—are a unit at the present time in regard to the man who shall be their candidate in the next election. Some may favor Mr. Mitchell, some Mr. Snowball and some Mr. Burchill; and, if Mr. Hutchison had not become prominent in one of the conservative clubs, his name might also be mentioned in this connection. It would, however, be very unseemly for the friends of either of these to attack all the others *a la Advocate* "Liberal," for, in the end these indiscreet and misguided partizans would only contribute to the success of the other party. As this writer has gone over to the enemy, and is working upon the electorate through the local Tory organ, it is well that his purpose should be understood. His game is quite astute in its conception. It required only a little cunning to plan and a disregard for honesty to enter upon its execution. To succeed, however, the work required ability, experience and good temper. The want of these accounts for "Liberal's" rattled condition, and his manifest attack of the "wriggles." His commission ought to be recalled by his conservative managers, and the fortunes of the candidate he is really working for be promoted in a more legitimate and decent manner. When an election takes place in the County it ought to be conducted on the merits of the important issues involved and free from the nastiness which birds of the odor and omen of "Liberal" are sure to carry with them as they fly from one party nest to another. Crows cannot become eagles. The respectable Liberals of the County could not change the nature and plumage of "Liberal." He was and is a crow. He has gone where he thinks there are fewer eagles. His present associates may, however, hold their noses and tolerate him, while he does their scavenger work in the *Advocate*, but, in the end, when he finds they haven't mistaken him for an eagle, he will flap off to some other nest. They had better get rid of him now, however, and save their credit.

Proposals for Reciprocity.

A special despatch from Ottawa to the St. John *Telegraph*, dated 19th inst., is as follows:—

There is a serious disturbance ministerial circles over the reciprocity in question. The Ontario ministers are opposed to any abandonment of the strict protection doctrine. They say that if Ontario farmers and millers are not protected they will not allow anybody else to be, and that any sort of reciprocity with the United States means a complete abandonment of the present fiscal policy of the Tory party. The ministry is badly divided on the question and little caucuses of cabinet ministers are held every day to discuss the situation.

Sir John Macdonald refuses to take any of his colleagues into his confidence as to his intentions, but an article in to-day's Empire indicates that a change of front on the part of the government is imminent on account that the Newfoundland government in seeking reciprocity with the United States has forced the hands of both imperial and dominion authorities and the influence of Downing street is being exerted to induce the dominion government to accept any reasonable offer of reciprocity that the United States may make. It appears that what Blaine has offered is complete unrestricted reciprocity, and it is hinted that rather than cut adrift from the combines and protected interests Sir John will dissolve parliament and endeavor to secure a new lease of power before he is forced to chose between combineism and reciprocity.

The article in the Empire this morning brought dozens of inquiries to ministers from manufacturers asking if they were going to be abandoned.

The postponement of the session is attributed to difference in the cabinet over the reciprocity question and the anxiety of the premier to avoid an investigation into the Langevin-McGreevy scandals, and the discussion on issues to be raised by Mr. McCarthy on the language question. Langevin threatens to resign and lead a revolt of the Bleus against the government. If the Tory leaders do not stand by him in the McGreevy scandal he will make the non-disallowance of the Manitoba school bill the ostensible cause of his retirement.

The *Telegraph* comments on the despatch as follows:—

It is now known that the Canadian government has been approached by the government of the United States with a view to open negotiations for reciprocity. It has been known for years that the United States would neither propose nor accept reciprocity in natural products alone. This leads to the belief that the proposition made, or about to be made, is one of unrestricted reciprocity. But this is not certain, and the basis laid down may be something more than the one and something less than the other form of reciprocal free trade.

As there is only one official channel of communication between the two countries, and that by way of London, the home government must necessarily be aware of what is proposed, whether it is only to open negotiations, or if specific proposals are put forward. Toronto Empire, whose announcement is no doubt official, not only states that the Canadian government has been approached on the question of trade relations with the republic but that "our government has requested the advice of her majesty's government on the subject." This statement would mean that some specific proposals have been put forward, as otherwise there would be no need to seek advice from across the water.

