THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1887.

Opening of Dominion Parliament.

THE first session of the sixth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada was opened on Thursday last, the 14th inst., by His Excellency the Marquis of Lansdowne, Governor General of Canada. Nearly all the members were present, and had been previously sworn in and had signed the roll. Col. A. J. Ouimet, of Laval, Quebec, was unanimously elected Speaker of the House of Commons. His Excellency arrived, in state, at the Parliament buildings at three o'clock in the afternoon, and proceeded at once to the Senate chamber. "Her Majesty's faithful Commoners" were then summoned. The Governor General's message having been conveyed to the latter body by the gentleman usher of the black rod, they appeared at the bar of the Senate Chamber, headed by their Speaker. His Excellency was then pleased to read the following speech:

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

It is my pleasing duty on the opening of a new Parliament to congratulate you on the general prosperity of the country and on the prospect of a coming season of peace and progress. You will, I am sure, gladly join with the rest of the loyal subjects of the Queen in offering Her Majesty your sincere congratulations on having reached the fiftieth anniversary of her accession to the throne, and in giving expression to an earnest hope that she may be long spared to reign over her vast dominions.

The prominent position taken by Canada at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition recently held in London has made the Dominion more widely and favorably known than before, and will, I have no doubt, contribute largely to its material progress by calling attention to the advantages offered by our country to the agriculturist and by attracting the capital necessary for the development of its great natural resources.

Negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States on the fishery question with respect to which my Government has been fully informed and consulted are still in progress, and will, we may be permitted to hope, result in an arrangement honorable and satisfactory to both nations. Meanwhile, the necessary provisions have been made for the protection of our inshore fisheries. The papers on this subject will be laid before you.

Your attention will be invited to the expediency of establishing a department of trade and commerce, under the supervision of a responsible minister. You will also be asked to consider the propriety of making such improvement in the organization of the Department of Justice, Customs and Inland Revenue as will provide greater facilities for the despatch of the large and increasing volume of business with which these departments are charged.

A measure will be submitted to you, giving representation in the Senate to the Northwest territories in addition to that which they now possess in the House of Commons.

Other measures will be laid before you, and among them will be found Bills for the amendment of the Acts relating to Government Railways, for providing a better mode of trial of claims against the Crown, for the improvement of the procedure in criminal cases, and for the further amendment of the Chinese Immigration Act.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

You will be asked in order to provide against the possible interruption of the navigation of our great inland waters for an appropriation in aid of the construction of a canal to connect the waters of Lakes Huron and Superior at Sault Ste. Marie.

The accounts for the past year will be laid before you, as well as the estimates for the ensuing year. They have been prepared with due regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I commend these important subjects, and the others which may be laid before you, to your best consideration, with full confidence in your earnest desire to promote the development and well-being of Canada.

The opening sentence of the Governor General's speech, as will be observed, contains sentiments of congratulation for the general prosperity which exists in the Dominion and the peace which everywhere reigns. It is certainly gratifying to know that, while other countries have been visited by various calamities and are suffering from a long continued era of commercial depression, our young and flourishing Dominion is advancing steadily in the march of progress and prosperity. The next subject spoken of is the jubilee of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, a subject which, we feel satisfied, will not receive more careful attention in any quarter of the globe than from the loyal people of Canada. A pleasing reference is made to the position which Canada occupied at the recent Indian and Colonial Exhibition. A paragraph of the Speech which will, we feel sure, give universal satisfaction, is the one referring to the fishery dispute between this country and the United States. His Excellency expresses the hope that this question may be satisfactorily arranged.

The principal measures of legislation set forth are: The establishment of a Department of Trade and Commerce, and such changes in the Justice, Customs and Inland Revenue Departments as will render their operations of more general utility and advantage to the country at large. These are certainly questions which should receive the hearty support of members of all shades of political opinion. Measures are also promised regarding Government Railways, claims against the Crown, and Chinese Emigration. These are all very important matters, and such as have occupied not a little attention in commercial and political circles for the past few years.

The Speech also recommends the passing of an Act to enable the Northwest to send Senators to Ottawa as well as members of the House of Commons. The only measure spoken of which is likely to demand a large expenditure of public money is the constructing of a canal between Lakes Huron and Superior at Sault Ste. Marie. This canal is a very necessary public work for Canada, as at present the only connecting link between these two great Lakes is through American territory; and should any difficulty arise between this country and the United States, the latter country could deny us a right of way, and thus cripple the extensive trade carried on by this route.

The Speech foreshadows as much legislation as is now-a-days contained in documents of this kind, and it is all of that practical nature which a country such as ours demands; it also breathes the sentiments of patriotism and progress so peculiar to the great party now ruling the destinies of this Canada of ours.

Local Legislature.

