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CORNER QUEEN AND REGENT STREETS,

THE HERALD.

FREDERICTON, APRIL 1, 1893.

THE SCHOOL DISCUSSION.

The Bathurst school question has been so far decided that it has been accorded by the whole house that hon, Mr. Blair and his government have been exonerated from all blame. The friends of the premier had that full faith in his integrity and love of fair play to know that he would truckle to no party or denomination and felt certain that the base and insidious charges made by "Pitts and his gang," this regard, surely it must be that the were false in every particular, but it law had been well and faithfully carried required the statements of honorable opposition members on the floors of the house to convince those whose passions have been more or less aroused by the fact that the school was sectarian. What slanderous circulars and statements made in the interests of the present representatives of York. Such statements will be taught in a building which had been in found in the reports of the speeches in another column. Dr. Stockton, the leader of the opposition, said in his speech of the law came into operation the trustees Wednesday "The Bathurst trouble rested had secured the Baptist seminary. Would with the trustees." Mr. Powell said: "These regulations should not be in-

terfered with." Compare these statements with those of Pitts who endeavored but miserably failed to show that the government and board of education had so changed the regulations or adopted new ones that the Bathurst school trouble was the direct outcome and that Mr. Blair was openly supporting the Catholics at Bathurst for the sake of political capital.

The speech made by the hon. Mr. Blair will convince the fair minded reader that so far as the government and himself are concerned, everything possible has been done to carry on the schools according to the law and in a way best conserving the been elected by the people of York on false issues. He appealed to the worst passions of the electors; he made those who had not good opportunities of studying the question for themselves believe that Catholics were teaching in the public schools without license, that they taught protestant children the Roman Catholic catechism and endeavored to make them subserve to Catholic rites and auctrine. He may not have told his hearers so in so many words but these were the impressions that followed his campaign speeches. He assailed the Catholics for no possible reason except that he was opposed to to have the Catholic marriage law rescinded. He did not explain, however, paper, speaking of the Roman Catholics, gives a good idea of his bigotry: "In every state and community where it is at all possible, this church has interfered with the public schools, yet there are people who imagine that concessions to them would be just. But they care nothing for justice and fairness. They want everything, they insist on having everything. The rights of other people are nothing to them." Is this not a respectible position for a representative of York to take? This is from a man who speaks of equal rights to all. Is it not that of a man who out of boundless ignorance and intolerance seeks to procure favors from one class by the destruction of another.

Not only did he go through York with his vile circulars, well named "Anarchist Bombs," but he had the audacity, he and his minions, to follow the premier to Queens. Here his scandalous methods failed as they would have in York if the have watched him and his methods during and since the election.

clauses of the petitions sent in.

The whole house, both government and rival they sent notices to Mr. Thomson to opposition, have taken up the matter and say it will be settled to the satisfaction of all.

they will very likely give Pitts the full measure of his deserts.

RESPECTING a Dominion liberal convenof the party during the past year has been a matter of general comment. For a long time the liberal leaders have been prostestof trade through the medium of tariff reduction and reciprocity arrangements; but the public mind seemed slow to move, and until recently the forces of restriction, backed by such devices as the gerry-mander, the franchise act and the unscrupulous use of the control over public expenditure, were too powerful to be overcome. So far as policy is concerned, it is likely that the main subject for consideration at the convention will be the best means of lightening the taxation of the country and of removing burdens

BATHURST QUESTION.

THE HERALD PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO been on the part of the former government as well as this government every disposition to repair the wrong. He (Blair) had never countenanced a violation of the law and he challenged the ago. gentleman opposite to show that the board of education had failed in this

way in the slightest degree. Complaints were constantly being received of misconduct of various kinds on the part of teachers and were examined into, but no complaints of religious instructions had ever been received. If the parents of the children during all these vears had had no reason to complain in investigation. out. He could not see that the fact that a school was taught by a Presbyterian minister or Catholic sister established the constituted a sectarian school? Neither was a school sectarian because it was whole or in part occupied by any religious denomination. Here in Fredericton when anybody be so childish as to claim that that made the school sectarian?