The government organs will be particularly careful of what they say for the next few weeks and hold themselves ready for taking a sharp turn. They have been saying all along that unrestricted reciprocity would be ruinous, and many of them have denounced free trade in natural products. They have with one voice proclaimed that the United States would not grant reciprocity, and much more of the same sort. The government is between the devil in the shape of the "red parlor" and the deep sea of public opinion, and the organs are in a fearful state of uncertainty as to what course Sir John may decide upon. The question is, Dare he refuse unrestricted reciprocity if it is squarely offered? We very much doubt it in the present condition of the country. He will find it dangerous to play fast and loose with public sentiment on this question. How he will reconcile the extreme restrictionist wing of his followers to any reciprocity arrangement remains to be seen.

It will be observed that there is a great deal of mere guessing in reference to the proposition made in behalf of the United States. The *Telegraph* may believe that the United States has offered Canada unrestricted reciprocity, but we do not. If that is the offer, it has been made knowing that Canada could not and ought not to accept it. We shall, however, believe that to be the offer when it is so stated, officially—not before.

Bering Sea Again.

The Chicago *Globe's* Washington correspondent gives the following facts in reference to the new phase of the Bering Sea controversy:—

"The British government has made a bold stroke in regard to the disputed question of United States jurisdiction in Bering sea. The correspondence recently published showed that Secretary Blaine had rejected Great Britain's proposal of arbitration, and that the counter proposals of Secretary Blaine was arbitration with a string to it. It provided in fact that if the arbitrators should decide against the American contention the arbitratoin should begin over again. That was how the matter stood when the diplomatic correspondence relating to the seal fisheries of Bering sea was submitted to congress last week. Great Britain has now made the next move, and on the face of it it seems to be as cunning as Mr. Blaine's plan of arbitration with a string to it.

"The British government, through the attorney general of Canada and through his counsel at Washington, appeared unexpectedly to-day in the supreme court of the United States and asked leave to present a double case looking to the settlement of this diplomatic dispute by that court.

"Thomas Henry Cooper is a British subject and the owner of the British schooner W. P. Sayward, which was caught killing seals in Bering sea, fifty-nine miles from land on July 9, 1887, and was seized and taken by the United States revenue cutter Rush to Sitka, Alaska where she was libelled by the United States district court. Cooper appealed from the decision of that court to the supreme court of the United States but afterward had the appeal dismissed on the ground that the district court having no jurisdiction its judgment in the case was a nullity.

"In consequence of the dismissal of this appeal the mandate of the supreme court will issue, and that mandate will not only permit but command the district court of Alaska to execute its decrees of forfeiture against Cooper's vessel. Therefore Cooper through his lawyer, Joseph H. Choate, to-day asked leave to present a petition for a writ of prohibition to stop the district judge of Alaska from proceeding further in the case, and from continuing to hold that he has jurisdiction in it.

"At the same time Mr. Colderon Carlisle, as counsel for Sir John Thompson, attorney general for Canada, asked permission to file on behalf of his client a similiar petition, only that the petition in this case is called a "suggestion" for a writ of prohibition. Mr. Carlisle informs the court that the "suggestion" he desires to file is presented with the knowledge and approval of Great Britain.

"Under the modern interpretation of the British constitution this is as near as her majesty can come to being a suitor in any court. Only through her ministers can she be a party to litigation. The two motions were made conjointly by Mr. Choate and Mr. Carlisle. Neither this court nor any department of our government had received any notice beforehand. It was a surprise movement; but the surprise did not work.

"The court was 'on deck,' so to speak, and Attorney General Miller happened to be in the court room at the time. In reply to a question from the chief justice, Mr. Miller said there seemed to be serious objections to the entertainment of those motions, and the court allowed Mr. Miller a fortnight in which to present his reasons why the motions should or should not be entertained. In the meantime Mr. Choate and Mr. Carlisle have not been permitted even to file their petition and suggestion. Whether Mr. Miller will recommend that the petition be heard or be not heard will depend upon a good many things, especially upon some consultations in which Secretary Blaine and President Harrison will be active participants.

Postmasters' Salaries.