NOTWITHSTANDING the late season at which the present session of our Legislature was opened, our Opposition friends have, as usual, unnecessarily prolonged discussion on all measures which have thus far been introduced in the House. Several very important matters have been brought in by the Government—matters calculated to benefit the people in general, and which one would naturally expect should receive the hearty support of all members regardless of their politics. The bill to empower the Government to sell the old Asylum property, for instance, is certainly a matter which it would seem unreasonable to oppose. Here is a large quantity of land, not cultivated, or in any way made to yield any return for its cost. Besides, there are the old Asylum buildings, which are, from year to year, depreciating in value. This has been going on now for eight or nine years. In 1880 the Government passed a bill through the House of Assembly authorizing the sale of this property; but it was defeated in the Legislative Council. From a business point of view it would appear that no one should oppose this bill. Were the property disposed of, the money received for it could be applied to the maintenance of the new Asylum, for instance, or any other public purpose to which the Government might think well of appropriating it. But, no; the Opposition showed their desire for *economy* by opposing this measure through all its stages.

Then, again, the question of the subway across the Hillsborough river, introduced by the Government, is a matter involving the convenience and affecting the interests of a very large and important section of the Province. The manner in which it is proposed to have this work performed is such as ought to commend itself to men claiming to understand and anxious to guard the public interests. Here again the Opposition have shown their appreciation of the efforts of the administration to improve the condition of a large number of influential citizens by opposing the measure.

The Government, as had been intimated in His Honor's Speech, introduced some amendments to the Education Act. It is quite patent to everybody that this Act is becoming every year more unworkable, and that some changes are absolutely necessary. The amendments which were introduced seemed, to a very great extent, to meet the views of the Opposition members, as expressed in their speeches on this question; yet, curiously enough, when a vote was taken, everyone of them voted against the resolution. Thus, it will be seen, that our Opposition friends' idea of legislation seems to be *opposition* to everything introduced by the Government.

Waterworks.

THE Waterworks question has, of late, created a ripple of excitement among our citizens. During the early part of the winter a public meeting of the citizens was held in the Market Hall, when a resolution was passed to the effect that the waterworks be placed in charge of three commissioners, elected for that purpose. Pursuant to this a committee was appointed to prepare a Bill, in accordance with the resolution, to be submitted to the Legislature.

A few evenings ago another public meeting was called, when the Bill was submitted to the citizens for approval, before its introduction to the Legislature. The meeting could not agree as to the different provisions of the Bill, and consequently it was referred to a special committee for amendment, the committee to report at an adjourned meeting to be held on the 18th inst. In the meantime the City Council, at their meeting on Friday evening last, passed a resolution to the effect that the appointment of water commissioners and paying them a salary would involve an expenditure of money which they did not feel warranted in sanctioning. The resolution further set forth that if the number of councillors was reduced to five, these latter would be able to take charge of the waterworks, and should be invested with authority for so doing. The citizens met again on Monday night, as agreed upon, and had quite a lively discussion over the question. Finally, the Bill as amended was adopted, and a committee appointed to wait on the city members of the Legislature and urge upon them the necessity of having it pushed through this session. There are few in the city, we think, who are not in favor of having waterworks; but the whole trouble is as to the manner in which they are to be managed.

The Speaker of the Commons.

COLONEL JOSEPH ALDRIC OUIMET, L. L. B., the new Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, was born at St. Rose, Province of Quebec, on the 20th May, 1848, and is, therefore, in the 39th year of his age. He is descended from one of the oldest families in the district of Montreal. His education was received at the Seminary of St. Therese de Blainville; he subsequently studied law at Victoria College, Coburg, whence he graduated as L.L. B. in 1869, and was called to the Bar of Lower Canada in the following year. He is a member of the law firm of DeSnoyers, Ouimet & Ouimet, Montreal. In 1873 he was elected to represent the county of Laval, his present constituency, for which he has sat ever since. The Parliamentary Companion speaks of him as strongly in favor of "British Connection," and of being in favor of carrying out the Confederation scheme in its entirety. Though still but a young man he has had a Parliamentary experience of fourteen years. He speaks French and English with equal fluency, and is in every way a gentleman well qualified to fill the honorable position to which he has been elevated, and in whom both sides of the House can have every confidence.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THERE is some talk of changing the hours for the daily sessions of the House of Commons at Ottawa As it is now the House meets at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and continues, with a recess for dinner at six, not unfrequently till very late at night, or rather till an early hour in the morning. If it could be arranged so that the business of the House would be done in daylight, it certainly would be much more beneficial to the health of members than the present system can possibly be. Whether or not it would be so convenient for the different committees is not so clear.

THE first week's proceedings in the House of Commons, Ottawa, have given the Government and their friends no reason to feel uncomfortable. Mr. Blake had two opportunities for a division: one on the Speakership and another on the Address. He let both of them pass, however. The press of all shades of opinion are high in praise of Dr. R C. Weldon's speech on the Address There is very little doubt but Mr. Weldon will soon prove himself a parliamentarian of rare ability and oratorical powers. He is already acknowledged to be a man of learning and a cogent reasoner.