Mr. Powell-Such complaints appear to me as trifling. Are there any complaints about sectarian teaching?

been a member of the board of education this county inflame. He would have a of being indifferent to the matter, or of thought that any member of this house having held a one sided or ex parte in-

seen that the matter of school buildings | Thompson saying that the arrangement was entirely within the authority of the he himself had suggested and the other trustees and the board of education had parties agreed to he would withdraw. no right to dictate to them either as to the building or the teacher chosen. They could only supervise these matters so as to see that no violation of the law was per- or myself by reading them now. mitted. If the board went beyond that they would be open to the grave charge of interfering with the privileges of the people. The law wisely recognizes that

the trustees familiar as they were with the need of the locality were best fitted to

determine these questions. Hon. Mr. Blair said he proposed to deal people had had the matter placed hon- with the Bathurst question as a separate estly and clearly before them. He is matter. The mover of the resolution had now a butt of ridicule and is receiving the only referred to it incidentally. What he contempt and scorn of all of those who | (Pitts) had said was that sisters of charity were allowed to teach and the trustees allowed to rent the convent building, which There is one thing, however, that may facts taken together he (Pitts) claimed be said in his favor, he is only a tool in proved that there were sectarian schools do not exonerate the board of trustees of vicinity when Protestants arrived; call the hands of others, who far from en- in operation in this province. He thought Bathurst from all criticism. I think they deavoring to promote the best interests of | that he had now dealt pretty thoroughly the province are inspired by malice and with every aspect of this question, with petty spite. His speech as it appears in the exception of the particular difficulty the Reporter is evidence of that fact. at Bathurst. It had been said that a Though carefully prepared and placed in memorial was presented by the people of his hands some time since that he might | Bathurst but that the board of education | become familiar with it yet his exhaust- paid no attention to these appeals, except less ignorance caused him to pretend the what had been called the one-sided exspeech was his own, and instead of read- amination held in Bathurst last winter. ing it as the writer intended he inter- The matter of the complaint of the Bathspersed it with the most egregious urst petitioners had given the board the blunders. It must have been a sorry utmost concern. They felt that it was of spectacle for residents of York that which the greatest importance that the disturbance that had arisen should be allayed He will no doubt claim that it was a re- and any grievances removed. It was not sult of his speech that the question came | true that they paid no heed to the comup in the house, but it is not necessary to plaint of the petitioners. It was true they are not trained in business. deny it. The reason that the question did not immediately deal with the matter, was discussed was two-fold, on account but at the very first meeting of the board, of the petitions signed by voters in each | when the memorial was brought to their

county and that the evidence gleaned by notice, they appointed a committee with the commission which visited Bathurst instructions to proceed to Bathurst and might be laid before the members. This get the fullest information in regard to would have been discussed at this sest the whole question and report to the he feels that a very grave outrage is perber be rescinded? The Protestants and Cathosion if Pitts had never been heard of. board. He believed the memorial was It will show the mental calibre of Pitts | handed in about the middle of Decemwhen it is considered that he voted ber, 1890, but it was not laid before the against his own motion. He moved on | board until May, 1891. Quite a length of Monday - we give one clause of the time before the month of May elapsed, motion: "With power to examine per- when there was no meeting of the board The question which was simply one of his duty to move a resolution declaring

