THE MURDER OF SCOTT.

The Saddest Incident in Last Northwest Rebellion.

REVOLTING CRUELTY OF RIEL

(Winnipeg Sun.)

The unfortunate events transpiring just now in the Northwest, instigated by the machinations of Louis Riel, recall with vivid interest the atrocious butchery of Thomas Scott in the winter of 1870. The circumstances of the rebellion, the attempt of the loyalists of the Red River valley under Dr. (now Senator) Schultz to surprise the insurrectionists, the accident by which a well-planned *coup de main* was frustrated, the capture of Dr. Schultz and his loyal followers, his escape, and the exasperation of Riel which wreaked the vengeance of his disappointment upon the unfortunate Scott, will remain fresh in the minds of most people, now living, who remember the rebellion of 1870 in Manitoba. The Toronto *Globe* of that day gave the following terribly faithful and tragically graphic account of this infamous assassination:

"The truth concerning this horrid butchery is almost too revolting for publication; but I have the most unquestionable authority for the following details: The unfortunate young man was shot by three executioners about 12 o'clock in the day, and while he was writhing on the ground a drunken half-breed ran up to him to finish him with his revolver. This fellow was so drunk, however, that he put his pistol to poor Scott's head obliquely, and the ball, which struck below the temple and forward of the ear, simply grazed the skull, and came out near the nose, beneath the eye. The shot stunned the victim, and he was thrust into the coffin and placed in the bastion, in charge of a half-breed sentinel. The night was bitterly cold, and while the sentinel was pacing his rounds at 11 o'clock he heard Scott calling out strongly in English. He did not understand what he said, but Riel and others were summoned, and to these Scott said: 'For God's sake either finish me or take me out of this, for I am freezing.' This was fully eleven hours after the poor fellow had been thrust into his coffin. Here the story breaks off, as far as anything is certainly known. Riel and one other, whose name is not known, were left alone with their victim, and the report of three pistol shots were heard, but on the following day at noon the murdered man was distinctly heard muttering incoherently in his coffin. Still later, when he was buried, his brains protruded through a ghastly breach in his forehead, and he bore the limp and life-like appearance of one but recently dead. This is a horrid story to tell, but it is firmly believed by the best informed in the settlement. It is no wonder that Riel refused to give up the body to be the ghastly witness against himself and his fellow butchers. I neglected to state that the first three shots took effect in the unfortunate man's body, and that neither they nor the pistol shot by the drunken half-breed were known to be necessarily fatal. Many think they were not. The murder is not talked of in the settlement, as it enrages Riel to have it referred to. Many half-breeds profess to disbelieve the statement that Scott was executed at all."

There are some additional facts, however, in connection with this crime, which are not generally known, gathered from a reliable source, and published last year by the writer in the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, which lend new features of horror to the terrible tragedy of Fort Garry. At the date of this murder, a newspaper was published at Garry called the *New Nation*, which was either the willing mouthpiece of Riel, or was impressed into service as such, edited by a retired English officer, by name Major Robinson. The manager of the office was Mr. George B. Winship, now proprietor of the Grand Forks (Dakota) *Morning Herald*, and a leading public man in that territory. Mr. Winship's statement is to the effect that in the afternoon of the day of the tragedy, Major Robinson was summoned by Riel to the Fort, for the purpose, as he expressed it, of receiving instructions for an article justifying the so-called execution. In about an hour Major Robinson returned in such a state of nervous prostration that he was quite incapable of doing what was required of him; in fact, he did not recover from the horror of what he had seen and heard, and shortly after left the country for England. The circumstances related by Major Robinson to Mr. Winship were these: That on reaching the Fort he found the Provisional Council in a state of intoxication, Riel being the only one among them at all in the possession of his sober senses. When Riel entered upon an explanation of what had been done, Major Robinson refused to credit the fact that the deed had been actually perpetrated. "Come with me," said Riel, "and I will show you." Together they proceeded to the square in the interior of the fort, and to one of the sheds ranged along the interior of the walls, which were used by the Hudson's Bay Company for storage purposes. In front of this a sentry was pacing. Riel entered the door, accompanied by Major Robinson, and as the former pointed to the rude wooden box which lay there, Major Robinson distinctly heard these words proceed from the living tomb of this unfortunate murdered man: "O, how I suffer! For God's sake let me out of this!" Horror-stricken he hastily retired. Riel came to the door, called the sentry and closed the door. Immediately after, Major Robinson heard two reports of a revolver, at deliberate intervals. This was the end of the life of Thomas Scott. Major Robinson declared that the sentry was armed only with his rifle. The inference as to by whose hand poor Scott's soul was sped to meet his Maker is plain. Louis Riel is not only the judicial murderer of Scott, but he is undoubtedly his personal butcher. To fully comprehend this tale of horror, it must be understood that this man had been enclosed alive, dreadfully wounded, and left exposed to the bitter cold from the time of the execution for several hours afterwards. How many death agonies poor Scott endured in those awful hours can hardly be realized by human imagination.

