

Chignecto Post.

Sackville, N. B., March 1, 1877.

THE SEAL.

An important question has arisen in Nova Scotia as to the legality of various acts of the Government in not using the Great Seal of the Province. It appears that in 1868 on the passing of the British North America Act, the Colonial Secretary sent a despatch to the Governor-General informing him that Her Majesty had been pleased to order new Provincial Seals for the different Provinces, and in 1869, new Seals were sent out to Canada to be used in place of the old seals, which were to be returned to London for the purpose of being broken. The seal for the Province of Nova Scotia was received by the Provincial Secretary Mr. Vail and by him looked up in his safe where it is now. This took place at the time of the anti-confederation excitement, and it is alleged that the reason for the Government not using it, was that by doing so they would be giving assent to confederation. The new seal directed by Her Majesty to be used instead of the old one has never been used. Appointments of public officers, grants of land, etc., which require the Great Seal, granted since 1869 it is contended are void, as not being under the Great Seal of the Province. The matter is now before the Supreme Court in Halifax and if the account given in the Opposition papers be reliable, their decision is already determined upon, and will be fatal to all acts of the Government requiring the use of such Seal. It is claimed that not only will it make void the grants of land and other documents issued out of the Provincial Secretary's office, but also the Government officers themselves, the Legislative Councils, the House of Assembly, and all Acts of Legislation passed since 1869. The position taken is that the Queen being the source of Honor, has the prerogative right of directing what the Great Seal shall be, and none other will answer in its stead. This, if correct law, will create immense confusion in Nova Scotia, and the only remedy will be for the Governor to reappoint under the proper Great Seal, the different departmental officers, then dissolve the Assembly, call for a new House, and pass an *ex post facto* law to legalize all that has been done. With next week, however, we will have fuller developments of this exciting subject.

The Todd Scandal and the "Times."

Since Mrs. Sears' first attempt to regain her property from Messrs. Todd and Cahill to the present time, we have never expressed any opinion editorially as to the merits of the alleged frauds, nor have we from first to last acted otherwise than in a most courteous spirit to Mr. Todd giving him the same privilege to use our columns as we accorded to Mrs. Sears. So great was our desire to keep this matter out of our columns, that during last summer we refused to admit any communication from Mrs. Sears' behalf, until August last, when Mr. Todd appearing in print over his own name, gave her the right to reply, which we accorded her. Since then our columns have been as much at the service of Mr. Todd as of Mrs. Sears. The Editor of the *Moncton Times* ignoring these facts makes in his last issue an attack on this paper in which the following appears:

"THE LOWEST DEPTH.—Somebody says that 'to every depth there is a lower depth'—or words to that effect, not understanding what is the opinion of the *Sackville Post* will find it difficult to sink lower in the mire of degradation than the paper has now reached in its efforts to blacken the character of the Rev. Mr. Todd."

After referring to the letter "Honor" in our previous week's issue it concludes:

"When Mr. Chris. Miller announced in his column last week that he was about to resign, he evidently did not intend to use only his individual efforts, but resolved to make a sort of cess-pool mortar of the newspaper he controls, and gather there the vilest filth from the foulest sources with a view to its discharge against a Minister whose high character he can no more appreciate than any other imp of darkness could appreciate the angel Gabriel."

We assert that Mr. Chris. Miller did not write the letter signed "Honor," that he had nothing whatever to do with it. He never read it until it was in print. To impute to him the authorship of this letter in question is a LIE. It is a LIE, because it is made without a title of evidence or an shadow of reason. We denounce it as a LIE without excuse or justification. It is a base LIE because it imputes unworthy motives in a professional man's professional conduct. It is a MALICIOUS LIE because it was published with deliberate intent to stir up hatred against and injure the reputation of Mrs. Sears' lawyer.

MARTIME UNION.—In the House of Assembly, Nova Scotia on Friday, Hon. P. C. Hill gave notice that he would move to authorize the Government in Council to confer with the Governments of New Brunswick and P. E. Island on the subject of Maritime Union, the conference to report at the next session of the Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE.