HON. MR. PLUMB has been appointed Speaker of the Dominion Senate. The selection of Mr. Plumb for this highly important and dignified position is worthy of commendation. His social qualities, his wide range of knowledge, and his political training and experience are qualifications which eminently fit him for the proper discharge of his duties in his new capacity. He was first returned to the House of Commons for Niagra, at the general elections in 1874, and continued to represent that constituency until its incorporation with Lincoln. He was called to the Senate in Feby. 1883. This appointment will, no doubt, give universal satisfaction.

THE Conservative Association of Montreal tendered a banquet to the Hon. J. A. Chapleau, Secretary of State, at the Windsor Hotel, on Monday, the 11th inst. About five hundred prominent citizens belonging to the city, the Province and the Dominion generally, were present. In response to the toast, "Our Guest," Mr. Chapleau made a rousing speech, first in French, then in English. He alluded to the feeling which had been raised against him in the city of Montreal, about eighteen months ago, by a misguided people who had been led astray by demagogues. Sir Hector Langevin and Sir Charles Tupper also made ringing speeches.

THE *Scottish Highlander*, in the course of an article on the Queen's Jubilee, has the following:—

There is a strong and almost universal feeling that to subscribe money for the Imperial Institute, virtually forced upon an unwilling people by the Prince of Wales, would be a very foolish proceeding, though, for decency's sake, some people, especially those holding official positions, feel that they must not only subscribe themselves, but take the lead, however unwillingly, to induce others to follow their example. To see some of the haughtiest women in the land going about from door to door squeezing shillings, six-pences, or less from poor servant girls, to place these forced subscriptions, as a mark of their loyalty, "at Her Majesty's feet," is most humiliating, and some of the collectors make no secret of their feeling that it is so. Any money subscribed under such conditions, virtually forced from poor people, must be considered a poor compliment to the Queen; and if Her Majesty only knew the manner in which many of the subscriptions are got she would soon order the proceedings to be stopped.

THE Seventh Annual Report of the Trustees and Medical Superintendent of the Prince Edward Island Hospital for the Insane shows that the number of patients in the Hospital on the first of January, 1886, was 115. On the last day of the same year the number was 122, showing an increase during the year of seven persons. Of these, sixty-two are males, and sixty females. Eleven deaths occured during the year. A greater number of patients were admitted and discharged during 1886 than in any year of the Institution's history. A greater number of those received were between the ages of 20 and 30 than of any other age. The Medical Superintendent calls attention to the fact that increased accommodation is needed.

Death of Mr. John Corbett.

LATE Ottawa despatches inform us of the death, at that place, on the 13th inst., of Mr. John Corbett, architect, formerly of this town. Deceased was a native of Ireland, whence he emigrated in early life and settled at Memramcook, N. B. From the latter place he came to this city about twenty-five years ago. He superintended the building of many churches and public buildings in this province. Among them the Bishop's Palace, St. Patrick's School, and the Convent de Notre Dame, in this city.

About eight years ago he was appointed Inspector of Light Houses for the District of St. Catherine's, Ont. Since that time he resided in Ottawa, whither his wife and family removed six or seven months ago. He leaves a family of four sons and one daughter, Rev. John Corbett, P. P. of Montague West being the eldest son.

To his bereaved family we tender our sympathy.

Legislative Proceedings.

TUESDAY, April 12.

House met at 5, p. m.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN presented a petition praying for an Act to close the old Catholic Cemetery. Petition referred to a Committee.

Petitions were also presented by Hon. Mr. Ferguson, asking for an Act to incorporate the Skating Rink Company, Victoria; by Hon. Mr. McLeod, praying for an Act to incorporate the Guardian Publishing Company; by Mr. Bell, asking for an Act of Incorporation for the Pioneer Publishing Company.

The Bills asked for in these several Petitions were introduced and read a first time, and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, April 14.

When the House met this forenoon several private Bills were advanced a stage.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN moved the House into a Committee of the whole, in order to take into consideration a measure relative to Justices of the Peace. A question had been raised as to whether or not, since Confederation, the Lieut. Governors of the several Provinces had the power to appoint such officials. The Supreme Court of Ontario and some other Provinces held that such power was possessed only by the Queen's immediate representative, the Governor General. Prince Edward Island was different from Ontario. Being an old Province, it holds all the rights held previous to Confederation. Among these rights was the power of the Lieutenant Governor to appoint Justices of the Peace. As, however, some doubt had been thrown on the question, the Legislature considered it their duty to set the matter at rest. A measure would, therefore, be brought in conferring the necessary power on the Lieutenant Governor, and confirming all the appointments of this kind since Confederation, as well as holding valid all their regular and proper acts.