Curing a Bad Memory.

Our readers have, doubtless, heard of memonics, the name given to any system of rules intended to assist the memory. The practical working of such a system is hindered by the fact that it requires a good memory to remember its precepts, when the occasion comes to use them. But a writer in the "St. Nicholas" gives two simple rules for the improvement of the memory, which can be easily recalled and readily put in practice:

Your memory is bad, perhaps, but I can tell you two secrets that will cure the worst memory. One—to read a subject when strongly interested. The other is not to read, but think.

When you read a paragraph or a page, stop, close the book, and try to remember the ideas on that page, and not only recall them vaguely in your mind, but put them in words and speak them out.

Faithfully follow these two rules and you have the golden key of knowledge.

Beside inattentive reading, there are other things injurious to memory. One is the habit of skimming over newspapers, all in a confused jumble, never to be thought of again, thus diligently cultivating a habit of careless reading hard to break.

Another is the reading of trashy novels. Nothing is so fatal to reading with profit as the habit of running through story after story, and forgetting them as soon as read.

I know a gray-haired woman, a life-long lover of books, who sadly declares that her mind has been ruined by such reading.

THE SOUDAN.

Reported Gradual Withdrawal of British Troops—Wolseley to Return Home—Advance of Graham's Troops.

A last night's London cable says:

The news from the Soudan continues to indicate the steady withdrawal of the British troops comprising the Nile expedition. Gen. Lord Wolseley and Gen. Sir Radvers Buller have arrived at Dongola. Gen. Wolseley will leave to-morrow for Cairo, accompanied by Lord Charles Beresford, R. N., the commander of the naval brigade. The general opinion is that both these heroes will arrive at London within a few weeks.

Military papers severely criticize Gen. Graham's conduct of the Suakim-Berber campaign.

It is believed five thousand Turkish troops will be sent to Suakim as soon as General Graham has succeeded in crushing Osman Digna. The Guards will then be withdrawn from the Soudan and sent to India.

A federation of Liberal associations has decided to actively oppose a continuous war in the Soudan. It is believed the Government is not unwilling to submit to party coercion. The opinion prevails that it will abandon the intention of a march to Khartoum, and after the defeat of Osman Digna it will endeavor to open up negotiations with the Mahdi.

Gen. Graham will advance to Tamai on Wednesday.

A kamsin began to blow at Dongola on Wednesday. The heat is excessive, but the health of the men with General Wolseley remains good. The Arabs are daily becoming more hostile to the British.

Unofficial advices say the transport service is very defective. The whole army is suffering, men, mules and camels being compelled to carry otherwise unnecessary burdens in the torrid heat.

Typhoid fever and dysentery are prevalent among the troops. At McNeill's zareba there have been many cases of fatal as well as disabling sunstroke.

General Graham and the British army arrived to day at McNeill's zareba. The advance includes all the troops except 50 men from each regiment, who were left to garrison Suakim. The violence of a storm delayed movements considerably. Osman Digna's losses during the engagements of the week are estimated at 4,000 men.

The building of the Berber Railway has been suspended outside of Suakim, owing to the inability of the army to afford protection along the line beyond the camp. The force for such protection cannot be spared until after the battle at Tamai, which is expected to be decisive.

THIEF TRADE REPORTS.

A Philosophical Chapter on Crime in the City of London.

Returns of thievery do not often appear among trade reports, says *Bradstreet's*, yet it is a well-organized business. Of course, there is much petty, retail pocket picking, corner filching, etc., which is never brought to the notice of the police, and consequently makes no part of the official reports, but what is tabulated is decidedly representative. One would think that stealing is so perilous a risk that it could hardly thrive, and that its pursuit must imply an irresistible predatory instinct, impelling men to that course in spite of every hazard. But the London police returns disclose a fairly prosperous business, and on the doctrine of averages comparatively safe. In 1880 every two hundredth person in the district covered by the operations of the metropolitan police reported himself a victim of thievery in some form. There were in the same territory 1,383 known thieves, although the actual number must be much greater than are known at Scotland Yard. The losses registered by the police amounted to nearly $650,000. Of this $190,000, or a little more than 29 per cent., were recovered, leaving the handsome amount of $460,000 to be divided among the depredators. How many good dollars were sent after the bad ones the returns furnish no definite means of determining, and one is at liberty to conjecture the purposes for which the $195,000 received for special services outside the tax rates were spent. Probably no small part was paid for detective duty to obtain some return of the goods snatched away by dexterous fingers. Notwithstanding all expenditures on police, the gains of this profession allowed to each known thief in the district was $332 13, or considerably more than an unskilled laboring man could earn in London. There are fluctuations in this line of industry, for in 1878 it was especially profitable, and there were $496 of unrecovered spoil to each professional on the Scotland Yard books. But this statement makes no allowance for those of the corps who were apprehended, who had to disgorge and afterward enjoyed the hospitality of the State. It would not be much amiss to estimate that the losses in London by stealing average $400 a year for each habitual thief, an income enjoyed practically without molestation, and sufficient to recruit the professional ranks while wages are as low as they are. The number of larcenies and burglaries largely exceeds that of the thieves, but obviously each operator must commit several crimes in order to realize his full income. But the inefficiency of police protection in London is exhibited in the statement that for the decade from 1870 to 1880 the losses by the spoliation of the predatory class in excess of recoveries was $4,166,000, the recoveries being a little more than a fifth of the losses. Nearly half of the felonies coming under the cognizance of police pass without any arrest. But the crime of London is less burdensome than its pauperism. It is estimated that the endowed charities of the metropolis produce an annual income of £4,000,000, of which three-fourths are expended in London. Add to the £1,187,427 arising from the poor rate, exclusive of the police and administrative moieties thereof, and divide it by the 88,000 out and indoor paupers and an income of $245 per head is obtained. Here no account is made of the private benevolence of London, which, since the day of Denison, has been estimated at $10,000,000 annually. If this is taken into consideration it is doubtful which is more profitable, begging or stealing.

