

DEMAND A REFUND.

Queensbury and Southampton Agricultural Society Denounce the Government

In Their Dealings With the Wheat Sold to the Farmers, and Request that the Money be Returned to the Members of the Society—Trying Experiences.

(Fredericton, Gleason.) At a meeting of the Queensbury and Southampton Agricultural Society, held on Saturday last, the government's methods in connection with their wheat policy were soundly condemned. Each member was emphatic in his denunciation of the government's practice upon the subject. The department and the indifference of the government to the public interests in so far as the wheat is concerned. After an animated talk over the situation, it was decided that the following resolutions be passed: Resolved, That the members of this society who had not yet paid for the wheat which they had received from the government be released of their obligation. It appears that the society bought 96 bushels of wheat from the department under the belief that they were buying a 1 seed wheat. (It is this quantity slightly below the standard.) The government had sold them New Glasgow Milling Company's wheat. All of the Prince Edward Island wheat was diseased with rust and a total failure. The New Glasgow wheat was very badly mixed with poor quality, the product being, in addition to wheat, oats, peas and wild mustard. The experience of several farmers is here given. Thomas Shipley of Millville secured some government wheat which proved to be a failure. At the same time and in a field near by he sowed four bushels of seed which he purchased from Mr. Stevenson, Carleton county. The seed produced eighty bushels of good wheat. Geo. L. Parent, on the strength of the government's representation in the legislature last session, secured for his own seed wheat last spring and bought government wheat to sow. His own seed, which he sold to others, raised a good crop, but the seed which he bought from the department turned out to be worthless. Jan. McGilchrist of Upper Queenstown also thought that it would pay him to raise some wheat from the government seed. His has quite a large family and felt that from three bushels of seed he could produce enough wheat to keep the household going in four. The three bushels were sowed, and to Mr. McGilchrist's chagrin the seed produced nothing but worthless stuff. Ground lost and time wasted.

FOUGHT IN NEW PENNSYLVANIA.

John McDougall Dies in Maine, Aged 104 Years—He Lived for Seventy-Five Years at Moncton, N. B.

EASTON, Me., Sept. 27.—John McDougall, who died recently on this small farm, four miles out of this village, is believed to have been the oldest man in Maine, and possibly the oldest person in New England. A copy of a church record made by his daughter says that he was baptized in the Presbyterian church of Dumfries, Scotland, on September 26, 1794, which would make his age 104 years at the time of his death. Among the papers found in his trunk in an honorable discharge from the British army, dated Oct. 12, 1815, less than four months after the overthrow of Napoleon Bonaparte at Waterloo. Mr. McDougall came here from New Brunswick to live with a married daughter about ten years ago. He used to relate that he served under Wellington in Spain and took part in two pitched battles, receiving a severe wound in the second engagement which laid him up in a hospital for several months. He was not present at the battle of Waterloo. Soon after quitting the army Mr. McDougall married and took his wife to Moncton, N. B., where he lived for about seventy-five years. Through his raising a large family, most of his children moved away or died at an early age, so that they were of no help to him. After the death of his wife he came to Maine and made his home with his daughter. As her husband was in a situation of circumstances, the old soldier worked on the farm or in the woods until he was past the century mark. He took large quantities of Scotch whisky whenever he was able to buy it and he was 90 years old, and smoked a plug of tobacco up to three days before he died. During the Christmas holidays of 1897 he repeated the Psalms of David and the books of Proverbs from memory, and offered to recite the book of Job, but his friends, knowing his feeble condition, persuaded him not to make the attempt.

SHEDDIAQ CONSERVATIVES.