Pitts, however, is out of it entirely. The and his friends who might desire to meet opposition will have none of him, his colwith them at the village school room at the facts for himself, he will conclude it is made the most strenuous efforts to settle leagues are disgusted with him and he an hour named. When the hour arrived largely a question of taxation. There has it, the chief superintendent demanding may take the unction to his soul that he Mr. Thomson appeared upon the scene. is, without doubt, one of the least res- At first he had refused to attend, but after ation: that by reason of the small num- grant would be withdrawn. Regulation pected men in the house and assuredly in the committee sent him another pressing ber of protestants and large number of 10 had been passed expressly to deal with There is no disposition to find fault them. Mr. Thomson was supported by a be maintained to satisfy the protestants with the Orange body of which Pitts is a number of his friends, and inspector and the teacher in that superior school member. That organization believed the Mersereau was also present. All the has to take more grades than he ought; statements which were laid before them statements which each party had to make but that condition seems to be irremed-to the Hon. Sir Leonard Tilley, the chairand as a result many of them assisted in were heard and taken down by a steno- ible. You cannot wipe out the con- man, to the chief superintendent of eduelecting Pitts. Now that they have heard grapher, so that they could be preserved, ditions that exist there. The best any cation and to the chancellor of the univeror read the judgment of the whole house and that report was being copied as government can do is to adopt what tion the Toronto Globe says: "The event will probably be fixed for the first of would be known, and if possible that a either side. The chief superintendent could it be possible that he was so ignorant The improvement in the prospects remedy might be suggested. Mr. Thom- has taken all the means at his command of the tacts of the case as to have no ing against the exactions of the tariff, and have been working for the emancipation and Mr Mersereau the inspector and Mr. Mersereau the inspector.

> reasonable notice? Hon. Mr. Blair - They had.

invitation from myself at least. Mr. Stockton - At what time? from trade, agriculture and manufacturing invitation at what hour we could meet industry. With an attractive leadership, him and he appeared. He refused to made here of the regulations of the board had been charged with playing into the him and he appeared. He refused to made here of the regulations of the board had been charged with playing into the

amination at Bathurst.)

Mr. Stockton - What was the date?

Thompson Withdraws

Hon. Mr. Blair-We were led to believe that a regulation of that kind might contribute towards a solution of the trouble, but at that time there was no such regulation in existence. We have addressed ourselves as faithfully, honestly and thoroughly to the consideration of the Bathurst school question and to the adoption of remedial measures as I think it would be possible for the board to do, and on the very same occasion when we met the gentlemen whose names I have mentioned here representing the district for and aginst the existing arrangement, after we concluded our interview with them we went over to the town of Bathurst and there notified the gentlemen who had Hon, Mr. Blair-Never since I have signed the memorial and had taken an active part in the agitation that we would has there been a solitary complaint that be glad to meet them in the evening. anything like sectarian or denominational | They declined to meet us. I sent a note to teaching had been carried on in any of rev. Mr. Allen, who was a leading spirit, the schools. The whole basis of the pre- but he declined to come or submit any sent complaint was that the sisters were suggestions to the committee. We were, allowed to teach in St. John, Fredericton, therefore, only able to hear from the and Bathurst, and to teach in buildings people of the village of Bathurst. But as rented by the trustees that were formerly I said, we addressed ourselves to this convent schools. Could any cry be more question as carefully as possible. We contemptible than that with which to set were not, and are not, open to the charge

would be ashamed to voice such a charge. vestigation. We recognized, as stated in Mr. Powell-Is that the actual charge? our report, the serious nature of the diffi-Hon. Mr. Blair said the hon. member culty, and I think we have struck accuhad not been present when the member rately at the causes of the difficulty in the for York formulated his indictment or he village of Bathurst. The chief superinwould not have asked that question. That | tendent, since the report and suggestions was the whole platform upon which these | made to him from time to time, has visitgentleman were elected, and they did right to give utterance to the views they studied the question on the ground, as I were sent to express. He was glad to think that you will find that in the papers know that there was at least one gentle- that are brought here, including the correman in the opposition (Mr. Powell) who spondence which passed between him and had no sympathy with this platform. The the board of school trustees in both town hon. member for York had clearly based and village, in reference to the matter. his grievance on the fact that convent- The late superintendent went over to ual buildings were used and paid for out of Bathurst and you will see in the returns the public money, and therefore that that he went there almost immediately these schools were sectarian. He did not after the first growing up of this difficulty politics. The following paragraph from his think there was any school house in any to meet the trustees and the complainants country district in the province that was and he left feeling he had solved the not used for Sunday school when there trouble. An arrangement was proposed was no church in the neighborhood. to the people and rev. Mr. Thompson and What would be thought of our Catholic others acting with him agreed to a certain brethern if they should raise the cry of settlement of the trouble, but not long sectarian schools as to that matter. By after his return the late chief superintendreference to regulation 10 it would be ent received a communication from Mr.

