

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1893.
TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Some one having asked Mr. Gladstone the secret of his remarkable activity, he replied with this story:—There was once a road leading out of London on which more horses died than any other, and inquiry revealed the fact that it was perfectly level; consequently the animals in travelling over it used only one set of muscles.

The Americans claim that they have a statesman who, at least in point of years, surpasses Mr. Gladstone. Mr. John Yaryan, senator, from Wayne County, in the Legislature of Indiana, was ninety years old on November 27th last, being thus fourteen years older than the State itself. He fought in the war of 1812, and has lived in eighteen Presidential elections.

As will be seen from St. Hyacinthe advice quoted elsewhere in this issue, upwards of three thousand families returned to the Province of Quebec, from the United States, during last year. These, no doubt, like many others, were induced by false accounts, to cross the border. But a sober second thought convinced them of their folly, and they embraced the earliest opportunity of returning to the land of their nativity.

In Washington on Saturday last, in the midst of a blinding snow storm, Grover Cleveland was, for the second time, inducted into the high office of President of the United States. Withstanding the inclemency of the weather, the ceremonies were attended by an immense throng of people. In his inaugural address, the President recommended a better observance of the laws relating to public health, and spoke strongly in favor of a stable currency. He condemned bounties and subsidies to ill-advised and unproductive enterprises in which the people have no concern, and also reckless pension expenditures. He favored civil-service reform and counseled more humane treatment of the Indians. Referring to the decree of the people in favor of tariff reform, the President said: "Our task must be undertaken wisely and without vindictiveness. Our mission is not punishment, but the ratification of wrongs, anxiety for redemption of pledges which my party has made and solicited complete justice for the most of the people have reposed in us constrain me to remind those with whom I am to cooperate that we can succeed in doing work that has been especially set before us only by the most sincere, harmonious and disinterested effort."

The Mercantiles in the House of Commons have voted to make the revenue sufficient for the needs of the Government economically administered. Prime Minister Gladstone with his treasurer at his elbow, and the legislature shivering during their trip to Europe what was the party's idea of economical administration. The three months' journey cost \$20,000. The wine bills exclusive of the sums charged in the hotel account, were over \$1,200 for the trip. The expenses seem to have taken \$100. Pocket money for Mr. Merivale about \$200. Cigars, gloves, flags, decorations for the room, alms, pour-boires, balls, Monte Carlo, and tips account for enormous sums. Hundreds of thousands of dollars. The expenses of the party seem to have been some \$500 a day for each of the innocents abroad. About four dollars a day was required for wines for each man through the hotel, and house-keeping bills were in the neighborhood of \$20 a day for each member of the party. The Star says that the accounts "reads like a record of a big debauch or of a nightmarer." There has been nothing like it since the Philadelphia exhibition of 1876.—St. John Sun.

Mr. Louis H. Davies, M. P. for Queens County, seems to possess the faculty of interjecting himself on occasions when altogether uncalled for, and of interfering with matters which the ordinary run of mortals would, under similar circumstances, consider none of their business. Mr. Davies has given numerous proofs of this peculiar and unenviable kind of conduct in the House of Commons. We read of him, from time to time, asking questions regarding the affairs of the Province of New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, which one would naturally expect to be attended to by the very able representatives from those Provinces. His most reprehensible offense in this respect took place on the 10th ult, when, by his own apparent reason, dragged the name of Judge Hugh McDonald, of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, into the discussions in the House of Commons. It appears that the last couple of years, Judge McDonald's health has been rather poor. On this account, he contemplated resigning, but had actually written out his resignation, when the Chief Justice and his other colleagues on the Provincial bench, out of respect to him, advised him not to resign for a while longer, and told him that they would gladly perform his duties, so that the interests of Justice were not affected. He faithfully did their full term, and in answer to Mr. Davies, said no complaint of any kind whatsoever, private or professional, had reached his ears, and that he had no objection to his being named in the House of Commons.