AT EASTERTIDE.

At Eastertide in gown of blue
And dainty bonnet neat and new,
With downcast eye whose fringed lid
A sunny sky of azure hid,
Across the aisle sat mercy Prue.

Above the crimson-cushioned pew
I watched her as the moments flew,
And wondered if she knew I did,
At Eastertide.

The sunlight poured the oriel through;
I envied what it dared to do,
To clasp her fingers clad in kid,
And hold and kiss them unforbid!
I take the hint—pray, wouldn't you,
At Eastertide?

—The Police Justice of Cleveland advises hot water for drunken husbands—hot enough to scald the whiskey out of them. Wouldn't they have to take another drink to cure the blisters?

—The new materials are woollen goods of two shades which form a harmony, or plain goods with a tint or cast to them—tan color, ashes-of-rose, bronze with a yellow tint and new shades of brown. The material is a sort of lady's cloth, a jersey webbing or a corded goods that is non-elastic.

The wood of the "jarrah" tree, an Australian product, growing principally in the western section, is stated to be about the next thing to everlasting. It appears to defy all ordinary forms of decay, under the most trying circumstances; is left alone by the white ants, and ships built of it do not require to be coppered.

THE RUSSIAN SCARE.

Still Waiting for Russia's Answer—The Troops Demanded by Lord Dufferin—War Feeling Dying Out.

A last night's London cable says:

To-day has been an anxious day in military circles. The war preparations are in full blast, and public opinion is still divided as to the chances of averting war. On one question there is no difference of opinion. England cannot retreat, as the *Times* says, without humiliation, and it is believed that, having taken a decided stand, she will maintain it.

At Portsmouth all the ships belonging to the First Naval Reserve, including four ironclads, with all gunboats and torpedo boats, have been ordered to be got in immediate readiness for sea and lists of all men available for service in the army reserves and militia have been called for. The dockyard departments have been officially notified to hold themselves in readiness to supply extra stores for military and naval service.

It is reported the Government have received an informal indication that Russia will offer counter proposals to Earl Granville's looking to a compromise.

The *Times* concurs with the *News* in inferring from Earl Granville's remarks in the House of Lords that the Government takes the position that Penjdeh belongs to the Afghans. This position makes a complete disposal of Russia's disingenuous plea that the occupation of Penjdeh by the Afghans justified Russia to advance upon a debateable point. "The question of peace or war," the *Times* declares, "now rests more with Russia than with England. To desert the Ameer would mean to make Russia the present of an alliance with him. In that event England would be compelled to fight both the Ameer and Russia. We sincerely regret that Russia's movements daily increase the chances of a rupture. The immediate necessity of the moment is that Russia be made clearly to understand that England is thoroughly in earnest."

The "Peace-at-any-price" members of the House of Commons are circulating a petition to Mr. Gladstone urging him to secure the submission of the Afghan question to arbitration. Extreme Radicals are the only signers.

Lord Dufferin's request for reinforcements states if war is to be declared India requires that twenty-three regiments of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, two batteries of field artillery, and eighteen batteries of horse artillery be despatched to India forthwith. The Mobilization Committee and Transport Department are busily arranging to collect and forward these troops. Several of the swiftest ocean steamers have been chartered for the transport service, including the America and Arizona. Orders have been sent to the Mediterranean station to have all magazines overhauled and to prepare all gun-boats and torpedo vessels for service.

Agents of Irish organizations have approached the Russian Embassy in Paris with offers of assistance in case of war between Russia and England. The agents propose to foment a rising in Ireland while England is engaged in Afghanistan, and to fit out privateers in America to prey upon British commerce. They ask Russia to furnish its Irish allies with means to carry out their part of the bargain.

Despatches from Gulran and Penjdeh show the situation on the Afghan frontier unchanged. The commission under Gen. Lumsden has completed the basis for the delimitation of the boundary, and is still awaiting the arrival of Gen. Zelinow, the Russian commissioner.

