

INDEPENDENCE OF PARLIAMENT.

He in whose mind philosophy mingles with politics will read Mr. J. S. Macdonald's bill for securing the independence of the Legislative Assembly with a mixture of pleasure and sadness—pleasure that there is a prospect of the Government being prevented from acquiring an unjust and overwhelming preponderance from the grateful zeal of a phalanx of minions; sadness that some men should be so venal, and others, "dressed in a little brief authority," so disposed to turn to illegitimate account the power which adventitious circumstances rather than merit have conferred upon them, as to make such a bill necessary. The magnanimity of the Government in proposing this measure is scarcely equal to that of Dioclesian when he resigned the imperial purple of Rome, or that of Charles V. when he took the crown from his own head and placed it on that of his son; none of the Ministers are personally affected by it, but considering that it will very materially decrease their powers of nurturing creatures of their own, and by benefits attaching them to their standard, it is truly a remarkable concession. The members of the Coalition Government cannot, dare not, ignore the fact that the day may come when their star shall be declining, and when they may stand in need of the assistance of all whom it might have been possible for them to lay under obligations during their tenure of office. Perhaps they consider their present numbers and their profession of a desire to do justice to all parties a sufficient fortification of their position, or it may be that they have resolved to accede to all demands of the leaguering force on the one condition that they shall be allowed to retain possession of the citadel, and keep their colours flying.

Mr. Macdonald's Independence of Parliament Bill strikes the first blow at that mischievous absurdity, dual representation. It aims to destroy the power of members of the Executive Council, or of the Privy Council to hold more than one seat. So far this is very good; but in this instance smiting the shepherds will not scatter the sheep, and after Minister have been divested of the privilege of sitting in both Parliaments the right will remain to private members. This is at least anomalous; Councilors are supposed to be made out of clever men, and if there is any advantage in dual representation it must be that it gives to those of narrow experience and ordinary mental power the opportunity of profiting by the instruction of their superiors. This indeed is the chief, perhaps the only, argument in favour of members holding two seats; plausible enough reasoning in the abstract, although if considered in the concrete, if answered by enumeration of the men who hold only a seat in the Assembly its impotency would immediately be apparent. There are some of this class there who not only require no tuition in parliamentary matters, but who are in all respects qualified to teach "raw recruits" their duty. One thing more is required in this bill, and it is probable that the omission will draw forth an amendment from the opposition. While it disqualifies all persons holding office under either Government, to which an annual salary, or any emolument in lieu thereof, is attached, from being eligible for a seat in the Assembly nothing is said about those who do government work occasionally and by the job. Members of the House who are lawyers may be deputed Crown Counsel at the Assizes; and in short they may perform any remunerative piece of labour that turns up, so long as they are not paid by the year. But after all the bill coming from the source it does is not so bad. It provides that no person holding office under the Dominion or the Province shall be eligible as a member of the Assembly, excepting of course the members of the Executive Council of Ontario, and, after the example of Britain, officers of Her Majesty's army and navy, and all members of the militia not receiving permanent salaries. The bill likewise disqualifies Senators, Privy Councillors and public contractors, and makes the penalty for violation of the statute \$2,000 per day for every day an ineligible person may sit and vote. Any member of the Executive Council who resigns his office, and within one month takes any other office in said Council shall not be held to have vacated his seat in the Assembly; and any member of the Executive Council who sits or votes in the House of Commons shall forfeit his office as Councilor. The Bill in its present form grants much that was required; a slight effort of generosity would make it include all.

Two or three nights since an elderly man fell through a bridge at Belleville, in consequence of the removal of a plank, and was drowned, notwithstanding he was seen to go down.

BY TELEGRAPH

PER ATLANTIC CABLE.

