

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

DOMINION.—The one absorbing topic of the past week has been the fatal illness of Sir John Macdonald.

He met parliament with health shattered by the work and exposure of the late election, but his indomitable will kept him at his post, and enabled him to face difficulties and overcome obstacles that few men would have had the nerve to meet in his exhausted condition.

The strain however, proved too great and the grand old chieftain was stricken down, but with a tenacity of life that is remarkable, still hovers at this writing between life and death. A sorrowing country still hopes against hope that he may yet be spared, but while he may linger along for some days the only outcome is death. He has had his wish and will die in harness, but his name will ever live as the wisest, the most patriotic, and the best loved statesman that Canada has yet produced.

In consequence of Sir John's illness the Government has been virtually at a standstill, and in Parliament nothing of importance has transpired. Friday there was no session, as it was Corpus Christi, and when in session most of the time of the Opposition has been taken up with virulent attacks on Sir Charles Tupper.

Straws show which way the wind blows, and it would appear from these attacks that Sir Charles is recognized as the ablest leader after Sir John, and that the Opposition fear that he may be selected to lead the Government.

Speculations are already rife as to who will be Sir John's successor, and Mr. Abbott, leader of the Senate, and Sir John Thompson are both spoken of. Remembering Sir John Macdonald's own statement, we opine that Sir Charles will yet be Premier, but it is possible that for a time a temporary leader will be appointed.

The Opposition are vigorous and united, and there is no denying the fact that Sir John Macdonald's death will produce a crisis in the affairs of the Conservative party the outcome of which it is hard to foretell.

The Tarte-McGreevy scandal is being investigated by the committee, and while nothing particularly new has been elicited, the statements made by Mr. Tarte have been in the main confirmed, and enough has been shown to prove that Mr. McGreevy at least has been engaged in very questionable transactions. Sir Hector Langevin's position has been greatly weakened by the charges, and while they have not yet been proven, they have had the effect of reducing his chances for the Premiership to such an extent that his name is scarcely mentioned in that connection, although by seniority he is entitled to the office.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the office, or through Agents, will find a receipt for the amount inclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. Milne Fraser.

The new fishery cruiser *Agnes Macdonald* sailed on Tuesday.

Hon. W. S. Fielding, Provincial Secretary, left Halifax on Tuesday for England via Quebec.

Rev. Thomas Fowler was inducted into the charge of St. Matthew's Church last evening.

The closing exercises of the educational institutions at Sackville, N. B., and at Wolfville, N. S., took place this week.

Miss McGarry was announced to give an entertainment in Truro last evening under the auspices of Truro Academy.

The Seventeenth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada begins in Kingston, Ont., on June 10th.

The Royal Society of Canada, which met in Montreal last week, elected Abbe Leflamme President. The next meeting is to be held in Toronto.

The contract for building the \$6,000 brick building for the Bank of Nova Scotia branch at Yarmouth, has been awarded to Rhodes, Curry & Co., of Amherst.

The young man Staples, who got so entangled in Amherst, has been caught and placed under arrest on the charges of seduction and breach of promise. There is great excitement in Amherst.

The valedictory at Mount Allison was delivered by Miss Beharrel, the first lady who has ever been valedictorian of her class in Canada. She had attained the highest average in the class for four years.

The death of Sir Antoine Dorion, Chief Justice of Quebec, on Sunday morning, from the same disease with which Sir John Macdonald is afflicted, was a great shock to the politicians and judiciary of the city.

The coming attraction this month is the Redpath Concert Co., who appear at Orpheus Hall on the 16th and 17th inst. The company consists of artists of merit, and are highly spoken of by American exchanges.

The "missing link" will be the missing link no more in a few days. The rails were connected with the rails of the Western Counties railway on Wednesday, and in about ten days the road will be open for traffic.

The Halifax Board of Trade at its meeting on Wednesday discussed the subject of railway extension, with the result that it expressed itself in favor of accepting \$350,000 from the Dominion Government for the property to be appropriated for railway terminal facilities between North and Cornwallis Streets.

A seizure of Canadian cattle on board the steamer *Lake Huron* was made at Liverpool last week, on the ground that pleuro-pneumonia existed among the animals. After killing an animal and examining its lungs, it was decided that there was not a trace of the disease, and the cargo was consequently released.

The Rev. Dr. McGlynn will deliver lectures on "The Labor Problem" and "Religion and Equal Rights," in Orpheus Hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of next week. No doubt large and interested audiences will be present.