On 22nd, Mr. Crawford's bill to continue the Grand Central Railway Act was discussed. Mr. Austin moved a three months' adjournment on the ground that he felt that by the encouragement already given by the policy of the Legislature and the facilities which are now offered for railway construction, the Province was having its resources unduly crippled and the tide of railway expenditure ought to be checked. Mr. Davidson supported the motion. Mr. Covert opposed it, denouncing the conduct of the Government in not coming down on these Railway schemes before. Messrs. Butler and Pickard opposed it. Mr. Burns said the Government had inspired the motion, they had not the courage to oppose the bill. Mr. McQueen supported the Bill. Motion lost.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. Fraser referring to the misapprehensions prevailing as to the Finance of the country, stated the balance at the end of the fiscal year 1875, was \$81,355.87, but to get at the net balance you must deduct the amount of the expenditure of Public Works Department accounts \$7,981.37, and on Immigration accounts \$1,036.54, leaving on warrant account at the bank after the settlement of the accounts of the year 1875, the sum of \$72,339.16. In the same way take the warrant accounts for 1876. The balance shown in the accounts before the House is \$128,876.71, and deduct for over expenditure on Public Works, Mining and Immigration accounts amounting to \$15,828.07, and we have a true balance for 1876, of \$115,048.64. All these liabilities were paid. Now what is the net gain of the year? It is the difference between the above net balance of 1875 and that of 1876 of \$40,709.48. By the additional statement laid on the table pursuant to the Speech, it is shown that between the close of the fiscal year, and the opening of the session on the 8th inst., \$264,159.39 were received making the total amount in hand the day of opening of the Legislature, including the balance at the end of the fiscal year was \$393,036.10. Now the natural question is, where is that balance, and of what does it consist? The papers laid on the table show that the warrants drawn between 31st October 1876, to the day of opening were \$115,048.64, the details of which are shown. After going into the details of these expenditures which he thought refuted the slanders against the Government he proceeded to show the debt owing by the Province. Provincial Debtors amount \$333,000, issued prior to the 31st of October last, and \$66,000 since, or a total of \$399,000 on debentures account. Then there was the estimated cost of the Normal School, \$50,000. He proposed when the latter House came up for a vote to give the House full information as to what had been done under that head. He would also deal with the loans to the St. John and St. Stephen School Boards. The amount required to meet the existing railway obligations, a statement of which was on the table, was \$387,000, made up by \$900 as balance in fall on the Petrolina and Elgin Branch Railway, \$76,000 on account of the St. Martins and Upland Railway, and \$311,000 on the Grand Southern. The Albert Railway subsidy, was to be paid out of monies lying at the credit of the Province with the Dominion, and did not, therefore, become a Provincial liability.

On 26th Mr. Humphrey introduced a bill to incorporate the Moncton Driving Park Association, with petition in favor of same.

In supply, Great Roads \$88,000 passed. A lengthy debate took place on the \$70,000 for by roads. Mr. Covert said the same amount had been asked for last year and yet \$15,000 more had been expended.

Mr. Davidson asked the Chief Commissioner to state how much of the great road appropriation was already expended.

The Chief Commissioner said the return was on the table. Mr. Davidson complained that the answer was not complete. Mr. Pickard said there was an impression abroad that liabilities were kept back until after the great session, so that very little of the appropriation was left.

Mr. Smith addressed the House on the subject of the Dorchester bridge, and asked the Chief Commissioner if he intended to go on with that.

Hon. Mr. Kelly replied that that was one of the bridges contemplated for the present year.

Cape Tormentine Railway.

A deputation, consisting of Senators and members, specially interested, waited on the Premier on Saturday morning in support of a memorial which had been addressed to him, getting forth the fact that in changing the route of the "Northern Light" from between Georgetown and Cape Traverse. The deputation discussed the matter fully, and the Premier promised to give due consideration to their representations.

THE FRAUD IS COMPLETE.—WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The Election Commission voted 5 to 7 on the Oregon for Hayes and Wheeler. The members of the Commission stood the same as in the case of Florida and Louisiana.

"NORTHERN LIGHT" arrived at Georgetown this morning after a two days' passage from Pictou.

PARLIAMENTARY.

Mr. EBDON.—The usual waiting and playing at the beginning of a session is passed and the members are very hard at work. This session will be remembered as that in which an invocation of the Divine Blessing was first introduced in the House. It being ordered that Mr. Speaker should read the prayers at the opening of the House each day, in his own language. A discussion did arise over the question of reading them in French and English, but the Hon. Mr. Mills settled it by remarking that as the prayer was addressed to the Almighty, not to the House, he thought it entirely unnecessary; so the prayers were translated, printed, and laid on the desk of each member.