The liberal conservatives of Sheddiaq met for organization on Saturday. Addresses were delivered by O. M. Melanson, James Webster, L. J. Belliveau, W. A. Russell and others, and the Moncton resolution was adopted. The following officers were elected: President—O. M. Melanson; Vice-president—James Webster; Secretary—W. A. Russell. Delegates to the conservative convention for Westmorland county: District 21—Auguste LeBlanc and Jean Boudreau; substitute, Marcellin Melanson. District 22—Jas. Muiridge and Pierre M. Poirer; substitute, Geo. L. J. Wells. District 23—L. J. Belliveau and A. J. Webster; substitute, F. R. Robitaille. District 24—Jude B. Dolan and Laurent Boudreau; substitute, J. H. Hebert. District 25—Vital Richard and Am-

ON THE UPPER NILE.

French Intrigues With King Menelik to Worry England.

The Letter Must Hold the River from Source to Estuary.

The Sirdar is a Grim Man Who Knows His Own Mind.

(London, Mail.) The Sirdar at Fashoda and Colonel Parsons at Gedaref bring us face to face with the two obstacles which stand in the way of legitimate Anglo-Egyptian expansion to the sources of the Nile. The two obstacles are the French and the Abyssinians. For a time—Fashoda, and Menelik's claim to the province of which Gedaref is the chief town. The two are acting together, for French adventurers tempted Menelik to claim Gedaref, while it has yet to be proved that Abyssinians hope on the Sobak are not supporting Marchand at Fashoda.

FRANCE.

Secretly, if not avowedly, the French have for years cast a longing glance on the Upper Nile, with Fashoda as their objective. Two French "scientific" expeditions set out about the year 1890, the one to the East, with Abyssinians, under the Marquis de Bouchamps, the other from the West, via the Ubanghi, under Marchand. Bonchamps reached the Nile, but lost half his Abyssinians killed or wounded, and after playing in the French manner at treaty-making with natives who did not understand his manoeuvres, returned—where? Of Marchand's expedition the details are unimportant. He reached Fashoda, apparently early in August, with a force of eight Europeans and 100 Senegalese, defeated the dervishes, and ran up the French flag. That he was aided by the Belgians surprises no one who has been in East Africa. In violation of pledges, the Belgians are at Refaj, near Gondokoro, while the French are at Fashoda. The French evinced it in 1898, it is not magnificent as to be fascinating to all of weak intellect. For example, note the second of the grounds on which the French justify their occupation of Fashoda. (1) All the Upper Nile Valley is "No-man's Land." Egypt evacuated it in 1898, it is not mentioned in Anglo-German agreements (which have nothing to do with it), and England allowed the Belgians to occupy Refaj. (2) France wants a continuous line of territory from East to West (to the Cape to Cairo). As she already possesses a few miles of Sobok on the East coast, she must unite this to her vast Congo possessions on the West coast. When her Congo province wanted a hinterland, the Ubanghi was occupied by the French.

GENERAL GORDON'S FUNERAL.

Thirteen years, two hundred and twenty-one days after General Gordon was murdered as an expiatory service was held on the steps of his palace at Khartoum by the sappers of Omdurman. Very slowly the Union Jack was hoisted from the roof of the palace, while the national anthem was played and a royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired. At the same time the Egyptian flag was hoisted to the status of the khedivial hymn. Nineteen minute guns then boomed forth in honor of Gordon as governor general. This was followed by the Dead March, and that by a corse-cach by the band of the Seaforth Highlanders. The ceremony was conducted by the Seaforth band playing "Auld Bannockburn" as the slow march of Gordon's funeral hymn echoed through the ruined halls of the palace. Many brave hearts forgot for the moment the brilliant victory which had been won, and shed a tear for the gallant hero and his country, and had shed his blood in the cause of civilization and humanity.

THESE PALACE CARS.

(Montreal Star.) Hon. A. G. Blair's private car arrived in this city, yesterday. (Moncton Times.) A private car, containing Sir Louis Davies, family and party, came over from Point du Chene yesterday and went to Quebec last night on the Maritime express.

(Yarmouth Times.)

And now New Brunswick's premier is being hailed over that province as a palace car. If the crisis, when in opposition, had made a few more promises, the country would be ruined. Their motto appears to be a short life but a merry one.



