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OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, February 21.

Parliament seems to be merely amusing itself; it is doing little or nothing, and does not care to do anything.

Mr. McDougall still stands on an Independent Platform, and sets himself up as an authority on Canadian affairs before Confederation.

It is not unlikely that Mr. Masson will retire from public service, as his physicians advise him that a continuation of his duties will entail serious risk to his life.

The Letellier question still excites attention. It is the question of the hour at present, superior to the budget, and soaring above even the National Policy itself for the time being.

The session, to all appearance, will be a long one, and matters of vital importance will be debated. The tariff question itself will occupy a full month.

It is observed that Mr. Mackenzie is very snare towards his old opponent Mr. McDougall, and encourages him in the dignified stand he is taking.

The Speaker's gallery is nearly deserted, and the spectators' gallery is not nearly so crowded. A great many Montrealers are in town; they are to be met with everywhere.

As may be supposed, the expected shuffle in the Cabinet still occupies attention. Among the names of the men proposed for seats in this shuffle are those of Ryan, Costigan, Bergin, as Irish Catholic representatives.

The disappointment of the forty and odd unsuccessful tenders is, of course, very great, and the exodus from the Capitol in proportion. The expected appointment of the Hon. John O'Connor as one of the Supreme Court Judges is early canvassed.

There is no Parliamentary sitting to-day and the poor members have a rest. Ottawa is settling down to its normal condition, the hotels are not so crowded, and the rejected elements of the House are scattered.

tenders for the great contract have scattered themselves to all points of the compass.

One of the latest on dis relative to expected Cabinet changes is that when the Hon. John O'Connor takes a seat on the bench, Mr. John O'Donoghue, of Toronto, will contest the seat for Russell.

The Letellier affair is the all-engrossing topic of the hour, and the question in everybody's mouth is: "What shall we do with him?"

Now that part of the correspondence is before the public, it is not hard to appreciate the very delicate position in which Mr. Patrick found himself.

The action of the press correspondents in regard to the Governor-General's bail is the subject of a considerable share of conversation. The Mail and Globe correspondents wrote very slightly of the bail.

It is very, very cold in the Capitol. There is a structure here called the Sappers' Bridge, thrown over the canal and connecting Upper and Lower Town.

A meeting was held last night at which delegates from both St. Patrick's Societies were present, and a basis of agreement for their Union agreed upon.

Considerable interest is manifested by Irish Catholics here in the coming election for Mayor of Montreal, as well as the contest between Mr. Peter Donovon and O. J. Devlin for St. Ann's Ward.

to stand for Ottawa at the approaching Ontario election, it is probable that Mr. Michael Starrs, a very popular man, will be the candidate.

How an Elopement was Managed. Young Mr. French made his appearance in Stanstead, Canada, half a year ago, and took board in the village tavern.

The Hon. Mr. Pope Works on Sundays. We do not know whether, as the Globe's Ottawa correspondent asserts, Mr. Pope, the Minister of Agriculture, worked in his office on Sunday.

Pope Leo XIII. rises winter and summer at six o'clock, and generally celebrates mass in his private chapel. At 7 he takes a cup of coffee or chocolate, with an egg beaten in it.

Killing an Aged Indian. President Bartlett selects one incident from the Cheyenne massacre, the killing of an aged Indian woman, as especially disgraceful.

Arctic Explorers. If Arctic explorers have not discovered a practical northwest passage, it is shown by the fact that whales have been captured in the North Pacific.

Alive in Her Coffin. There died a few days ago in Paris a lady, whose decease was duly and legally attested.

The Russian Plague. New York, February 22.—A private letter from St. Petersburg, January 27th, says the epidemic is a most fearful disease.

The Discovery of Silver in Carleton County a Fraud. (Ottawa Free Press.)

A few days ago an article appeared in the columns of this paper in relation to the discovery of silver in Carleton County on the farm of Henry Moore.

In the course of a recent libel suit the English Attorney-General said: "There is no present mania in literature, art, and philosophy to say something which cannot be understood."

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The Very Essence of Impudence. (Toronto Mail.)

Owen Murphy, the New York excise commissioner, whose flight to Canada about fifteen months ago with a large sum of Government money all newspaper readers will remember, must be the very essence of impudence.

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The Zulu Campaign. CAPE TOWN, February 1.—The latest information from Maritzburg states that the total loss on the attack on Col. Glyn's camp on the 22nd January is now estimated at 250 to 300 whites.

Another Foolhardy Trip. Lewis G. Goldsmith, a Danish sailor, about forty years of age, who served in the Union army and navy in the rebellion, proposes to sail across the Atlantic from Boston next summer.

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Good News for Fruit-Growers. It will be joyful news for fruit-growers and farmers that experts prognosticate that the present will be a great fruit year.

New Army Rank. A new army rank, intermediate between the officer and non-commissioned officer has been created by the warrant on promotion in the Army Service Corps.

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A LITTLE HEATHEN. A Story of the Princess Louise.

The Princess Louise and the Marquis were waiting on the Sunday school hours at a recent entertainment given them at Rideau Hall, and the former asked a pretty little girl if she wouldn't take more cake.

Habitual Drunkards. (Toronto Mail.)

A habitual drunkard's bill has been introduced in the British Parliament. It gives to local authorities power to license retailers for habitual drunkards, in which dipsonomics may be forcibly retained.

The Nationalities of the British Army. A Parliamentary return of the nationalities (English, Scotch and Irish) of the British army gives 124,768 non-commissioned officers and men to England, 14,255 to Scotland, and 23,121 to Ireland.

For Liver Complaint use Dr. Harvey's Anti-Bilious and Purgative Pills. SOME PEOPLE SUFFER TERRIBLY from liver troubles; but sometimes they are forced into them. All such should carry a bottle of BROWN'S HOUSEHOLD PANACEA and Family Liniment, and take a few drops after eating.

MANY, MANY YEARS.—MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething, has stood the test of many years, and never known to fail. It is perfectly reliable. It regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic and griping in the bowels, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and allays all pain, as millions of mothers can testify.

SUDDEN CHANGES IN THE WEATHER are productive of Throat Diseases, Coughs and Colds. There is no more effectual relief to be found, than in the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." 28 & 30.

ASK YOUR DRUGGIST, WHAT IS THE best punisher of worms, and the easiest taken, and he will reply, BROWN'S VERMIFUGE COMFITS or Worm Lozenges. Everyone engaged in selling drugs knows this fact. For children and even adults, who are sometimes troubled with worms, these comfits are just the thing.