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MR. LAURIER'S FIRST GUN

THE OPENING BATTLE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION.

Mr. Dewdney's Cabinet Appointment the Pretext of the Attack—A Rattling Debate in Which the Embers of the Riel Agitation are Fanned Into Brief Life.

OTTAWA, Feb. 6.—There was blood on the moon — incandescent electric moon — that shines over the House of Commons this afternoon. The House and the galleries were carried back to those bloody scenes which are said to have taken place on the banks of the swiftly flowing Saskatchewan in 1885, to the ante-bellum days on the rolling prairies of the boundless Northwest, and even to the hideous scaffold of Louis Riel at Regina, which a great many people think was the end of that somewhat exaggerated page of blood and grim-visaged war in the history of this fair land. But such is not the case: those scenes and incidents are liable to crop out at any moment in the Canadian Parliament or in the press. They cropped up in lively fashion this afternoon. The attack was led by Mr. Laurier, the fire was returned by the Premier, Sir Richard Cartwright revealed himself as a sharpshooter and Peter Mitchell came on the field to carry off the dead, not leaving however until he had added to the carnage.

In an extended experience I never heard a debate in the House of Commons that was listened to in deeper silence or with more rapt attention. Nearly 200 of the members were present and they crowded to the front to take advantage of the best possible places for hearing everything that was said. It was the first battle of the session, the first shot 3000 in the Opposition guns, and those that were not slain are wondering to-night who were the victors.

In strange contrast was the last half of the two hours' sitting to the first half. When the House opened all eyes were turned to the occupants of the Speaker's gallery, where sat Mme. Albani, Lady Macdonald and Mrs. G. W. Allan. The members cast wistful eyes up at the fair French-Canadian diva and when she quit the chamber half an hour later the clouds of the coming attack began to gather over the Opposition benches. Sir John was very frisky in the early stages of the sitting and he gossiped freely with his French followers, but when he buckled on his coat-of-mail later on the Old Man looked well prepared for the fight.

Before the House arose last evening Mr. Laurier intimated that he was going to make some enquiry about the recent changes in the Cabinet, but as the First Minister was not in his place he reserved the matter till this afternoon, when Sir John gave the reply without being asked a second time. The answers were all quite harmless and ran about like this:

It was thought desirable that Sir Charles Tupper should resume his position as High Commissioner in London and Mr. Foster was made Minister of Finance. Then it was arranged that Mr. C. H. Tupper should become Minister of Marine in place of Mr. Foster. Mr. Meiklem, the Postmaster-General, was appointed Governor of his native Nova Scotia, and Mr. Haggart was inducted into that portfolio. Lastly Hon. Edgar Dewdney was called to fill the place of the late lamented Mr. White, as Minister of the Interior. That was all there was about it.

Mr. Laurier Opens the Battle.

Mr. Laurier listened patiently to Sir John's recital of the recent Cabinet shuffle and passed in friendly terms upon all of them until he came to the name of Mr. Dewdney. He said Mr. Tupper was an ambitious young man and would, no doubt, make a good minister. He also congratulated the Premier in having at last discovered a Minister of Finance, even if he had to take a lantern to look for him. But when he came to the name of Mr. Dewdney the Leader of the Opposition made a bold, vigorous assault upon that gentleman and his promotion to the Cabinet.

Mr. Laurier claimed that he meant nothing personal in the assault, but he could look upon Mr. Dewdney's preference with naught but the gravest censure. Mr. Dewdney, first as an officer of the Government in the Territories, and later on as the Governor of those Territories, was alone to blame for the events which led up to civil war and the sacrifice of many lives on the banks of the Saskatchewan. Mr. Laurier reviewed at length the position of the halfbreeds in that country, their claims for justice that had been repeatedly made, their meetings and their threats which finally wound up in the firing of the first gun of the rebellion at Duck Lake.

"Who are the men responsible," demanded Mr. Laurier, "for those scenes of blood and strife in 1885? Was it the poor wretches who had pleaded for their rights and afterwards took up arms? No, not at all! But it was the man who now sits on the Treasury benches as the Minister of the Interior. That gentleman had a duty to perform which he grossly neglected. He knew perfectly well about the dissatisfaction that existed among the halfbreeds and it was his place and his duty to call the attention of the Government to these grievances. The hon. Minister of the Interior knew all about these agitations, but he never once informed the Government of the serious aspect that had involved the halfbreeds in the Northwest."

Then Mr. Laurier said: "Was there ever a greater offence committed in any country? Was there ever such an offence in the history of England or this country without having the man committing called before the bar of justice, before the bar of this House?" Mr. Laurier thought there was not. Mr. Dewdney's conduct was of the most reprehensible description and called for the severest censure, but instead of censure that gentleman was promoted to a position of honor, trust and responsibility.