House went into Committee—Mr. Kelly in the chair.

After a short time in Committee the Speaker took the chair, and the Chairman reported the resolution agreed to. A Bill was then brought in in accordance with the resolution, and read a first time.

Mr. BLAKE presented a Petition from the Charlottetown Gas Light Company, praying for an amendment of their Incorporation Act, to enable them to make use of Electricity to furnish heat, light and motive power, and to allow them to borrow a sum of money, not exceeding $25,000. A Bill in accordance with this Petition was introduced, read a first time, and referred to the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. KELLY presented a Petition from the Little York Hall Company. A Bill in pursuance of said Petition was brought in and read a first time.

The Chairman of the Private Bills Committee reported favorably on the Bill regarding the closing of the old Catholic Cemetery, and recommended that no fees be charged for its passage, as it would be of much advantage to the public. This report was adopted, and the Bill was ordered to be read a second time the following day.

Mr. BENTLEY presented the returns of the Supervisors for the three Counties for 1886.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN moved that the House resolve itself into Committee to consider the advisability of introducing a Bill authorizing the Government to dispose of the old Insane Asylum building, recently used as a Small Pox Hospital, as well as the land on which it is situated. A Bill of this nature had been introduced in 1880, but had been thrown out by the Legislative Council. Although land had recently advanced a little in price, nothing like the price obtainable in 1880 could now be received for the property. He thought, however, that as it had been an annual expense to the country, the land should be divided into lots and sold together with the building. It never was fit for the purpose to which it had been appropriated during the Small Pox epidemic.

Considerable discussion took place on this question, in which a number of members on both sides took part.

The House then went into committee on the resolution, Mr. Angus McLeod in the chair. After the resolution had been debated at considerable length in committee, it was agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—Sullivan, Ferguson, McLeod, Arsenault, Bentley, Lefurgey, Prowse, McDonald, Gordon, Gillis, J. McLean, A. McLeod, Kelly, Shaw, H. L. McDonald—15.

NAYS—Yeo, Sinclair, Farquharson, Blake, Matheson, McLean, Martin, Forbes, Sutherland, Bell, Wise—11.

The committee then rose, and reported the resolution agreed to. After the House, on the same division as the committee had agreed to receive the report, a committee was appointed to bring in a bill in accordance with the resolution.

The House then adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 14.

Several private bills were advanced a stage.

Dr. Gillis presented a petition from the Town Council and inhabitants of Summerside, asking for an amendment to their act of incorporation, to allow them to issue debentures to the extent of $4,000. A bill in accordance therewith was introduced, and referred to the private bills committee.

When the House met in the afternoon Mr. Prowse presented a petition from certain parties asking that a bill be passed permitting the collection of interest on book debts and authorizing imprisonment for debt in some cases. He, however, did not agree with the petitioners. After a short discussion, the petition was, on motion, laid on the table.

A message was received from the Legislative Council announcing the passage, by that body, of two or three bills.

The bill prohibiting interment in the old Catholic Cemetery was committed to a committee of the whole House, Mr. H. L. McDonald in the chair, and reported agreed to.

Several questions relative to the different departments under the control of the Government were asked by members of the Opposition, and answered by members of the Government.

The bill respecting Justices of the Peace was read a second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, Mr. John McLean in the chair.

After some discussion the Speaker took the chair, the Chairman reported progress, and the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, April 15.

After routine, the Bill authorizing the closing of the old Catholic Burying Ground was read a third time and passed; and the Bill to incorporate the Little York Hall Company was read a second time. House in Committee on said Bill, Mr. Forbes in the chair. Bill reported agreed to, and ordered to be read a third time on the following day After several questions asked by the Opposition had been answered by the Government members, the Bill relative to the Town of Summerside was read a second time, and the House went into Committee on said Bill—Mr. John McLean in the chair. The Bill was reported agreed to, and ordered to be read a third time on the following day.

When the House met in the afternoon several private Bills were advanced a stage, and the Bill authorizing the sale of the old Asylum was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House—Mr. McLeod in the chair. Considerable discussion took place in Committee relative to this Bill. The Opposition members opposed the sale of the property. Finally it was reported agreed to, the report being received on the following division:—

YEAS—Sullivan, Ferguson, McLeod, Arsenault, Bentley, Lefurgey, Prowse, McDonald, Gordon, Gillis, J. McLean, Kelly, Shaw, H. L. McDonald, A. McLean,—15.

NAYS—Yeo, Farquharson, Sinclair, J. R. McLean, Matheson, Martin, Bell, Wise Forbes,—9.

After a few questions had been asked and answered, the House took a recess.