The list of Queen's birthday honors, so far as Canada is concerned, is very short. Sir George Stephen has been created a peer. He is the first Colonist so honored. Sir John Ross, Commander of the Forces, Halifax, received a G. C. B., and Mr. Ferguson, President of the Canada Company, has been made a knight.

A sad accident happened at Londonderry, on Thursday afternoon of last week, whereby Mr. F. C. Borradaile, son of Mr. Borradaile, of the Inland Revenue Department of this city, lost his life. The accident occurred through some boys starting a car which was on an incline; the car knocked the unfortunate young man down and inflicted fatal injuries.

The officials of the Board of Works waited upon City Engineer Keating on Tuesday afternoon, and presented him with a gold watch, chain and locket. The latter was handsomely engraved with the following inscription:—"From the Board of Works Officials, Halifax, 1891," and the reverse side bore the monogram "E. H. K." Mr. Keating is leaving the city to take a position in Duluth, Minn., and the presentation was a genuine surprise to him. He expressed his thanks and appreciation in a feeling and suitable reply.

An unknown man was found on Monday morning on the C. P. R. track, near South Bay, N. B. The body was mangled beyond recognition, and nothing was found to identify him. He is supposed to be from Calais, Me. He is a stranger, and was seen on the track on Sunday evening walking towards St. John. When the section men came along on a trolley, the man lay down on the track with the apparent intention of having the car go over him. It was stopped in time. It is believed that he accomplished his designs on his life when the Boston train went out.

On Saturday morning last the sad news that Sir John A. Macdonald was ill was published all over the Dominion. The fact was announced in the House on Friday evening, and shortly afterwards an adjournment was made. So serious was the Premier's condition that the end was expected at any moment, but owing to his splendid constitution he has lingered for several days. Up to the time of going to press, the bulletins announced his condition as weaker. Before this appears, death may have ended the Premier's sufferings. Sir John has been waited on with the most touching devotion by Lady Macdonald.

A set of drawing instruments has been awarded to Mr. Kenneth Fairbanks, as first prize for mechanical drawing in the Victoria School of Art and Design. Mr. B. A. Romans won the second prize, also a set of drawing instruments; and the drawing of Mr. Douglas was considered to be third in excellence. Mr. F. A. Creighton and Mr. W. Morrison, in the junior class, were given honorable mention. The judges were Dr. Murphy, Provincial Engineer, Mr. West and Mr. Harris. They expressed themselves as very much pleased with the work for competition. The prizes were presented to the School by Mr. Bayere, of this city.

Something really seems to be doing in the Bering Sea seal matter now. A bill has been introduced in the British House of Commons to close Bering Sea for the period of a year. This action is resented by sealers, who cabled a protest to Sir Charles Tupper on Monday. The Act will be too late to prevent any seals being taken this season, but it will prevent a profitable season's work. The last thing Canadian sealers thought of, was having their operations stopped by the British Government. Getting "a move on" of this sort is not what they expected, but as it is probably only a preliminary of definite arbitration proceedings, when the case will be finally settled, they will have to hold their peace, and wait until the clouds roll by.

The Government of the United States has asked Capt. C. A. Curtis, of Madison, Wis., to go to St. Lawrence Island, in Bering Sea, to take charge of a station about to be established there and begin the breeding of reindeer for the Esquimaux to use instead of dogs. It is the purpose of the Government to import reindeer from Siberia to the Island, and a number of Siberians with them, to teach the natives how to raise and care for the animals. A reindeer park will be established, and as soon as the animals are obtained in sufficient numbers some of them will be taken to Alaska and distributed among the people, and thus the dogs now used for sledging in the United States Arctic possessions will be displaced by the deer.

A new industry for women is putting lisle thread feet in the legs of silk stockings, and a New York girl, a consignor at the New York Woman's Exchange, makes \$15 a week at it.

It is conceded that the champion belt for self control should go to the young lady of St. Joseph, Mo.: who lay perfectly quiet in bed and watched a couple of burglars carry off her jewelry and false hair.

Thomas A. Edison, the famous electrician and inventor, is preparing to astonish the world by the exhibit he will make at the World's Fair in 1893. "I shall have two or three things to show" said he recently "which I think will both surprise and please the visitors to the electrical department of the Exposition, which, by the way, I am fully convinced will be a great success. Two of these inventions are not yet ready to be described, or even characterized. The third, however, is so nearly perfected, that I do not hesitate to say something about it. I hope to be able by the invention to throw upon a canvas a perfect picture of anybody, and reproduce his words. The invention will do for the eye what the phonograph has done for the voice, and reproduce the voice as well, in fact, more clearly. I have already perfected the invention so far as to be able to picture a prize fight—the two men, the ring, the intensely interested faces of those surround-