THE TORONTO WORLD

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The World's Telephone Call is 931.

MONDAY MORNING, NOV. 29, 1886.

Amusements This Day and Evening.

Grand Opera House—Denman Thompson in "The Old Homestead."
Toronto Opera House—Charles Verner in "Shamus O'Brien."

Mr. Meredith to His Constituents.

The leader of the Opposition in the Ontario Assembly has issued an address to his constituents which reads like an old-time Globe "platform." Condemnation of the needless dissolution, and a proposal to prohibit such acts except under exceptional circumstances; disapproval of an increase of the provincial expenditure from $1,200,000 in 1871 to $2,478,739 in 1885—a rise of a hundred per cent. against an increase of population of only twenty-five per cent; denunciation of the abuse of patronage and a proposal to put the county offices at the disposal of the municipal councils; the school-book monopoly and partizanship in the education office animadverted upon; the Canada Temperance Act declared to have been prostituted for political ends instead of being honestly and fearlessly enforced; the Separate School system admitted to be guaranteed to Roman Catholics by the constitution and therefore not to be abolished, but supporters of public schools should not be made to contribute to the Catholic schools as is done under present rules; manhood suffrage is promised, and the stoppage of all expenditure for emigration; something should be done for the "toiling masses;" and a strong denunciation of the action of Mr. Mowat's government in aiding a dangerous agitation in Quebec designed to impair the honest enforcement of the law on race, creed and party grounds. Mr. Meredith's address distinctly accentuates the change of platform lately made by the Conservative party. It is no longer a journal which speaks, it is the Conservative leader in the Assembly and future Premier of Ontario. Those who have believed that the recent change in the Mail was a mere party dodge to be reversed after the election must now be convinced that the new Conservative policy has come to stay. It divides itself naturally into two parts. Manhood suffrage and appointment to office by county councils are large concessions to liberal views, involving as they do a grant of power to the people hitherto unknown in this province. They also strike at the root of government by the purchase of individuals or classes by the exercise of patronage and will cause Ministers of the Crown to rest their hopes of success on the merits of their policy and the consequent good will of the people. The declaration of Mr. Meredith against an extension of the Separate School system in Ontario and his condemnation of Ontario aid to the Race and Revenge cry in Quebec indicate that the people may count on the Ontario Conservative leader for resistance to any increase of the power of the Church of Rome in school matters and to the encroachments of the French at the eastern end of the province. Mr. Meredith is doubtless animated by the conviction that all Sir John Macdonald's concessions to the French during the last forty-three years having failed to conciliate them there is no other course open to the people of Ontario than steady resistance to a power which, if it had its way, would make our school system an instrument of priestly power and bring Ontario to the level of Quebec in education, intelligence and enterprise.

All true Liberals will take courage from this manifesto. They may fear that Mr. Meredith will not act up to it, but even the declaration of such views is a great gain. It will shame recalcitrant Liberals into action and a great reform will be accomplished in our political system.

Should the N. P. be a Test Question Now?

In the course of recent speeches Sir John has contended that the question of National Policy is still a live one before the country, and that the policy itself certainly would be in danger were Mr. Blake and his friends in power at Ottawa. "All bosh," say the latter, "we know free trade to be impossible for Canada, by reason of revenue exigencies, if for no other. All we want is an amendment of the tariff in some respects, with the total abolition of the coal tax and the bread tax." This is the way they talk, when out of office; but the country has good reason to believe that, were they in power again, they would quickly find ways and means of knocking the bottom out of the N. P., the result of which would be to drive most of our manufacturers into bankruptcy, leaving to the many thousands employed by them the alternative of either starving or fleeing to the United States.

We are not left wholly to conjecture in this matter, for we have an example near at hand that throws considerable light on the probabilities. In the Great Republic high protection has been established for very nearly a quarter of a century. Details have been greatly changed, but the spirit and principle of the Morrill tariff are still maintained. Further, the American commercial policy has been a conspicuous success in the way of building up home industries and creating work for the country's workers, while at the same time producing such a revenue as has caused the American national debt to be paid off as never any national debt of such magnitude was before. One might have supposed that, in the face of such undeniable success, hostility to the protectionist system would have been disarmed, and that years ago opposition to it would have wholly ceased, except in foreign countries, of course.

