

OUR POLICY.

While the NOR-WESTER is in favor of all legitimate means to advance the true interests of the North-West it has not the faintest shadow of sympathy with movements which are conducted by men who are extremely anxious to keep up an agitation for purposes which are far from being patriotic. This journal will not oppose any measure merely because it is advanced by enemies or opponents, but it will judge of the goodness, sincerity and policy of a movement rather from what is practiced by the movers than from what is preached. It will follow experience always, because it is well aware that it is the safest guide. Of one thing the public may rest assured, it will watch with eagle eye every move that is made by third parties who cannot tolerate an opponent, and who while professing to be liberals, are in most cases the most intolerant. Upon general as well as special principles the NOR-WESTER is opposed to public agitations in the North-West because it believes that any good purpose under our system of government can be secured without noise and bustle. The past history of public agitations in the North-West proves that they have never accomplished anything but mischief, because in mischievous agitation the designing trickster generally comes to the front, for however a cause may be good in the abstract, unless it is managed in a righteous way it were better that it had never been undertaken. These gentlemen who are friendly to this journal and who are sincere in their belief that great good will result from a public agitation should first ask themselves if they are competent to control a public agitation when once it is under way, and so regulate it that it will be confined to its original limits. If they are perfectly sure that they can do this the mischievous spirit may be controlled, but are they sure that they can secure this obedience. It is a great undertaking to shape an agitation, and rare—good men are needed. Are they here? We are afraid not.

To run with the hare and hunt with the hound is a favorite practice with the local melancholy organ. In the last issue there are two leading articles, one on each side of the sheet—showing that there is some expediency if not virtue in being two sided. Those of our readers who are not carried away by prejudice must admit that the tone of each is so plainly opposite that the ordinary reader will not meet with any difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the organ is endeavoring to accomplish something which is quite out of the range of possibility. Let the following extracts be compared side by side and then let them speak for themselves.

Herald, Nov. 19th, 1884.

"The individual members of the 'National Government' have frequently expressed their interest in us, and the same interest is shown by the 'National Government' itself. Some of them have even visited this district in person and they have listened with attention to our representation. One of them has even gone so far as to write a memorandum of our grievances, and in accordance with his invitation, such a memorandum has been forwarded to him, and one of the objects of this meeting will be to back every word and title of that memorandum and endorse its manifesto to the echo. With this assurance before us we

have no misgivings concerning the reception our delegates will have. The reception is already assured them; it remains simply to instruct them of the nature and import of their mission. Such instruction will be terse and to the point. They are summed up in representations already urged in these columns. Politics will have nothing to do with them. Italicize ours—ED. NOR-WESTER. We will leave politics to a time when we have some political rights, and choose our party when we have a vote. Faction will have nothing to do with them, for Half Breds, Frenchmen, Canadians and Englishmen have one voice in this country, and that voice calls for legislation which will be of equal benefit to all. Alberta first; the home we have chosen to live in, and live for, first. Let secondary aims come with secondary effort; this is our first effort, and let it be in the one and true direction.

Herald, Nov. 19th, 1884. And yet we are told that the Dominion has done everything for us and we ought to experience no other feeling under the circumstances than gratitude. What sort of gratitude, we who are mostly interested, experience will likely be seen at the mass meeting on the 29th inst. What sort of gratitude is felt throughout the whole of the North-West may be seen in the messages that are being sent throughout the country for the ventilation of grievances and the passing of indignant resolutions. What sort of gratitude the half breeds, who form so large a part of our population, feel has been seen from their inviting Riel to 'come over and help us'. We have discussed the great gift of the railway before. To our mind that is only a simple business transaction, the outcome of which is that we owe nothing to the railway which has made a very good bargain for itself, and nothing that will not be paid ten times over to the Dominion in the alienation of so many million acres of our best lands. Suppose, at the time of making the C.P.R. deal, our hands had been in our own hands, would the Dominion Government have or have not been satisfied with our contribution to the expense if we had given this same grant of land ourselves? Unquestionably we would have satisfied the Government and the C.P.R. too by so doing. But because no choice was given us, but the land was taken from us without question or consultation, we are told that we ought to be grateful; so grateful that when its time of power comes to these Territories, we will remember what the east has done to us and for us.