Despatches to the Evening Mercury

London, 12th.—There are four parties who will contest the coming election in Spain. The party of the Provisional Government under Serrano and Partero representing the army. The Conservative party composed of commercial and industrial classes desiring a monarchy and monarchical constitutions, with the maintenance of local liberals. The Democratic party inclining toward the Republic and demanding government of the nation by the nation. The Clerical party wishing for the return of Isabella, and for the restoration of the privileges taken from them by the revolution. La Commune Revolutionnaire an association of French Republican Refugees have issued a manifesto recommending the overthrow of Louis Napoleon's imperial dynasty. The Emperor and Empress of Austria are expected at Paris in the course of the present month. Gustave Lambert is now at Havre for the purpose of organizing his arctic pole expedition. Miss Bismarck, daughter of the celebrated minister, is shortly to be married to Count Luxburg, President of the Regency in Wurtemberg, Bavaria. The Turkish Government has made a contract with a house in Boston for the purchase of 100 revolving guns. The agitations in the Danubian provinces are said to be the cause of the present military preparations. Vienna, Nov. 12.—The Reichsrath has passed the Bill prescribing new regulations for the army of reserve and for soldiers of three years' service. Before the passage of the Bill, Baron Von Boust carefully explained his former speech, so as to remove all cause of anxiety. London, Nov. 12, evening.—It is announced that the Rev. W. Thompson, D. D. no Archbishop of York, succeeds the late Rev. Charles Thomas Longley as Archbishop of Canterbury, and that the Rev. L. Wilberforce, D. D., now Bishop of Oxford, succeeds to the see of York. The Parliamentary elections commence tomorrow. Most extensive measures of precaution against disturbances at the polls have been taken by the police authorities. Troops have been sent to Blackburn, an important borough in the county of Lancaster, where serious trouble is feared. St. Petersburg, Nov. 12.—The International Military Commission has agreed to prohibit the use, in time of war, of all explosive projectiles weighing less than 400 grammes.

Legislature of Ontario.

TORONTO, NOV. 12. A number of petitions were presented, and, as usual, the greater part of them were either for aid to superior education or against it, and in favor of the disendowment of the Upper Canada College. Mr. Wigle introduced a bill in relation to abandoned oil wells. Second reading on Thursday next. In answer to an enquiry by Mr. Blake, relative to the pardoning power, the Attorney General said it belonged to the Lieutenant Governor. Mr. Blake moved an address to His Excellency the Lieut-Governor, for copies of all correspondence between the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada, and between the Government of Ontario and the Government of Quebec, on the subjects of immigration and the public debt; also an address to His Excellency the Lieut-Governor, for copies of all correspondence between the Government of Ontario and individuals or Companies interested on the subject of the Mining Act, and of all orders in Council or Departmental orders under that act. Mr. Blake introduced a resolution that in the opinion of this House, no Minister of the Crown should act as counsel against the Crown on a Crown prosecution. He introduced the resolution in an able speech. Attorney General Macdonald promised it would not happen again under any circumstances, and the motion was accordingly withdrawn. Several bills were advanced a stage after which the House adjourned. A number of women, married to men of the 100th, without permission, have been left behind in Montreal.

MARRIAGES.

KERR—FAIRGRIEVE.—At the residence of the bride's father, Hamilton, on the 12th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Orniston, A. R. Kerr, Esq., merchant, Ingersoll, formerly of Guelph, to Jennie, daughter of John Fairgrieve, Esq.

GOOD TIMES.

Good times this Winter for Merchants and Blacksmiths, and those about to build. LOOK OUT for list of prices to be ready in a few days, which will astonish Hamilton and Toronto rivals. JOHN HORSMAN, Hardware Merchant, Guelph.

New Advertisements.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

The undersigned requests that all to whom he is indebted in any way will please send in their bills to the Wellington Hotel, on Saturday first, when they will be 1 qd dated. WILLIAM HOOD, Guelph, Nov. 12. do 3

THE FOUNTAIN PEN,

Warranted equal to the best Steel Pen in the Market. Ink will not drop from the Pen, as it is liable to with the Common Pen. 25 Cents Per Dozen. A Large Supply at DAY'S BOOKSTORE, Opposite the Market Guelph, November 12. dw

Wanted in a small family, a servant girl to do general housework. Apply at the Mercury Office, Macdonnell Street, Guelph. Guelph, Nov. 12. do 1f

New Advertisements.

OPENED THIS DAY, A LOT OF CHEAP CLOUDS, WHITE, BLACK, SCARLET, GREY and FANCY.

