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NEWFOUNDLAND TROUBLE

A Concise Summary of the Position.

The Critical State of Affairs Existing—The Old Treaties—French Encroachments Increasing—The Salt Bait Cause of Irritation.

Whatever substratum of truth or superstition of exaggeration there may be in the reports of the behaviour of the French in Newfoundland which reach the mother country, there can be no doubt that the present state of affairs in this one of our oldest colonies, is highly critical. The importance which the colonists themselves attach to the solution of the problem is shown by the presence in England of the accredited delegates of the community in Newfoundland, Sir James Winter, Mr. Morine, and Mr. Scott; and it must be confessed that these gentlemen are justified in demanding that, before any settlement is arrived at by the Governments of Great Britain and France, the nature of the difference between the fishermen of France and those of Newfoundland should be so explained that the British public may have the opportunity of understanding it in all its aspects.

To the full appreciation of the problem a certain amount of historical knowledge is necessary. The attention of readers of *The Times* has recently been called to the existence of a number of treaties of ancient date bearing upon the question. They are the Treaty of Utrecht, struck in 1713, the Treaty of Paris, struck in 1763, and the Treaty of Versailles, struck in 1763, to which is appended a Declaration by the English King George III. The effects of these treaties, summarized in the last named of them, was expressly recognized by the Treaty of Peace of 1814 and the Definitive Treaty of 1815. The main cause of the trouble between the fishermen of the two countries is twofold. They arise, in the first place, from the conditions under which the French and English Governments made their bargain have entirely disappeared, and that the treaties, having no reasonable relation to the existing state of things, are obsolete and intolerable; they arise, further, that, if the terms of the treaties are to be followed, the French fishermen have greatly exceeded any rights which, upon the most liberal interpretation of those treaties, they could be held to possess. In addition they complain of other grievances, more or less directly connected with the main question, which shall be dealt with later.

The arguments with regard to the state of affairs at the time even the last of the treaties was struck is not to be belittled. At the end of the last century, say the delegates Newfoundland was not settled. Fishing fleets came there from Great Britain and from France every summer, and the fishermen used the coasts of the island solely for the purposes of drying their fish.

In each and all of these treaties the sovereignty of Great Britain over the island was fully recognized: in none of them was any territorial right upon the part of France once mentioned. On that basis the 13th article of the Treaty of Utrecht was drawn up. It ran thus:

The island called Newfoundland, with the adjacent island, shall from this time forward belong of right wholly to Great Britain, and to that end the town and fortress of Placentia, and whatever other place in the said islands are in possession of the French, shall be yielded and given up within seven months from the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty. In no manner, it is possible, by the most Christian King, to those who have a commission from the Queen of Great Britain for that purpose. Nor shall the Most Christian King, his heirs and successors, or any of their subjects, at any time hereafter, lay claim to any right to the said island and islands, or to any part of it or them. Moreover, it shall not be lawful for the subjects of France to fortify any place in the said islands of Newfoundland, or to erect any buildings there, besides stages made of boards, and but necessary and useful for the drying of fish; or to resort to the said island beyond the time necessary for fishing and drying of fish. But it shall be allowed to the subjects of France to catch fish, and dry them on land, in that part only, and in no other besides that, which is the place called Cape Bonaville, and from thence, running down by the western side, reaches as far as the point called Point Roche.

This article was affirmed by the Treaty of Paris, by the Treaty of Versailles, and by the Declaration of George III., the only difference being that the limits of French rights, whatever they might be, were slightly extended in the matter of geography. The points named in the last treaty were Cape St. John and Cape Ray, and the French rights were thus limited to that part of the east coast of the island which is to the north of Cape St. John and to the west coast of the island. It is upon the Declaration of George III. that the French claims are based; it runs thus:

The King, having entirely agreed with his Most Christian Majesty upon the articles of the Definitive Treaty, will take every measure which shall not only insure the execution thereof, with his accustomed good faith and punctuality, but will beside give, on his part, all possible efficacy to the principles which shall prevent even the least foundation of dispute for the future.

To this end, and in order that the fishermen of the two nations may not give cause for daily quarrels, his Britannic Majesty will take the most positive measures for preventing his subjects from interrupting in any manner by their competition the fishery of the French, during the temporary exercise of it which is granted to them, upon the coasts of the island of Newfoundland, and he will, for this purpose, cause the French settlements which shall be formed there to be removed. His Britannic Majesty will give orders that the French fishermen be not incommode in cutting the wood necessary for the repair of their scaffolds, but, and fishing vessels.