The young married couple who are crowned with good health are really a king and queen. They are possessed of an armor that enables them to withstand all the hardships and misfortunes of life. Accidents aside, they will live long, happy lives of mutual helpfulness, and they will be blessed with amiable, healthy children. They will sit together in the twilight of old age and look back without regret over a mutually happy, helpful, useful, successful companionship. There are thousands of young couples every day who start wedded life with but one drawback—one or the other, or both, suffer from ill-health. There can be no true wedded happiness that is overshadowed by the black cloud of physical suffering. The man who contemplates matrimony, and realizes that through overwork or worry or neglect, he is suffering from a headache, should take the proper steps to remedy it before he assumes the responsibilities of a husband. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the best of all medicines for men who have neglected their health. It makes the appetite keener, the digestion perfect, the liver active, and the blood pure and rich with life-giving elements. It is the great blood-maker and flesh-builder. It invigorates and gives vitality, strength and color. No woman should wed while she suffers from weakness and disease in a womanly order from which a woman can never be freed. They break down her general health. They unfit her for wifehood and motherhood. They make her a weak, sickly, nervous invalid. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures all weakness and disease of the delicate and important organs that bear the burden of wifehood and motherhood. It transforms weak, suffering, fretful invalids into healthy, happy wives and mothers. Both medicines are sold at all good medicine stores.

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common sense, and he was reported to have a wholesome fear of the Sudan expedition; yet he has been able to resist the magnificent temptations of Prince Henri d'Orleans to rule west to the Nile, north to Kassaia, and south to Lake Rudolf.

That is why at the present time Abyssinians threaten Gedaref. Ras Makonnen is on the Sobak, and M. Leontieff is being painfully disillusioned in his wide domain in Equatoria.

It would be a mistake to imagine Menelik an ignorant without a brain, and a greater mistake to suppose he does not know it. Those who know Menelik have a shrewd suspicion that the governor got his Equatorial provinces because they were too troublesome to be ruled.

The Gallas are always fighting. Only in October it took two expeditions and many men to reduce the king of Kaafa. In June, 1897, the Somali cut to pieces a force of 3,000 Abyssinians, while in Ogadara 800 would-be tax-collectors were promptly massacred.

No doubt Menelik smiled in his sleeve when he heaped his favors on Leontieff.

In Abyssinia proper Menelik is stronger, but the Abyssinians are turbulent and treacherous and divided, moreover, by bitter divisions.

Menelik is a Shoa, and the favor he shows to his tribe (the Amhara) of Tigre and Lasta, who are the better warriors and horsemen. More important are the religious differences. Menelik is no bigot, but he has an unpleasant way of baptizing new conquests at the end of the sword.

The French influence in Abyssinia has been two ends—on the one hand, the English in the Sudan, and to carve out a French protectorate on the east of the Nile.

Their "points de depart" were trade, and a province in the south. French claims in Abyssinia except based on a treaty of Louis Philippe in 1843 M. Lagarde, governor of Obok, in April, 1897, renewed it.

More serious is the railway concession of 1894 (under M. Ilg), which undertakes (1) that no trade shall go to or from Abyssinia except by the line; (2) that no other line shall be built from Red Sea to Abyssinia or the Nile for ninety-nine years. France thus attempted, by a railway from Djibouti to Antolo, to get all the trade of Abyssinia.

The railway has been begun, but not finished, while the port of Zeyla has taken away the trade of Djibouti, and the Rennell road treaty has made us "the most favored nation."

In June, 1897, France got a concession of a telegraph line from Antolo to the wire is there, but the poles have not come. On the arrival, with a great flourish of trumpets, of Prince Henry of Orleans and M. Leontieff, the appointment of Leontieff as governor of the Equatorial provinces, was thought the telegraph poles must come.

Since then Prince Henry has been flying to and fro between Paras and Antolo, trying to bribe some capitalists to sink his money in them, but the capitalists is incorruptible. And he is wise.

I have been there—there is no trade, no village even; no nomadic settlements, and no products. The people are of rude mountain warriors. The return on £100 will not be one penny in ten years. Nor are they Menelik's to give, for they have always repudiated his rule.

