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THOS. W. SMITH MERCHANT TAILOR.

Maritime Farmer.

Fredericton, N. B., April 14, 1881.

Abolition of the Legislative Council.

A degree of mystery was attached to the late visit of the Provincial Secretary, to Halifax. The first notices given in that city's papers of Mr. Wedderburn's presence there, did not mention this mystery. No one is permitted to honor the general's object in visiting the Nova Scotia capital, was to waste his magnificent accents on the blind, or to be entertained by the government. Every one who thought of the matter was convinced that he had some serious object in view. And now the "demon" is out of the sack. The papers now state that his object was no less a serious one, than to endeavor to encompass with the aid of the government of Nova Scotia, and that of P. E. Island, the abolition of the Maritime Legislative Council. The statement is essentially proved to be correct, by the fact that the government of Nova Scotia on Monday, gave notice of a motion for a conference with New Brunswick and P. E. Island, on the subject of a joint address to the Queen for imperial legislation abolishing the Legislative Council. How the Hon. T. B. Jones will sign at this juncture is a matter which will not be discussed here. It is certain that at the foot of the Throne, and opened the eyes of gracious Majesty to the injustice that the three governments propose. He will, at least be instrumental in getting up a counter address.

The Irish Land Bill.

Last Thursday afternoon, Mr. Gladstone introduced, with a three hours speech, the long expected Irish Land Bill, in respect of which, though incomplete drafts have been previously presented, and published in some of the English papers. In his long career as head of a government he never was confronted with so difficult a question as this; difficult on account of the great interests at stake and the feelings involved, and the impossibility of steering clear of offending landed class, who fear an invasion of what they consider their vested rights, and of not disappointing the tenant class, whose extreme expectations no measure could be expected to meet, and also on account of the enormous amount of the topics and propositions involved in the measure submitted. Mr. Gladstone and his Government, it will be most generally conceded, have labored hard to produce a Bill, that will do justice to Ireland substantially, and put at rest some of the grievances under which it has long groined. The Bill has caused the cessation of the Duke of Argyll from the Cabinet, but it appears to have given contentment to the moderate Home Rule party, and has not thrown Mr. Parnell into paroxysms of indignation and discontent, which is something. The Bill will for the next six weeks or more be the subject of interminable comment, criticism, praise, and abuse. It is a measure that cannot be understood in all its bearings till after long study. It is probable that it will be more violently denounced in England by the Conservative interest, than by the Land Leaguers in Ireland. If it is, as is held to be, a departure from the fundamental principles of British Land Law, there can be no wonder if the wrath of Tory landlordism is roused, and every effort put forth for its defeat. The Bill embodies the three F's—free sale, fair rents, and fixity of tenure, under certain conditions. The Act is to be called, "The Land Law of Ireland, Act of 1881." The salient and cardinal feature of the Bill is the institution of a court, a Land Commission, which will take cognizance of all cases which are not to be decided by taking cognizance of tenure and assignment. This Commission, which will have final authority over all land cases, will consist of three persons one being the Judge or an ex-Judge of the Supreme Court of Judicature of Ireland; the central Commission to be established in Dublin, with power to appoint sub-Commissions. If the Bill passes, tenants may apply to this Court to fix what is the fair rent. Every existing tenant may call in the Court to fix a judicial rent for 15 years, during which time there can be no change of tenancy, except for breach of certain specified conditions. The Ulster question will prevail, as now, at the tenant's option, but the tenant will have the protection of the general provisions of the Bill for controlling augmentation of rent. Power to contract out of the Act will be given, where the rent amounts to £200 yearly. This provision is inserted to prevent abuses such as took place in spite of the Land Law of 1870, when landlords, by the Duke of Devonshire, compelled their tenants to accept leases contracting themselves out of the provisions of that Bill. The Bill will not introduce an unregulated tenancy, as provision is made for preventing it from passing into extravagance, and protecting the just rights of landlords by bringing into fair competition the tenant's right to occupy, and the landlord's right to get what his land is reasonably worth. The Bill also provides that the Land Commission, out of the money in their hands for the purpose, may, if satisfied with the security, advance sums to tenants to enable them to purchase their holdings, where their landlords are willing to sell such advances not to exceed three-fourths of the principal sum. The following are some of the other provisions of the Bill:—Where the sale of a holding is about to be made by a landlord to a tenant in consideration of the tenant paying a fine and agreeing to pay to the landlord a fee as far rent, the commission may advance a sum equal to half the fine payable to the landlord. Provision is also made to enable the commission to give purchasing tenants a parliamentary title at fixed sales of tenants who will avoid the heavy legal expenses which attend the sale and transfer of landed property under the ordinary law. Tenants can repay the principal and interest by annual payment of £5 per £100, clearing the debt in 35 years. The Treasury may authorize the Board of Works to advance money to companies for the reclamation or improvement of waste lands on proper security. The Land Commission may, from time to time, with the sanction of the Treasury, enter into agreement with any person or body of persons having authority to contract on behalf of the Dominion of Canada not of any province thereof, or on behalf of any British colony or dependency or any State or other district in such Dominion, province, colony or dependency, or on behalf of any public company or other public body with whose security the Land Commission may be satisfied by the satisfactory of the Home Rule by way of a loan out of the money in their hands, of such sums as the commission may think it desirable to expend in promoting migration from Ireland. Such arrangements shall contain such provisions relative to the mode of application of loans and the securing and repayment thereof to the commission and for other purposes as the commission thinks fit. Under the head of supplemental provisions the act provides:—The Treasury may, from time to time, as they think fit, issue out of the consolidated fund, or the growing produce thereof, the sums required for advances or purchases of estates by the Land Commission under this part of the act, not ex-