The 15th article of the Treaty of Utrecht, and the method of carrying on the fishery, which has at all times been acknowledged, shall be the plan upon which the fishery shall be carried on there; it shall not be deviated from by either party; the French fishermen building upon their scaffolds, confining themselves to the repair of their fishing vessels, and not wintering there; the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, on their part, not molesting, in any manner, the French fishermen during their fishing, nor injuring their scaffolds during their absence.

Now, no reasonable being can deny that the

words of this Declaration are an obstacle to the Newfoundlanders of the present day. They give, it is true, nothing more than an easement to the French fishermen; nor is that easement exclusive. On the other hand, they are clearly of such a nature as to discourage and even to prohibit British settlements upon that part of the island on which the French have an easement. Unfortunately for the peace and comfort of mankind, the conditions have been changed. The British fishermen around Newfoundland are no longer summer visitors; they are natives of the island. Treaty or no treaty, Newfoundland is settled, and the portion over which the French were by treaty entitled to enjoy an easement has been settled with the rest. For years the Imperial Government

THREW EVERY OBSTACLE in the way of settlement, and the first settlers constituted a community of mere squatters, without representation, without magistracy, and without police. But 20 years ago this community was recognized officially. It obtained a share in the representation; it became a part of an organized system of government. Crown grants were made, subject to the treaty rights of the French. The delegates urge that these rights are, to all intents and purposes, of no substance; that a mile of shore would give to the French every opportunity which they require for exercising their easement in a peaceful way. On the other hand, they say that a Crown grant, subject to an undefined treaty right over ground upon which the French do, as a matter of fact, usurp territorial rights for which there is not even a colourable foundation, gives no security of title, and that in consequence of the feeling of insecurity the mineral resources of the island, its agricultural capacities, and great facilities for "timbering" remain undeveloped and unused. This, the delegates say, on behalf of their fellow-countrymen, is an intolerable state of affairs, and one which must be removed, if the peace of Newfoundland is to be preserved. They are prepared, they say, to submit the matter to arbitration and to let the French easement up; and they point out that the easement is worth but little to the French, who have now but seven vessels where before they had 400.

The remaining grievances of the Newfoundlanders may be summarized in the words "bonnies, bait and lobster." and the St. George's Bay difficulty, which is but remotely connected with the question of the interpretation of treaties, is in fact only a part of the bait question. Bonnies and bait are closely connected. The islands of St. Pierre and Nicolas were long ago ceded to France in full right. They are French possessions, and valuable to France as bases for the bank fishery, which is recognized as a useful nursery and training ground for the French fishermen. Naturally, therefore, France, following a policy which England does not practice, but which France is entitled to practice if she please, protects and fosters that industry by every means in her power. She imposes a heavy protective duty upon fish imported into France in other than French bottoms. Of this the Newfoundlanders complain. Until about ten years ago, France consumed all the fish caught by French fishermen, but at about that date French fishermen withdrew from the Newfoundland coast, and the fishing at St. Pierre by French colonists and by fishermen from France began to be carried on upon a much larger scale than formerly. Upon France, and in view of the fact that the fishing industry at St. Pierre began.

A SYSTEM OF BOUNTIES and carried it to such an extent as to give a bounty equivalent to 75 per cent. of the value of the article to those French fishermen who imported fish into France and exported it again. Now the market for dried fish is limited, and the Great Roman Catholic countries of Spain and Italy, especially the latter, had been up to that time the great market of the Newfoundland fish. The French fishermen, who were able to sell at so low a price that the value of the entire export of Newfoundland fell by nearly 20 per cent. Ruin appeared to be imminent, and the Newfoundlanders determined to retaliate. The French fishermen used three species of bait, of which herring was the most important, and all the herring used came from Fortine Bay, which was caught by Newfoundlanders and sold in high quality. The bait industry is important. Thereupon the House of Assembly in Newfoundland passed, in 1886, the ordinance known as the Bait Law, to the effect that no Newfoundland should sell bait to a French fisherman. The law although it received the approval of the Governor, Sir G. W. D. O. was not assented to by the Imperial Government. In 1887 it was again passed, and, in deference to strong representations made by delegates from the colony, was sanctioned by the Colonial Office. The effect was immediate. The French catch of fish fell nearly 50 per cent. in two years; the price rose again, but it need hardly be said the French fishermen, who had been so successful in their baiting, felt the effect of the law. Out of the bait difficulty rose the St. George's Bay difficulty. On St. George's Bay is a small settlement of British subjects, who catch herring not for bait but for consumption. Now, St. George's Bay is between Cape Ray and Cape St. John and the French seized the opportunity of stretching their rights under the treaty of the afternoon. The amount of annoyance shown by French naval officers has probably been exaggerated, but certain facts are known. It is certain that, last year and this, officers of the French navy landed upon the shores of St. George's Bay armed, and in uniform; it is certain that they hoisted the French flag, that they issued notices that French vessels were to be allowed to fish in the bay, and that they ordered the British not to interfere, and, reporting to regulate the hours of fishing for French men and British subjects, that they SEARCHED THE HOMES

