OTTAWA LETTER

Some Instructive Information Squeezed Out of Mulock and Sifton.

The Soldiers in the Yukon an Expen sive Orgament-Sir Wilfrid on "Little Minds."

The Senate and the Drummond and Grand L Trunk Railway Deal-Sir Oliver Mowat's Pledge Must be Redeemed.

OTTAWA, June 23.—The affair the Yukon telegraph line which causes the last all night session of the house contains some interesting elements besides those discussed in previous letters. It now happens that while no money was voted for this service, and while the parliament met on the 16th of March, the government passed the order in council on the 13th of March authorizing the beginning of a work order in council on the 13th of march, authorizing the beginning of a work which is estimated to cost \$150,000. Another remarkable feature of the case is the fact that while the order in council authorizing the work to be done was passed on the 13th of March, Mr. Charleson had three days before been appointed and received his in-structions from the department of public works to go on with all these services. Under date of the 10th of March Mr. Tarte's deputy wrote to Mr. J. B. Charleson informing him "that "the hon. the minister having decided "upon the construction of a telegraph "line to connect with Dawson City · has directed me to inform "you that he has been pleased to place to proceed immediately to undertake the construction of the said tele "graph line."

Mr. Charleson had other duties and spend money. Among the things he was asked to do in addition to the construction of the telegraph to Dawson was the examination for anothe telegraph line southward to Quesnelle the improvement of the rivers surveyed by Mr. Coste, the construction of administration buildings at Dawson City, and the examination of the country for a road. He was authorized to vices and to procure such assistance as he needed. Mr. Gobeil explained that he had placed \$15,000 in Mr. to deposit in the bank whatever lal-ance there might be when he reached Dawson, or if he had not enough money he could draw for more. will be seen that the government be-gan by taking money that was not and ended by giving Mr. Charleson a free hand to spend money on his own

before Mr. Tarte introduced him at Ottawa, and there was a general ex-pression of opinion on the opposition of the house in the hous that he is just the kind of a man to make a profuse and generous use of the opportunities allowed him. Mr. Charleson began well. After private-ly asking for prices from only three dealers, Mr. Charleson went to his son, a retail store keeper in this city, and bought \$5,000 worth of telegraph wire, Mr. Charleson junior is not an extensive dealer in 'elegraph wire, and the price paid seems to be excessive. There is a common impression that Mr. Charleson senior is interested in business with Mr. Charleson junior, and that Mr. Charleson junior, and that Mr. Charleson junior has had a considerable pull in supplying goods for the public works department, his father being one of the purchasers for Mr. Tarte. Mr. senior starts out with a salary of \$4,000 a year on this enter-

It was five o'clock in the morning before Mr. Fielding, who represents Mr. Tarte in the latter's absence, produced these instructions to Mr. Charleson. In the early part of the works was very reticent in giving information and very flippant in making replies. Moreover he was not as ingenuous as a minister ought not as ingenuous as a minister ought to be when he wants money from the house. Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the course of his apology for the government's change of base on the telegraph matter, explained that the department had a vote out of which Mr. Charleson's \$15,000 was taken. Mr. Fielding at once backed him up. When Sir Wilfrid was asked to explain, this is the item he produced: "Telegraph line, B. C., \$12,000." This was voted last year.

It did not take Mr. Foster long to show that the money given to Mr. Charleson did not come from this vote. The last year's vote of \$12,000 was ex The last year's vote of \$12,000 was expended in paying salaries and for repairs on the government lines already established in British Columbia and perated by the department of public works. There was no money left from the vote for the Yukon enterprise, which is not in British Columbia at all, and the attempt to make it appear that the money was paid out of this vote was a miserable little piece of decention, quite unwerthy of a of deception, quite unworthy of a minister of the crown, but not unusual. After this sort of quibbling and after refusing to tell the committee whether Mr. Tarte's Charleson was the same as the Crow's Nest Charleson Mr. Fielding seemed to be surprised that he could not get his estimates through as fast as he liked. If he continues this style of doing business there are many more surprises in store for him.

