

We have reason to believe that Mr. Gibson and his friends are very much annoyed at THE HERALD for showing up the Fredericton Bridge business. We are sorry that we cannot always please these gentlemen. The truth must be told even in an election campaign, and that is THE HERALD'S mission. The revelations printed in our last issue have set a great many people thinking, and the general opinion is that Messrs. Gibson and Temple ought to settle that little account of \$300,000 with the Dominion Government. An effort is made to create the impression that THE HERALD is doing an unpatriotic thing in imparting information about the bridge that were running down an important public work, but that is only drawing a herring across the trail. We have no objection to Messrs. Gibson and Temple retaining the \$300,000 if they will only pay the interest. That \$300,000 comes directly out of the taxpayers of Canada, and they have no right to lose it. We believe Mr. Gibson is prompt in the payment of his personal and business obligations. Why should he make a distinction in the matter of the \$300,000?

Speaking about the bridge: how many people really believe that the structure cost more than \$300,000? Some of Mr. Gibson's defenders say that it cost \$400,000. Sir John A. Macdonald stated in parliament that it cost \$375,000. An affidavit from the proprietors would settle the question of cost. Can we have it?

But the main point, after all, is this, Mr. Gibson's company owe the Dominion Government an interest account of \$60,000, and Mr. Foster as Finance Minister is the man to collect it. While it is still due Mr. Foster is seeking a seat in parliament. Mr. Gibson nominates him for York, and the people are wondering if Mr. Gibson acts from purely patriotic motives or for some other reason. We propose keeping these matters fresh in the minds of the electors until all are able to draw their own conclusions.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

The remedial order passed by the Dominion government about the Manitoba school question, has been received at Winnipeg and laid before the Manitoba legislature, but no action has been taken on it. The order was simply read, and the legislature has adjourned until May 9th, as Premier Greenway says, to permit the government to give the important question full consideration. In the meantime it is evident from the tone of the articles published in the Winnipeg Tribune, Greenway's organ, that the government have no intention of receding from its legislation abolishing separate schools. "Let Quebec and Ottawa," says the Tribune, "rest assured that the restoration will never be made."

The Manitoba Orangemen, who met Thursday, passed strong resolutions against the course pursued by the Dominion government. They "view with the greatest alarm the present state of affairs which exists between the Dominion and local governments, and desire to express their approval of the stand taken by the representatives in the provincial legislature in Manitoba, on rights and privileges in brooking no interference by the central government in our educational affairs, and call upon all Orangemen and Protestants to support no candidate for the house of commons or the local legislature who will not openly and unqualifiedly pledge himself to determinedly oppose any and all attempts towards the breaking up of our public school system and the imposing upon us and our children the accused system of separate and sectarian schools."

The delay in dealing with the question at Winnipeg will somewhat upset the plans of the Ottawa government, as the matter cannot very well come up in parliament until Manitoba's answer is received. It is believed, however, by some, that mention will be made of the remedial order in the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session, and that in debating the address in reply, some member will move an amendment bringing the whole question before the house and dividing it on the important issue.

It is a pity that the school question should enter into party politics; the people of Canada are anxious to pronounce directly on the trade policy of the administration, and the real issue should not be obscured by the introduction of the question dangerous to the peace and good will of the Dominion.

WHAT THEY THOUGHT OF IT.

Mr. Weldon—I do not see on what principle the money is given.  
Sir John Macdonald—This is a subsidy, a free gift.  
Mr. Davies—He must be a very verdant member of parliament who says that any portion of this \$300,000 will ever be returned.  
Mr. Ellis—It does not appear to me that they have spent any of their own money at all.  
Mr. Temple—The cost of keeping up the bridge will not exceed \$2,000 a year and we expect to get \$30,000 a year out of it.  
Mr. McMullen—It bears all the marks of a "job."  
Mr. Laurier—It is monstrous to pretend that this money is required to assist him (Temple) in the bridge construction.  
Mr. Jones—It is an outrage on constitutional government.  
Sir Richard Cartwright—It is to relieve a struggling industry of that kind that he proposes to now grant \$30,000.  
Mr. McMullen—We have unlearned, through the confession of Mr. Temple, a most scandalous job.  
Mr. Davies—It is a vote which no man can justify to his constituents or conscience.  
Mr. Jones—A flagrant violation of the rights of the public of Canada.  
Mr. McMullen—This resolution is nothing short of a political scandal. It is a scandalous transaction from beginning to end.  
Sir Richard Cartwright—The payment of \$30,000 more under the circumstances would be decidedly objectionable.  
The Manitobans are in rebellion because Patterson, ex-Minister of Militia, is unseated on them as governor. He was the first to recognize the certainty of the coming disaster, and will go down with a lifeboat around him.

COMING BY ELECTIONS.

The Dominion Government have at last summoned sufficient courage to call on the bye elections. The constituencies vacant are Quebec West and Vercheres in Quebec, Haldimand in Ontario, and Antigonish, Nova Scotia, and polling in all these will be held on April 17th, the day before parliament meets. Of the four constituencies, all with the exception of Vercheres, have recently been held by the Conservatives. Haldimand has been vacated by Dr. Montague's acceptance of a portfolio, and he has to ask the confirmation of his constituents. The majority in 1891 was 78. It is always a difficult task to defeat a Cabinet Minister of the Crown in a bye election, and we do not know what course the Liberals will pursue. In Quebec West, vacated over a year ago by the death of Hon. Felix Geoffroy, Liberal, McGreevy is in the field as an alleged independent Conservative, and a Mr. Debel it is said, will also run in the same role. The Liberals will put up a candidate, and believe they have fair chances of winning. In Antigonish Sir John Thompson's majority in 1891 was 227. The candidates are Hon. Angus Melrose, Liberal, and Joseph Chisholm, barrister of Halifax, and brother-in-law of the late Premier, Conservative. Our friends in that county feel fairly confident of winning, but as usual they will probably have to count against them the powerful influence of Bishop Cameron. Vercheres is vacant by the death of Hon. Felix Geoffroy, Liberal, who sat for the county for thirty-two years, and whose majority in 1891 was 163. The Liberal nominee will probably be C. A. Geoffroy, a notable Montreal lawyer, and if we mistake not, a brother of the late representative for Vercheres. This will be the last election in Vercheres as a separate constituency, for under the redistribution Act it becomes, after the dissolution of the present parliament, merged with Chambly. The Liberals have reasonable hopes of winning.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS.