The Opening Season.

The city has now assumed its spring time appearance. Though the prophet Venor predicts very stormy unseasonable weather, before the close of the month, we trust he is mistaken, and that winter and rough weather have fled away. The blue sky and air, fresh and balmy, and the glimpse of the bright blue water are alluring. And from what we can gather, the spirits of the citizens, (with not a few exceptions of course) are in unison with the season. There is a better and more hopeful spirit than there was last season, and in one or two preceding that. Business is expected to be lively. The importations of goods are expected to be heavy. The dry good stores set forth a tempting array of goods, and the merchants say, we are told, that money is plentiful and much easier to obtain than it has been for a long time past. It is not a sign that the times are improving when our druggists, clothiers and dry goods men, are seen putting splendid sheets of plate glass into their windows setting off their large to the best advantage? Though in large cities the putting up of ornamental fronts with glass windows in stores is sometimes a mere ruse adopted to deceive the public into imagining that the establishments are flourishing and enjoying a magnificent stroke of business, no one has any objection to our merchants who condescend to such a device, or that it would be any use for them to try it. Plate glass in Fredericton means that our merchants find that the state of their business warrants the elegant expenditure; it may be a sacrifice to fashion, but it is a sacrifice to success.

The C. T. A. in Hamilton.

The great question now agitating Ontario is temperance—prohibition or non-prohibition. Politics are partly in abeyance, and Blake's is not so powerful a name to conjure with as Scott. The Toronto Globe, which has often followed, as it leads public opinion, has had columns daily for the last fortnight on the subject of the Temperance Law, from the pen of two correspondents, who represent the two sides of the prohibition question. The object of the novel mission is to ascertain whether a prohibitory law can be effectually enforced on a large scale, and whether the Maine Law has really put down the traffic in liquor. At St. John's, the conclusion arrived at so far by the correspondents is, that, on the whole, the Maine Law has represented the traffic in liquor, and has done good. In the cities of Portland, Bangor, etc., whiskey straight, etc., can be obtained by parties, seeming respectable, at the hotel and in the street. At St. John's, there has been a great deal of sale of liquor there, while in the country it is successfully enforced. Still, the authorities have to maintain unceasing vigilance. They have not succeeded in the enforcement, but they have not killed it. There was hardly any use of the Globe sending correspondents through Maine as liquor spies, as it might have got all the information it has been able to give its readers in an above board manner. But its course has no doubt, had an effect of giving additional interest to the liquor controversy, which is now being waged in Ontario. The attempt of Mr. Southey in the Commons, in London, to amend the Senate, last Session, to destroy the Scott Act, excited great indignation among the temperance people of the Province, and now the strength of the temperance feeling is being put to the test. Yesterday 13th inst., the most important temperance election ever held in Ontario, came off in Hamilton, "the ambitious city," and on its issue will depend whether an endeavor will be made at once to carry the adoption of "the Scott Law," in other cities, perhaps in Toronto and St. John. We have not, at time of writing, heard the result. The contest will be very close. The powerful influence of the brewers, distillers, wholesale liquor dealers, and the moderate Home Rule party, and has not thrown Mr. Parnell into paroxysms of indignation and discontent, which is something. The Bill will for the next six weeks or more be the subject of interminable comment, criticism, praise, and abuse. It is a measure that cannot be understood in all its bearings till after long study. It is probable that it will be more violently denounced in England by the Conservative interest, than by the Land Leaguers in Ireland. 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The Tunisian Difficulty.