of British fishermen with the object of discovering what gear they possessed. It is also certain that the French fishermen caught herring in their large seines in such quantities as almost to deprive the British natives of their source of livelihood. It can hardly be contended that treaties giving an easement for the purpose of drying fish, and authorizing any such high-handed proceedings as these.

Last among difficulties is that of the lobster fisheries and the consequent processes of preservation. The lobster fishery, be it remembered, is carried on from the shore by means of lobster pots, which the English law designates as fixed engines. Before 1885 the British had established some forty factories for the kinning and preserving of lobsters; the French had established four in the neighbourhood of White Bay, and were losing money on those, but were keeping them up, the delegates suggest, merely in order to "put the screw on to the British colonists in the matter of bait." It was agreed between the French and English Governments that a temporary solution of a temporary difficulty, and never would have been accepted by people who assert that, at the time of the striking of the treaty, nothing in the nature of tinning lobsters was so much as dreamed of, and that the treaty has no reference to any structures save temporary stages and sheds for the curing of codfish.

In consequence, the position of the Newfoundlanders in this Treaty is that of a man who is asked to sign a treaty which relates to an obsolete condition of affairs as intolerable; that the public peace is in danger when, for fear of offending France, our Government will not even sanction the construction of a railway having a terminus in St. George's Bay, and when Frenchmen are allowed to disturb British subjects on British soil. On the other hand, they say that if they are to be bound by

the letter of antique treaties it is only just that France should be bound with equal strictness. It should be added that the delegates will not listen to the idea of concession to France in Labrador, which they declare to be only barely adequate to the needs of the Newfoundland fishermen. On the whole, the aspect of affairs is far from promising, and the sense of the Newfoundlanders is clearly that it is just to justify the delegates in their fear that if the present state of things is allowed to continue violence may be offered to the French officers.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

From all Quarters of the Universe.

A Syndicate's Doings—The Customs Defrauded—A Noble Gift—The German Army Bill—The English License Bill—Cholera in Europe.

CANADIAN.

It is said to be likely that the inhabitants of Heligoland who are dissatisfied with their transfer to Germany may emigrate to Canada. It is stated that Hon. J. J. Ross, now senator for De la Durantay division, Quebec, will be transferred to Shawinigan district in which he lives.

It is rumored that Mr. Daley, ex M.P., and at one time Deputy Speaker of the Commons, will be the next Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, vice McLean deceased.

Two hundred and forty miles of the Halifax-Bathurst cable have been laid. Telegraph communication has been established with the steamer "Westmont" doing the work.

A current rumor to the effect that Sir John Thompson, who has gone to England, was to be sworn a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is officially denied.

Mrs. Connolly, of Halifax, widow of the late Owen Connolly, of Charlottetown, has given her handsome residence and grounds on the Esplanade to the Sisters of Charity.

The funeral of the late Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia, Hon. A. W. McLean, took place on Saturday in Halifax. Honors were paid the dead by both the military and naval forces.

George J. Hurdman, aged 34, son of Charles Hurdman, lumber merchant, Ottawa, was drowned on Thursday evening in the Quib River, at Bryson, Que., by the upsetting of his canoe.

The Royal Military College at Kingston closed on Thursday last. The Report of the Commandant showed it to be in a high state of efficiency and the conduct of the cadets satisfactory.

The Montreal sugar refinery is to be sold to an English syndicate, as well as the cotton factory. It is understood the negotiations for the purchase of the Halifax refinery have been successfully closed.

The Customs authorities in Toronto have seized a quantity of cigars in various quarters on account of the being found in boxes containing customs labels, and at the same time only of Canadian make.

The Manitoba Department of Agriculture has issued the crop report. It gives the wheat acreage as 746,058 acres, an increase of over 100,000 acres over last year's figures. The total acreage under cultivation this year is 1,033,263 acres, against 893,402 last year. Great crops are certain if the weather does not continue too dry.