ALSO—JOB LOTS, At 37c. and 50c. worth double the money, at A. O. BUCHAM'S.

EUREKA! Money Saved is Money Gained. SAVE YOUR MONEY by purchasing at the GREAT CLOSING SALE of MISCELLANEOUS & SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY and FANCY GOODS, WALL PAPERS and Berlin Wools, now going on at Shewan's Old Stand, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

GOODS are being sold at wonderfully Low Prices. The subscriber has just returned to town with a large assortment of NEW BOOKS, purchased at Auction, and other cheap sources, which he will sell at low prices. Every person is respectfully requested to call and examine the stock. Trouble and attention never considered, as long as customers are accommodated and satisfied. These sales afford a good opportunity to purchase reading for Winter, at low prices. J. B. THORNTON, Guelph, Nov. 2, 1868. daw 1f

FRESH ARRIVALS. 500 dozen Turnip Baskets. 50 dozen Corn Brooms. 12 " Fancy Corn Whisks. 20 " Spruce Pails. 5 " Stable Pails. " Toy Pails. Cases Telegraph Matches. 5 Cases Parlor Matches. 12 dozen Butter Spoons, Cards, &c. At JOHN A. WOOD'S, Wyndham Street. Guelph, October 31st. dw

Town Hall, Guelph Mechanics' Institute READINGS In the Town Hall, Guelph, by MR. NICHOLS, The Celebrated English Elocutionist, On Wednesday Ev'g, Nov. 18th. TICKETS 25 Cents. For particulars see Programmes. Guelph, Nov. 11. w1 dt

SERVANT GIRL WANTED. Wanted in a small family, a servant girl to do general housework. Apply at the Mercury Office, Macdonnell Street, Guelph. Guelph, Nov. 12. do 1f

MONTREAL BOOT AND SHOE STORE.

Wholesale and Retail. Just received: GENTS' DRESS GAITERS, GENTS' DRESS BALMORALS, GENTS' FELT GAITERS, GENTS' FELT OVERSHOES, LADIES' WALKING BOOTS, LADIES' FELT CONGRESS & Balmorals, LADIES' FELT OVERSHOES, Misses' and Children's Shoes of all kinds, Also, a large stock of Boots and Shoes made by HAND, for Fall and Winter wear, very Cheap for CASH only. Trade supplied at "Central Prices. JOHN McNEIL, Montreal Boot and Shoe Store, Wyndham-St. Guelph, November 4. dw

FURS, FURS. WE have opened our stock of Furs, of our own manufacture, which we will sell at LOW PRICES, viz: EXTRA DARK MINK ROYAL ERMINES SIBERIAN SQUIRREL RIVER MINK LADIES' HOODS And a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS, GENTS' MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c. The highest price paid for Raw Furs. F. GARLAND, Market Square. Guelph, 3rd Nov. dw4m

18 FALL IMPORTATIONS. 68 Wools, FANCY GOODS TOYS, &c. JUST Arrived, an Immense Stock of Berlin, Zephyr, Saxony, Andalusian, Lady-Betty, and Fancy Wools. English, Scotch and American FINGERING YARNS. A Splendid assortment of Braids, Frillings Ruffles, and General Fancy Goods. A great variety of Slippers and Slipper Patterns, Ottomans, &c. JET and RUBBER GOODS. Juvenile Clothing always on hand and made to order. Stamping for Braiding and Embroidery from the Latest Designs. J. HUNTER, Opposite the English Church, Wyndham-St. Guelph, September 12th. dw

LAMPS, LAMPS! JUST OPENED OUT AT PETRIE'S DRUG STORE Old Post Office Building, Wyndham-St. A Large Assortment of COAL OIL LAMPS, all sizes and kinds, will be sold CHEAP. No. 1 COAL OIL. A supply of No. 1 COAL OIL KEPT CONSTANTLY ON HAND. A. B. PETRIE, Druggist. Guelph, September 25th. dw