EVENING SESSION.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON submitted to the House a statement of the expenditure on public service from 31st December, 1886, to 31st March last, which had been asked for by the Leader of the Opposition. On motion the statement was laid on the table of the House.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN said that those present would remember that the Speech with which the Lieutenant Governor had opened the Assembly contained a paragraph relative to amendments in the Education Act. He, therefore, wished to move that the House go into committee in order to take into consideration the expediency of introducing a bill to that effect. The present Act had been in force since 1877, and the amount spent for education had gone on increasing annually since that time, and were no change to be made, there would be no limit to the expenditure. The principal amendments which the bill would contain would be: The abolishing of the bonuses paid to teachers; two thousand dollars a year had been expended in this way, and, according to the Superintendent's Report, $3,500 would be necessary for this purpose during the present year, and a yearly increase of $500 hereafter. The bill would also provide for doing away with the scholarships at the Prince of Wales College, and thus effect a saving of $480 annually. These scholarships had outlived their usefulness, he thought. Some time ago they were necessary, when but few people could afford to send their children to the higher schools; but now this state of things no longer existed; therefore, they could be dispensed with. Another change proposed would be the payment of the teachers according to the work performed by them, and not according to the license which they held. For instance, a second class teacher, engaged in a third class school, should be paid third class salary. By this means about $5,000 a year, he thought, would be saved. These, and some other minor changes intended, would save to the country about $8,000 annually. The bill would also contain a provision for the appointment of an additional inspector of schools. It would also provide that attendance at the Normal School, free of charge, should not exceed a period of five months. In 1878 the cost of education was $65,000, while the amount spent in 1886 almost reached $112,000 No country in the world paid so high, according to population, for education. It would be better for the people to raise a portion of the money themselves to pay the teacher, than for the Government to levy a tax upon them for that purpose.

Mr SINCLAIR said he did not find fault with the resolution as a whole; he thought the *supplementary* clauses of the Act should be done way with. This, he considered, would satisfy the country people generally. The principal fault he had to find with the resolution was that it did not go far enough.

Mr. YEO said he regretted that it was necessary to reduce the amount spent for Education. He did not think the amendments proposed would render the Act more acceptable to the people, and thought the changes would come a little hard on the poorer districts.

Mr. FARQUHARSON said the present Government had promised not to interfere with the Education Act.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN said that Mr. Farquharson was altogether wrong; the present Government had made some amendments to the School Act almost every year since they came into power. They had not promised not to amend the Act. They had said that the non-sectarian principle of the Act would not be interfered with. This promise they had kept, and he defied the Opposition to show where anything else had been promised.

Mr SHAW thought this question was of very great importance indeed. The non-sectarian system of education had been adopted by the people in 1856, accompanied by a Tax Act. Since that time the Act had become unworkable, so great a drain was it on the public expenditure. The amount of money expended on bonuses would go on increasing, and the system would be productive of no good. He would be in favor of abolishing the bonuses. The scholarships, he thought, had not been productive of the ends for which they had been introduced. To obtain a scholarship now, Latin, Greek, Algebra and Geometry were necessary, and the poorer class of boys would not very often be in a position to acquire these branches. The grading of the schools, or paying the teachers for the work in which they were actually employed, was quite proper. He was also in favor of abolishing the supplementary clause of the Act, as he thought it was unfair to the less wealthy districts.

The House then went into Committee on the resolution—Mr. Angus McLeod in the chair.

Hon. Mr SULLIVAN introduced his resolution, which was in the following words:—

Resolved, That it is expedient to introduce a Bill amending the law relating to Education by providing inter alia.

That bonuses to teachers be abolished.

That the maintenance of Scholarships in connection with the Prince of Wales College and Normal School be abolished.

That the salaries of teachers as established by law be paid according to the rank or class of the schools conducted by such teachers.

That the Board of Education be empowered to fix the standard and maximum number of first and second-class schools.

That the salaries of assistant teachers be fixed by the Board of Education, but at amounts not exceeding those established by law.

That candidates for licences as teachers be not entitled to attend the Prince of Wales College or Normal School for a longer period than five months free of charge.

That an additional inspector of schools be appointed at an annual salary of eight hundred dollars.

A considerable amount of debate on the resolution took place in Committee. Finally the Speaker took the chair, progress was reported, and the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 16.

The Bills relating to Justices of the Peace, the Little York Hall Company, the Town of Summerside, and the sale of the Old Asylum Property, were read a third time and passed.

Bills relative to the City Gas Light Company, the Law Society, and the examination of witnesses were read a first time.

House then adjourned till 10 o'clock on Monday.

Legislative Councils and Parties.

(*From the Daily Manitoban, March 28.*)

The *Free Press* devotes an article with the spirit of which the *Manitoban* is thoroughly in accord, to advocating the abolition of Legislative Councils. Experience has convinced all intelligent Canadians of the utter uselessness of such bodies. The movement in New Brunswick furnishes the *Free Press* with its text.