A sad drowning accident occurred at Brockville, Sunday afternoon last, 2:45, when a result in the death of two persons, Miss McMan and William Caselman. It appears there were four in the boat, Miss McMan, Miss Graham, of Oshawa, Mr. Caselman and Mr. Major, of Brockville. Miss Graham and Mr. Major were rescued.

King's College, N.S., celebrated its centennial at Windsor last Thursday. King's was established by a charter obtained from King George III., by the aid of the Nova Scotia Legislature for a long time it was a state college and the only one in Nova Scotia (which then included New Brunswick) which was allowed to confer degrees. To-day it is the oldest English-speaking institution of learning in the British colonial empire.

A serious stabbing case occurred in the Brigade Camp at Kingston, on Thursday night, within the lines of the 48th Battalion. Private English, while sleeping in the tent, was annoyed several times by soldiers outside. He asked the men to be quiet, but they persisted in annoying him. Finally he seized his gun, on which a bayonet was fixed, and thrust it through the tent. It passed through the left arm of Private Bradburn, and about an inch into his side, above the heart. English was arrested.

An Ottawa despatch states that Sir John Thompson, in his mission to England, is being accompanied by a number of the Nova Scotia Legislature, and that the latter is being accompanied by a number of the Nova Scotia Legislature, and that the latter is being accompanied by a number of the Nova Scotia Legislature.

China advises that a mutiny occurred on the Chinese steel cruiser "Nan Sheng" lying at Woo Sung. Captain Chu Ming Fu refused to allow the native sailors more than half pay, as the vessel was undergoing repairs. The sailors locked up the commodore and captain in the cabin and had a festive time. They subsequently released the officers, and the commodore ordered fifteen of the ringleaders to be sent ashore and shot.

The reelection of Mr. Olney in Barrow-in-Furness will be opposed by the Liberals and Mr. Duncan has been nominated. The London Star protests against the candidacy of Mr. Duncan as an unwise move, which the Barrow Liberals will rue and for which there is no reason. If the Liberals will deliberately desert the Liberal Unionists, the Gladstonian result, the Liberal Unionists will be glad to see the Liberals go over to the Tories bag and baggage.

The Reichstag passed the Army Bill to its third reading without an amendment. The Government having now secured the passage of the Army Bill, the House can adjourn early in July until November, when bills bearing on the labor question will form the chief work of the Reichstag. The bill concerning the acquisition of Heligoland and the financial plans of the Government by which the increased army expenditures are to be met, will remain undisclosed until the winter session.

Advices received at Constantinople from Erzeroum regarding the trouble in that city, state that a detachment of Turkish soldiers, searching a church where while services were being held, in the belief that a quantity of arms was secreted in the building, the congregation resented the indignity and opened fire with revolvers upon the Turks. In the encounter which ensued one Turkish officer, four Armenians and eight Turks were killed, and many others on both sides, were wounded. A party of Musulmans subsequently made riotous demonstrations, and stoned the British consulate.

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A blue book on the Newfoundland fisheries dispute with France, which the British Government

THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC LOTTERY.

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ment has been expected to issue for some days past, has been issued. All the phases of the dispute are detailed.

The University of Oxford has conferred the degree of D.C.L. on Henry Stanley and Prof. Goodwin of Harvard University.

Cardinal Manning is interesting himself in a scheme for curtailing the long hours and increasing the wages of London shopmen.

It is stated that Louise Michel intends to leave France and join the Nihilists. She says she will found a Nihilist colony in America.

The Russian press expresses dissatisfaction at the cession of Heligoland to Germany, and asserts that a secret defensive alliance has been formed by England and Germany.

A French Royalist conference is in progress at London. The Duc La Rochefoucauld, the Duc de D'Uzes, Comte Lacqueuque Arthur Meyer, and several of the leaders of the party are present and others have been summoned.

The chief of the Czar's private police has been dismissed for failing to detect a recent Nihilist plot to barter half full of dynamite in France in the wine cellar of the Gascogne palace, but no clue as to how it came there has been discovered.

The renewal of the Dreibund until 1895 has been the subject of negotiations between Signor Crispien, the Italian Premier, and Count Kalnoky, the Austro-Hungarian prime minister. The new treaty, though unsigned is effectively assured.

The London Daily News declares that the cession of the Newfoundland difficulty is rapidly slipping into the hands of the Government, and that the Government ought to lose no time in revising the treaties, at whatever cost of the national honor.