"Russian people are alarmed," telegraphs the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, "at the idea of war. They know that war with England would be disastrous to Russia. The Czar needs money, and in the event of war it would be only possible for him to obtain a loan upon ruinous terms. The Russians in Paris admit that England cannot recede, while with Russia the whole question is merely one of ambition. All the powers have instructed their ambassadors at St. Petersburg and London to urge the Russian and English Governments to moderation and concession. The ambassadors state that both powers are really anxious for peace.

A number of Russian officers have suddenly left Paris. It is rumored they received secret orders to immediately join their regiments.

The Russian subjects of Central Asia are said to be ripe for revolt, and to be eagerly looking for an Anglo-Russian war, which would enable them to rise and attack the Russians from the rear.

The military garrison in Ireland will be maintained in full strength, and may be increased from the reserves.

The Very Queer Masai.

A more remarkable or unique race, says Joseph Thomson in "Through Masai Land," does not exist on the continent of Africa—indeed, I might safely say in the two hemispheres. In their physique, manners and customs and religious beliefs they are distinct alike from the true negroes and from the Galla and Somali. They are the most magnificently modeled savages I have seen or even read of. Beautifully-proportioned, they are characterized by the smooth and round outline of the Apollo type, rarely showing the knotted muscles of the true athlete. The women are very decently-dressed in bullock's hide. They wear by way of ornament, from twenty to thirty pounds of thick iron wire coiled round the limbs, arms and neck, besides a great assortment of beads and iron chains. The men wear only a small kid skin garment round the shoulders and breast, that being of somewhat more ample dimensions among the married men. The most remarkable distinctions characterize the various epochs in the life and history of the Masai. The boys and girls, up to a certain age, live with their parents and feed upon curdled milk, meat and grain. At the age of 12 with the girls, and from 12 to 14 years with the boys, they are sent from the married men's kraal to one in which there are only young unmarried men and women. There they live till they are married. At this stage the men are warriors, and their sole occupation is cattle-lifting abroad and amusing themselves at home. The young women attend to the cattle, build the huts and perform other necessary household duties. Both sexes are on the strictest diet. Absolutely nothing but meat and milk pass their lips. Spirits and beer, tobacco or vegetable food are alike eschewed. So peculiar, indeed, are they in their notions that they will not even eat the meat of any wild animal. Moreover, the meat and milk are never taken together. For several days the one is the sole diet, to be followed by the other after partaking of a powerful purgative. On killing a bullock they drink the blood raw, which doubtless supplies them with the necessary salts. In eating meat they always retire to the forest in small parties, accompanied by a young woman. So pleasant does the Masai warrior find this life that he seldom marries until he has passed the prime of life, and begins to find his strength decline. The great war spear and heavy buffalo hide shield, the knobkerry, are then laid aside. For a month he dons the dress of an unmarried woman, and then becomes a staid and respectable member of Masai society. He goes no more to war, but devotes himself to the rearing of a brood of young warriors. His diet changes with his mode of life, and he may indulge in vegetable food, drink beer or spirits, and smoke or chew tobacco. At death the body is simply thrown out to the hyenas and vultures.

—Brad trimmed dresses are in demand for spring suitings, the wide military braid being a favorite. It is used up and down the skirt in plain rows between plaits or run around above the flounce at the foot.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Blake asked whether the Premier had any further information as to the present condition of affairs in the Northwest, as to the cause of the rising, and as to what the Government had done.

Sir John Macdonald—The condition stands very nearly as it was before. There is no information as yet, and there cannot be until to-morrow, as to when the junction would be made between the body commanded by Col. Irvine and the body at Fort Carlton under Supt. Crozier. There are a hundred men of the 90th at Qu'Appelle ready if necessary to proceed in the direction of the South Saskatchewan. They will be followed by the remainer of the regiment, two hundred men and half a battery of artillery. Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney telegraphs me to-day that he has seen a number of the Indians on the reserve near Broadview about some reports that they were excited. These Indians are exceedingly indignant at the charge being brought against them, and demand to be brought face to face with their accusers. We have received messages from Battleford and Edmonton. Everything is quiet there. I had a telegram from the Rev. Father Lacombe to-day, testifying to the loyalty of the Blackfeet Indians in his vicinity. We are quite unaware of the proximate causes of the half-breed rising under Riel. Riel came into the country, invited by them, some time ago. I believe he came for the purpose of attempting to extract money from the public purse. We received intimations during last summer that if the Government would give him a sum of money, the sum of five thousand dollars was mentioned, he would withdraw. This proposition, of course, could not be entertained for a moment. He remained there inciting the half-breeds and attempting to arouse the Indians by telling them that the country belonged to them. The statement has been made that Riel was told he was an outlaw, and not a British subject, and had no right in the country. Such an intimation was never made to him, so far as I know. He has great influence over the half-breeds, and some influence over the Indians. He was considered, on account of the former occurrences, a sort of martyr in the cause and a sort of half-breed Mahdi, and looked up to with superstitious regard. He acts upon the feelings of these poor people. I do not believe there is the slightest danger from the half-breeds, unless they should be joined by the Indians. The half-breds have had a great many claims, some of which are reasonable while others are not reasonable. The House knows that, when the settlement of matters in Manitoba was made, a large number of half-breeds were settled on the Assiniboine and Red River who had then little properties in possession under the direct sanction of the Hudson Bay Company. All those claims were recognized. Certain parcels of land were appropriated to satisfy them, and land scrip was issued to those half-breeds to the value of their holdings. The half-breeds scattered over the plains had no such rights from the Hudson Bay Company or any one else. But they had heard that the half-breeds in the Red River had received certain money or money's worth and they claimed that they had the same rights. Now among those half-breeds at Prince Albert and on both banks of the Saskatchewan there are a number of half-breeds who received scrip for land on the Red River, and afterwards left Manitoba and went to the plains. They put in their demands for land scrip again, thinking that they would not be identified. A great many of them have been identified and their claims refused. The half-breeds have been told that if they desire to be considered as Indians a most liberal reserve will be set apart for them. If they desire to be considered white men they can get 160 acres of land as homesteads. But they are not satisfied with that. They want to get land scrip for a large quantity of land, upwards of 200 acres, and then get their homsteads as well. Then there was some difficulty about the settlement of the plots on which these half-breeds settled along the Saskatchewan. No man has been disturbed on these plots, and they have been told they will not be disturbed. Sometimes the half-breeds fought among themselves, because in the bending of the river one man's claim overlaps another's.