> Mr. Powell - Are the letters here? Hon. Mr. Blair - The letters are all here. I am not going to weary the house Mr. Stockton - Was it not the trustees

who raised the difficulty? Hon. Mr. Blair - I am prepared to say it was not they but Mr. Thompson who withdrew from the arrangement. I have been led to the conclusion that Mr. Thomson wanted a grievance more than anything else. The board of education and the government have been treated by that gentleman in the most unfair way. He has put forth statements which are not accurate. He has taken every means in his power to inflame the public mind, and has acted in every other way than a gentleman connected with the church and filling his position ought to have done. I have been both to blame. I think there has been a want of conciliatory disposition on both sides. It arose in the first place, and is yet in substance and fact simply a question of taxation. Probably the district is called upon to pay \$120 to \$150 more than it should be called upon to pay. I do not accept Mr. Sellar's statement in preference to my own knowledge. We went over to ascertain the facts and I think the committee as capable as Mr. Sellar of ascertaining the facts. Clergymen are about the last people in the commun ity, the majority of them at all events, to deal with a question that requires calm reflective business like treatment. They

There are many who are not open to Sellar has been referred to. He has Bathurst, but hon. members can easily speak one way or the other. perceive that a gentleman situated as one sons under oath, etc." On Wednesday he voted that witnesses should not be exThe committee appointed at the meeting of the committee appointed at the committee appoint consisted of the provincial secretary, the school rates, has developed in the hands squarely. The hon. member (Stockton) This is a fact, he voted against not only surveyor general, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Ryan of gentlemen whom I am free to say have had repeatedly in his speech quoted the his own motion but one of the principal and himself. As soon as possible the had in their minds other ends than the leader of the government as saying that committee went to Bathurst and on arinvitation, he consented to meet with Catholic children, a superior school has to the difficulty. house. All parties were urged to make for the purpose of restoring amicable deavored to grapple with the difficulty. the fullest possible statement before this | feeling and getting the people to abate | The hon. member (Stockton) stated that son made several long statements. Mr. to endeavor to get these matters settled. opinion at all? Had he not been con-

meet him. He made no complaint that we have fully discussed all the regulations he had not had all the opportunity he and matters of which we are put in full desired to be heard, and he did not inti- possession, if it should transpire that any mate to us that there was any further light is required upon a special branch of this country if he was qualified to teach information he wished to place before the the subject, then it is quite competent and taught in conformity with the law. committee. It is said here we took no for the house to express its desire that in-That was all that the board of education action upon the memorial, but we did formation of that character should be obneed trouble themselves about; all that take action. We came to a conclusion, tained, and under the law it is competent their duty required them to enquire into. and I will now read to the house what for the government to appoint some one In case of infractions of the law there had that conclusion was. (Reads report of ex- to go there during recess and take the evidence of everybody on oath and bring that evidence before the house at another Hon. Mr. Blair - We met as appears session. But we submit that there is here, the latter part of February a year | before the house ample material to enable it to decide whether there are any Mr. Powell calls attention to the fact | regulations of the board which ought to that he cannot understand how Mr. Blair be canceled; whether there are any takes the ground that the board had no changes in any orders passed relating to right to interfere when the regulation the public schools which suggest themhad been passed that public school build- selves to this house, and it will afford the ings must be occupied to their full extent government great pleasure to have the before additional buildings shall be leased. members on both sides avail themselves Hon. Mr. Blair - That regulation was of the information afforded, and state made since that and in consequence of our | their views frankly and fairly wherever they think there is ground for complain or criticism. We are not aware that any action we have taken does not commend itself to public favor or of having in any way infringed upon the non sectarian character of the school law. But if these gentlemen have the courage of their convictions and have any views they desire to promulgate let them come before the house and submit their views and let the country hear their arguments! It is not a question of this government, or that whether this board or another shall administer educational affairs. The question is, what is in the best interests of the province and what do the majority of its people require? I am ready to submit myself to the opinion of the country. The

