

### THE UNHAPPY FAMILY.

Another Version of the "Scrap" Between Ministers Oumet and Haggart.

The School Question and Provincial Rights--Van Horne's Advice Was Taken.

From our own correspondent. Ottawa, March 23.—The government has at last come to a decision on the question of a dissolution or session, deciding to choose the least of two evils by meeting parliament. About two months work has been put in preparing for a general election, but the French ministers were obdurate to the last and insisted not only on a hard and fast order in council providing for remedial legislation but demanding that parliament should meet and ratify this order. The Quebec hierarchy refused to support the government for passing the order in council, as they said that such was of no value without the statute on the subject. Hon. J. A. Oumet won both points. He got the order in council and the remedial order and a session as well.

One day it would be given out by Mr. Haggart and his friends that there was to be an election while the following day Mr. Oumet and his friends would contradict this and insist that there was to be a session. There have been some stormy meetings in the privy council chamber during the days when Hon. J. A. Chapleau was a minister in the Macdonald cabinet, and when Mr. Chapleau would be threatening to resign, but never has there been such a troublesome time in the cabinet as has taken place since the Manitoba school case came up for consideration. The rackets which have been taken place at the council chamber have been the talk of the streets. Not only was there loud talking at the oblong table at which the ministers sit in the privy chamber but the furniture was thrown around as if there was a free fight going on. It is also reported that the gallant Oumet struck at Haggart who was having some words with Mr. Angers. The minister of railways who was quite a knocker in his younger days, replied quickly with his right and laid out the minister of public works. To prevent a free fight, Sir Hilbert Tupper, who is handy with his fists, agile in body and of good avoirdupois, sprang between the two heavy weights. This is said to have ended the scrap. Of course no one was present outside the ministers themselves, but such is the story which is on everyone's lips, and which is related as a fact. The clerks of the department vouch for hearing the noise in their different offices along the corridors.

At any rate Mr. Oumet has in the end succeeded. His whole political career has been devoted to kicking and he would never have been heard of but for that. He was made speaker of the commons because Sir John Macdonald wanted to get rid of him because of his kicking propensities. He was the organizer of the calumny which made room 8 of the house of commons famous. He kicked when out at the front in the northwest rebellion, and although entering into a compact with Chapleau not to enter the ministry if the former resigned he took the job as soon as it was offered to him. Mr. Oumet has got little politics outside of himself and his French compatriots. In a weak ministry like the present he has succeeded in carrying all before him.

But while Mr. Oumet deserves all the credit for the remedial order not a little of the credit for bringing about the session is due to Sir William Van Horne, who spent a day here early in the week interviewing the ministers.

Just what will be the result of the remedial order now that it is passed cannot be said. Nobody believes that Manitoba will obey the order. If not, and the Dominion will pass an act forcing separate schools on the province, the question arises how is it going to be forced. The Manitoba school act of 1890 has been declared by the Imperial Privy Council to be good and the Dominion act, if it is passed, which is not at all likely, will repeal the act of 1890. Of course it will not by so many words repeal the act, but it will provide all that which the act of 1890 abolishes. To be plain the act of 1890 abolished separate schools and the new act, if the Dominion government pressed it, will establish, maintain, equip and provide for conducting separate schools.

The question at issue is not as to whether Manitoba is to have separate schools or not, but if the federal authority is going to demand that the province establish such schools against the will of the vast majority of the people. Here in Ontario the people have been for many years fighting against the encroachment of the federal authority on the provincial domain. We have had a boundary award case, the stream case, the liquor license case, all of which the province won after an expenditure of much money and hard legal political contests. We were asked to vote for the Jesuit Estates act in Quebec on the grounds that it was an infringement on provincial rights for the Dominion to interfere. Indeed, it will go down to history that the late Alexander Mackenzie left his room at 2 o'clock in the morning, although paralyzed by palsy, to cast a vote with the government to which he was opposed on the ground that he was doing so in the defense of provincial rights. Sir John Thompson on that occasion said that the enactments of the provincial legislatures were even stronger than the laws of the Dominion or the imperial parliament itself.

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H. M. Ships Coming North to Spend the Summer at Esquimalt.