Mr. Blake rose amid cheers. He explained that at one time he had intended to speak generally in reply to the gentlemen who had quoted what they alleged to be his public utterances. He would not deal with those questions, however, but he did not wish those gentlemen to suppose that he let those statements pass uncontradicted. The House will recollect that on Monday last I called the attention of the Government to the Northwest trouble, and invited them to give the House such information as they could upon it. The First Minister answered me, giving as the reason which he understood was the cause of the present state of things that a letter was said to have been written stating that Riel was not a British subject, and the hon. gentleman stated that certain questions connected with half-breed claims were in process of settlement. Some of these demands were admitted to be reasonable, others very unreasonable. He stated also that nothing of the nature of a Bill of rights had come to the cognizance of the Government, and the Winnipeg Field Battery had not been despatched to the field of action, but that last summer the precaution had been taken to have some additional force near Prince Albert. Fort Carlton has been occupied with the consent of the Hudson Bay Company with a considerable force of police. The next day I renewed the inquiry and asked if there was any additional intelligence on the subject. The First Minister said there was nothing further to communicate, and to-day we have elicited from him some further information, but not such, I believe, as the occasion justified, or rather, demanded. The hon. gentleman has said, after it has become public in the newspapers, that a portion of the militia force of this country have been summoned, that they are enrolled, and are now moving towards the scene of action, and he gives us some of the proximate and some of the remote causes to which he considered this disturbance was due. But even now he did not give us that information which it was his duty to give us, as to what the Government was doing. The newspapers tell us that the General commanding the Canadian forces is on his way, if he has not already reached Winnipeg, to take command of the forces to be used in quelling this disturbance. Upon that subject we ought to have more and fuller information, and also with reference to the whole of the circumstances which preceded this outbreak. (Cheers.) Mr. Blake read other despatches from the Government organs as to the calling out of the militia, etc., and proceeded: Now, I observe that the Government organs, while they give this account of what is going on, yet complain most grievously of the accounts published by the Opposition newspapers. I therefore preferred to draw my information from these unimpeachable organs which sustain these hon. gentlemen opposite, and which would, of course, be actuated by the highest dictates of patriotism, prudence and scrupulous accuracy. You will observe that it is stated in these organs that the half-breeds have had grievances for several years, that their patents had not been issued, and that influential persons have influenced officials and obtained the lands belonging to the settlers, that the half-breeds have good grounds of complaint, and that the Government at this convenient season had issued a commission upon the subject. It is very plain from what the hon. gentleman told us that serious action was decided upon by the Administration in the way of putting the military force of the country into action on the 23rd instant, the period at which the hon. gentleman did not think fit to inform the House, then in session, of the circumstance, although the House had invited him to give the information. It seems to me that the Government had not done that which it ought to have done. I say it is a very serious thing that the militia force of this country should have been obliged to be called out. I am not by any means blaming the Administration for calling them out. But it is a serious and grave occurrence. For, I suppose, nearly two centuries the law of England has been that when the militia force is called out Parliament is to be summoned within fourteen days. This law has since been altered by shortening the period to ten days, which is the present law. It is obvious that it is regarded as a reasonably serious thing that the militia should be called out, and that when such an emergency occurs Parliament, the great Council of the nation, should be called together. In this case the great Council was already sitting and the Government decided to call out the troops in order to quell this disturbance. But hon. gentlemen did not think fit to inform us. On the contrary, being invited to give information, they stated that they thought it prudent last year to place a hundred Mounted Policemen in Fort Carlton, but they did not tell the House they had ordered out a battalion and half a battery of artillery. As long ago as last July there was indication of trouble with the half-breeds in the Northwest. The newspapers then said that