A few days ago the *Manitoban* published a synopsis of the history of the agitation for the abolition of Legislative Councils, as concerning the two parties. Some more information with regard to that matter will not be found uninteresting. The *Free Press* says:—

"At present the movement is most noticeable, and probably most active in New Brunswick. An effort has been made to secure a conference with the Legislative Council with a view to its extinction, but the fly has rejected the invitation of the spider, or, in other words, the Council has refused to attend the conference sought for by the Legislative Assembly."

According to the last *Parliamentary Companion*, the Legislavive Council of New Brunswick consists of 18 members, 12 of whom describe themselves as Liberals, only six claiming to be Conservatives. In other words, there are two Grits to every Tory in the N. B. Council. Yet the Council refuses even to consider a proposition to confer with the Assembly on the question of abolishing the non-representative body. That is to say, the "Reformers" of the New Brunswick Legislative Council positively refuse to go in for, or permit reform.

It was the same in Prince Edward Island, as witness the following apologetic account of the matter from the *Free Press*:—

"Prince Edward Island is the only other Province in which a Legislative Council exists. It is also the only Province in which the councillors were intended to represent a class. But they can be said to represent the landed interests only in a modified way, as the qualification is so low that every farmer in the country and every small property owner in the city is entitled to vote. The elections for the Legislative Council took place on the Island in November last. The Conservatives at the time controlled the Council, and sought to redeem themselves from the unpopularity into which they had fallen by making its abolition a catch issue in the contest. This they did for no other purpose than to gain Liberal votes, but at the same time the representation was made that a Conservative victory would be regarded as an endorsation of the Dominion Government's policy in refusing the Island better terms. Naturally enough the Liberals refused to be caught in the trap laid for them by unscrupulous and insincere opponents, and the people showed how little confidence they had in the Tory professions, and how vigorous they spurned the effort to endorse the Dominion Government by returning a Liberal for every one of the seven seats which then happened to be vacant in the Council. What the chances are of an early abolition of the Island Senate it is impossible to say."

It was the Conservative Government of Prince Edward Island which had been sustained at the polls only a few months previously which strove to bring about the abolition of the Council of that Province. They had the support of the Conservative members of the Council, and would have succeeded but that the Grits took hold of the matter and defeated them. Over this "glorious victory" the organs of the Grit party have not even yet ceased hurrahing. The perpetuation of the Upper House in P. E. Island is entirely due to the Grits.

The same is true of Nova Scotia, as the *Manitoban* has already shown. The Conservatives of Nova Scotia when in power declined to fill vocancies in the Legislative Council after its members had refused to consent to its abolition. They proposed abolishing it thus by sure if slow degrees. The Grits took office and at once filled every vacancy, without exacting any pledge of assistance in the abolition of the Council. Of late they have even dignified the moribund Upper House by making a newly-nominated member of it a Minister of the Province.

From these facts, which cannot be disputed, it will be seen that the perpetuation of Legislative Councils in the Maritime Provinces is entirely due to the so-called Liberal party. Conservatives have uniformly taken the initiative steps for the abolition of legislative bodies, which the *Free Press* calls "nothing but survivals of pre-confederate times," and have invariably encountered strenuous and so far successful Grit opposition. The twelve Grits of the N. B Council could bring about the abolition of that useless body at once were they so minded. Instead of that they refuse even to discuss the subject with the "no party" Assembly. Such is Grittism the Dominion over.

General News.

EARTHQUAKES IN VERMONT.

Two shocks of earthquake occurred at Burlington, Vt., a few days ago. The second shock was very heavy, resembling the concussion from a large gun, followed by a jar of fifteen seconds' duration. Doors and windows rattled, and those living in the third story of blocks say the buildings seemed to sway to and fro.

A COUNTERFEITER CAGED.

John McAdams, a young man who has made his home in Windsor, Ont., for the past month, went into a store a short time ago, made some trifling purchases, gave the clerk a $10 bill and received his change. Half an hour later the bill was discovered to be bogus and McAdams was arrested, charged with circulating counterfeit money. A large quantity of bogus bills for the Bank of British North America and some American currency of the same kind were found on his person.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

Lady Des Vœux, wife of the Governor of Newfoundland, has invited the women of the island to contribute towards a unique personal gift for Queen Victoria in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee Year. The proposed gift is to be composed of selected specimens of the most valuable fur obtained in the colony, to be made up in a form that would render them likely to be used by Her Majesty, and enclosed in a case constructed, if possible, of materials the product of Newfoundland, and bearing a suitable inscription The estimated amount required for the object is about $2,000.

A DRUGGIST'S FATAL MISTAKE.