M. De Londe advises France to submit the Anglo-German convention to a special commission of the powers. He expresses his belief in the existence of a secret Anglo-Italian agreement ending Somali and the ports of Brava, Marks and Nagadogo to Italy.

Some Russian papers urge the formation of a treaty of alliance with France as a counterpoise to the alleged defensive alliance between England and Germany. Other papers prefer the present tacit alliance between Russia and France. The latter sentiment prevails in official circles.

For the first time in the history of the University of Cambridge a woman has been placed at the head of the Mathematical Tripos and practically declared to be Senior Wrangler for the year. The successful lady is Miss Fawcett, daughter of the late Postmaster General of England.

The Natal Witness publishes a special telegram asserting that Lobengula wishes to annul the concession which he granted to the chartered British South Africa Company, that the Matabele were rising, and that fighting was expected, the forces of the company having commenced to advance. The rumor is not confirmed.

The Berlin National Gazette announces that the Anglo-Germany agreement relative to East Africa has been finally concluded. It is stated that England has ceded to Germany the Island of Zanzibar, on the East African coast. The island is off the Zanzibar coast and about 125 miles south of the island of Zanzibar.

In the British House of Commons Sir James Ferguson, Under Foreign Secretary, referred to the report that the Government was disinclined to cede the Island of Zanzibar in exchange for the latter's renunciation of the Newfoundland fishery rights, declaring it to be utterly baseless. He also denied that Germany and England had entered into a secret alliance.

The Cassel Stadt Zeitung states that Prince Bismarck in addressing a deputation from Bamberg, with reference to the Anglo-German agreement, that England looked well after her own interests. For a time the English would treat the German merchants in Zanzibar in friendly fashion, but sooner or later they would try to oust the Germans.

It is reported that Prince Ferdinand, the ruler of Bulgaria, has in a sudden and mysterious manner started from Sofia for Vienna by way of Varna and Bucharest. His visit, it is stated, is connected with the critical position in which Bulgaria is placed and the weakening of the Stambuloff ministry by the resignation of Dr. Drankov from the ministry of foreign affairs.

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The army bill has again been before the Reichstag and the government announced that it would accept no amendments. Von Capri defended the German alliance with Italy, which, he declared, would stand even should Signor Crispien retire. It was possible that Germany would be secured in alliance with Austria only, but there was an old proverb that one cannot be too sure before taking a decision, therefore Germany's alliances must not be weakened or mutilated.

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr. T. M. Healy invited the ruling of the Speaker on the question of "ear-marking" or expressly reserving funds for the extinction of licenses. The Speaker gave his opinion as length that no precedent existed for the fund. He thought it a grave innovation, which the House itself ought to decide upon, and believed that Mr. Healy was fully justified in raising the question. The Speaker's ruling caused the ministers to retire to discuss it. Lord Hamilton and Mr. Chamberlain, who were summoned to the conference, advised the Cabinet to drop the obnoxious clause which was done by the Government.

Right Rev. Mgr. McManis, member of the Papal household, vicar-general of this diocese, and one of the oldest and best known Catholic prelates in this country, died in Geneva on Sunday.

The President has nominated Samuel H. Dineen, of Illinois, to be United States Consul at Belleville; Woolman J. Holloway, of Indiana, at Sarsfield, Ont., and Charles D. Jolyon, of Michigan, at Windsor, Ont.

The New York Herald's Washington correspondent says: "I have the highest authority for the statement that certain Republican leaders in the Senate are considering the advisability of shelving the McKinley Bill for the remainder of the session."

There is a probability that the population of Connecticut may be shown to be not large enough to retain the state's present representation of four in Congress. The farming villages as shown by the returns in the first district have decreased in population during the last 10 years.

The flames in the Hill Farm Mine, at Dunbar, Pa., burst from the mouth of the pit Friday night and leaped thirty feet in the air. All efforts to extinguish have proved fruitless. The buildings in the vicinity have been burned, and the fire spreading. It is feared the mine is on fire all through or else filled with smoke. No bodies have yet been recovered. The breaking out of the flames necessarily suspends exploration of the mine.

The Washington Evening Critic is in a position to state, as a matter of undoubted and absolute fact, that the present state of confusion into which the Behring Sea question is involved is the result of the President's repudiation of an arrangement between Secretary Blaine and Lord Salisbury, the Prime Minister of England. Mr. Blaine took virtually the same view of the matter as was entertained by Mr. Bayard, and after the most careful and exhaustive examination, entered into an agreement with Lord Salisbury. That agreement the President refused to ratify.