The Opposition benches rang with cheers as Mr. Laurier resumed his seat. His followers applauded him wildly and the expression on their faces indicated that he had made a great arraignment of the Government.

All the time that Mr. Laurier was speaking the Minister of the Interior looked with a fixed gaze across the floor of the chamber. His fingers played nervously on the cover of his desk, reminding one of an enthusiastic country maiden taking her first lesson on the keyboard of a piano.

Mr. Macdowall of Saskatchewan sat beside Mr. Dewdney and occasionally whispered in his ear. At one time, when Mr. Laurier was quoting a letter from Bishop Grandin in support of his charges of negligence and malfeasance against Mr. Dewdney, Mr. Macdowall whispered something about it not being so.

"Leave Him to Me."

Sir John, who was sitting directly in front of them, turned around and said sharply: "Leave him to me."

Then the leader of the Opposition was in reality handed over to the Old Man, and the latter arose to reply amid cheers from his supporters, which, however, it could easily be seen were not shared by all the Conservative forces. It is a well-known fact that Mr. Dewdney was like a dose of gentian to many of Sir John's followers, and it was remarked that some of them smacked their lips after Mr. Laurier's speech, something the same as they would after a glass of "fizz," or a dish of strawberries and cream.

Sir John at first likened Mr. Laurier's everlasting reference to the rebellion to one of Dickens' characters, who was always getting the head of Charles the First into his conversation. He (Sir John) could not understand why the hon. gentleman across the floor could not get over the events of years ago.

"I cannot forget," continued the Premier, "that the hon. gentleman sympathized with the battle on the Saskatchewan and his views thereon were more warmly than loyally expressed. The Minister of the Interior, I think, is in every way the equal of the hon. gentleman, and in many ways I would not compare them. The gentleman who has been so unjustly attacked had just as much to do with the events that preceded the rebellion as the gentleman who attacked him. He (Mr. Dewdney) had nothing whatever to do with the halfbreeds or the granting of lands in the Northwest, and he could not influence the Government of that time to the extent of one-quarter of a section of land. He had nothing whatever to do with the halfbreed claims."

A voice: "Who had, then?"

Sir John Macdonald: "The Government of the day. We assume the whole responsibility. The Government of those days and the Government of to-day are alone responsible. The attack of the hon. gentleman is altogether unwarranted and uncalled for. The Government is quite willing to assume that responsibility. Parliament has passed upon those events and the people of the country have also passed upon them. In no way whatever can the Minister of the Interior be charged with complicity in the rebellion or with neglect or with acts of commission or omission in respect to those troubles."

The Premier then referred to one of Mr. Laurier's charges, that no correspondence had been laid before the House, although repeatedly asked for, which had passed between the Government and Mr. Dewdney, first as Indian agent and latterly as Governor of the Territories. The Premier said that there was certainly a bulk of correspondence but its real value was its confidential character.

Hon. Mr. Foster: "Hear! hear!"

Sir John then referred at length to Mr. Dewdney's fitness for the responsible position of Minister of the Interior. The Old Man in fact gave his new colleague a great potent of character for ability and acquaintance with the details of his department and knowledge of the people with whom he had to deal. He knew the country west of Ontario thoroughly, the habits of the Indian tribes and the best means of dealing with them.

"Crowfoot, the great chief of the Blackfeet," said the Premier, "and the chiefs of all the minor tribes looked up to him (Mr. Dewdney) as their great white chief and father. [Cheers.] All kinds of complaints had been paid to him as Governor of the Territories and his path had been smothered with roses. Bishop Grandin, Archbishop Taché and Rev. Father Lacombe had all congratulated him on his appointment as Minister of the Interior, and they had exclaimed that he was the right man in the right place. We have every confidence in him, and I think his public acts and accomplishments will amply justify his selection."

Sir Richard Takes a Hand.

Then Sir Richard Cartwright took a hand in the talk. He declared that the only thing in which he did not agree with Mr. Laurier's remarks was the statement that Mr. Dewdney was to blame for the rebellion. The First Minister, by his own admissions, was primarily to blame. He was the man that was guilty before heaven for his scandalous neglect and malfeasance in office. He was ten times more guilty than the Minister of the Interior.

Mr. Mitchell (in a subdued tone): "But he received compensation to keep his mouth shut." [Sensation.]

Sir Richard also referred to the fact that the press of both parties severely criticized the preferment of Mr. Dewdney for a Cabinet position. He also said that he wondered why the followers of the First Minister in Parliament did not openly protest again Mr. Dewdney.

He (Sir Richard) held that the Government knew all about the impending troubles, as the Premier had admitted, by advices which Mr. Dewdney had sent them from time to time. The Government of course would not now dare to make that correspondence public, and the Minister of the Interior was silent.

Mr. Mitchell remarked (this time loud enough to be heard out in the lobbies): "His preferment is a just reward for his silence."