Hostilities have commenced in Algeria, between the French and the Kroumirs, a wild tribe inhabiting a narrow strip of wilderness between Tunis and Algeria. What has prompted the Kroumirs to assume the determined aggressive attitude that they appear to have done is not clearly revealed, from what is known, it is reasonable to suppose that something more than their predatory instincts have prompted them. It is supposed that the Kroumirs have been stirred up by the Bay of Tunis, over whose county the French wish to claim a protectorate. The Bay has been incited to hostility to the French by the Italian Consul at Tunis and it was reported that the Italian Emperor had gone to the frontier and openly offered the aid of the Italian army, but the latter statement is denied. As yet, the Bay has not openly declared his hostility to the French. Last week in the French Chamber of Deputies a grant of 4,000,000 francs for the Military block was accorded to the French Ministry of the Marine, was voted, and on the 9th inst., a squadron consisting of eight men of war, bearing 13,000 man with rations was dispatched to Algeria. The force in Algeria is considered able to deal with the Kroumirs, and these reinforcements, will be sent in three days from the French coast. Tunisians, should they really mean war, the feeling in Tunis against the French is very hostile. On Monday a band of marauding Kroumirs, crossed the French frontier, with the intention of "lifting" the frontier, and laid siege to the town of Sfax, which is a French possession. The telegraph despatch states that reinforcements were sent up consisting of Zouaves and Chasseurs, under General Vinet, who attacked the enemy. The fighting lasted an hour and a half when the marauders retired with considerable loss, but with all their dead and wounded. The French lost 60 men. This skirmish may develop into one of these "little wars," of which England has had so many of late, and on the conduct of which French critics see how unparliamentary it is difficult to see how France is going to gain any glory, or advantage out of it, unless she is determined to extend her influence in North Africa, and annexing Tunis. It is supposed that that is her design and it is even hinted that, at the time of the first Berlin Conference an secret convention was entered into by the French government and Beauséjour, by which as a compensation for the acquisition by England of Cyprus, France was to be allowed to annex Tunis. A number of stories are afloat, but the bottom facts of this Franco-Tunisian business are not known.

Consignment of Thoroughbred Stock.

One of the largest consignments if not the very largest of thoroughbred cattle ever imported into Canada, arrived on Monday morning by Dominion line S. S. "Texas," at Halifax, under charge of Prof. McRae, and they have been shipped through the special train, to Point Levi, where they will be quarantined. The important consignment consists of sixty pure bred Polled Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn Bulls, and two Oldysdale Stallions for the Cochrane Ranch Company, who are about starting a stock farm of ten thousand acres at the foot of the "Rockies." There are also three Guernsey cows imported by Hon. J. C. Abbott, eight Oldysdale Stallions for Messrs. Beatty & Holderness, Toronto, fifty Oxford Down Sheep for various parties in Ontario, and over a hundred head of thoroughbred Polled Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn animals, male and female, including "Duke" Bull and "Barrington" and "Leavington" heifer, and seventy-five Oxford Down Sheep, for Senator Cochrane's Stock farm at Compton. This valuable and extensive importation from England, shows that the principal stockbreeders in Ontario and Quebec, have not been deterred by the reports of the prevalence of disease among the cattle there. The fears of the spread of the foot and mouth disease have much abated in England, and nothing in the state of the stock there need prevent our government making their intended purchases across the water. But of course, they will satisfy themselves that there is no danger before taking a step.

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Mr. J. H. Reid, says that there is going to be an exhibition open to the Province, to be held in Fredericton in October. When he gets an idea into his head it generally comes out in action. He makes no account of government assistance, but trusts that the citizens will support him in his undertaking. As the business season promises to be good, and money more plentiful than it has been for some years past, he may not be disappointed. Exhibitions are popular here, as they draw in people from different parts of the country, and strangers from abroad, bring custom to stores and hotels, and make things lively generally. If the project is well supported by the citizens, there is not much fear of its proving a success. Speaking of Mr. Reid, we may say, that he has lately returned from the United States, and brought with him a few of the finest things in fowls and potatoes he could find. His "Daniel Lambert" and "Madame Lambert," are the most splendid and largest specimens of "Bronze" Turkeys ever imported into the Dominion. They were bred by the "Oxley" community, New York, and weigh 40 lbs., and 39 lbs., respectively. They are within Mr. R. says, 10 lbs. of the heaviest pair ever produced. No Tom and Hen having reached maturity, have ever turned the scale over 42 lbs., 30 lbs., respectively. Their plumage is simply superb; that of Daniel's especially, part of which shines like burnished gold. They are without expense. They have taken 1st class prizes at shows in the States, and "have" our informant says, never been beaten. Their eggs will be in great demand. Mr. R. also brought from New York, eggs from fowls of the finest varieties imported from Europe last year. "White Breasted," "Black Polands," "White Hens," and "White Dorking Rose Breasted." In addition he brought with him some fine varieties of potatoes. "White Elephant," "1st" and "Beauty of Hebron," "Berkshire" and "Golden Wonder." Mr. R. says he is in treaty for a fine horse, and will visit the States shortly again.