Mr. Martin is having a controversy over the case of the destruction of lobeter traps and ropes belonging to Benjamin Compton & Company of Bell River. The Comptons say that they closed up their factory before the expiry of the dishing season, but that on account of the bad weather they were not able to get their traps to shore. The property was afterwards seized by the cruiser Acadia, and the

corner sale at Charlottetown, without the knowledge of the company, for \$8.95, out of which the expenses had to be paid. The company further state that they had made every effort to get their traps in, and were engaged in landing them when the seizure was made. It is also stated that the ropes which were seized by the cruiser were being used at the time in taking in the traps.

Among the letters read by Mr. Mar-tin was one from Compton & Co., ex-plaining how they came to be late in taking in their traps. The writer says: "As we had permission from the "department of marine and fisheries "to ship our goods without being stamped, having sold under contract, we were therefore compelled to have 'our goods in Charlottetown before "our goods in Charlottetown before the 20th of July." It would appear that this permission, which was app ently a special arrangement unauthorized by law, led to the trouble, for while the company was taking the goods to Charlottetown the time expired for taking up the traps and the

Sir Louis Davies does not appear to have any explanation of this special permission about marking goods, but he declared that the officers had to be sustained in the performance of their duty, and that he could not interfere with the course of law in the mat-ter. Mr. Martin insists, on the other hand, that he does not want to weaken the power of the government to deal with matters like this, but that in the case in question there was no evidence to show any intention to violate the law or that the law was in fact vio-

OTTAWA, June 24.—A weak point was discovered yesterday in Mr Mulock's postal revenue and expenditure calculations. The postmaster general says that the reduction of postage to two cents will not cost a loss of revenue of more than half a million a year, and he hopes that the increase in the number of letters will eventually be so great that there will be no loss at all. His revenue for five months since the two cent rate came the same period last year, and figur-ing after this rate he makes the shortage about \$450,000 a year. In this cal-culation Mr. Mulock made no allow-ance for his additional gains from newspaper postage, which has brought aim in a snug sum of money. So far increase of ten per cent. in the num-ber of letters other than drop letters mailed. In order to make up the total loss by reducing the postage from three cents to two cents he should be able to show an increase of correspondence of 50 per cent.

But it turned out in the discussion

yesterday that Mr. Mulock had omited another important element. Some that there is no such increase in the postal expenditure as would be expected from the expensive services of Mr. Charleson had gained a considerable notoriety under Mr. Mercier from letters sent to that country, as policy may not have made him rich, before Mr. Tarte introduced him at well as that growing out of Yukon but his friends are about to perform trade and travel and financial operations in the country generally, is very by Mr. Foster's examination of Mr. Mulock and Mr. Sifton in the committee of supply yesterday that while Mr. Mulock takes in the postal revenue from the Yukon he charge the department with the postal expenditure there. Practically the whole mail service in hat region is performed by the mounted police. They have transported the malls to all parts of the district wherever their expenses to the interior depart-ment. It turns out on examination that a great part of the work of these men is mail transportation. Mr. Foster led up to it very clevery. The mounted police in the Yukon cost the country this year \$750,000 or so. Mr. Foster west trying to gather from Mr. Sifton what they did for their money, as they cost over \$4,000 a year for each man. Mr. Sifton explained in detail giving a very good account of the excellent work performed by this exmegnificent force. It appeared that the work of the postal department was a very important part of the was a very important part of the mounted police duty, and that this feature of their services would have cost a large sum if Mr. Mulock had been obliged to pay for it in the regular way. Now, since Mr. Mulock gets the Vulcar expenses it is measured to the Yukon revenue, it is reasonable that he should be charged with the Yukon postal expenditure, and Mr. Foster presented the matter in such a light that the postmaster general admitted the necessity of making an apportionment at the end of the year whereby transportation of mails in the Yukon would be charged to his department and credited to the department of the interior. When this is done Mr. Mulock's deficit will be increased probably by some \$200,000.