H. M. S. Royal Arthur, flagship of Rear-Admiral Stephenson, arrived at Esquimalt from the southern part of the station on February 27th. This is her programme for the northern cruise, subject to alterations: Leave Esquimalt on the 14th of March, arrive at Callao on the 20th, leave Callao on the 17th of April and arrive at Panama on the 27th, leave Panama on the 29th and arrive at Monterey on the 16th of May, and arrive at Esquimalt about the 20th of May. E. M. S. Champion sailed from Esquimalt, homeward bound, after serving two commissions on this station, on the 2nd of March. She is expected to arrive in England in June. H. M. S. Hyacinth arrived at Tahiti from Honolulu on January 7th. She left again on January 17th, calling at Marquesas Island and Pitcairn Island, and was due to arrive at Valparaiso on March 13th. H. M. S. Wild Swan arrived at Antofagasta, Chile, on March 5th from England. It is understood she will come on to Esquimalt to be docked as she needs repairs after having been in collision with a mail steamer in the Canary Islands. H. M. S. Satellite is on the Central American coast and it is likely she will work her way south and remain on the southern part of the station for the summer.

H. M. S. Nymph arrived in Honolulu on March 17th and will remain for a time, when it is likely she will come on to Esquimalt to go into dry dock to be repaired, it being sixteen months since she left here. Her second commission on this station will expire in November, and it is supposed she will then return to England. H. M. S. Hyacinth's commission expires about the same time and it is expected she will also return to England as she first served one commission on this station, and then went to China and served one on that station, then came back here and has now nearly completed her third commission since she left England.

### REDUCING SALARIES.

Presbyterian Mission Board Reducing Salaries Throughout Canada.

Toronto, Ont., March 29.—The Presbyterian general assembly home mission board has been reducing all payments during the past half year twenty-five per cent, because of the anticipated deficit of \$10,000 in the year. The salaries of missionaries in Manitoba, and the N. W., will be \$800 for married men, without a manse, \$750 with a manse, and \$650 for a single man. In British Columbia salaries will be \$50 higher in each case and Ontario \$50 lower.

### ANYTHING FOR HARMONY.

Venezuelan Cabinet Dissolved and a New One Formed.

Washington, April 1.—Official advices from Venezuela state that President Crespo on Saturday last dissolved the cabinet and formed a new ministry in order to harmonize the several political interests.

### CABLE DISPATCHES.

Death of Dr. Payne-Smith, Dean of Canterbury--Mail Service.

London, April 1.—The Very Reverend Robert Payne-Smith, D. D., dean of Canterbury, is dead. He was a Gloucestershire in November, 1818, and was educated at Pembroke college, Oxford, where he graduated with honors in 1841. In 1871 he was raised to the deanery of Canterbury, having been for a number of years professor of divinity at Oxford. In the commons to-day the postmaster-general announced the new plan for the accelerated Atlantic mail service going into operation next Saturday. The next series of vessel sales begin again on April 30th. The gross arrivals to date are four hundred thousand bales.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder Awarded Gold Medal Midwinter Fair, San Francisco.

### ANDERSON ON THE STAND

He Tells His Tale to Coroner Hasell and Jury Regarding the Wrecked Velos

And How the Ill-fated Crew Aboard Her Came to Their Untimely Death.

The William Law inquest was resumed this afternoon before Coroner Hasell. Mr. P. S. Lampman appeared on behalf of the representatives of Law and William Ward was present for the agents of the Velos. Robert Ward & Co. The evidence was heard in the provincial court room. Captain Anderson, of the Velos, said he had captained the tug Velos since last October and had been steamboating altogether 14 years. When they started from Victoria harbor there was not much wind, but the glass was down to 30. At the San Pedro the wind increased and was blowing northeast. He had towed in Johnson's Straits in more wind, but never towed the Pilot in such a heavy sea. "I first got a heavy sea inside Trial Island, and when one and a half miles beyond, the sea was very heavy. Mate Christensen and I then discussed what to do and we decided to go back. I was at the wheel. We got around and the mate came and said 'hard aport.' I replied 'she is hard aport.' I pulled the wheel chains up and found they were slack. We then struck the rock. We were to leave Victoria that night at 6, but Mr. Adams kept us. When Mr. Adams came aboard I spoke to him and said I had a good mind not to go out, and Adams retorted 'you have waited now four days for me and we have got to get out.' I never saw Mr. Adams