The Combines Bill.

The other business of the House consisted of the introduction of a couple of bills, the answering of questions and the consideration of various notices of motion. Clarke Wallace introduced his bill for the prevention and suppression of combinations formed in restraint of trade. The bill, which is as follows, was read a first time:

1. Every person or incorporated company who combines, agrees or arranges with any other person or incorporated company, with any railway, steamship or steamboat or transportation company,

(A.) For granting to any person or any incorporated company who is a party to such combination, agreement or arrangement any facility for the purchase, sale, transportation or supply of any article or commodity which is an object of trade, which facility is by such combination, agreement or arrangement not to be granted to any person who is not a party thereto;

(B.) For denying to any person or incorporated company, who is not a party to such combination, agreement or arrangement any facility for any such purchase, sale, transportation or supply which by the provisions thereof is to be granted to any person who is a party thereto;

(C.) For unreasonably enhancing the market price of an article or commodity which is an object of trade;

(D.) For unduly restraining the traffic in any such article or commodity;

(E.) For limiting, lessening or preventing the production, manufacture, sale or transportation of any such article or commodity;

(F.) For preventing or restricting competition in the production, manufacture, sale or transportation of any such article or commodity:

Is guilty of a misdemeanor and liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding $1000 and not less than $200, or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding twelve months and not less than three months, or to both.

2. Every incorporated company which enters into any such combination, agreement or arrangement as in the next preceding section mentioned, and has been convicted of a misdemeanor under the provisions thereof, shall thereby forfeit its corporate rights and franchises so far as the same have been conferred by or exist in virtue of any law in Canada.

3. Nothing in this act contained shall be construed to modify or affect in any manner Chapter 131 of the Revised Statutes respecting Trades Unions.

To Limit the Rate of Interest.

Mr. Landry re-introduced his bill of last session respecting interest, and it was read a first time. Mr. Landry said the bill was intended to limit the rate of interest which could be charged in Canada. He had his own ideas what that rate should be but he would prefer to obtain an expression of the House before he said what that limit should be.

The Minister of Justice in answer to Mr. Edgar said it was not the intention of the Government at present to propose any legislation this session to repeal or amend the Railway Act in view of the decision of the Supreme Court on Dec. 22 in the case respecting the validity of the statute of Manitoba authorizing the construction of a railway crossing the Canadian Pacific Railway; nor was it the intention of the Government to pass a declaratory act affirming the construction put upon those provisions by the Supreme Court in order to avoid uncertainty as to the state of the law in other cases.

In answer to Mr. Barron the Minister of the Interior said that on December 30, 1886, in the sale of pine timber on Indian Reserve No. 6 of the Shawanakikics' reserves Mr. H. Robillard, M.P., was the purchaser and he paid $316 as a cash bonus for the same.

To the same gentleman, Sir John Macdonald said the commissioners appointed to take evidence in the Trent Valley Canal work had not yet reported.

Several returns moved for by members were ordered by the House. Mr. McMullen wanted copies of certain reports made by homestead inspectors in Manitoba, and the Minister of the Interior said these reports would cost $7500. Mr. McMullen was contented to allow the motion to stand.

There is a lively racket going on in Montreal over the recent examinations of candidates for the office of Hide and Leather Inspector in Montreal, and Mr. Curran moved for all the correspondence in the matter. The Minister of Inland Revenue promised to have the act providing for this and similar examinations looked into by the Minister of Justice as it apparently gives a great deal of dissatisfaction.

Mr. Innes got a motion through for the names and religious denominations of all chaplains of public institutions.

IN DEEP DISGUISE.

Sir Richard's Latest Mask for Unrestricted Reciprocity.

OTTAWA, Feb. 6.—Sir Richard Cartwright will take up the Unrestricted Reciprocity project under a new heading this session. This evening he put the following notice on the paper, which he proposes to move on Tuesday next:

That it has become a matter of extreme importance to the wellbeing of the people of Canada that the Government and Parliament of Canada should acquire the power of negotiating commercial treaties with foreign states. That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty praying that she will empower the Governor-General of Canada, acting by and with the advice of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, to enter by an agent or representative of Canada into direct communication with any foreign state for the purpose of negotiating commercial arrangements tending to the advantage of Canada, subject to the prior consent or subsequent approval of the Parliament of Canada signified by act.

CRISP CAPITAL CHIT-CHAT.

The Old Gentlemen Take a Holiday—Tariff Deputations—Mr. Pope's Illness.

OTTAWA, Feb. 6.—The Senate had a short session to-day, talked over a few points of order, the slowness of the new printing bureau in doing its work, and adjourned till Feb. 20 because there is nothing for it to do.

Lady Macdonald gave an elaborate reception at Earnscliffe this evening in honor of Mme. Albani. Mme. Albani and her husband are the guests of Lady Macdonald during their stay in the Capital.