A new scale of salaries for postmasters has been recommended by Postmaster General Haggart. It is said that the compensation of postmasters has been disproportionate, and in some classes inadequate. In proof it is pointed out that for many years the postmaster of Montreal has been an exception to the regular scale, receiving $4,000 a year, and that during last session of Parliament another exception was made of the postmaster of Toronto, whose salary was also increased to $4,000 a year. The old classification of postmasters constituted five classes, as follows:—

Class	Postage collections exceeding	Postmaster's salary.
1	$ 80,000	$2,600
2	60,000	2,400
3	40,000	2,200
4	20,000	2,000
5	Less than 20,000	1,400

The new classification now officially commenced is as follows:—

Class	Collections exceeding	Postmaster's salary.
1	$250,000	$4,000
2	200,000	3,750
3	150,000	3,500
4	100,000	3,250
5	80,000	2,800
6	60,000	2,400
7	40,000	2,200
8	20,000	2,000
9	Less than 20,000	1,400

Hon. Mr. Blair's Speech at Woodstock.

(Stenographed by Mr. F. H. Risteen.)

[*Continued from last week.*]

Now, Mr. Chairman, that statement put briefly is this: The expenditure under these four heads by the government in 1878 was $96000, in 1879, $86000, in 1880, $81000, in 1881, $89000, in 1882, $92000; making a total for the five years of $455,000, an average for each year of $91,159. You understand me that upon these four classes of controllable expenditure which I have named the government which preceded us laid out in the five years previous to our advent to power the sum of $91000 per year. Now, what has this extravagant government done in the same direction. What has this government laid out upon the legislature, upon the executive, upon our salaries and the salaries of our staff, upon contingencies and upon public printing? If you will take up the public accounts you will find that in 1884 we laid out $85000, in 1885, $86,000, in 1886, $82,000, in 1887, $82,000, in 1888, $83,000, and in 1889, $84,000. I am giving simply the round figures—the odd hundreds I am not including in the yearly statement but I include them in the total—making a total of $505,000 for the six years or an average for each year of $84,316—a comparison, of which no man can challenge the accuracy, in favor of this government, which is so wasteful and extravagant and which these gentlemen are desirous to supplant, by over $7,000 per year upon those items of expenditure which you do not wish to see the government increase and which it is in your interest to have reduced. (Applause.) These savings may go, as they do go, to swell that larger class of expenditure in which you are more deeply interested and which you desire to see increased, because they touch directly the public welfare. Now then, gentlemen, $7,000 per year is the amount we have made of absolute saving since we came into power. I am taking it down to the very last moment up to which the public accounts are published, and this is the result.

Now, it is said, there has been a great increase in the public debt. Well, so there has. But, gentlemen, it is not enough for a man who challenges the conduct of the government to say that we have increased the public debt. He must needs go further, and he must needs tell the people wherein this debt has grown, for what purpose has it been augmented, and unless he can show the public that the government under whose administration and office this debt has actually been increased have increased it in an improper way and for improper purposes, there is nothing whatever in the argument to take hold of the public mind. Now, I frankly acknowledge, Mr. Chairman, to my friends here that the public debt has grown in these years that we have been in power; that while it was something over $1,100,000 in 1883, when we came into power, to-day it is $2,100,000. It has grown a million of dollars, and there is no man who regrets that this increase has taken place any more than the person who is now addressing you. I would be very glad indeed if these obligations of a previous legislature and, I say it without reflection at all, a previous government, upon this country had not been imposed, and you would have been glad if the aggregate of our public obligations had not been swollen to the height it has now reached. But it is one thing, gentlemen, to regret it and it is a totally different thing to mete out a condemnation upon this government because it has so increased. Now, I will tell you what the increase has sprung from and I have before me the public records which give the items in detail. It has grown out of the subsidies which have been given

TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS

throughout this province almost in its entirety. With the exception of two items I will speak of later, this added million has grown out of the railway obligations which the legislature in 1882 placed upon the statute-book of the country—legislation the effect of which was to promise a subsidy to every company in point of fact that had been incorporated and named and included in that act, that they would if they fulfilled the conditions which the act imposed be entitled to receive a subsidy from the country of $3,000 a mile. Well, the public debt has grown as I have said in that way, and in so growing, what man is there who can justly say that this government did wrong in carrying out in a spirit of fairness and integrity the obligations which the legislature in 1882, the representatives of the people, put upon the statute-book? We would be unworthy the character of men—we would be running counter to those traditions of public honor which have ever been the possession of British representative bodies if we had failed to mete out to all these companies included in that act the same measure of even handed justice. To say that we as a government should say to the Kent Northern, "Gentlemen, you shall have a subsidy," and to a railway to be constructed from Petitcodiac to Elgin, "No, you shall not have a subsidy" is surely to make fish of one and flesh of another and to outrage those sentiments of public justice and those sentiments of public honor which prevail throughout our land. I would not take the responsibility of doing it and I venture to say there is no man in public life in this country to-day, I care not how anxious he may be to secure the seals of office or oust the present occupants from the treasury benches, who would do other than we have done, or who would have hesitated to accept the full measure of responsibility that act carried with it.

Now, that is what we have added to the public debt. Mr. Chairman, I am not speaking of this because I desire to make any reflection upon the men who in this respect were directly responsible for that legislation. I may say frankly that I was a member of the legislature at the time the act passed in 1882 while the other government were in power and I voted for the act. While I reluctantly did so, I voted for it because it included a subsidy for a bridge that ran across the river and for a railway in my own county, I did not and I do not profess to be able to resist the influences which commonly and ordinarily affect representative men and I voted for the act which the government of that day had promoted. So that it will be understood that I do not refer to this subject for the purpose of casting any reflection upon the government or the legislature which passed that act; I am merely referring to it in self-defence and in answer to that which many of you know was put forward throughout this county in the canvass of January last against the government—namely that they have, as they said, been improperly and unduly augmenting and increasing the public debt.

Now, I want to state the whole case to you fully and let me add to what I have said about the financial condition of the province one other observation. Since we came into power we have received from the dominion government a sum of between $700,000 and $800,000 by way of settlement of what was called

THE EASTERN EXTENSION CLAIM,

and by way of readjustment of debt between the several provinces. While we have added $1,000,000, or a little over, to the public debt in carrying out these railway obligations, we have at the same time received from the dominion government, the largest portion of which is to our credit at Ottawa, this sum of between $700,000 and $800,000, or to be entirely accurate, $754,000. Now, we have not all that money there at the present time. Though we have added to the public debt by about a million for railway purposes with the exception of two items I am going shortly to refer to, we have at the same time withdrawn $187,000 from our credit at Ottawa, and I will tell you how we have withdrawn it and for what purpose. We withdrew $45,000 for the purpose of building an annex to the lunatic asylum in the city and county of St. John, $84,000 in payment for the Fredericton bridge, $37,000 for the purpose of paying for the new departmental buildings, and $22,000 for the purpose of paying for other special and permanent bridges which we have constructed. So that there has been $187,000 withdrawn from the balance at Ottawa, which leaves $567,000, or say $500,000 in round figures, which will fairly be placed against the million which has been added to the debt during the time which I have mentioned.

Now, that is a full and correct statement of the financial condition of the province. We have so far as those classes of expenditure are concerned which are within the legitimate and proper control of the government and which you desire to see reduced to the smallest possible limit, carried on by the government, with an increasing population and in the face of necessary modern improvements, with which many of you are no doubt familiar and which adds to the departmental cost, for $7,000 a year less than our predecessors and we have only added to the public debt for the purpose I have already detailed. So much for the financial condition of the province.

[After referring to local matters affecting Carleton county chiefly, Mr. Blair continued:]

THE FISHERY QUESTION.