1878—The National Policy inaugurated.  
1884—Mr. Gibson an opponent of that policy—an earnest Liberal extending his vote and influence to elect Mr. Gregory, the Liberal candidate in York.  
1887—Messrs. Gibson and Temple secure a loan of \$300,000 from the Dominion government to build the Fredericton bridge.  
1889—Messrs. Gibson and Temple receive a "straight gift" of \$30,000 from the government for the same work.  
1891—Mr. Gibson an earnest supporter of Mr. Temple, the Tory candidate in York.  
1894—The sum of \$300,000 due from Messrs. Gibson and Temple to the Dominion government for interest on the \$300,000 loan of 1887.  
1895—Hon. G. E. Foster, the treasurer of the Dominion government, whose duty it is to collect the \$300,000 interest unpaid by Messrs. Gibson and Temple, looking for a constituency. Mr. Foster nominated for York by Mr. Gibson, who earnestly desires Mr. Foster's election.

TUPPER IN THE SULK.

A telegram from Ottawa, Wednesday, announcing that Sir Hilbert Tupper, Minister of Justice, had resigned from the government because the Premier refused dissolution, sent a cold shiver down the back of every Tory in the country. It appears that Tupper really was off two days on strike, but he has been coaxed back. The average Tory minister hesitates long before giving up his \$7,000 a year. Probably Tupper wanted something he couldn't get without sulking and threatening resignation, and no doubt he gained his point, for the tottering Tory government are not in a position just now to refuse anything their supporters demand. And, besides, there is Papa Tupper at \$30,000 a year in London. His poems might be cooked if Young Charlie kicked entirely clear of Tory traces; for family reasons, therefore, it was better for the young knight to get back. Some day in the not very distant future, the whole gang of Tory ministers will be compelled to resign by the unmistakable verdict of the Canadian people, who, in the words of Cromwell in dissolving the Long parliament, will exclaim: "Get you gone and give way to honest men."

In the Dominion bye-election to take place in Haldimand Ont., Hon. Dr. Montague, the new Secretary of State, will appeal for re-election. His majority in 1891 against C. Wesley Colter, a former York county resident, was only seventy-eight. Haldimand has been gerrymandered, converting it into a Tory hive, but the new law does not apply to it until after the dissolution of the present parliament. The bye-election will therefore be run in the constituency as it existed in 1891.

The Tory press is making much of Hugh John Macdonald's flop-over on the Manitoba question, but when it is understood that the son of the old chief is looking for a judgeship, it is not surprising that he sees nothing but good in whatever action the Dominion government may take. Doubtless Mr. Temple is also in full accord with the government.

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We publish today, a supplement to THE HERALD, a full report of the speech recently delivered at Sarnia by Sir Richard Cartwright, and from which we have already made some extracts. The speech will be particularly readable to York county electors, as it deals with the financial fallacies of Mr. Foster.

Said the King of the Neckawick to the King of the Nashwaak, "what is your suit?" "Diamonds." Said the King of the Nashwaak to the King of the Neckawick, "What is yours?" "Spades. I'm no blasted monopolist. I'm a laboring man, \$1.50 per day and find myself."

"On one occasion I voted for immediate prohibition. I did it, and I did it in a moment of weakness; that is my candid confession, but from this time forth I propose to do what I consider to be right and honest."—Hon. Geo. E. Foster in the House of Commons. See Hansard, 1891, vol. 1, page 1319.

Ernest Gregory, of Antigonish, son of Chas. C. Gregory, formerly of this city, has been given the Tory nomination in Guysboro, but as he is, or has recently been, a revising barrister, it is questionable whether he is qualified to run.

We would respectfully suggest to our esteemed Tory contemporary, that as much as we appreciate its flattering notices from day to day, the editor of THE HERALD is not an issue in this campaign.

Our esteemed friend, Pitts, gives some evidence of a stiffening in his spinal column on the Manitoba school question, but it is yet too soon to pronounce on his case definitely.

J. K. Pinder, M.P.P., King of the Neckawick, as a laborer at \$1.50 per day, digging rocks out of the St. John river at Bear Island, has set everybody on the laugh grin!

THE HERALD, having driven the Tory organ into a hole regarding its statement that Mr. Laurier was defeated in Arthabaska by Mr. Cleveland, it attempts to crawl out by asserting that Richmond and Wolfe, where Cleveland really did defeat the opposition leader in 1891, is a strong Liberal constituency. When did the organ discover that? As far back as 1878, Hon. W. B. Ives was elected in Richmond and Wolfe by acclamation. The constituency is recognized all over Canada as a strong Tory hive. Will the organ try again?

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Middle Southampton.

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[We shall be glad to hear often from our bright and newsy correspondent.—ED. HERALD.]

AROUND THE WORLD.

The News of the World in Brief—The Cream of our Exchanges.

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