I learn this evening that Mr. Sam Beatty of Toronto is not an applicant for the vacant International Railway position in Toronto. Mr. Beatty, it is said, would not take the position.

Messrs. McKay and Brown of Hamilton laid a petition before the Minister of Marine to-day for a red range light to be placed at the west end of the south pier at Burlington Canal.

Deputations who want special changes in the tariff continue to interview the Ministers of Customs and Finance.

Hon. J. H. Pope continues so ill that he is unable to take his seat. There are all kinds of gossip about the Minister of Railway's early retirement from the Cabinet.

Thomas Hodgins, Q.C., Master-in-Ordinary at Osgoode Hall, arrived in the city this evening. Mrs. Hodgins and Miss Hodgins have been at the Capital ever since the opening of Parliament.

Mr. Mulock will move the House into committee on Monday to consider a resolution to place artificial fertilizers on the free list.

Mr. McMullen will move for the details of D. O'Connor's (Ottawa) legal bill of $18,880, as shown in the Auditor-General's report, which that gentleman received last year.

Mr. Choquette (Montmagny) is excited about the report that Ras Wiman or some of his friends intend to invite the Parliament of Canada to take a free trip and all talk that undines through the United States. He will ask the Government on Monday if the invitation has been received and who are the inviters.

Mr. Burdett will introduce an act to provide against frauds in supplying milk to cheese and butter factories.

Sir Richard Cartwright will move for a return showing the amounts received on account of the recent loan and the amount of same deposited in Canadian or other banks since July 1, 1888, and the rate of interest on the same.

Mr. Davies will enquire on Friday if it is the intention of the Government to treat the temporary offer made by the British plenipotentiaries to those of the United States at the time of signing the fisheries treaty at Washington in November, 1888, and known as the modus vivendi, as still in force and to issue licenses as therein provided to American fishermen for the fishing season of 1889.

A PLANING MILL BURNED DOWN.

Chandler's Establishment Razed to the Ground—Other Fires.

One of those fires which fortunately are a rarity in Toronto broke out at 288 Markham-street last night. The building was a planing mill owned by R. H. Chandler. There is little doubt that the flames originated in the engine room and the inflammable nature of the material in the building combined with the high wind of last night made it impossible for the almost efforts of the brigade to do more than keep the flames from spreading to adjacent buildings. The planing mill was totally destroyed.

An alarm was rung from box 76 yesterday at 7.30 p.m., that fire had broken out in an unoccupied cottage at 146 Centre-street. The damage is estimated at $50. Some boys had started a fire in a shed and the flames spread to the cottage.

At 2.10 p.m. yesterday the firemen were called out to extinguish a chimney on fire in Way's Lane.

The Greatest Season Yet.

The World had a talk yesterday with Passenger Agent Callaway and Colonization Agent Northwood of the C. P. R. Both said the correspondence now in their hands promised by far the largest emigration from Ontario into Manitoba and the Northwest ever yet known. Not less than 30,000 settlers were sure to go in from this quarter. Thousands of Ontario farmers would make the bulk of the movement. On Tuesday, Mr. Callaway despatched the first train load of live stock, mostly farm horses. On the 26th of this month the first regular colonization train will be started, and not less than one a week thereafter.

The C. P. R., the Manitoba Government, and some of the land concerns are all now actively at work in getting settlers. And they are helped most of all by the satisfactory statements sent back by those who have already located. As Brer Callaway puts it, "The Northwest will hum this summer and don't you forget it."

The Central Bank and the Herr Piano Company.

Before Judge Macdougall yesterday the case of Howland v. Badenach was partly heard, and adjourned till Saturday. It is a Central Bank claim against the Herr Piano Company. Liquidators W. H. Howland, William Gooderham and Henry Lye affirm, and William Badenach, liquidator for the Herr Piano Company, denies that the Central Bank liquidators were, on April 25, 1888, entitled to rank upon the estate of the Herr Piano Company for the sum of $25,334, mentioned in the claim of the Central Bank liquidators filed with Mr. Badenach at that time.

The Elite" Scroll Cut Cigarettes.

Where to Draw the Line.

A local wholesale merchant well posted in Ottawa told The World yesterday that the Postoffice authorities were considering the question of advertising sheets. Under the present arrangement anything in the shape of a publication secures free transmission through the mails, but latterly as advertising talkers have taken advantage of this to flood the country with their schemes the department is feeling the necessity of drawing the line somewhere, and it is just where the line ought to be drawn that is puzzling the Hon the Postmaster-General.

The woman's friend. Petroleum Soap.

Ayrshire Cattle Men.