at the request of some of the inhabitants of the Northwest, Riel had gone into the Northwest and a meeting was held at which he spoke, urging the half-breeds not to state the grievances as separate individuals, but to combine and lay them before the Government, and telling them to ask to have the Northwest Territories erected into Provinces with Provincial Legislatures. The newspaper from which I make these quotations is the *Globe*. It states that this invitation by the half-breeds to Riel to return is a serious matter, and that this action must have been because they despaired of getting justice by ordinary means. That was the state of affairs with reference to Riel last summer, and the hon. gentleman has told us that he considered the matter so serious that they decided to occupy Carlton, which was a defensible post, in view of what was going on. You find it stated in various Government organs that there have been complaints and dissatisfaction among the half-breeds for years. You find it stated by the *Mail* that some of these complaints and grievances are well-founded and ought to be redressed. You find that the half-breeds called Riel to head them last summer. You find that he came and that the situation became somewhat critical. The Government recognized that fact in one sense by taking preliminary steps with reference to Fort Carlton, but no active step was taken to prevent this long-continued condition of dissatisfaction from coming to a head to which it appeared to have been coming. These questions have been complicated, and the difficulties have been enhanced by the delay and neglect in their treatment. The Government organs admitted that a chronic state of discontent had existed in that country for years, and they editorially admitted that there were grounds for discontent. When the Government itself felt that the circumstances were so serious as to call for the occupation of Fort Carlton these circumstances should have impressed on their minds the necessity for the still more important duty of addressing themselves to the removal of the causes of the discontent, and of considering such measures as would have prevented this festering sore from festering still further (cheers), and as would have prevented this outbreak from taking place. Force is no remedy, but what they did was to apply force to put a hundred men into Fort Carlton; we hear of them doing nothing more. We do not hear of the situation as being grave. The reports speak of peace, prosperity and contentment. From an outside source I hear that there was serious trouble between parties who had settled on some land and a colonization company to whom the lands had been allotted, but who had not got them surveyed, and who therefore could not take possession. With all these occurrences there must be correspondence on the subject. There must be reports. I cannot conceive that with hordes of officials, from Lieut.-Governor Dewdney downward, with inspectors of colonization companies, with commissioners and assistant commissioners, and with Mounted Police officers, that the Government have not demanded reports, or even if they have not demanded reports, that they have not received reports on the condition of the country. The fact that the gentleman should have allowed the matter to get to this head having had these warnings and having accepted this warnings in so far as to place a force in that neighborhood within striking distance of the scene of action, and yet should not have taken active, intelligent and energetic measures to remove the causes of the grievances, whatever they may be, is a matter which certainly demands explanation at the hands of the Government. They could not have inflicted a more serious blow to the Northwest than by permitting this matter to get to this head, I do not care what its proportions are. The Government only awakened to the fact that the situation was serious when hostilities commenced. A commission to investigate the grievances complained of had been appointed, and with the aid of foot, cavalry and artillery the Government hoped to get out of the scrape. It would be a question to know what to do with Riel when he was caught. The Premier had at a previous time inveighed against him (Blake) when leader of the Ontario Government, for issuing a proclamation, which he asserted had driven Riel to flee across the lines into the United States. When this statement was made by Sir John at that time it was greeted with cheers, but a distinguished prelate afterwards brought papers to prove that Sir John himself had paid Riel to leave the country. The secret service money voted by the Government had been taken to pay him. Looking back at these circumstances it was interesting to know what the Government would now do with Riel. It was very significant that, as Sir John said this afternoon, he was again appealing for money, and evidently had not forgotten the lesson taught him by the leader of the Government. The Government would doubtless find trouble in the fact that secret service money was not now available.