> It is not yet very clear what servi It is not yet very clear what services the soldiers have performed in the Yukon. We know that the country has paid about a million dollars for transportation, supplies, and pay of the force in that country. The mounted police were necessary and have been useful. It does not yet appear that the soldiers were necessary or that they have performed any essential services. Mr. Sifton gives a lurid story of what might have been if the lawless people of Dawson had not awiess people of Dawson had n been overawed by the military, b been overawed by the military, but the common report from that country is that the great body of people in Dawson are law-abiding and are sup-porters of law and order. No one who comes from there expresses a doubt that the mounted police would have been quite sufficient for all practical purposes. If a force of constabulary were needed there are plenty of cour-ageous people in the town who would were needed there are plenty of courageous people in the town who would have been quite willing to serve as local officers at a cost probably of not one-fifth of the price of Mr. Borden's soldlers. As it is, the country has expended an amount equal to the whole postal revenue of St. John or Hallfax on a service which is apparently unnecessary and is likely to be discontinued.

Mr. Siften has his faults, but he has

not impertinent in his treatment of inquirers on the opposition side, and appears to be seriously anxious to give a reason for the expenditure that he has made or intends to make. His reasons may not be good, but he gives them in detail and without resenting close and careful scrutiny. The result was that Mr. Sifton got through the vote of hundreds of thousands of his vote of hundreds of thousands of dollars last night before two o'clock, while Mr. Fielding was busy until six o'clock in the morning over one or two small items concerning which he would not give civil answers. As one of Mr. Fielding's supporters observed to an opposition member, the finance minister has not learned that it is cheaper for a minister in supply to be civil than to try to be smart.

. Sir Wilfrid Laurier offered some servations yesterday about the "little minds" of the opposition. It was about a matter in the railway department where a wharf had been purchased at Mount Stewart from the local gov-Mount Stewart from the local government and where the railway had been extended along the wharf without a previous authority from parliament for the expenditure. It was matter of only a few thousand dollars and the purchase seems to have been in the interests of the community, No one objected to the expenditure in itself, but Mr. Foster, in regard to this item, as in many others, upheld the right of parliament to be consulted before the thing was done. This was mined before the last session of the house. Yet nothing was done about it and no money was voted. After the session the property was brought and the Prince Edward Island rall-way extended unto the wharf, and now the minister of railways asks the louse to vote the money for the local government. Of course ing for it but to pass the vote. Even if the purchase had been unnecessary and improper in itself, the house could do nothing else but back up the government in carrying out a contra solemnly made. Even if the vote wer thrown out it would not be possible to undo the expenditure that the railway department has made on the pro-perty, and this would be lost if the purchase were not endorsed by par-

Sir Louis Davies spoke contemptu-ously of the objection, as the whole affair did not "amount to a hill of beans," and Sir Wilfrid Laurier quoted the maxim "de minimis non curat praetor," to which he gave the vicious ranslation about little minds. The aversion to any minds which are directed to the limitation which the constitution provides to the powers partments. Anyone who protects revenue from illegal spoilation has too small à mind for the absolute rulers

Yet Sir Wilfrid ought to be good but his friends are about to perform that operation. The hundred thou-sand dollars testimonial is progressing favorably. One quarter amount is said to be ready for the prebe invested for him. It is announced that the whole sum will be raised with ease, and that more can be had if necessary. We have had within a few years the strong contention of Sir Wilfrid and Sir Richard Cart-wright that publicity should be given o every subscription in order that th comes from people who hold office o ment. As yet, however, the only subscription made public is that of Lord Strathcona, who has sent a check for \$10,000, and promises another one like it if required. Lord Strathcona is high commissioner for Canada. He is one of the largest owners of the C. P. R. railway, which has close relations with the federal government. He is almost at the head of the Bank of Montreal, which has intimate busin relations with the dominion. He is a director of a new iron company which for many years to come, and will n



doubt apply for an extension when the first productions are due.