The third annual meeting of the Dominion Ayrshire Breeders' Association was opened at the Albion Hotel yesterday afternoon with President Geo. McCormick in the chair. Secretary Henry Wade reported that although the standard of admission to the Herd Book had been raised the entries were freely increasing, and that there was every hope that their favorite breed would soon become the leading dairy cattle. The Herd Book now numbers 618 bulls and 1243 cows.

Piccadilly Turkish Cross Cut Cigarettes

Furs are Needed.

With the mercury away down below zero and a Manitoba blizzard raging in our midst there is nothing needed more than furs. With the advantages that are offered by Dineen the public have no reason to complain. The Dineen firm offer all their stock at cost, which embrace the finest class of manufactured goods for ladies and gentlemen. The store is on corner King and Yonge-streets.

The Grand "Carnival Star," our "sixth" shipment, just to hand. The demand is enormous. Buy a copy and send it to your friends. Winnifrith Bros., 6 & 8 Toronto-street.

Ancient Time Pieces.

Valuable watches, no matter how old, remodeled and modernized, by inserting the most perfect escapement and compensation balance known in horology. E. Beetch high-grade watch specialist, opposite Post-office. 246

OUR PROVINCIAL SOLONS.

ANOTHER DAY'S RECORD OF THEIR ONEROUS LABORS.

Although There are Many Absentees, Petitions, Bills and Notices Fail Not to Put in an Appearance—The Ontario Factory Act Passes Its Second Reading.

The session of the Legislature yesterday was brief and the business transacted was not of great importance. A lull in the flow of bills and petitions was apparent, and the time of the House was chiefly occupied by Hon. Mr. Fraser explaining the amendments to the Ontario Factory Act, which passed the second reading.

A Pile of Petitions.

The Legislature has been in session only four working days, and though the attings have been noticeably brief, the foundation for a large amount of small work has been laid. For instance, the petitions received asking for the amendment of provincial and municipal laws have been large in number. No less than 55 have been presented to the House asking the abolition of tax exemptions, 10 have been presented asking amendments to the Hawkers' Act; a similar number request that County Councils be allowed to appoint their own police magistrates, jailors and other officials; 10 ask improvement in educational matters; 7 ask the publication of assessment rolls; 6 ask for $600 exemptions; 8 ask amendments to the Factories Act, and 8 more ask a stringent act regarding the inspection of boilers. No less than 150 petitions have been presented during the past four working days from all parts of the province asking improvements to provincial laws and the removal of grievances under which the people are laboring.

To Amend the Factories Act.

Mr. Fraser's bill to amend the Ontario Factories Act was read a second time yesterday:

Several changes to the present reading of the act are proposed. Section 6 of the principal act is amended by omitting the word "child" wherever it occurs in said section between but not including the seventh and eighteenth lines, and inserting instead the word "boy." As the act now reads employers may assume that both boys and girls under 14 years of age may be employed. The amendment makes the clause state definitely that only boys under that age may be employed. Section 8 of the principal act is amended by omitting the words "nor shall the time fixed by this act for meals be diminished," and inserting instead the words "and that during the continuance of such exemption there shall, in addition to the hour for the noon-day meal provided for in this act, be allowed to every woman, young girl or child employed in the factory on any day to an hour later than seven o'clock in the afternoon, not less than forty-five minutes for another or evening meal between 5 and 8 o'clock in the afternoon. The bill also makes other minor amendments provides that women may during July, August, September and October be employed to a later hour than 9 o'clock in any factory where the operations carried on relate to and are exclusively such as may be necessary for the canning or desiccating of fruits or vegetables, but no woman shall be employed during these months to a later hour than 9 o'clock for more than twenty days in the whole.

The Druggists' Combine.

Premier Mowat will on Friday introduce a bill to amend the Pharmacy Act. This bill was presented to a committee of doctors in the House a few days ago. They on examining its provisions found that it excluded capitalists from putting money in drug business unless they were themselves druggists. On Monday a deputation of drug men met the committee who had charge of the bill, and they agreed to modify it in such a way as to allow capital from any quarter to be invested in a drug store provided that the dispenser of drugs is himself a qualified druggist.

An Important Amendment.

Mr. Woods' bill to amend the Registry Act is a sensible measure. It is to enact that all payments on mortgages for which receipts are given may, when the receipts are presented, be registered in the registry office. This will provide against the loss of receipts or delays which may occur in the production of papers. Another advantage which will be derived if the bill passes is: If a man has a mortgage of $1000 on his house and agrees to make yearly payments of $100 on it, he will get credit for every payment, instead of having the mortgage standing against his credit until the full amount is paid up.

Tit For Tat.

Mr. Metcalf yesterday presented a petition asking an amendment to the game law, allowing the shooting of migratory birds, particularly the various species of ducks, which breed in the United States and take their flight north in the spring. The petitioners complain that American sportsmen drive the Canadian game by various devices into American territory, and under their game laws they are allowed to kill them as migratory birds. The Canadian sportsmen therefore ask that they may be allowed to retaliate.