As our report of parliamentary proceedings shows, the budget debate in the House of Commons, was brought to a close on Tuesday night, or rather Wednesday morning, of last week when a division was taken on Sir Richard Cartwright's amendment. The vote stood 71 for the amendment and 126 against, giving the Government a majority of 55 in a house of 197 members, out of a total of 215. Three Conservative members were paired with three Liberals. Besides these there were nine Conservatives absent, one seat vacant through death, in addition to the speaker who does not vote. That would make a total of one hundred and forty Conservative members in the House. There is also an Opposition seat vacant on account of death, giving them seventy-five all told. These figures would show a total Government majority of sixty-seven. Grit hopes ran high for some days before the division, when it was rumored that, at least five Conservative members would vote for Cartwright's amendment. They have no right to cheer then, that with anticipation seems to have afforded them a great amount of comfort. But alas, as usual, they were doomed to disappointment. The division was taken and only one solitary Conservative was found to vote against his party on this question. Mr. Calvin of Frontenac voted with the Opposition. He seems to be an independent, and to have run his election as a kind of a free trader. The closing hours of the debate were rendered memorable by excellent speeches, from their respective points of view, by the Leader of the Opposition and the Minister of Finance. Mr. Foster's summary up is said to have been the ablest effort of his life and one of the best speeches delivered in the House of Commons. He placed the Opposition Leaders on the spot and roasted them badly. He excoriated Sir Richard Cartwright and showed the glaring inconsistencies of Mr. Laurier and other Grit theorists. Mr. Foster is in power in debate and it is a terror to the Grits.

THE Provincial Legislature meets for the despatch of business, this afternoon. Of course, we know not what manner of legislation shall be foreshadowed in the speech, which the Government will place in the hands of the Administrator. But whether the number of bills to be introduced, during the Session, be large or small, we may be morally certain that, when the public accounts are tabled, the financial transactions of the year will show a deficit of no inconsiderable magnitude. It is less than two years since the present Government, by a mere accident, attained power. Let us take a glance at their record during this brief period, and see what their achievements have been. Their financial policy has been ruinous to the Province. Under their management of the Land Office our assets have been squandered by thousands of dollars. In fact the manner in which they have conducted the affairs of this office has been so disastrous that it will take but a little while longer to dry up this source of revenue altogether. Then again, by issuing debentures and pledging the public credit for the payment of the principal and interest, they have saddled a permanent debt upon the Province. And now, the prospects are that this debt will be largely augmented by the deficit of the last fiscal year. So much for their financial operations; now a few words about their legislation. They have attempted to introduce the noxious principle of taxation without representation, by disfranchising Dominion officials, as well as practically disfranchising the most intelligent class in the community, by depriving them from voting for one half the members of the Legislature, if they should not happen to possess real estate to the value of \$325. They have also undertaken to tamper with the free will of the electors in the choice of representatives, by carving up the electoral districts, and thus providing for legislating themselves into power.

This is what the present Government have done and have attempted to do during their very brief reign; these are the achievements with which their names will be forever connected in the future history of our Province; this is the heritage they have to transmit to posterity. Are they proud of what they have accomplished, do they believe their public actions have been such as a grateful people will have cause to remember with pleasure; do they imagine their attempt at governing the Province has been of a nature to insure to them the praise of future generations? We will not, as we said above, attempt to conjecture what manner of legislation the Government will introduce during the Session, now commencing. But we promise our readers that we will keep them posted on what is going on in the Assembly, and that, so far as possible, we will let the light of their own eyes on any attempt of the Government to deprive the people of their rights and liberties.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER AT STOCK-TON

The Canadian High Commissioner in Great Britain is nothing if not energetic. Wherever an opportunity offers—and such chances occur frequently—Sir Charles Tupper is earnest in presenting the claims of Canada for consideration, and the immense possibilities and resources of the country for the information of those who hear him or subsequently read his remarks. Recently (February 15) by invitation of the Chambers of Commerce of Middlesborough, Hartlepool and Stockton, Sir Charles addressed a large meeting in the latter place, upon Canada and British commercial interests in the Dominion and other great colonies.