The Lewiston (Me) *Messenger* gives the following account of the poisoning of Mr. Louis DeSaulniers, formerly of Three Rivers, P Q. A sad case of death by poison took place here a few days ago Mr. L A Lesieur DeSaulniers, assistant editor of *Le Messager*, and organist of St. Peter's Church, called at a drug store with an order for some whiskey As there was not enough of that liquor in the establishment to fill the order, it was agreed to fill up the bottle with wine. However, by a fatal mistake, the person in attendance poured in colchicum wine, which is a poison. That morning Mr. J. E. Martin called at Mr. DeSaulniers residence to rehearse some music for Easter Sunday. After going through their practice both gentlemen took some of the stuff in the poisoned bottle, and remarked that it was very bitter. During the night both fell very sick, and the symptoms were so serious in Mr. DeSaulniers' case that he died on Friday last. Mrs. DeSaulniers, who had also taken a little of the liquor, is sick. The clerk who made the mistake has been arrested. Mr. DeSaulniers was a son of the late Mr. Abraham DeSaulniers, formerly M. P. P., for the county of St. Maurice.

A WEALTHY VOCALIST.

The inventory of the personal estate of the late David Kennedy, Scottish vocalist, shows that the net value of the deceased's estate amounts to £7,184 17s 11d. By a will he desires his trustees to pay a legacy of £100 to his sister, Miss Catherine Kennedy, and to deliver over his whole household furniture and other effects to his widow excepting a grand piano, which he bequeaths to the eldest daughter, and an American organ, which he bequeaths to his second daughter. He farther directs his trustees to pay his widow an annuity of £600 during her life, and, in event of the marriage of any of his daughters, to pay to such daughter £100 for marriage outfit after the death of the longest liver, of himself or his wife, or upon the youngest of his children or of their survivors attaining the age of 21, whichever of these events happen last, to be divided among his children share and share alike. In addition the property in Scotland, left by the late Mr. David Kennedy, Scottish vocalist, (which amounted to £7,184), we understand that the deceased gentleman leaves other £7,000 of assets in Australia. The total property left by him is £14,100, in personal estate, and £1,400 heritable, together £15,500.

RAILROAD ROBBERS.

On the 11th inst., at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, the officers of the Panhandle railroad had in custody the most daring gang of railroad robbers this country has ever known. Their stealing extended over a period of two or three years and the amount stolen reaches nearly half a million dollars. The persons arrested comprise nearly the entire freight men of the line They include the conductors, brakemen, engineers and firemen. The ringleaders of the gang are outside of the railroad business, and some of them are well believed to be under arrest The first arrests were made about 2 o'clock in the morning, the police surprising 18 men at their boarding houses. Further arrests were made between 2 o'clock and daylight, when 46 men, all railroad employes, conductors, brakemen, firemen and engineers, were behind the bars. A prominent officer of the Panhandle said: "For three years past the Panhandle road has been systematically robbed. Cars on sidings and cars in moving trains were broken open and goods stolen, including every description of merchandize It is estimated that at least $300,000 worth of goods were taken for which the company had to pay. In August last we got a clue, and the company determined to push it to the end Detectives were employed who followed up every scent, and finally we had the information upon which to proceed. When every thing was ready we decided to make a move all along the line from Columbus to Pittsburg, and 2 o'clock this morning was fixed to strike the blow. About 80 warrants were issued for the arrest of men in Pittsburg. I can't tell how many for other places, but it was at every point along the line. It will run up in the hundreds. We suspect outsiders of being implicated in the robberies, but know nothing positive. Among those arrested was a man named Baker, against whom there are 38 charges, the killing of a fireman being one of the charges against him" John H. Hampton, attorney for the Pennsylvania company, said: In Sept. there were 80 crews of freight trains on the Panhandle railroad coming into Pittsburg. Of these 80 crews no less than 75 were found to be crooked. A crew consists of a conductor, flagman and two brakemen. The statement that the engineers and firemen were mixed up in the robberies is wrong Not a single one is involved. In many instances the seals were broken, while in others hatchets were used to cut a hole in the end of a car, through which the men crawled and took what they could. All kinds of goods were stolen, including sewing machines, guns, revolvers, cutlery, silverware, cigars, clothing, liquors, groceries, furniture, and in fact every imaginable article that can be carried in a car. The depredations were committed all along the road, and the losers reside at points as far west as Denver. It is impossible to give the aggregate value of the property stolen, but it will not reach $300,000, as reported The arrests have created the greatest excitement among the railroad employes of this city. The scenes about the jail doors, where the relatives of the prisoners had gathered to learn the cause of the arrest, were of the saddest description. Wives, children, parents, brothers and sisters, with tear-stained faces, stood around the entrance to the prison eager to hear the latest developments, and pleading with the officers for admission to the jail to see the prisoners. At 1 o'clock ten more arrests were reported They were captured at the pay car while receiving their wages. This makes a total of 56 now in jail, and it is supposed that as many more have been apprehended at other points along the line. A telegram from Denison, O., states that J. R Dunlap, the leader of the gang, was arrested there Special Agent Rae stated that the total arrests number 60, of whom there are 56 in Pittsburg jail. One of the men, named Black, was released on bail.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Herald:

MR. EDITOR.—As Professor T. A. LePage of the Prince of Wales College is apparently the only established authority on English grammar in P. E. Island, and as his papers on parsing, published in the *Examiner*, seem to be an invitation to other teachers to come forward with their grammatical difficulties and have them correctly and scientifically analysed and explained, will you permit me, through the columns of the HERALD, to propose for the Professor's special consideration, the following questions:

Question No. 1. It is good English to say massive wall, massive building, massive chair, &c.; but is it proper to say "*massive* the word?"