Raising the Standard.

Hon. Mr. Gibson presented a return respecting high schools and collegiate institutes, authorizing the establishment of a second high school in the city of Toronto and of the proposed high school in Parkdale and Aurora; the sale of certain lands in connection with the Stratford Collegiate Institute, the raising of the Lindsay High School to the status of a collegiate institute and the sale of certain lands in connection with the Brockville High School Board.

For Sweet Charity's Sake.

The House yesterday ratified the orders-in-Council which were approved last year providing that the Home for the Aged, Ottawa, be taken under the Charity Act and receive aid from October, 1887; that the Refuge Branch of the Orphans' Home, Ottawa, be also taken and receive aid from October, 1887; that the Convalescent Home, Toronto, be also taken and granted aid at the rate of 15 cents per diem from Sept. 30, 1887; that the Church Home for the Aged, Toronto, receive aid from Oct. 1 and hereafter; and the St. John's Hospital, Toronto, be granted aid at the rate of 15 cents per day from October, 1886.

Pelee Island Electors.

If an election takes place on Pelee Island during the spring, fall or winter it is difficult to give the returning officers instructions or to obtain returns. Mr. Balfour yesterday introduced a bill to amend the election law enabling the returning officers on Pelee Island to receive instructions by telephone during the seasons when it is impossible to send them by mail. This is done when elections are held on Magdalen Islands in winter. The instructions are given the returning officers by telegraph. On Pelee Island there are 125 electors.

The Pertinacious Georgites and Their Pet Project.

A deputation from the Young Men's Liberal Club waited on the Government yesterday. The delegates were S. T. Wood, Richard Donald, jr., H. N. Cleland, W. A. Douglass, T. S. Lyon, J. M. Clark and T. Wallace. Although they represented a purely political organization they brought up the old $600 tax exemption question. This is precisely the same matter as was brought to the attention of the Cabinet some months ago when a deputation from the Anti-Poverty Society waited on the Attorney-General in his office. Then Mr. C. F. Fraser talked to the deputation. Yesterday Mr. A. S. Hardy had that privilege. One of the Ministers said sotto voce, "What have we done to deserve this?"

The members of the deputation are really anxious to get a bill through the House which will amend the Assessment Act so as to allow municipalities to exempt dwelling houses to the extent of $600.

Mr. S. T. Wood was the principal spokesman and he adduced the now well-known arguments in favor of the scheme in a lucid manner. Mr. Douglass and others followed. Members of the deputation explained to the Attorney-General that the scheme would reduce the amount of assessable property in the city by $12,000,000.

The $600 tax exemption, men say they will continue to bring the question before the Government until their object is attained.

Rev. Dr. Potts and some other enthusiastic College Federationists saw various M.P.P.'s yesterday with a view to raising funds for the Federation scheme. Said a World reporter to the Doctor yesterday: "I suppose you still want to get Victoria College here?"

"Oh, yes," said the reverend gentleman, "that's what we intend to do."

Festive Rally at the Reform Club.

Hon. A. S. Hardy, Commissioner of Crown Lands, entertained a party of 35 gentlemen at dinner at the Reform Club last evening. The guests were chiefly composed of Government supporters in the Legislature and prominent members of the Liberal party.

Gallery Chat.

Col. Gillmor will entertain his staff and friends at dinner on Friday evening.

A petition from James Sharp and a half hundred others praying that no act be passed to legalize the purchase of grounds for a cemetery in Galt was received.

The Standing Orders Committee meets this morning.

THE LATE CANON STREET.

How He Delivered His Message in Canada Back in the 40's.

Rev. George Charles Street, canon of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul, Chicago, died at Winter Park, Florida, on Sunday. Rev. Canon Street was born in Devonshire, England, August 1, 1814, and moved to Canada with his father in 1832, his theological education being obtained in this country. When a young man he lived for some time in Hamilton, and was afterwards rector of the Anglican Church in Newmarket. He moved to Belleview, Ia., in 1854, and successfully conducted that parish a number of years. In 1864 he moved to Chicago, and four years afterwards was created canon of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul. He stood very high in the estimation of the people of Chicago, being noted for his benevolence and devotedness to his sacred calling. Rev. Mr. Street was the brother of Mrs. James Campbell and Mrs. Reid, wife of Rev. Dr. Reid of this city, and uncle of Mr. Justice Street, Osgoode Hall, and Dr. Stark of Hamilton.