The Illinois Central Railway strike has been declared off and the men returned. It is understood the men abated their demand for Superintendents Russell's discharge to depriving that official of the power to hire or discharge men. General Superintendent Sullivan said the strike was settled, not upon the basis of any concession on the part of the railway company, but by the complete surrender of the men. Superintendents Russell's powers had not been curtailed. The strike lasted four days and seven hours. The loss to the Company was over \$100,000. The settlement of the strike has caused general rejoicing.

THE IRISH LEADER'S BIRTHDAY

Great Celebration of the Occasion

Mr. Parnell Reviews the Work of the Irish National Party—He is Conducive of Near Victory.

LONDON, June 29.—Mr. Parnell was 41 years old yesterday, and in honor of the occasion a grand banquet was given last night at the National Liberal Club. Over a hundred guests. Justice McCarthy presided. Mr. Parnell, responding to a toast to his health, recognized Dr. McCarthy as the ideal of an Irish member to whom he could wish no future dearer to his heart than to enter soon with himself the portals of a parliament on College Green. He congratulated his hearers upon the Gladstone alliance, and expatiated upon the constitutional policy of the Irish party. There was a time in the parliamentary history of Ireland, he said, when traitors thrived and prospered. Now, with a perfect franchise which Ireland knew how to use, no Irishman, however great his services, could attempt to betray his country with any hope of success. Nor would the Government bribe either Ireland or her members. If they bribe the latter, tomorrow they would find a fresh crop.

RECALLS UNFORGOTTEN.

(Laughter.) He claimed for the Parnellites the credit for the present disorganized condition of the Government and for the great change that had been wrought in English opinion regarding Ireland. He excused the Irish members who were absent at the recent critical division on the ground that it was as much of a surprise to them as to the Conservatives that they would have been called to issue a whip because it was a notorious fact that the Government opened all the Irish members' letters and a whip would thus have defeated its own object. Nevertheless it was worthy of remark that the Parnellites were present in greater strength than in any other party. It would be unjust on his part to withhold his testimony as to the manner in which the members of the Irish party had uncomplainingly performed their duty for the past five years. He was convinced that they had not much longer to wait for the harvest. The Government would continue for a time to drag out a wretched and feeble existence, diminishing the possibility of a life hereafter. Whatever they attempted to do now they had been authorized. Therefore, the prospects of Ireland were bright in the hands of Mr. Gladstone. The members of the Irish party would accept no office unless conferred by their fellow-countrymen. In conclusion he proposed a toast to Chairman McCarthy.

Mayor of Montreal Questioned.

Complaints have been made that the acting Mayor of Montreal, Mr. G. W. Stephens, permitted Mr. G. W. Stephens, the notorious and profane preacher, and then to use St. Helens Island for the purpose of addressing the people assembled at a picnic. *La Minerve*, in an article headed "Conclave de Saluses," says:—

The picnic was organized for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the formation of the Irish Protestant Church in Canada. Father Chénier addressed the large gathering and he entered upon an atrocious tirade against the Catholic religion and all that the church holds most sacred. The preacher was interrupted in his discourse by the care-taker of the island, Mr. Desmarais, who enjoined him to cease. After a lively discussion the leaders of the picnic pretended as they had been authorized to do so by the gathering by G. W. Stephens, chairman of the Park Committee. The rules of the island prohibiting the holding there of meetings were shown and the pastors and their flocks found it necessary to return to the city. It was time, for an indignant crowd had gathered, and trouble might have resulted if the police had not intervened. Now, Mr. Stephens and those people who hold their picnic on the island and preach their sermons there? That is the question.

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HENRY R. GRAY, Chemist, 816 122 St. Lawrence street, Montreal.

JOHN FITZGERALD.

An Omaha Daily Paper Nominates Him for Governor of Nebraska.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Omaha Daily Democrat, published in Omaha, Neb., nominates John Fitzgerald of Lincoln, the president of the Irish National League of America, for Governor of Nebraska. This is a compliment which, we doubt not, Mr. Fitzgerald deserves. We are not in a position to state whether he would accept the honor thus tendered him, but his tender indicates the high place he holds in the esteem of the Democracy of his State.

The Omaha Democrat, in advocating the nomination, says:

"He is a man of unquestioned ability, a man of high character and unblemished reputation, a man who, by his own hard work and enterprise, has earned a competency, and to therefore beyond the emolument of using his office for ill-gotten gain. While it is proper that every public office should be open to a poor man as well