Perhaps Sir Wilfrid should not refluse Lord Strathcona's cheque, but there is no harm in directing the attention of the premier to his own obtained. The explanation for this contraction of the premier to his own obtained at a stiffuge has been set forth. servations concerning the testimonial of Sir Hector Langevin. Nor is it any harm to refer Sir Richard Cartwright to his own suggestion that any of the friends of ministers who desire to make them a present ought to wait till the minister retires from office. There is a sarcastic observation following this, in which Sir Richard intimates that the present made after the minister's retirement would probably be very small. However this may be, it is apparent that Sir Wil. may be, it is apparent that on the frid is not going to take the risk of delay. If the thing is to be done at a cought to be done well, all, perhaps it ought to be done at all, perhaps it ought to be done well, and it is interesting to note that white a good deal was said by Mr. Blake, Sir Richard Cartwright and others about the testimonials to Lady Mac-donald, Sir Hector Langevin and Mr. Costigan, it appears that the sum to be raised for Sir Wilfrid Laurier is nearly as large as all these put to-

It may be left to those who have been in the habit of denouncing ministers who accept testimonials, to say their say about Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his \$100,000, and about Lord Stratheona with his \$10,000 or \$20,000. But this is the resolution adopted by the house of commons in 1891, on the motion of Sir Richard Cartwright, supported in a vigorous speech by Sir Wilfrid Laurier: "That the accept-"ance of gifts or testimonials of any kind on the part of ministers of the crown or any member of their families from contractors, government officials or other persons having pecuniary relations with the government, is entirely opposed to sound principles of administration, is calculated to bring parliamentary government into contempt, and the exand demoralise the officials serving under ministers who have accepted or permitted the acceptance of gifts or testimonials as aforesaid." S. D. S.

OTTAWA, June 26 .- The last meeting of the public accounts committee competed the investigation of the case of Collector Costigan, formerly of Winnipeg. Hon. John Costigan had ed at a previous meeting that he intended making a statement. At the last meeting he said that he had made up his mind not to do so, as ome of the matters which he would have discussed might be calculated to make hard feelings. He observed moreover that the case was very well understood, as it was H. A. Costigan was not shown to have been guilty of anything more than neglect of duty, absence from his office without leave, drunkenness and wrongful withholding of public money in his possess Mr. Costigan urged the point rather strongly that there was no dishones or improper taking of money on the part of his son. The money which he withheld came into his properly and the neglect to pay it over constituted the offence. There was no doubt in his mind, as there was none in the mind of the minister of inland revenue that the withholding of the money on the three occasio tunate habit of drinking to which H. A. Costigan was then addicted.

Mr. Costigan supported the contention of Sir Henry Joly that Collector Costigan had not been allowed to go unpunished. For some months he was under suspension, and his removal to Ottawa with \$600 reduction in salary was a heavy penalty. Sir Henry had sworn that Hon. Mr. Costigan had frequently visited him before these had tried to arrange for a transfer of Collector Costigan to the east. This could only be effected by the superannuation of Mr. Battel, who did not want to retire, and who, according to Mr. Miall, was performing his duties seems to have been accomplished as punishment of his son. He has been transferred to the place where he reduction of salary, though the pay is the same as that of the late collector

The relations of John Costigan with the department of inland revenue appear to have been rather close during the period since the change of gov-ernment. Sir Henri Joly describes him as a frequent visitor in the department, and it would appear that his visits have not been entirely without esults. It is natural that the ex-min ster should have the sympathy of his long associated with them. Many were his own appointments. All of them, or nearly all, have at one time or another received favors and kind-ness from Mr. Costigan. For what-ever shortcomings there may have been in Mr. Costigan's administration been in Mr. Costigan's administration he always stood up for his department and endeavored to secure the highest pay possible for the men about him. No doubt there would be among those officers the strongest sympathy with Mr. Costigan in a matter that must have given him a great deal of annave given him a great deal of an-xiety, and Sir Henri Joly appears to have been anxious to do all he could to protect Collector Costigan from the results of his unfortunate habits.