But what have we seen instead of this? Why, two determined attempts, in the last two sessions of Congress, to upset the tariff, to take all the strength out of it, and to reduce it to a weak, worthless and ineffective semblance of what it once was. Some of the leaders in the attack have paid for their hostility to protection with the loss of their seats, and the verdict of the masses has given free trade a set back that it will not recover from for years to come. The lesson to ourselves is that if in the States free trade hostility to a protective tariff survived over twenty years of successful trial, we had better not too rashly conclude that seven years' trial has done the business for Canada. Put that in your pipe and smoke it.

But whence the long endurance of this hostility to protection, in spite of its most conspicuous success? In spite, also, of the undeniable fact that, *since* the adoption of the system by the United States, it has been adopted also by France and Germany. A fact which, be it remembered, is all the more significant, inasmuch as these are the two that, among all the nations of the old world, come next to England in commercial importance. A reason for this can be given, and a plain one too. Nine-tenths of all the literature of the subject is on the free trade side. Go through American and Canadian libraries, public and private, and you will find the fact to be about so. It is now nearly forty years since England adopted free trade, and since then the production of books, intended mainly to convert the rest of the world to the same system, has been enormous. If we take in also the period while the struggle for free trade was going on, we may say that we have already had more than half a century during which free trade literature, in English, has been poured like a Niagara upon English-speaking countries. Again, every Canadian or American who visits the mother country (and there are more who do this every year that passes) gets treated to a powerful *douche* of free trade talk; aye, and not only talk, but *influence*, which is apt to be even more effective. It was but yesterday, as it were, that protectionist literature of a high class began to show itself in England in the leading magazines. There will be more of it, and in time to come it will tell on public opinion wherever the English language is spoken. But the present generation is under the weighty influence of the free trade literature of over half a century, and this, along with influences social and financial, exercised upon American and Canadian visitors to England, forms a main reason for the persistence of the free trade delusion on this continent.

Fixed Terms for the Legislatures.

During months back the uncertainty as to when the Dominion elections will take place has caused a feverish excitement to prevail in every province. And now, to crown all, Mr. Mowat has most suddenly and unexpectedly sprung the Ontario elections upon the public—probably the greatest surprise of the kind ever experienced in Canada. All which causes people to ask why all our elections should not be at fixed times and for fixed terms, the same as in the United States? The reply, of course, is that were we to make this change we should have to add the further change of separating the Executive from the Legislative, and making the continuance of the former in power no longer dependent upon the votes of the latter. Such an abandonment of the British system for the American this Canada of ours is not prepared to make, *in toto*, but:

But what? This, namely: We might apply the fixed term system to the provinces, in their separate capacities, but not to the Dominion. This would have one good result—it would give us somewhat less politics to the square mile than we have at present, surely a change much to be desired. It would make the Provincial Parliaments, now so called, gatherings of the people's representatives *for the transaction of business*, rather than for the fighting of political battles. Who will say that this would not be a change for the better? Extreme party men, on both sides respectively, will almost certainly oppose it. But it probably will, on fair consideration, be approved of by all those who believe, or who admit, that more business and less politics in our representative assemblies would be an improvement. Politics we must have, of course, but we should still have enough of politics—no fear—supposing them to have their place in the Dominion arena only.

The Globe went out of its way to lie about Hon. Alex. Morris in its article on "The Tory Nominees in Toronto." It said his sickness was "obvious humbug," that "his health is just as good as it has been at any time for several years past," and that "he bitterly resents his rejection." Mr. F. D. Barwick, Chairman of the Conservative convention, has sent to the press Mr. Morris' letter to the effect that he would not be able to run, and also the letters of Dr. Richardson and Dr. Burritt both advising Mr. Morris not to run on account of the state of his health. Not even a man's illness is respected by the Globe. With Sir John it is the other way: the Globe is publishing lies nearly every day about being on his last legs. The Globe has got its into its head that only John A.'s physical decay will make room for Mr. Blake. What does Mr. Blake think of it?

And now it will be in order for Mr. Meredith, Q.C., to prosecute Mr. O'Donoghue and his commissioner for making affidavit in an extra-judicial matter, contrary to law. Perhaps the informer gets half the swag. No charge made for this tip to all those who are out in the November cold without an ulster.

A New York jury has pronounced Blind Tom, the colored pianist, an idiot, and incapable of taking care of himself. It is some satisfaction to know that a New York jury can occasionally stumble up against a notorious fact. Were Blind Tom a boodle alderman this jury would probably have disagreed.