The mother of a family consisting of two grown-up daughters, living in Goffstown, N. H., recently died, and when the undertaker came to perform his duties the father was asked the name of his wife. His reply was, "Mother." No other name could he remember, and the daughters were equally ignorant, having never known their parent by any other name than "Mother."

Josh Billings has attained the ripe age of 67 years, which conclusively shows that bad spelling has no worse effect upon a man than whiskey and tobacco.

Neal Dow has just celebrated his 81st birthday. It is remarkable what temperate habits will do for a man.

—"He who has pie has friends," says a Russian proverb, which, being freely translated, signifies that the doctor and the undertaker stand in with the pieman every time.

Bismarck's birthday presents will foot up $175,000 in intrinsic value.

Lady Ermyntrude Russel has 100 pairs of shoes in her wedding outfit.

Jay Cooke consumes two sticks of mint candy every morning.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

The House went into committee on the Bill to make further provision regarding the public health, Mr. Baxter in the chair.

Hon. A. M. Ross said he had adopted the suggestion of the hon. member for West Durham (Mr. McLaughlin) to strike out the word "epidemic" in the third line, leaving the clause to read: "Whenever, from the presence of any formidable contagious disease in any locality," etc. He also proposed to amend the second clause by providing that if a Council does not appoint a medical health officer, an appointment shall be made by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council upon the recommendation of the Provincial Board of Health. Then in the third section he proposed to limit such appointment until the disease abates, or until the February following such appointment.

Mr. Meredith said the local Boards of Health had unlimited power of destroying property to any value, which was a power they ought not to have, and to meet this objectionable feature of the system he moved the following as an additional section: "No determination or order of a Local or the Provincial Board of Health for the removal or abatement of any nuisance shall be enforced except by order of the High Court of Justice, when such nuisance involves a loss or destruction of property of a value of $500 and upwards, and upon any application to the court the order of the Local or Provincial Board of Health shall not be evidence that the matter was or is a nuisance."

Hon. A. M. Ross pointed out that the Act did make provision in the direction of this amendment to some extent. However, it was a case in which there might be necessity for some further restriction, and he therefore moved that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again. In the meantime he would take the matter into consideration.

The committee rose and reported.

Hon. O. Mowat moved the House into committee on the Bill to amend the Act for employing prisoners without the walls of common jails, Mr. White in the chair.

The Bill passed without amendment and was reported.

Hon. O. Mowat—It is found as the law now stands crime is often undetected because there is no provision for the special services of constables and others. The proposal was that in any case in which, in the opinion of the warden and county attorney of a county, special services not covered by the ordinary tariff are necessary for the detection of crime or the capture of persons who are believed to have committed crimes of a serious character, the warden and county attorney aforesaid may authorize any constable, or other person, to perform these services, and shall certify upon the account to be rendered by such constable or other person what they deem a reasonable allowance to be paid to the person employed, and the amount so certified shall be allowed to such person in the accounts in respect of the administration of justice, and shall be paid in the first instance by the county, and one-half shall be repaid to the county by the Province. It is always necessary to act with promptitude in these cases if anything is done at all and it seems reasonable that the county attorney and warden should have the right to decide when these services were necessary.

Mr. Meredith asked if it covered the case of constables having incurred expense in arresting persons who had been committed for trial.

Mr. O. Mowat said it did.

Mr. Wood thought the Bill supplied a very great public want.

The Bill was read the second time.

Hon. A. S. Hardy, in moving the second reading of the Bill relating to the Election Acts and respecting the Legislative Assembly, called the attention of the House to the points with which the Bill would deal. The first three clauses are intended to provide for a case similar to that of the East Simcoe case, where the judges have differed—where they have not been able to come to a common decision—and this points out that in case the matter is taken to the Court of Appeal the Registrar shall report the judgment or decision of that court as the judgment of the case, or they may refer the matter back to the rota judges, for the purpose of having their opinions or judgment carried out. If that had been done in the East Simcoe case there would probably have been no difficulty there. He concluded by moving the second reading of the Bill.

Hon. C. F. Fraser moved the second reading of the Bill to extend the franchise.

Mr. Meredith contended that the principle of a property qualification had long been disregarded. He contended that assessors might be partizan enough to assess people too low to enable them to vote. He contended that students and many school teachers would be excluded from the franchise. He concluded by moving the following amendment: That the following words be added to the motion—And while consenting to the second reading of the Bill, and thereby the principle that an extension of the franchise is necessary and expedient, this House desires to express its opinion that no such extension which does not render a proper system of registration, and, while excluding the criminal and nonsane classes, aliens and persons disqualified under the provisions of the Election Acts, confer the franchise upon every other male resident of the Province of the full age of 21 years ought to be adopted by this House.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—What does the hon. gentleman propose, supposing this very simple proposition, as he calls it, should become law? Is it a proposition that everybody can understand? It is that the franchise shall be extended, under a proper system of registration, which shall exclude the criminal and insane classes, aliens, and persons disqualified under the provisions of the Election Act, confer the franchise upon every male resident of the Province who is of the age of 21 years? Perhaps he would not have any machinery for finding out who are the criminal classes or who are the insane. Perhaps he would not have a provision for finding out these just as there is a provision for finding out under this Bill who is earning wages amounting to $300.

Mr. White—The jail records.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—Would you not have any machinery for getting at the jail records? It would require machinery for registration, and yet the hon. gentleman proposes to change the whole basis upon which the voting of the country has been placed—namely, the assessment roll—and have for it the register substituted. He proposes that the executive for the time being shall control the whole system of registration.