When one compares the extreme consideration shown in this case with the severity displayed in some others there is the more reason to congratulate the ex-minister on the outcome. Every day we hear of some office thrown out of his position becau ome one asserts that he attended a political convention or discussed poli-les with a friend on the street. The other day papers were brought down about a lighthouse keeper in Nova Scotia who was charged with canvassing and political partizanship, but who was shown on investigation to have done nothing more than attend a public meeting at which a candidate was nominated. This man was summarily dismissed without retiring allowance. without even a suggestion that he was remiss in his duty. He did not get drunk. He did not go away without

change of attitude has been set forth lest confidence in the conservative leaders in the early winter of 1896 Notwithstanding his loss of confidence in Sir Charles Tupper he became a member of the Tupper ministry, and called upon the people of Canada to retain that ministry in office. Three years afterwards we have the asser-tion from Mr. Costigan that he him-self at the time he made this appeal had no confidence in the leaders whom he was asking the people to support. It is not necessary to consider how far this statement is candid, but it is fairer to say that Mr. Costigan was honest in his expression of confidence in his leader when he was associating with him than to suppose that he was a traitor in the camp. Therefore it is more generous to consider his late statement as an after-thought. When we consider the intimate re-

When we consider the intimate relations between Mr. Costigan and the present ministry, when we remember that besides Collector Costigan he has two sons-in-law in the service, one of whom has had advances of salary and the other a new and advantageous appointment from this ministry, we are helped to an understanding of Mr. Costigan's friendly disposition towards the party in power! Last year wards the party in power. Last year there was some surprise over various statements made by Mr. Costigan in relation to the action of the conservatives in his own province of New Brunswick. One or two interviews were published which were used with considerable effect against the party in the provincial election. It was not then known that Mr. Costigan was discussing with the ministers so many matters of interest to himself and his family.

After all there does not appear to be any strong feeling against Mr. Costigan in the conservative camp in this city. There is rather a feeling of sorrow that unfortunate circumstances should have placed him in the position which he occupied. Perhaps some would have expected him to rise above these circumstances and main-tain the principles and traditions of former times. No doubt he wou have won some praise if he had held to his course as the other ex-ministers have done, and had asked no favors of the government and received no considerations from the ministers, but only those who have been placed in positions of stress and anxiety and have resisted all temptations can be able to say what they would have done under the circumstances. The matter can be allowed to drop if only the pretense is abandoned that Mr. Costigan's transfer of allegiance to the party in power is a matter of great political significance. It is rather a personal and domestic affair, which has only atained political significance because it has given the government the supter and has led to a peculiar leniency in the case of a public officer.

corsider the prices Sir Louis Davies paid for provisions. It has to inves-tigate some expenditures in the interior department. Col. Domville is yet to be heard from in that commit tee. Among other things it is ed that an inquiry will be held into the payment of fishery bounties to people who never went fishing.

railway deal will be discussed in the senate more or less before this letter is printed.' Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Mr. Ferguson and other senators are determined to obtain if possible a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Montreal extension for the first year of operation. They say that Sir Oliver Mowat solemnly prom-ised, when the authority was given to take over the road as an experin that these statements would be kept for the information of parliament. They propose to hold the government to its word, and if the returns cannot be obtained for the first year it need not be surprising if the senate post-pones the purchasing of the road for another year until a statement can be to make any certain forecast, but there is an air of determination in the way in which the senators demand the ful-

ilment of Sir Oliver's pledge. be made to get at the bottom of the agreement and understanding between the Intercolonial and the Grand Trunk in regard to the traffic. It is belie that there is a secret understanding which gives the Grand Trunk a very large control in the management of ment ought to know it before the thing goes any farther, and the senators will endeavor to obtain the informa-



That Snowy whiteness of linens comes from the use of Surprise Soap on wash day. Surprise has peculiar qualities for laundry uses.

Surprise Soap is the A pure hard Soap. 5 cents a cake.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE. Two Pens that Write as One.