A matter worthy of remark is the small part played in the present campaign by the Wilkinson-McKim conspiracy case, from which so much was expected at the time of its exploitation. It is not now heard of at all, except when incidentally referred to by the Globe or the Mail in its discussions of the O'Donoghue-Meredith matter. It has been found that while public opinion condemns the Tory agents for approaching certain Liberal members of the Legislature it also condemns those who nibbled at the bait held out to them.

Mr. Meredith gets pretty close to the Mail's platform, but he indulges in a good many generalities and ambiguities. If he can be said to stand upon it, it is certainly not in a flat-footed attitude.

The pro-Catholic Conservative pamphlet of 1883, which the Globe fired at its opponents last Saturday, is understood to have been from the pen of the versatile Capt. Kirwin, who was for some months attached to the staff of the Provincial Opposition in this city, Muskoka and elsewhere. It was an unproductive venture from the first, and has now assumed somewhat the character of an old-fashioned Chinese cannon, which goes off at the wrong end.

We are devoted believers in the potency of advertising but the man who asks through the St. John., N. B., Globe for the return of a lost umbrella must have a faith capable of moving mountains, but not capable of moving that umbrella.

If, as now seems probable, the British Government should put the Irish leaders in jail once more it will make things easier for itself in the House of Commons. If Sir John has any fears for another session let him clap Blake & Co. in jail, and the white-winged dove of peace will forthwith roost on the summit of Mr. Speaker's chair. Michael Davitt has been telegraphed for by his friends to come home at once, and he says that he is going as soon as possible, to be arrested, presumably.

Mayor Howland having provided bobtail cars with rearward attachments is now open to agitate for the compulsory wearing of horns by mulley cows.

In the unsavory Lord Campbell divorce case Lady Miles swears that when she wrote certain letters then and there produced she thought she was writing to a man of honor, which Campbell proved not to be. There does not appear to be much to be said for his lordship's honor, but why should her ladyship have written compromising letters to any man, honorable or otherwise?

The New York dynamiters are reported to have retired O'Donovan Rossa from their leadership and given his place to one Dr. Hamilton Williams, who is accused with having carried from Germany to Dublin the knives with which Burke and Cavendish were butchered in Phœnix Park. What Jerry is going to do for a living next is not stated, nor does it much matter to any one but himself.

A Republican newspaper charges that President Cleveland is the least approachable and most undemocratic president the United States ever had, "not excepting the cold and austere Federalist, John Adams." Those who thought they were electing "one of the boys" when they whooped it up for the Buffalo ward politician have found themselves disappointed. The latest complaint is that he has ordered the closing of the White House grounds against the general public, so that himself and his wife may enjoy their walks in privacy. None of his predecessors ever sought seclusion in this way, and for seeking it Mr. Cleveland is condemned. This looks like carrying Jeffersonian simplicity a little too far. Although the President is—theoretically at least—the public's most obedient servant he has some rights, and the house and grounds which he occupies are as much his for the time being as though he owned or paid rent for them. That is a poor sort of democracy which asserts itself by the gratification of an idle and vulgar curiosity, and which takes pleasure in running after and gaping at prominent people.

THE BURNED PULLMAN.

A Passenger's Thanks to Grand Trunk Officials.

The following letter, which was addressed to P. J. Slatter, City Passenger Agent, Grand Trunk Railway, explains itself:

Having been one of the passengers on board the Pullman car Cimbria, which was burned on the morning of the 19th instant, I think it only just to the Grand Trunk Railway, (and it may be of interest to the traveling public), that some acknowledgment should be made through the columns of the public press in return for the kindness and attention shown by the representatives of the railway, in attending to the wants, and looking after the comfort of the unfortunate passengers on their arrival in Toronto, and particularly for the prompt manner in which they endeavored to effect a speedy and satisfactory settlement of claims for personal loss. I am sure the thanks of all concerned are due P. J. Slatter, (the City Passenger Agent), for his personal efforts in this direction, and also to J. Stewart, from the solicitor's office in Belleville, for the gentlemanly way in which he discharged the duties of his office in adjusting and giving settlement for the different claims made by passengers.

I have seen several of the passengers since they received settlement, and all express their appreciation of the prompt and manly way in which they had been treated by the Grand Trunk.