Mr. Meredith—No, no.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—I suppose the hon. gentleman would put the control somewhere, and if he follows the lead of his Chief at Ottawa he would place it in the hands of the executive for the time being. Surely if the executive at Ottawa is fit to have the control of the registration of the country, then the executive of Ontario is equally fit to have the control of the registration of this Province. I say it is an improper thing that the executive should have control of the registration without regard to whether this Government is in power or any other. No executive should have the power to appoint the registrars, and yet there certainly would be required some machinery to carry out the provisions of the Act. Now the hon. gentleman complains that there are some provisions in this Bill which the people cannot understand, but I must say that there are clauses in the Bill of his Chief at Ottawa that I, as a lawyer, do not understand. The Bill now before the House is one I think that no one should have any difficulty in arriving at a knowledge of their meaning. The Bill is altogether based on the same lines that Franchise Bills have always been based on in this Province, namely, the assessment rolls, and it is just as simple—every line and word, as the Act now on the statute book. I therefore give my unqualified denial to the assertion or insinuation that there will be the slightest difficulty in carrying out the provisions of this Bill. There is only one difficulty in the matter at all, and that is with regard to the wage-earner, and I don't anticipate any serious trouble even in that direction. Now the hon. gentleman with all his ingenuity can only suggest that there may be some schoolmaster in this country who is not getting $300 a year, and who consequently will not be entitled to vote. Where is this schoolmaster who is not earning $300 a year? I venture to say that if he is not actually receiving $500 a year in cash, he is receiving something in lieu of it and equal to it, and therefore I say without fear of contradiction that every resident schoolmaster of the age of 21 will be entitled to vote under this measure. Then he says some may be sick, and therefore they will not be able to vote. Well, I undertake to say that if this manhood suffrage comes into force there will be some sick and then they will not be able to vote. Again he says that there will be some students at the university who will not be able to vote under the proposed safeguards and restrictions, but I may say as I said before that this cannot be for more than one general election, because if the Act were to go into force to-morrow—as the students are at the university for about four or five years—they could miss voting at only one general election. I venture the assertion that under this Bill there will be as many people entitled to vote as under any Bill for manhood suffrage which could be devised. Another reason for the passage of the Bill is found in the fact that if the proposal of the hon. gentleman were carried it would not be sufficiently considered in this session to be passed as a Bill, and it would have the effect of preventing the next local election being held under its provisions. He concluded by expressing the confident hope that the Bill would be supported by the House.

A vote was then taken on the amendment, which was lost by 42 to 30.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

Latest News from All Over the World.

A letter from Bishop Cleary was read yesterday morning in St. Mary's Cathedral, Kingston, strongly condemning a concert arranged to be held in that city by the Scott Act advocates on Good Friday.

Celanie Heard, a servant girl, was tried at the assizes at Montreal for murdering her new born infant, whose body was found, but after being locked up all night the jury could not agree, and they were discharged. Prisoner will be tried at the next assizes.

The two suspected dynamiters arrested at Quebec have at last been released from custody for the want of proof. They had retained the able services of Mr. C. Fitzpatrick as advocate, but he was not allowed to hold any interview with them. Nothing daunted, he went to work to apply for a writ of *habeas corpus*, and when the authorities saw he intended to show fight, they gave in and allowed the prisoners their liberty. They will probably institute an action for false arrest and imprisonment.

The French Senate has adopted the bills increasing the duty on imported cattle and cereals.

A Paris special says the trade depression in France is terribly severe, and that bread riots are feared in Lyons, Marseilles and Paris.

The channel squadron has arrived at Milford Haven. Its appearance there was unexpected. The only theory offered is that it is awaiting orders.

Knubley, the Paris reporter who assaulted the editor of *La France*, has been sentenced to two days' imprisonment, and fined 200 francs.

The allocution delivered by the Pope yesterday censures all Catholic diplomats who attended the recent ceremony of laying the corner stone for the monument to Victor Emanuel, and denounces the ceremony as a sinful tribute to one of the greatest enemies of the Holy Church.

Death has removed from the midst of society a well-known figure in the venerable Cardinal Schwarzenburg, the Prince-Bishop of Prague. This member of the princely house of Schwarzenburg was born on April 6th, 1809, so that he dies on the verge of attaining his 76th birthday. For some time he opposed the infallibility of the Pope, but latterly he gave his unreserved adhesion to the dogma.

The propeller Champion and barge left New York for Newburgh yesterday.

City Treasurer Crawford, of Oswego, N. Y., is missing since Friday morning. Friday night he was to meet with the Finance Committee of the Common Council, who proposed to examine the accounts, but he did not appear. Saturday morning they proceeded to investigate his books, and found he was short $26,200.

A terrible explosion, caused by coal dust, occurred on Friday evening in mine No. 7, at McAllister, Ind. Ter. Eleven miners were killed. The damage to property is slight. The explosion occurred just as the men stopped work. All the men in the mine at the time were killed, but their bodies were not burned or mutilated, showing that death resulted from the tremendous concussion.

Trees in Cities.

Dr. James Evans recently read a paper before the South Carolina Medical Association on the beneficial effects which trees and plants may produce on dwelling sites and on the air of habitations. He says The network of fine fibrous roots of trees and plants, traversing the soil in every direction, feeds on the organic matter which would otherwise undergo decomposition, polluting the soil, air and surface water. The vegetation also absorbs excess of moisture and drains the soil. The moisture is afterwards exhaled