Well, we have heard a great deal about this fishery question. We have heard of it almost everywhere but where the fishery question is a live issue. We have heard it in York—we have heard it on the uplands, in the backlands and on the mountains—everywhere it has been made a leading staple in the political discussion of these inland counties, but in the counties of Restiguouche, Gloucester and Northumberland, counties where salmon fishing has reached a degree of development and magnitude which we have no conception of over here—in these counties you hear nothing at all of the fishery policy, at all events in connection with any misconduct of the government. You have to come over here where some of these gentlemen have never cast a fly in their lives—to gentlemen some of whom (I mean some of the candidates) do not know a fishing rod from a handspike, and they will tell you that the fishery policy of the government is most injurious. I have heard and even seen some candidates before the people, weep scalding tears while they narrated the grievous wrongs imposed upon these poor fishermen in the remote settlements of the country who are not allowed to spear or net or fish, owing to the abominable legislation this government had put upon the statute book. Well, gentlemen, I am going to give you, if you hear me patiently, a little narrative of this fishery question, and if I have to refer to history, do not fancy because I am going a good ways back that I will trespass much upon your time. When this government came into power we found that the fisheries of the country were exceedingly valuable. We found that they had been growing in value and that their value was very generally recognized. We found that almost all the lands which had fishing privileges in front of them and which had formerly been the property of the crown, had been granted, and of course the fishing pools on these rivers (the property in them) had passed with the grants, which of course would be necessarily the case with all grants which lay along the shore of banks of these fishing rivers. We found that a very small number of those valuable fishing pools, which at one time belonged to the crown, remained, and we thought that it would be good policy in us, that it would be in the public interest that we should take a course which would stop the further sale of what remained of those valuable fishing fronts. We, therefore, as soon as we came into power, put upon the statute book a law to this effect: That therefter there should be no grant issued of the front or shore of any fishing rivers—that is any rivers where there salmon fishing pools—without there being

RESERVED ALONG THE FRONT OF THOSE RIVERS

a margin of four rods, so that we would be able to retain in the crown the property in the fishing. There was no other possible way by which it would be in our power as a government or in the power of the legislature to reserve the crown rights in these fishing pools except by limiting the grant to within a distance of three or four rods of the edge of the stream. If we had bounded the grant as had always been done down to the stream, it would convey the rights to the grantee to the middle of the stream, which would take away and pass to the grantees all the fishing rights and privileges. The only way we could prevent that was to make a reservation of four rods in the grant along the front, as I have described. But we were careful to make this provision and have invariably acted on this provision—that the person who might receive the grant, though it would contain this reservation, would have the full right of way over and no interference with his going backwards and forwards upon this four rod front, he has the liberty to use and cultivate and even build upon and do anything in the way of using the four rods that he pleases, only that he has not the title to the four rods down to the stream, for if he had the title to the four rods as I have explained to you it would carry the fishing privileges in front of the land with it.

Let me give you an idea of what these privileges were worth. There were a number of persons who had, before we came into power, obtained grants on the rivers, some under the labor act and some at $1.00 per acre, thus getting the fishing. As soon as the people became possessed of the lots or a purchaser offered, they almost invariably sold the fishing to persons from the United States or elsewhere for very large amounts. If any of you should have occasion at any time to visit the river Restiguouche or Nepisiguit—take the Restiguouche or Upsalquitch or any of its large tributaries, and ask any of the people living along the banks of those rivers if they own the fishing in front of their lands and they will tell you every man of them, no that they have either leased or sold it. Why? Because some one came along and paid them thousands of dollars for the fishing pools that lay in front of their grant. One man received $20,000 last summer, I am credibly informed, for the fishing pools in front of his land. Is it reason or common sense that the government of this country should be permitted to go on disposing of fishing pools for $1.00 an acre, or under the labor act, as many of them were disposed of to A, B, C, or D in order, that A, B, C, or D might be able to make himself independently rich for life and put $10,000 or $20,000 in his pockets by selling out these pools? I do not think the thing will admit of argument for a moment. All these people on these rivers, who you have been told were grievously wronged because as poor people, they were debarred from the privilege of fishing in front of their lots—these very people take the earliest possible opportunity in all case, of parting with their fishing when they are offered a liberal consideration for it.

Now, the question we had to decide then, as a government, was whether we would retain the residue of these properties to the crown—let the value, whatever it was, belong to the people of the country, not to you or me, not to A. B or C, but to everybody, and whatever income or revenue was capable of being derived from it should be derived for the common and universal benefit and go into the provincial exchequer, or whether as theretofore these valuable rights should be given away for a song as a matter of profit and speculation to the grantee. That was the question we had to determine, and we think when the people of the country knew the whole question they will say we decided properly.

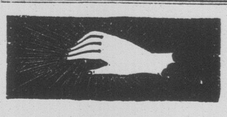
But that is not the real grievance after all. The grievance which chiefly evokes these scalding torrents of grief is that of

STOPPING THE PEOPLE FROM SPEARING AND NETTING.