Mr. Diamond one of the most inveterate personal enemies of Sir John, thought he had got the "old fellow" at last when he let open the notable refund of \$25,000 of secret service money, but as usual when he went to lay his hand on him he was gone. The Right Hon. gentleman had received a letter upon his honor from the Kingston *Times*, which said: "If he were honest why did he not keep the money in the bank at his call." In explaining the matter Sir John said: "I kept the sum of \$30,000 secret service money in the Montreal bank until certain claims growing out of the Fenian raid, chargeable to that fund should be settled, which claims amounted to \$6,600 for which I drew one check to my order and for the balance I drew a check payable to the Receiver General, I never touched the money."

Last Thursday the Minister of Finance made his budget speech. The speech was most exhaustive, complete and able defence of the Government. The Hon. gentleman admitted there was a deficit of \$1,300,000, and was very glad it was the first time he had to announce a deficit. He finished a speech of over 3 hours by moving a resolution changing the tariff in a few particulars, the most noticeable being a reduction of the duty on coal oil of 10 to 15 cents on the gallon, and an increase of 2 cents on tea. The Hon. Dr. Tupper followed in one of the most able speeches that has ever been delivered from the floor of the Commons. He defended the policy of his Government, showed that they had protected the home manufacturer, decreased the public debt by \$16,000,000, reduced the taxation, and at the end of 7 years left the country prosperous, happy, united, and a surplus in the treasury, after being denounced as "the most extravagant government under the heavens" for about 3 years of the present rule the country is crushed; disorder and disunion prevail, \$3,000,000 of fresh taxation has been added, and a deficit of \$2,000,000 is thrown into the bargain. Mr. MacKenzie followed but was reported as having been ejected at the Hon. Member from Cumberland to make a speech, and after beating the air for a while, he resumed his seat. Sir John then took the floor and condemned the "unofficial, unparliamentary" speech of the Premier. He defended Dr. Tupper and said, "When the financial policy of the government goes to the country a great deal of disavowal will be heard over the whole land from North and South Ontario even unto Kamouraska. The people are saying in the fact that during vacation the quiet members of North and South Ontario did not Mr. Gibbs —, were returned, while the news of the election of Mr. Roy for Kamouraska over the nominee of the Minister of Agriculture had just then been received. Mr. Roy arrived in town on Monday and will be received with a torchlight procession and escorted to the Commons."

I believe that the opposition in order to make the new duty on tea a test question, refused to support the strength of the following of Sir John, but there is doubtless a very strong feeling even among the following of the Ministry that unless they change their tune the electors will request them to remain at home. Mr. Palmer arrived in town on Thursday.

Mr. Botsford appeared to be well he gave a short speech in the Senate the other day upon the Washington and Ashburton treaty.

Mr. McLean, an old student of Mr. Allison, has been elected to the Senate with one of the most brilliant records recorded there, he condemned the policy of the Government, one sentence will tell the whole, "Every word and every line of their financial history is reeking and dripping with extravagance."

The old grey headed politicians of the Senate have been sitting with closed doors taking a few lessons upon parliamentary usage from the newly appointed Senator of Nova Scotia, the youthful Mr. Power. Doubtless they are highly gratified to the young gentleman for his earnest endeavours for their good.

This whole month has been very mild the snow is so nearly done that wheels have been called into general use.

THE MILITIA.—The Major General Selby Savin's recommendations for the availability of maintaining the militia in a state of as great efficiency as the finances of the country will permit. He suggests the advisability of establishing three infantry training schools (but in this he would not overlook the importance of the military college already in existence), one at St. John, one at Kingston, and one at Toronto. He further proposes that these should be capable of training 9 officers 240 men. Each school, it is estimated, would cost the country at the rate of \$37,750 per annum.

HEAVY FAILURES.—Lord, Porter & Co., of Yarmouth, N. S., ship owners, are reported insolvent. Liabilities \$150,000, assets \$20,000. John Cyprian & Sons, of Halifax, West India merchants, have also failed.

The British Columbia House opened on Saturday. The Government is engaged by Camarons wishes in regard to the Railway.

THE funeral of O'Mahoney took place in Cork on Sunday. The city was filled with strangers. The procession was a mile long. The hearse was drawn by six horses, and the coffin was carried by the American and Irish flags. 20,000 people were present. There was but little enthusiasm.

Honor to Whom Honor is Due.