SPLENDID DATES At H. BERRY'S. FINE ORANGES & LEMONS At H. BERRY'S. REAL Maple Sugar At H. BERRY'S. DOMINION LIVERY STABLE GUELPH, ONTARIO. H. MARRIOTT BEGS to inform the citizens of Guelph and the travelling public that he has started a Livery Stable next door to Mr. W. Armstrong's Blacksmith's Shop, Macdonnell Street, where he can supply Saddle Horses, Horses and Buggies Commercial Waggon At the shortest notice. Also, a large PLEASURE WAGGON! FOR PIC-NICS. Guelph, 19th June do6m

CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC. Notice is hereby given that from and after this date the subscriber will not be responsible for any debts contracted in his name, without his written order and signature attached. STRICKLAND DUFFIELD. Guelph, Nov. 12. do 1f

ARRIVED

ANOTHER LOT OF THAT SPLENDID YOUNG HYSON TEA, At 75 cents per lb., also, New Smoked Salmon, New Finnan Haddies, New Table Codfish, New Labrador Herrings, At E. CARROLL and CO'S, NO. 2, DAY'S BLOCK, GUELPH. Guelph, Nov. 6, 1868. do 1f

FRESH IMPORTATIONS. FRESH IMPORTATIONS DAILY AT THE FRUIT DEPOT SWEET POTATOES, HAVANA ORANGES, MALAGA LEMONS, FINNAN HADDIES, FRESH LOBSTERS, FRESH OYSTERS. HUGH WALKER, Nov. 6. dw Fruit Depot, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

ONE IN TEN. MEDICAL HALL! Statistics show that One in every Ten of the entire population meets with an Accident every year. INSURE AGAINST ACCIDENTS THE TRAVELLERS INSURANCE CO'Y, OF HARTFORD, CONN. Cash Assets, over One Million. Has paid \$850,000 in Losses for Death or Injury by Accident. E. MORRIS, October 20. d1m Agent for Guelph

RUTHERFORD HOUSE All the remaining Stock of DRY GOODS AT COST PRICES, And under cost prices, as the whole stock must be SOLD WITHOUT RESERVE before the First of January, As I am going out of that branch of the business and would particularly invite all to come and get a share of the GREAT BARGAINS, as they will get As much for a Dollar as they can get elsewhere for a Dollar and a Half. My Stock of GROCERIES is complete as I intend to carry on that part of the business. LIQUORS of the very best Quality of a kinds for Tavern-keepers. Some very Cheap CROCKERY arrived. Robert Rutherford. Guelph, September 19th. dwy

SALT, SALT Wholesale and Retail at A. H. R. KENNEDY'S FLOUR AND FEED STORE, UPPER WYNDHAM-ST., GUELPH Guelph Jul 24 dw-1f

TROTTER & GRAHAM, DENTISTS! GUELPH and BRAMPTON LICENTIATES OF DENTAL SURGERY, Successors in Guelph to T rotter. Office, over Higinbotham's Drugstore Guelph, 2nd August, 1868. (dw1y)

Another Lot of those Delicious Pine Apples At H. BERRY'S.

WILLIAM BROWNLOW UNDERTAKER, SHOP, in rear of the WELLINGTON HOTEL Douglas Street. House in rear of Mr. F. W. Stone's Store, and fronting the Fair Ground. The subscriber intimates that he is prepared to attend FUNERALS As usual in Town and Country. Coffins always on hand and made to order on the shortest notice Terms very moderate. WM. BROWNLOW March 20 1868. daw

R. J. JEANNERET, From England, Established in London, Ont. 1842 and in Guelph 1863.) WORKING WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER DAY'S BLOCK, Opposite the Marko Guelph. A GOOD Assortment of the Best English and Swiss Lever Watches. Reference can be made to respectable persons who have carried his Watches from one to twenty-five years each. Guelph, September 9th. dw

E. HARVEY & CO., Lubricating Oils, LARD ELEPLANT SPERM OLIVE Pole Seal and Excelsior Oils VERY CHEAP! Owners of Threshing and other Machines will do well to call and get our prices. E. HARVEY & CO., Cor. Wyndham & Macdonnell-Sts. Guelph Guelph, November 11. dw

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