But France has not altogether failed. She may yet succeed in embroiling Menelik with England at Gedaref, whether some time an Abyssinian force was marching, which will now meet 3,000 successful Egyptians. And Bonchamps left French officers behind with Ras Makonnen on the Sobak.

But Menelik is not likely to press on either at Gedaref or Fashoda. In the swamps of the Nile the hardy Abyssinian mountaineers die like flies, while Kassaia is really beyond his natural boundaries, and his treaties with Italy show that he knows it.

France imagines Russia is working in Abyssinia on her behalf, but she is deceived. Russia sent Vlassov to Antolo and welcomed Abyssinians to St. Petersburg for one reason—one small reason. Russia, which it was not Menelik's to give, in 1891 the Sultan of Rahaeta accepted Italian protection.

A port in the Red Sea, off Aden, which is the base to command the Gulf of Zulf.

Obviously English policy is to hold the Nile and its banks from source to estuary, and allow no one else the chance of tampering with it. The Sirdar is a grim man and knows his own mind.

R. F. JOHNSON.

SPRINGHILL LIKED HIM.

SPRINGHILL, Sept. 24.—The late Captain W. E. Cook was well known here by the workmen who were in the pit in 1881, when he was assistant engineer with Cecil Parsons. His heroic act in being one of the first to volunteer to descend into the pit to rescue and to find the dead has never been forgotten. His kindness and his generous nature towards the sick and suffering is well remembered by our people, and his being one who with others brought the first body from the mine is touchingly commented upon. The warmest sympathy in condolence with the bereaved parents, so feelingly apprised of his sad taking off, by Lord Aberdeen, and the high esteem in which he was held by his comrades in arms is spoken of with much gratification. It is considered a very remarkable thing that even as the brave fellows lost their lives in the mine in the noble discharge of an even dangerous duty, so in the end was his own life a sacrifice in the discharge of his duty as a brave and gallant soldier. The sorrowing family at Moncton have our heartfelt sympathy in their deep affliction.

ABYSSINIA.

With the victory of Adowa in March, 1896, Menelik leaped into European fame as a new puppet, playing with his armies had humbled Italy and enlarged his territories, his vanity was ripe for ambitious schemes, and there were adventurers ready and eager to play upon it.

Menelik, Negus Negusti, "the Lion of Judah," succeeded John II. in 1889. In his earlier years, as King of Shoa, he had won successes against the wild Galla tribesmen, and was known as a wily subject; and by 1896 he had subdued by force or craft all the Danaguas of the coast, and Gallas of the south to his rule.

After his victories against Italy he may be excused for imagining that he is the "King of Kings," while he is old enough to remember the retreat from the Sudan of 1885, and—be deceived by it.

The Negus is handsome—for an Abyssinian—with a clever face and a cruel mouth. A general of no mean ability, he can put 200,000 fighting men into the field, and has many large bodies of troops operating against the tribesmen of the south or the dervishes.

The Abyssinian is a born fighter and a splendid shot, as the Italians learnt to their cost, while at the end of the day there were known to be 100,000 modern rifles in the country.

Menelik is anything but lacking in

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Mr. Dobbie explained his position, referring to his action on the public accounts committee and his stand taken at the Moncton convention; also that the government had failed to keep their pledges in reference to the promised bridge at Hartland.

Mr. Hazen dealt with the government bridge expenditures. He said they had paid the Record Foundry \$15,000 for the Lefebvre bridge without tender, which the Dominion Bridge Company would have built complete and painted for \$7,119.60. He cited several other instances where large contracts had been let without tender.

Dr. Stockton was disappointed, as was also Mr. Hazen, in not having the privilege of meeting the minister of railways and Premier Emmerson on the same platform, as they had as-

common sense, and he was reported to have a wholesome fear of the Sudan expedition; yet he has been able to resist the magnificent temptations of Prince Henri d'Orleans to rule west to the Nile, north to Kassaia, and south to Lake Rudolf.