> the fullest investigation. If by the verdict of the people's representatives here or by that of the people when we again have to refer to them, it should be determined that we have been conferring privileges upon one class and withholding them from another; if we have been violating in any way that section of the school law which provides that schools shall be non-sectarian we must pay the penalty. As far as I am capable of forming an opinion on this question I think the men that have set this agitation afloat will fail to produce one title of evidence upon which to found their charge. We have done our duty fairly to the protestant people of the country and to the Catholic people as well, and if the time should come when this question shall be submitted to the people of this country in its nakedness. truthfully, fairly, and frankly, and as a result of that this government should fall, I would not ask, as a representative of the people or as a member of the government to go down in a juster fight or engage in what I conceive to be a worthier struggle than in endeavoring to do what is just, fair and right by all classes of our people, conferring special favors upon none, but assuring equal rights to all.

board of education has no reason to fear

A Telegram. The debate on the school question was resumed by a short speech from Dr. Stockton during which he said he wanted it distinctly understood that he was taking sides with neither party in this agita

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said the leader of the opposition had made one of the most inncere speeches he had ever heard. The petitioners had left their grievance in sorry hands when they relied upon the hon, gentleman. The petitioners asked that the agreement of 1875 should be rescinded, but the hon. gentleman had dodged the question. He had denied the charge of seeking to stir up religious strife, but what about the unholy partnership he had entered into with the firebrand from York (Pitts) and his fanatical followers in the Queens campaign? The government had been harrassed by a guerilla warfare; now they would force their enemies to surrender or else take the field. The leader of the opposition was crying "Peace, peace," but his organs throughout the province were fanning the flame all the time. What did the house think of the following telegram which the attorney general had received: "BATHURST, March 28. - On verge of riot this morning; door of private school upon government for protection.

(Loud laughter.)

What did the house think of clergymen who could descend from their high positions and seek to inflame the populace by telegrams like that? When clergymen enter the arena of politics they had a right to be criticised. Rev. A. F. Thomson had been guilty of the most flagrant Mr. Tweedie then reviewed the history

of the school question and pointed out the harmonious relations that had existed until this dispute at Bathurst arose. Every sister of charity who taught in Chatham was a duly licensed teacher of the provincial Normal school, and that was the reason the examining station had been changed from Chatham to Bathurst. that criticism, but many are. Rev. Mr. Did the leader of the opposition think the action of the King government should entered into this contest, no doubt from be condemned or that the agreement the most conscientious motive. No doubt then solemnly entered into should now petrated upon the protestant people of lics of this province expected him to

Hon. Mr. Tweedie, resuming, said that of these gentlemen may come to a con- if the leader of the opposition was in clusion of this kind without any basis. favor of the prayer of the petition it was removal of the difficulties at Bathurst, there was no difficulty in Bathurst at all, into a larger question, and has now found whereas the leader of the government itself before the legislature in its present | had made no such statement, but had adshape. I am satisfied that if anyone mitted that the difficulty was a most present will go over to Bathurst and get at serious one. The board of education had been involved this additional consider- that regulations should be observed or the