In pointing out the importance of closer connection between Britain and Canada, he referred to the Queen's Speech, which had very lately dealt with the great depression in agriculture. He drew attention to the decline of £20,000,000 in last year's exports of British products; and the £16,000,000 decrease of the preceding year. Such a condition of affairs demanded the most careful consideration, especially if a slight change of fiscal policy would enormously develop the consuming power of the self-governing colonies—which to-day took £3,960,000,000 of British goods—at the expense of foreign countries like the United States, which took only 10s. 3d. per head. Thirty-eight per cent of England's food supplies now came from the colonies, and sixty-two per cent from foreign countries. This state of affairs should be reversed.

If they wanted to send hundreds and thousands of men where they would become happy, prosperous and loyal defenders of Great Britain, then they would adopt this policy which he was advocating—(cheers)—a policy which would enable Britain to find markets for its products, furnish employment for the thousands of unemployed, and assist in the development of Canada. (Cheers.) England, for trade country as she was, taxed tea and coffee, and raised a large revenue from such duties, and she could extend the same principle to all foreign products that she might wish to apply. Five per cent on foreign products would yield this country some £16,000,000, and a policy of reduction of the rate of taxation in this country in such a way as would give that relief to the great agricultural population in this country which was needed.

Such was the policy presented by Sir Charles, amid cheers, to the assembled commercial interests of three important English towns, Canada, of course, occupied the foremost place in his speech, and he took a glance at the Dominion which we now feel to be part of our birthright as Canadians, but with which Englishmen can hardly yet be expected to have complete familiarity. Time and space address as those of Sir Charles Tupper, Colonel Howard Vincent, the Marquis of Lorne, Lord Aberdeen, Sir George Baden-Powell, and many others, upon the annexation proposal Sir Charles Tupper spoke plainly enough—even for some in Canada who refuse to believe that the United States have any right to a continental union: "The one question upon which the two great parties in the United States are in union, is that of the acquisition of Canada, or carrying out the Monroe doctrine of one Government from the Equator to the Pole."

The McKinley Bill, so far as it touched Canada, was described as a decidedly coercive measure, intended to force Canadians into Unrestricted Reciprocity as a short step to annexation. But it had failed in its intention, and, as Sir Charles pointed out amid cheers from his audience, the trade of Canada had increased \$20,000,000 in 1892, of which increase \$15,000,000 was with the Mother Country. These are the speeches which do good in Great Britain, and Canadians will wish our High Commissioner every success in his powerful presentations of Canada's case, and his useful advocacy of preferential trade relations.—Empire.

An Incensed Reader.

An irate subscriber, who is out of touch with our political views, writes us on the matter. The cause of his dislike is briefly and pitifully explained in his communication, which we give below. The fact of our making it public need not be construed to mean that we would wish it accepted as a standard in the epistolary and orthographical lines.

Disastrous Landslide.

Lorne, March 5.—Last night the people of Lorne, who were gathered by the seeking of their houses and had remained in the underground vaults and roofed off. These were large ones in the ground and the inhabitants were almost overcome by the force of the wind. Everybody upon the town was taken by an earthquake and landslides, and the people were taken to the hospital. At the cessation of the rain it was found that the ground on which the people were standing had sunk several feet. The buildings were completely wrecked, and the people were taken to the hospital. The ground was completely washed out, and the people were taken to the hospital. The ground was completely washed out, and the people were taken to the hospital.

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Farmers Column.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

W. A. WEEKS & CO. MARCH, 1893. New Spring Goods Just Received. New Sheetings & Pillow Cottons, New Bleached Cottons, New Counterpanes & Quilts, New Tickings, New Towelings. Thousands of yards of the above just opened will be sold cheap to make room for further Spring Stock.

W. A. WEEKS & CO., WHOLESALE & RETAIL. R. B. NORTON & CO., CITY HARDWARE STORE, QUEEN ST. SEED CATALOGUE FOR 1893. A MONG other valuable features of our Seed Catalogue for 1893 is one which renders it especially valuable to Stock Raisers and Cheese Factors.

GEO. CARTER & CO., Grocers & Seedsmen, 136 Queen Street. SELLING OUT CHEAP. BOOTS & SHOES. \$12,000 Worth of Boots and Shoes will be sold out cheap for Cash. If you want the best bargain in Boots & Shoes go direct to the DOMINION BOOT & SHOE STORE, J. B. MACDONALD, Proprietor, Queen Street, Charlottetown.

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