Steel Rails for the N. B. Railway.

Steel rails for the New Brunswick Railroad, are being shipped by the Ballant Street St. John, and taken over the St. John and Maine and New Brunswick Railways to Woodstock. Two thousand tons have arrived, and remainder of the 14,000 ordered to complete the relaying of the track, will be shipped from Barrow-on-Furness as speedily as possible. It is stated that the work of changing the gauge will be begun this week, and will be done with all despatch. The sleepers are now being distributed along the road. Five new Locomotives have been purchased from the Intercolonial Railway, and six box and passenger cars are being built at the Company's works at Gibson. The track laying is to commence at Woodstock, and to be continued north to Grand Falls, after which the section between Woodstock and Gibson will be laid.

Truth and Sobriety.

What is the best family medicine in the world to regulate the bowels, purify the blood, remove constipation and biliousness, aid digestion and stimulate the whole system? Truth and sobriety, coupled with a few Hop Bitters, being pure, perfect and harmless. See "Truths" in another column.

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A Finnish Proposal.

It is generally conceded that the Yankees are an inventive people, and that the Yankee editor has not his match for coolness of speech and audacity of suggestion. The editor of the Rochester Union must be the nonpareil of his class—both in inventive genius and cold-blooded contempt of the poor Doctor. Jealous of the glorious prospect before our magnificent North-west; jealous that millions on millions of the finest wheat growing soil are on the wrong side of the line, he proposes to submerge them under fathoms of water, indifferent whether thousands of human lives, and myriad herds of cattle are lost in the flood. But how does the Finnish editor propose to make a sea, where now fruitful plains extend? By damming up the McKenzie river and laying under water the Mackenzie valley, fertile land, 2,000 miles long and 200 miles wide. Hear him, and ask whether he ought not to be hanged, locked up in a lunatic asylum, or laughed at obscenely! "If his surface would have an altitude of about 500 above the sea level. It would cover with one continuous surface the labyrinth of streams and lakes which now occupy the Mackenzie Valley. It would be a never-failing feeder for the Mississippi. It would complete the interior lines of river courses by connecting the Mackenzie with the Mississippi which now exists between the Mackenzie and Mackenzie would do this. This work is measured by its results, and it becomes easy of accomplishment under the methods proposed."

A Youthful Monster.

Crime appears to be on the increase in France, and the police courts are filled with cases of the most horrible depravity. The other day a young wretch, only fifteen years old, enticed a little boy of six years into his room, tied him to a chair, and deliberately cut him to pieces with a large knife. The only motive for the deed seemed to be a desire to witness the agonized struggles of his victim. Strangely enough, the young fiend lodged a complaint against himself and surrendered to the police immediately after the crime. His name is Felix Lemaire, and he lived in hired rooms at No. 220 Boulevard de la Villette. He told his story in a calm, collected manner, and in going to the theatre and his ordinary occupation. "On the 16th of last February," said he, "I stole 300 francs from my employer, M. Siret, rue d'Aubouville. I spent the money in going to the theatre and myself at the end of my resources. I felt that I was doing wrong, but I was so much interested in the play, that I did not care. I had a little one whom I killed. I found him in the street. I promised him a steel chain which I showed him, as an inducement for him to come with me. Arrived in my room, I tied his hands behind his back as he was going to bed, and then I cut his throat, in order that the clothes should offer no obstacle, and plunged my knife twice into his chest. I promised him a steel chain which I showed him, as an inducement for him to come with me. Arrived in my room, I tied his hands behind his back as he was going to bed, and then I cut his throat, in order that the clothes should offer no obstacle, and plunged my knife twice into his chest. I promised him a steel chain which I showed him, as an inducement for him to come with me. 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