DEAR SIR:—The *Moncton Times* of last week, finding the Sears-estate scandal as a means of injuring the gentleman (Mr. Todd), had been played out, exhausted and exploded, it resorted to the publication of anonymous correspondence which contained charges so vile, so unfounded, so base and baseless that the devil himself must have been alarmed to think he had so clever a rival in connection with the office of the Post. We have heard of efforts at blackmailing—attempts to destroy good men's reputation, and the like, but anything so disreputable, so utterly disgraceful to journalism, under all the circumstances, as the publication of the letter of "Honor" we have never known and for the credit of the profession, sincerely hope we shall never know again.

I need not remark on the readiness with which the *Times* stamps all my statements as vile, base, etc., without the slightest enquiry or investigation; it appears to be the style in Moncton to reverse the order of things by pronouncing judgment before the trial had. Others might be deterred by such coarse and violent attacks, and might shrink from telling the plain truth. I have no fear of either the committee or the *Times*, for I justify the Baptist people are brave and honest enough to stand by him who deals in the truth.

The *Times* denies my statements and now for the proofs.

One charge I made was:

"On one occasion took a deed from a dying man of the property. The credit of the deed was in the very ingenious and honorable way in which they were 'done'."

The deeds in question to and from Mr. Todd himself are registered in the Registry office for the County of Westmorland at Dorchester, on 24th July, 1869, Folio 167, Libro B. 3, No. 28,029, and on 24th July, 1869, Folio 168, Libro B. 3, No. 28,027. The surrounding circumstances connected with this affair (which of course would not appear on Record) can be learned of almost any resident of Sackville where the circumstances took place and the creditors live.

If the Church committee really desired to get at the truth, the proper way to proceed will not be to call "Honor" a devil, and hold an open investigation where the witnesses live, the events took place and seek the truth as it is, but to call for my statements are then shown to be unfounded it will be time enough to heap abuse on the head of "Honor."

Will the committee do this? Will they not rather (judging by their past judicial efforts) most, pass a resolution concerning not only the spirit of the play, but also the most successful in displaying the voices of his pupils. The leading choristers, Miss Florence Smith and Miss Hildbrand, are noticeable for the admirable manner in which they executed their parts.

We have so often of late noted in eulogistic terms the high character of the music furnished by Prof. Sterne and his pupils, it is only necessary to say the other musician on the programme fully sustained the standard of excellence attained at Mount Allison.

Principal Inch in his report stated that the attendance during the past term was 71. Of 58, of whom standing the first rank in department, and in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

Vice-Principal Kennedy reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

Mount Allison.

Exhibition—Second Term.

The examinations for the second term were concluded on Monday night, and on Tuesday evening the Public Exhibition took place at Lingley Hall, before a large audience. The following was the programme:

I. Devotional Exercises, Rev C. Stewart, D.D. Music—Oh, by Rivers by whose Falls.

II. Declaration by Students, Male Academy. 1. "Regulus before the Roman Senate," Edgar Wilson.

2. "Beast and I am out," Wm. Humphrey. 3. "Aeschylus influence of Christianity," Newton Bell.

III. The web of Life, by M. Lodge. 4. "Aeschylus influence of Christianity," Newton Bell.

Reading Essay, &c., by young Ladies. 1. The Grammar of Life, (reading) Miss May Smith.

2. Woman's Mission, (reading), Miss A. Robertson. 3. Retrospect and Prospect, (essay), Miss A. French.

4. French Dialogue. Music—Praise the Lord, — Chorus Class.

Declamations of College Students. 1. Incident of Fire of Hamburg, S. B. Grigg. 2. The Farmer, — W. Arthur Black. 3. Pollocks Description of Byron, — L. J. Smith.

4. Oath of the Highlanders, W. L. Goodwin. Music—Laughing Song: Trio, Misses F. Smith, Crothers and Prof. Sterne.

Reports, &c. Music—Spring Delights are now returning, Chorus.

The declaration by college students was as usual good. "The Farmer" was an original production by Mr. W. Arthur Black and exhibited a good deal of literary merit.

Mr. Black took a high view of the Farmer's occupation. Not only did he hold it to be profitable, for—

"He that can raise up a pig in the house, Hath cheaper his bacon and sweeter his soup."

but it is also a noble and manly pursuit giving health and strength physically, and inspiring one with all the grand and subtle truths taught by communion with nature.