The animus is so plain that it is like the most eminent pike-staff.

One of the aims of the present North-West Council had in view to give the people of the North-West a code of ordinances that may be readily understood by any person of ordinary education. The old practice of making the statutes as abstruse and as incomprehensible as possible has not been followed. The language used, while losing none of its legal force, is simple and almost stripped of that verbiage which characterizes the long Acts of the eastern provinces. Our ordinances do not aim at doing away with the legal fraternity, but their simplicity of structure will save time for the lawyer and money for the client, two matters upon which both parties may agree without prejudice to each other.

It is only natural that our east end contemporary should just now be reading its own hair and tearing out handfuls at each pull at the imminent risk of incurring a shaving gate. The fact that it has a little diversion on hand in the shape of a 'monster mass meeting' ought to be deterrent enough to prevent it hanging itself at the end of its tether. The tempest in a tea-pot which it is creating is not likely to effect any one outside of its own admirers and a baker's dozen of persons who do not really admie

it, but who to carry out selfish purposes are able to flatter the organ in order to make use of it and delude it into believing that it is flying with aura popularis.

The organ of the agitators speaks in advance when it says, "With this assurance before us we have no misgivings concerning the reception our delegates will have. The reception is already assured them; it remains simply to instruct them of the nature and import of their mission. Such instruction will be terse and to the point. They are summed up in representations already urged in these columns." Ah indeed! Who is "running the business?" Doubtless our contemporaries, but why should it preclude anything where everything is to be done "in a moderate and reasonable manner." Nous verrons.

One of the dodges to which the Herald resorts is to make unfounded assertions in the hope that damage may be done to the editor of this paper. It is well to all that kind of argument, because that is the only ammunition it has. Of one thing it may rest assured the NOR-WESTER is not afraid to stem any little torrent or tempest that the Herald may undertake to get up on North-West matters or on anything else, and this is not worth the boast either.

The MacLeod Gazette is raving in the orthodox fish wife style. The abuse is not unexpected, but it is to be regretted that the Gazette like the Herald has a chronic aversion to facts. As our contemporary has a couple of criminal libel suits on hand and its vagaries have led it into exceedingly hot water, we will wait until next week when we shall deal with it in a fitting manner.

The Edmonton Bulletin has at length taken notice of the memorandum of grievances which was published in the NOR-WESTER some weeks since. The Bulletin like the MacLeod Gazette is late in publishing the memorandum, but has the courtesy to make comments which are not unfavorable. Our northern contemporary says: "The NOR-WESTER remains upon the memorandum that moderation and common sense characterize it throughout." It is also characterized by the special interest made in it for matters connected with the legal profession. This is based on the gentleman who framed the memorandum, but when the Bulletin sees the grant clause made in the local organ of the 19th inst., it is on the following words: "Also in Lie." It will perhaps judge the legal profession in the one, because of the legal profession in the other. The Bulletin after all admits that the memorandum was drawn up without prejudice to other parties.

The Canadian Gazette, of London, England, it is said to say how much truth there is in the rumor that "the British post-office will be bound to use the Canadian Pacific Railway as an alternative route to the Peninsular and Oriental steamship service for the mails to China and Japan." Greater shrewdness, in point of time, is claimed for the Canadian route, and if this be beyond doubt, the change ought to be probable. Some of those who are bound to find some employment for Sir John Macdonald, in England, attribute to him an intention to bring the subject before the British government.—Monetary Times.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The following lands, west of the Fourth and Fifth Principal Meridian, are open for settlement, entries to be made at the Land Office, Calgary—

Table with 2 columns: Range, Townships. Lists land parcels for settlement.

West of the Fifth Meridian: Range 37, 38. All that part of 24 south of Elbow River. 24.

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Providing the parties who purchase will erect buildings to the value of at least \$1000 within 6 months after purchase.

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Calgary, Nov. 4

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