Let me tell you, so far as that is concerned that the legislature of this province has no control whatever over that subject at all. We have no power whatever to say that the people may or may not net or spear or to regulate at all in any way or shape the exercise of the privilege of fishing. The dominion government possesses that jurisdiction, and possesses it exclusively and entirely, and whatever laws there are regulating the time, regulating the mode or manner in which the people may fish, whatever laws there are restricting the right to spear or curtailing the privilege of netting, those laws have emanated from the dominion parliament and were not passed by the legislature of this province. And yet an election takes place in Victoria, and somebody goes up the Tobique river and tells those people who have been used to spearing and netting without interference that the local government has passed a law that they should not spear and should not enjoy there the old time privilege of going out in front of their lots and spearing a fish, and therefore they ought to vote against the local government and put them out of power. That was the result up in the parish of Lorne on the river Tobique in the county of Victoria, all the while it being true that the legislature of this province or the government of this province had and has no power if they had the will—had no authority whatever to pass any legislation regulating in the minutest particular the privilege or the right of fishing in any shape or form. All that we ever did was as I have said: We passed the law which controlled only the ungranted crown lands. We said that so far as the ungranted crown lands are concerned we will not give a man under the labor act—we will not give a man at public sale—we will not permit anybody who may come along, A, B or C, to absorb these ungranted fishing fronts on the rivers of this province but keep them for the general public; in time they will be valuable; to-day they are yielding us $10,000 a year in revenue, and in ten or fifteen years hence perhaps they will be worth $20,000 a year and perhaps very much more. I will venture to say that if the crown was willing to sell the privileges which it owns, restricted as they are, curtailed as they are, curtailed as they are by what I must think was the impolicy of our predecessors, we would be able to get from men who are willing to pay for them as much as $250,000, on these rivers of the North Shore alone. And yet there are those who will say that we ought to throw them away and give them to Tom, Dick and Harry, because in doing what we have done we have been interfering with the privileges of the poor settlers. Now, there is no man living and I do not think any body of men who would be more desirous of aiding the poor settlers to the extent of their ability than the members of the present government, or than I would myself. No charge more illfounded and unwarranted could be brought against us than that any spirit of unfriendliness, to the poor settlers of the country or desire to curtail their rights and privileges had impelled us to the action we took on this question. I have put the actual facts before you. We have done nothing more and nothing less than I have told you. We do not interfere with any man who had his grant or with any person who had before our law passed filed an application in the crown land department for his grant. We simply said, the time has come when we will not sacrifice this valuable property of the crown: we will keep it at all events; let the people of the country in the future make what use they may of it we will reserve these valuable revenue producing properties to the people of the country and not part with them as they have been parted with in the past.

Now, that is all I think I need remark to-night upon the question of the fisheries, with this single solitary addition thereto, that while you here know from these gentlemen who have attacked the government in this vigorous fashion—from Dr. Atkinson, Mr. Stockton, Mr. Hanington, Mr. Alward and all these gentlemen—in strongest condemnation of the government, in the several counties wherever they have been addressing the electors on theeve of recent elections, how grossly iniquitous is our fore law and how bad our conduct and management of the fishery question, yet when, in 1884, the government passed the law which is now upon the statute-book there was not a voice raised against it among the opposition. Although Mr. Hanington was there, although Mr. Wetmore was there (many of these gentlemen now in the house, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Alward and others were not there it is true, but these other gentlemen were there leading the opposition and promoting the interests of their party,) not one of them had a word of fault to find against the government because of our fishery legislation. So far from condemning us they expressed their hearty approval of what we were proposing to do in that regard and Mr. Hanington said it was a very proper thing for us to make this reservation of four rods and that it would be very beneficial because the people could grow trees along, and would greatly improve the appearance of our rivers. And now they are all asking you to condemn us although we did it with their approval and although while that law was put on the statute book in 1884 not in any one session since has a single voice been raised in criticism of the law nor has any proposal to amend its provisions in any one respect been suggested. Not one single solitary suggestion! It is reserved until an election is pending in the county of Victoria or York or elsewhere. It is outside of the legislature that these people ventilate their grievances. They did not ventilate these grievances in the house where they could be given all proper consideration and where their claims might have some effect. And it is not from Restiguouche, nor Victoria, nor the representatives from Northumberland nor Gloucester nor any of these counties, where they have these large fishing interests and where these great salmon rivers are to be found, that you hear this doleful wail. It is from these other counties of the province that have no familiar experience or knowledge with regard to them, and if you ask the gentlemen representing these northern counties what they think of the fishery law making the reservation of four rods, they will tell you that they think highly of it, and their constituents think highly of it because it assists in bringing people from abroad to expend large amounts of money in their several localities, and that there is a very much more free and general expenditure of money and employment of the people on those rivers to-day than there had been previously. I was told to-day by a gentleman acquainted with the state of affairs on the Tobique river that during the past year there was more money spent by the people who went there to enjoy the fishing than there had been previously spent there in any four or five years altogether. I have said enough I think to explain to you fully what we have done on the question of the fisheries of the province and I ask you to draw therefrom such conclusion as you think is fair and reasonable. The question is should we have allowed these lands to be granted away and these fisheries to cease to be the property of the crown, or did we do prudently and wisely when we reserved these four rod fronts in order that this property should continue to be yours for all time to come?