To the Editor of the Sun: Sir—It is strange what a remarkable parallelism there is between the thought and expression of a writer in the New York Evening Post and the editor of the Daily Telegraph. Below are a short editorial from the latter paper of data time? paper of date June 24, and an extract from an Evening Post earlier in the

"The people of Norway and Sweden are not well pleased at the abrogation by the Czar of the ancient constitution of Finland. They do not relish the idea of their boundaries being practically conterminous with those of their gigantic neighbor. Even after her subjugation by Russia in the early years of this century, Finland, with her autonomous government, her little territorial army, and her peculiar national characteristics was regarded by Scandinavian statesmen as a sort of buffer state between themselves and the Muscovite empire. But it is no longer possible to entertain this view now that the Finnish forces have been absorbed into the Russian army. The military power of the Czar, as has been pointed out already in the London press, has now advanced to the very frontier of Norway and Sweden, and should future occasion arise, might easily be tempted to overran them. It is not pretended that there is any immediate probability of it occasions a certain degree of apprehension. The armies of Sweden and Norway are small and probably not very efficient, and could do but little to resist a Russian invasion." (Telegraph,)

"The abrogation, by the Czar, of the ancient constitution of Finland is said to have caused a good deal of uneasiness in the minds of Swedish and Norwegian statesmen, who do not relish the idea of their boundaries being practically conterminous with those of their gigantic neighbor." Even after her subjugation by Russia in the early years of this century, Finland, with her autonomous government, her little territorial army, and her peculiar national characteristics, was regarded by Scandinavian statesmen as a sort of buffer state, between themselves and the Musoovite empire. But it is no longer possible to entertain this view now that the Finnish forces have been absorbed into the Russian army. The military power of the Czar, as has been pointed out already in the London press, has now advanced to the very frontier of Norway and Sweden, and should future occasion arise, might easily be tempted to overrun them. It is not pretended that there is any immediate probability of such aggression, but the feasibility of it occasions a certain degree of (Evening Post.)

Surely the editor of the Telegraph might have added that he or some other wise person had made these re-flections previously in the New York 26 June, 1899.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

WEDDED AT APOHAQUI. On Wednesday morning, June 28, the Episcopal church at Apohaqui was the scene of one of the most brilliant events that has occurred in the vil-lage for a long time, the occasion belage for a long time, the occasion being the marriage of Miss Ida Pearson, daughter of George Pearson, to James H. Manchester of the same place. About 11 o'clock the bride entered the church on the arm of her brother, Dr. Pearson of Sussex, the choir singing The Voice that Breathed O'er Eden. The bride was accompanied by her sister, Miss Alice Pearson, and Miss Emma Manchester. The bride was attired in a beautiful dress of white cashmere, with satin trimming of same color, and train, with bridal veil, and carrying a prayer book. The groom was supported by his brother, Dr. John Manchester. The church was beautifully decorated with ferns, mosses and potted plants, with a large arch, under which the bride and groom stood. Miss Edna Sproul presided at the organ, playing the Weddirg March while the happy couple left the church. The nuptial knot was tied by Rev. Scovil Neales of Sussex. bride's home, the wedding party took the C. P. R. for Nova Scotia, amid will endeavor to obtain the information.

S. D. S. looked charming in a going-away gown of brown cloth, with hat to match.

Every Woman Understands.

It isn't necessary to name over the symotoms of disorders which come under the heading of "female troubles." Every woman understands the meaning of the terrible headaches, backaches, pains in the shoulders and limbs, bearing down feelings, irritability, nervousness, despondency and

The drain on the system and the irregular menstrual functions which cause these sufferings are due to an exhausted condition of the nerves, which is entirely overcome by the use of

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

Thousands of women tell of new health and happiness obtained by the use of this great restorative. They tell of sufferings ended, of pale cheeks made rosy, of wasted forms rounded out and of new vitality given to the whole body.

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is a positive cure for female weakness, leu-corrhea and all ills peculiar to women from budding womanhood to the "change of life," 50 cents a box at all dealers, or by mail along with a copy of Dr. Chase's new book, "The Ills of Life and How to Cure Them," by EDMANSON, BATES & CO., Toron to.

Gover topic days, A lai the co

opening and in the search of the search opening when the search opening with the search opening the search o in lav there McLes on th claims Lean view were the ex McLes killed was for sufficient the cool d that time remen

by so His he eviden Dr. M certain oner gedy their out to explaint they continued they continued they continued they continued they continued the continued they continue

foremented the found Mr. had as should court visited after very assum She h

at sor marks future prison His cheers jurors tion. His sine of to jai Whethroug found hardly was t would five y to be body a gre

day, colonihoped tion o would comm
MED In the federa reading