In a letter written by the Canon no later than last October in reference to his work in Canada he says:

I first entered upon my ministerial life as a traveling missionary in the backwoods of Canada. I think it must have been in the latter part of the summer of 1840, when I was consequently nearly 27 years of age, that I entered upon my duties as incumbent of the township of Emily and surrounding country. I took with me my bride of a few weeks—who, by the mercy of God, is still spared to walk by my side along the down-hill of life; and we took up our abode in a small cottage close to Cottingham's sawmill, and facing an open space that lay between us and the main road that traversed the village. I well remember how, in the long winter nights, after we had retired to rest, we would hear the deep baying of the wolves, echoing dreadfully across the frozen and snow-covered surface. Previous, however, to my appointment to Emily, I had occasionally—more frequently—visited it in the capacity of traveling missionary in the Newcastle District, and, to the best of my recollection, a mutual understanding existed that, in the event of my attachment, grew up in this way between the people and myself.

My sphere of duty was a wide one, embracing in one direction Lindsay, Bobcaygeon and Fenelon Falls, and in another Grafton, Colborne, Seymour, Ashpodel, Dummer and other localities the names of which have long ago faded from my recollection. These journeys were made on horseback, the only possible mode of locomotion, aside from walking, that was available in the then existing condition of the backwoods roads, except of course in winter, when I used a cutter.

My "set up" on the occasion of my expeditions was as elaborate as circumstances would allow. On each side of the saddle hung a saddlebag, one of which was well filled with prayer-books, testaments, and tracts; the other held the changes of raiment which exposure to heat and cold and storms rendered imperatively necessary. Behind my saddle was strapped, in a small round leather case, some clerical vestment or other, and thus equipped I sallied forth to deliver my message.

In speaking of Canon Street Rt. Rev. W. E. McLaren, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago, said: "He was a fine type of the old English gentleman. His charity for the weaknesses and needs of his brethren was wonderful. He seldom had a harsh word to say to any one, and during his long career in the ministry he gained hosts of friends among both the clergy and the laity. You can not speak too highly of the noble rectitude of his life, his great deeds of charity, and his wonderfully sympathetic and kindly nature." He leaves a wife and four grown children, two sons and two daughters.

Toronto Silver Quartette to-night, Shaftesbury Hall.

BANK CLEARING HOUSE.

Its Establishment in Toronto to be Discussed by the Bankers.

It is understood that the advisability of establishing a bank clearing house in Toronto similar to that recently established in Montreal and to those already in operation in other large commercial centres on this continent will be discussed by the bankers of this city.

The same question came up before the bankers' section of the Board of Trade some years ago, but was shelved for the time being. There was a feeling, not expressed but well understood, that should the clearing house be established it would have tested the strength of the Central Bank rather severely.

If the clearing house in Montreal gives satisfaction the Toronto bankers will most probably organize one much on the same lines.

Piccadilly Turkish Cross Cut Cigarettes.

TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT.

The Book Trade Moving on the Dominion Government.

The book trade is once more up in arms against the Customs Department of the Dominion. A petition is in process of preparation protesting against what is claimed to be the unfair discrimination shown in favor of private citizens as against the dealers in the matter of certain periodicals being allowed into the Dominion duty free, when consigned in single numbers to the former, whereas the dealers are compelled to pay heavily for the privilege of selling them. The chief point in the petition is that this discrimination militates against the dealer in that it prevents the customer sending in his order to the local firm because he can get the periodical, not only cheaper by sending to the States for it, but has it delivered at his residence or office through the post.

Alfred Borroughs' entertainment tonight, Shaftesbury Hall.

The Bailiffs of the Province.

The second annual meeting of Division Court Bailiffs of Ontario was largely attended. Mr. J. C. Widdifield of Uxbridge, the president, was in the chair. Inspector Dickie addressed the association on the duties of bailiffs. The constitution and bylaws of the association were amended and adopted. Many questions of interest to bailiffs were discussed. The treasurer, A. S. Van Dusen, Flesherton, read his report, which was satisfactory. Following are the officers for the current year: President, J. C. Widdifield, Uxbridge; 1st Vice-President, A. M. Buchanan, Picton; 2nd Vice-President, John McDougall, Bowmanville; Secretary-Treasurer, A. S. Van Dusen, Flesherton. Standing Committee—J. C. Widdifield, Uxbridge; J. S. Clement, St. Catharines; George Broddy, Brampton; John McDougall, Bowmanville; J. W. Crossley, Kmr City, and A. M. Buchanan. The meeting adjourned to meet at the St. James Hotel, Toronto, on the first Wednesday in August.

The Nipissing and James Bay R. R.

The Attorney-General has fixed to-morrow immediately on the rising of the House as the time when he will receive a deputation from the various railways interested in opening up the northern portion of Ontario. Mr. W. B. McMurrich has written to the Mayor asking on behalf of the Nipissing and James Bay Railway that a deputation of the City Council be on hand on the occasion, further stating that the City Council of Hamilton and the Toronto Board of Trade will be represented.

BEACH AGAIN IN THE BOX.