tacked the board of education and imputed motives to them he was imputing motives sity. All the testimony showed that at rapidly as possible for submission to the methods of reconciliation are available every step the board of education had encommittee, so that the whole grievance some of their extreme contentions on he took neither one side nor the other; Branch made a statement and Mr. I think if the Bathurst people are left to sulted professionally by Mr. Thompson chief superintendent they will be able to The hon. members on the other side had Mr. Stockton - Did these parties have have these disticulties removed. It is our not even had the courage to ask that the intention to ask the house not to refer orders and correspondence of the board of this question to a special committee for education be brought down. It had Mr. Stockton - Did Mr. Thomson have the purpose of summoning witnesses been done on this side of the house. reasonable notice? Who notified him? from Bathurst and bring half the com- The leader of the opposition had not ven-Hon. Mr. Blair — He received a written munity here to tell us what we already tured to condemn a solitary act of the know. We think it well to meet all the government. He had said that he was requirements of the case to have the not here to say who was right and who Hon. Mr. Blair — I do not remember. whole matter openly discussed before the was wrong. He (Tweedie) thought that It was that morning. We sent him an whole house, and have not only the peti- the house was here to say who was right a sound and popular policy and a strong organization, the liberals may look forward to the next campaign with the letter saying we would bright to the next campaign with the letter saying we would bright to the next campaign with the letter saying we would bright to the next campaign with the letter saying we would bright to the next campaign with the letter saying we would be letter as a complement of the regulations of the location and all other papers in possible to the next campaign with the letters of complement and all letters of comp meet him at 2 o'clock, and we did then | manual and all letters of complaint. After (Continued next issue.)

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Bedroom Setts,

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> Stake No. 1, for Trotting Foals of 1892. Stake No. 2, " " " 1891. Stake No. 3, " "

Stake No. 4, " " CONDITIONS:

The fees in each Stake will be twelve dollars, payable as follows: \$3.00 on 1st March, when nomination close; \$4.00 on 1st June, when animals nominated must be named, breeding, sex, color and ownership given, and final payment of \$5.00 one week before the race.

An cwner can nominate any number of eligible colts or fillies in either Stake, but can only start one animal in each class.

Fifty Dollars (\$50) Will Be Added

to each of above stakes, and the purses will be divided as follows: When four or more start in premiums of 50 per cent, to first, 25 per cent, to second, 15 per cent, to third, and 10 per cent, to furth. When three start, premiums of 60, 30 and 10 per cent, where two start, 80 and 20 per cent.

Any animal distancing the field in tither stake will be entitled to first money only. In such an event, the remaining colts to trot off on same terms as above, the balance of purse to be divided same percentage as above, according to number of starters. Should there however, be any premiums for which any distanced horses stand qual, the horses shall too one heat for the same under the original conditions of racing with the exception that distance is to be waived. In all cases the heat is to be trotted, and no arrangements to divide money will be permitted.

Distance in the year-old ance; will be two hundred yards, in the two year-old race, one hundred and fifty yards; in the three year-old and four year-old race, one hundred yards.

Stake No. 1, will be half mile heats, best 2 in 3; stake No. 2, mile hears, best 2 in 3; stake No. 3, mile heats, best 2 in 3, and stake No. 4, best 3 in 5. On all other matters National Bules to govern.

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ASSORTED CROCKERY WOVEN WIRE Spring Beds DUNBAR IMPROVED SHINGLE MILLS.

Improved Rotary Saw Mills, Mill Machinery, Enclosed Mowers, Ithaca Horse rakes, Stoves and Furnaces, Railway Castings.

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We Have Just Received the Following Goods

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Bradford Cords in 3 Browns, Fawns Shot Bengaline Cords in all the Shot Serges in Beautiful Effects. Cheviots in Zigzag and Swivel Designs. Stanley Cloths in All Mixtures. Costume Lengths, only One Dress of a

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First Session, no Upper House. Opened

March 9. Lemont & Sons,

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