I am certain that in the foregoing I am only expressing the sentiments of all who were on board the car at the time of the fire.

Trusting you will kindly publish the above, I am respectfully yours, A. WEIR, Jr.
Toronto, Nov. 24, 1886.

How to Destroy Ants.

Editor World: In reply to your correspondent, who enquires how he may get rid of ants in his house, I may mention the following methods, though it seems singular to me that he should be troubled at this time of year, when most ants are hibernating.

Take a coarse sponge, dip it in warm water, squeeze it moderately dry, then sift fine sugar into it. Place it in the usual haunt of the ants. They will very soon swarm into it. As soon as it is filled with the insects dip it into boiling water and kill the whole of them. Repeat the process till all are exterminated. It will not take very long and only requires a little street attention. If the ants' nests are accessible pour coal oil into them and thus destroy all the inmates. If your correspondent is troubled with white ants, not red or black ones, I should like very much to receive a few specimens of them, as white ants (Termites), though troublesome in Boston and many parts of the United States, are not known in Canada except in Manitoba and British Columbia.

EDITOR OF THE CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST.
Port Hope, Nov. 26, 1886.

Alf. Fleming's Bylaw.

Editor World: "Can it be possible that in an enlightened city like Toronto" any person can be found, except, of course, a dealer in the debasing articles, who would write such a letter as the one in this morning's issue. The writer says one of the effects would be to drive 180 business people into bankruptcy. Does he consider the number of workingmen, and even women, these 180 drive into bankruptcy, sin and degradation, and are not the creditors of the liquor dealers better able to stand this loss than the public generally, especially the poor? If we have a mayor next year like the one we have this the illicit groggeries will not flourish to an extent not dreamed of before. Let every true temperance man support the bylaw.

OLD BROCKTON.

Toronto, Nov. 27.

Important.

—When you visit or leave New York City save baggage expressage and $3 carriage hire and stop at the **Grand Union Hotel**, opposite the Grand Central Depot.

613 rooms, fitted up at a cost of one million dollars, $1 and upwards per day. European plan. Elevators. Restaurant supplied with the best. Horse cars, stages and elevated railroad to all depots. Families can live better for less money at the Grand Union Hotel than at any other first-class hotel in the city. cd

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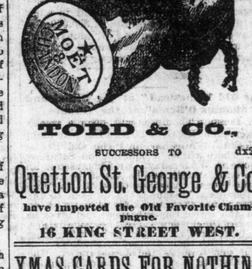
MOET & CHANDON.



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DR. W. J. GREIG, L.R.C.P., London, Eng. 50 Duke-street. Telephone No. 81.

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1346 It is to the interest of smokers to have only the above mentioned brands. Manufactured by

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS will be invited in a few days for the construction of the Section of the Cape Breton Railway extending from the Grand Narrows to Sydney, a distance of about 45 miles. This preliminary notice is given in order that Contractors desiring to tender for the work may have an opportunity to examine the location before the winter sets in.

By order,
A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.
Dept. of Railways and Canals.
Ottawa, 26th Nov., 1886.

FINANCIAL.

A LARGE AMOUNT of private funds to loan on real estate, city or farm property. FRANK CAYLEY, real estate and financial agent, 65 King-street east, cor. Leader-lane.

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SALE PRECISELY AT 11 O'CLOCK.

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The undersigned have received instructions to sell by auction on the premises known as the

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Adelaide-street west, opposite Widmer-street, on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, the entire furniture and plant; comprising walnut sideboard, extension table, 8 leaves; walnut secretary, walnut diners, arm chairs, 1000 wood seat chairs, Brussels carpets, matting, rep curtains, brass pole, cassimere throughout, electric lights, 500 roller skates, hose and reel, garden roller, lawn mower, wheelbarrow, 16 h.p. engine and boiler, dynamo machine, Duchess range, No. 9, double heating and box stoves, Gurney's "Quebec" stoves, crockery, glassware, cutlery, etc.

SALE AT 11 O'CLOCK. TERMS CASH.

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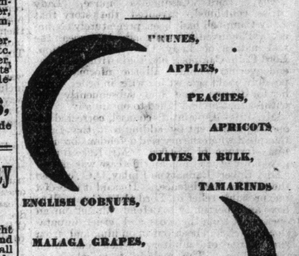

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