THE EX-FENIAN TELLS ABOUT TORPEDOES AND TALK.

An Irish Priest Praises Inspector Martin's Murderers—Milkman Barrett Rearrested for the Bradford Tragedy—Austrian Prelates Disagree.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—At the session of the Parnell Commission to-day Beach continued his evidence. He said that Breslin was paid for building a submarine torpedo boat which proved to be a failure. Another firm built a boat which lay on the New Jersey side of New York harbor four or five months, but was not used against British ships.

Attorney-General Webster quoted from The Irish Nation extracts from a speech made by Father Sheehy, who advocated abolition of landlordism and said he would give no quarter in Ireland until the country was nationally independent. The speech was delivered Jan. 3, 1882, and O'Connor and Healy were present.

Witness said he received from the directory a circular giving a report of the convention. The circular stated that the doctrine which the convention adopted was that the people living under an unnatural government and wishing to be under a natural one were entitled to overthrow the unnatural and establish a natural government.

At this point Mr. Parnell appeared in court. His entrance created a sensation. The witness looked steadily at Parnell for several moments.

Continuing, witness said he sent copies of all documents of the Brotherhood to the English Government at no time, since then they had not been in this possession. Sullivan, he said, went to England in 1882 and remained there two months.

The Attorney-General: "Howid d you know?"

Witness: "By the underground telegraph."

The Attorney-General: "What is that?"

Witness: "Through associating with those in the confidence of the Brotherhood. Of my own knowledge I know that Sullivan went to England."

Witness said Sullivan upon returning from England made a statement to him. Sir Charles Russell objected to the reception of this statement and Justice Hannen said the question in its present form was inadmissible. The witness, on Sir Charles request, left the court room. Justice Hannen said if the question had been formed to elicit an answer to the effect that there was any arrangement come to regarding something to be done in the future then it was obvious that a statement of what had occurred might legitimately form a part of the answer to such a question.

When the witness returned Attorney-General Webster asked: "Did you converse with Sullivan regarding plans for future warfare?"

Witness: "Yes."

The Attorney-General: "Did Sullivan refer to what passed with any of the leaders in the United Kingdom?"

Witness: "Yes, later in the day."

Father Coveney's Prayer.

DUBLIN, Feb. 6.—It is stated that constables have gone to Clonmel with a warrant to remove William O'Brien to Killarney. O'Brien has requested the Mayor of Clonmel not to give reports concerning his health until there is a material change in his treatment.

Father Coveney, referring in a speech at Skibbereen to the arrest of Father McFadden and the killing of Inspector Martin at Gweedore, said the people murdered by the police at Youghal, Middleton and Michellstown had now been avenged. "May Almighty God," exclaimed Father Coveney, "strengthen the hand that murdered Martin." Father Coveney's utterances were cheered.

The Government Leader.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—Although the Rt. Hon. William Henry Smith will resume the Government leadership in the House of Commons upon the reas sembling of Parliament, it is now certain that he will very shortly be elevated to the peerage. Before Mr. Smith's transfer to the House of Lords the firm of Smith & Son, news vendors, of which he is the head, will become a limited company under a new name.

Mr. Sartoris' Will.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—By the terms of the will of Mr. Edward Sartoris, father of Algernon Sartoris, the husband of Nellie Grant, his entire fortune, valued at £145,000, is bequeathed to his son during his life, and at his death to his wife, absolutely.

Milkman Barrett Re-arrested.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—Barrett, the milkman, has been re-arrested at Bradford on the strength of the verdict of the coroner's jury, which charges him with the murder of the boy John Gill.

A Steamer Sunk With All on Board.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—The British bark Largo Bay, bound for Auckland, was towed to Spithead to-day in a sinking condition. She reports that on Monday night last she was in collision with an unknown four-masted steamer off Beachy Head, that the steamer was sunk with all on board. The seamen of the Largo Bay say they are certain that the lost steamer carried passengers and they estimate that the crew and passengers, together numbered over 100 persons. The steamer sank 8 minutes after the collision occurred.

The Prelates Disagree.

VIENNA, Feb. 6.—Some of the Austrian and Hungarian prelates, in accordance with the dictates of the Church, refuse to hold memorial services on the ground that Prince Rudolph committed suicide, while the leading bishops and archbishops order services to be conducted on the ground that he was temporarily insane when he committed the act. It is reported that the Pope will take the latter view, and issue instructions accordingly.

It is rumored that the Emperor will shortly publish an address to the people.

The Emperor has decided to devote the interest of 4,000,000 florins to the maintenance of Crown Princess Stephanie.

A Protectionist Motion Rejected.

MADRID, Feb. 6.—The Senate to-day by a vote of 66 to 53 rejected the motion of Senator Cuesta, a protectionist, to raise the import duties on cereals.

Rescued From the Sea.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The schooner James E.