The Readings by young ladies were well appreciated. The Essay Retrospect was a carefully prepared production. The French Dialogue was one of the most agreeable features of the evening. It was from Racine's "Esther." The music was composed for it by Prof. Sterne, and was admirably conceived not only in the spirit of the play, but was also most successful in displaying the voices of his pupils. The leading choristers, Miss Florence Smith and Miss Hildbrand, are noticeable for the admirable manner in which they executed their parts.

We have so often of late noted in eulogistic terms the high character of the music furnished by Prof. Sterne and his pupils, it is only necessary to say the other musician on the programme fully sustained the standard of excellence attained at Mount Allison.

Principal Inch in his report stated that the attendance during the past term was 71. Of 58, of whom standing the first rank in department, and in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

Vice-Principal Kennedy reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

The Vice-Principal reported an attendance of 72 at the Male Academy last term, of these, 64 attained the first rank in literary standings, 23 were in the first rank and 23 the second. The term had been a very successful one in every way.

SMOKED

PORK, HAMS & BACON.

6 tons Pork, Hams and Bacon, Of Superior Quality.

Also, a lot of Choice SUGAR CURED HAMS, selected for family use. Those wishing to purchase, please send in early.

J. L. Black.

New Goods!

1 CASE SUGAR, 6 DOZ. BROOMS, 2 CASES DRUGGISTS' Sundries.

4 cases Assorted Dry Goods, 1 Lot Hair Brads.

FOR SALE LOW.

J. L. Black.

APPLES. APPLES.

NOVA SCOTIA BALDWIN, Consigned from prompt sale. They will be sold cheap.

J. L. Black.

FLOUR & POT BARLEY.

200 BBLs. FLOUR 1000 LBS.

Ont. Pot Barley.

For Sale at Lowest Rates.

J. L. Black.

Kerosene Oil.

10 CASES KEROSENE OIL, of extra quality just received. Will be sold very low by cash, at retail for cash.

J. L. Black.

Fish & Smoked Herring.

20 QUINTALS POLLOCK & HADDOCK, 5 quintals COPIFISH, 100 boxes SMOKED HERRING.

J. L. Black.

FURNITURE.

3 Dozen Bedsteads, AND A FEW BEDROOM SUITS.

Which we can sell very low. Please call and see them.

J. L. Black.

SOLE LEATHER.

40 SIDES NOS. 1 & 2 B. A. SOLE LEATHER,

Very Cheap for Cash.

J. L. Black.

TURPENTINE I

2 casks Spirit Turpentine, Just received and for sale cheap.

J. L. Black.

WORTH KNOWING!

FROM British, American and Canadian Markets, we have now in store and to arrive, the most varied and valuable Stock of Goods, ever offered our customers, which we are offering at prices so low as to command a ready sale. Below we enumerate some of our stock and invite examination—

120 bbls. Montreal and Quebec Green Apples;

5 " Dry Apples;

5 " Onions;

12 hds. Molasses;

5 " Sugar;

125 bbls. Liverpool Salt;

10 " Butter Salt;

25 quintals Pollock and Codfish;

30 barrels Herrings;

5 " Am. Refined Kerosene Oil;

16 " Canadian " "

25 casks Superior Quality TEA;

12 boxes Tobacco;

100 " Soap;

50 boxes Hops;

1000 lbs. Dairy and Factory Cheese;

Confectionery, Spices, Currants;

Coffee, &c.;

White and Colored Paints;

Putty, Oil, Varnish, Japans;

Spirit Turpentine, &c.;

1 gross Hickory Axe Handles;

2 tons Sugar, 500 lbs. and 500 lbs. Shoe STEEL;

1000 lbs. Short Link Chain;

1000 lbs. Hops and Ox Nails;

60 kegs Cut Nails, all sizes;

60 boxes Window Glass;

8 bbls. 2 Glassware, viz.: Pitchers, 17 blbs. Lamps, Fruit Dishes, &c.;

10 boxes Axes;

20 tons HON. full assortment sizes;

2 tons Sugar, 500 lbs. and 500 lbs. Shoe STEEL;

1000 lbs. Short Link Chain;

1000 lbs. Hops and Ox Nails;

60 kegs Cut Nails, all sizes;

60 boxes Window Glass;

8 bbls. 2 Glassware, viz.: Pitchers, 17 blbs. Lamps, Fruit Dishes, &c.;

10 boxes Axes;

20 tons HON. full assortment sizes;

2 tons Sugar, 500 lbs. and 500 lbs. Shoe STEEL;

1000 lbs. Short Link Chain;

1000 lbs. Hops and Ox Nails;