2. Analysis is derived from a Greek word which means a breaking asunder, a separation of a body, or of a subject, into its parts. It is therefore in accordance with this meaning of *analysis* that we speak of the analysis of water, of a stone, of a sentence, &c.; but is it not absurd to say that "language is *formed* of analysis?"

3. What advantage shall it be to any one, to know that "*and* is not a conjunction, nor a conjunctive; but the sign of a conjunction?" Is it not as logical to assert that the word *man* (as written here) is not a noun, in as much as the individual referred to is certainly not personally present in this letter, nor his name; but simply a sign for his name?

4. Is "the West Kent Street Methodist Sunday School pic-nic' really "a huge compound noun?" Is it not perhaps a small noun with a huge adjective, or rather a group of Adjectives qualifying it?

5. What says Professor Lepage about the construction &c. of the following sentences:

"There is a tendency *operating* among grammarians now." "This is my excuse for going over ground *again* that has been already traversed by other teachers, *both under a master and as a master*, with a view to greater arguments as to what claims notice by the way." "A sentence is, or suggests, a thought."

Come, Professor, out with your verdict. Do you not think that some of these sentences are just a little too massive? Will there not likely *operate* among grammarians a certain *tendency* to *whittle* them down more or less. What is your opinion on the above definition of a sentence? Do you believe it to be logical, not to say grammatically correct? What would you think of a grammarian, even one established as an authority in the art, who should write "John is, or fights a man." And finally, would it not be better for all concerned, and especially for Mr. Lepage himself, if he were to devote his leisure hours to master more thoroughly the elements of English Composition, and learn the meaning and proper application of English words, rather than burst his brains coining dozens, nay hundreds of meaningless terms supposed to be grammatical, but which are about as useful to enlighten teachers and scholars as a tallow candle is to exhibit the light of day.

Yours truly,
A TEACHER.

An Offensive Breath

is most distressing, not only to the person afflicted (if he has any pride, but to those with whom he comes in contact. It is a delicate matter to speak of, but it has parted not only friends but lovers. Bad breath and catarrh are inseparable. Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy cures the worst cases as thousands can testify.

An Appeal.

The following appeal has been issued by the President of the Irish National League of America:—

"The corporation of Dublin, the metropolitan city of Ireland, has appealed to the Christian world for the protest of humanity against the further persecution of the Irish people by the British Government.

"A time has come in the relations of Ireland and England when the laws of God and the dictates of humanity become superior to every ruling of international etiquette, and demand from the morality of the world a stern denunciation of the course about to be pursued by the Tory Government against the Irish people.

"The voice of America, at all events, should not be silent when additional outrages are to be inflicted on a robbed and persecuted nation. The British statesmen, who now champions a policy of justice to Ireland and condemns coercion as alike cruel and impolitic, did not hesitate to denounce a similar oppression by the Turks in Bulgaria

"Are the Irish less to America than the Bulgarians were to England, that Americans should hesitate to interfere in Ireland's behalf against the cruelties of the British Government?

"The Irish people have exhausted every means of moral and constitutional agitation to recover their just and legitimate social and political rights.

"The voice of Scotland, and of Wales and of the English democracy has sanctioned the efforts of Ireland and proclaimed the justice of her cause. Gladstone, Morley, Labouchere, and every English leader worthy of the name of statesman have pronounced themselves advocates of Ireland's claims to legislative independence.

"It is no longer the English people who oppose the restoration of Ireland's liberties, but the aristocratic robbers who have throttled alike both Britain and Ireland, and have fattened for generations on public plunder, with the proceeds of which they can use the lever of corruption to lift themselves into power and maintain themselves therein. The cause of Ireland is the cause of the British democracy, and to this fact may be attributed the bitter and unrelenting opposition of the British Tories.

"The Irish do not pretend to fight the British people, but against the oppressors of both.

"In this struggle the Irish have done all that morality can demand from an oppressed nation, and now as a last effort they ask the interference of the Christian world to prevent their destruction.

"As the President of the Irish National League of America, the representative body of the Irish race upon this continent, I re-echo that appeal. I ask the American press and people to pass their verdict on the treatment now being meted out to the Irish people by a heartless and venom blinded Tory government. Let them say boldly, now, if the Irish have not displayed all the forbearance that human nature is capable of in their passive resistance to such inhuman laws as those