[*To be continued.*]



TRY ONE OF

HOOPER'S ELECTRIC PLASTERS

—FOR PAIN IN THE—

Back, Breast or Side,

PRICE 25 CTS. EACH

OR BY

MAIL 30 CENTS.

—AT—

The Medical Hall,

J. D. B. F. MACKENZIE.

Chatham, N. B., Dec. 29, 1890.

XMA'S '90 & NEW YEAR '91.

HOLIDAY GOODS NOW IN STOCK,

Oranges, Lemons and Grapes

and a large assortment of

CONFECTIONERY.

PURE GOLD FLAVOURING EXTRACTS AND SPICES A SPECIALITY,

—ALSO—

Raisins and Currants, Citron and Lemon Peel,

—AND A NICE LINE OF—

Gift Cups and Saucers and Mugs,

All of which I will sell at

REDUCED PRICES

during the Holiday Season.

ALEX. McKINNON.

COFFINS & CASKETS

The Subscriber has on hand at his shop a superior assortment of

ROSEWOOD & WALNUT COFFINS,

COFFIN FINDINGS

AND ROBES

which he will supply at reasonable rates. BADGES FOR PALL BEARERS also supplied.

WM. McLEAN, - Undertaker.

LONDON HOUSE.

To housekeepers wanting a good, reliable FLOUR, would advise them to try any of the following choice Brands, and will guarantee entire satisfaction.

"Ogilvie's Hungarian"
(Made from all Manitoba Wheat)
"Golden Eagle,"
"Ansonia,"
"Tecumseh."

Also, a good assortment of TEAS. Try "OUR BLEND," 3 lbs for 50 cents.

FOR SALE

Good Dry Codfish

and a few half bbls of good Fall Herring.

R. HOCKEN.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

TO be sold at Public Auction, on Friday, the 13th day of February, next, in front of the Post Office, in Chatham, between the hours of 12 noon and five o'clock, p. m.

All the right title and interest of William Muirhead in and to all those several pieces, parcels or lots of land, situate lying and being in the Parish of Chatham, and County of Northumberland, and Province of New Brunswick, and more particularly described and bounded as follows, viz.:

All that certain piece or parcel of land situate lying and being on the south side of the Miramichi River, in the Parish of Chatham, aforesaid, being part of the lot number thirty-eight, which piece thereof is abutted and bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing on the north side of the Queen's Highway at the lower side of the lands belonging to the Estate of the late Richard Blackstock, deceased, thence easterly along the north side of the said Road or Highway to the west side of lands owned and occupied by the late Honorable Wm. Muirhead, thence northerly along the west side of the said late Honorable Wm. Muirhead's lands to the channel of the River Miramichi, thence westerly or up stream to a continuation of the easterly side line of the said Richard Blackstock's property; thence southerly along such side line to the north side of the said High way, being the place of beginning, comprising the whole of the lands and premises now used as the "Miramichi