

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1887.

THE FISHERY COMMISSIONERS.

It is now generally understood that the British and Canadian delegates to the ensuing international conference, relative to the fishery question, will be the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, member of the Imperial Parliament, Sir Lionel Sackville West, British Minister at Washington, and Sir John A. Macdonald, Premier of Canada. It is also definitely announced that the President of the United States has appointed the Hon. William L. Putnam, of Portland, Me., and Mr. J. A. Angell, President of the University of Michigan, to act in conjunction with Mr. Secretary Bayard, as the representatives of the United States at this conference.

The choice of Mr. Chamberlain and Minister West are probably as good as made; as the former, has had experience which must prove of great value to him in this conference; while the latter, as the representative at Washington of the Imperial Government, must be, in no small degree, acquainted with the questions which are likely to come under the consideration of the commissioners. As to the selection of Sir John Macdonald as the representative of Canada, we think there is scarcely anyone in the Dominion who would not regard it as the very best that could be made. The veteran Premier's long experience in dealing with intricate questions eminently qualify him for this important position.

The choice of delegates made by the United States Government is also, probably, as good as made; as all three are representative men of recognized ability. They also represent different political parties. Mr. Putnam being a Democrat and Mr. Angell a Republican. Besides this, they come from the parts of the country likely to be most interested in the questions to be discussed. Now it remains to be seen what conclusions will be arrived at by these commissioners and what action will be taken regarding these conclusions by the respective Governments interested. Should an amicable, just and reasonable plan be arrived at, we may be sure the Governments of Great Britain and Canada will acquiesce. Whether or not the United States Senate will ratify what the commissioners shall advise, is a just basis of settlement, admits of some doubt. But yet, should they repudiate what the best men of their country shall regard as just and proper, they certainly stand for themselves the unenviable reputation of being a set of fossil politicians who consider they are discharging their duty to their country by opposing everything proposed by the President, because he is not of the same political faith as the majority of their body.

Of course it is needless to say that the commission appointed by President Cleveland are differently regarded by the different exponents of public opinion in the United States. We here subjoin a few specimens. The Boston Herald says:

"President Cleveland's appointments are generally good, and those for the Fishery Commission are no exception. Hon. William L. Putnam is a Democrat, of high character and first-class ability, especially well informed about fishery matters. Secretary Bayard, a Republican, and has had occasion to pay special attention. President J. R. Angell, of the Michigan University is a Republican, and has had experience in diplomacy, having been one of the Commissioners who made the late treaty with Great Britain, and the conference between the American and British Commissioners will be a most important one. The position to be taken by the American Commissioners was outlined at the Cabinet meeting on Monday. It is precisely the same position which the Department of State has held throughout the negotiation. It is, in brief, that our fishermen have the right to do anything but fish or prepare to fish within the three-mile limit; that the three miles to be measured from the shore in all cases. The English will consent that our fishermen shall have the rights in Canadian waters specified in the treaty of 1818, and will maintain the headlands theory of the three-mile limit. Probably the negotiations will widen so as to take in all the vexed questions pending between Great Britain and Great Britain touching Canada. The ultimate outcome will probably be a commercial reciprocity treaty."

The Boston Journal takes a more sectional view of the question, and while approving of the appointment of Mr. Putnam, does not understand why Mr. Angell should have a place on the commission. The ultra or stalwart Republican press of New England are most insupporting in their denunciation of the President's action. The following from the Bangor Whig may be taken as a fair sample of their utterances:

"Our despatches this morning announce that the President has invited Hon. Wm. L. Putnam, of Portland, and President James B. Angell, of Michigan, to serve on the Fishery Commission, and both gentlemen have accepted the President's proposal. Cleveland and Secretary Bayard have organized this Commission in direct violation of the expressed policy of Congress. It would be interesting to know just what it is expected to accomplish. The Commission will have no authority to act and it is not at all likely that their recommendations will be regarded by the Senate, which has hitherto positively refused to assent Mr. Bayard's pet theory for a settlement of the controversy. The whole performance is in a most remarkable one and will doubtless receive prompt attention from Congress. The whole performance is in a most remarkable one and will doubtless receive prompt attention from Congress. The whole performance is in a most remarkable one and will doubtless receive prompt attention from Congress."

UNPARDONABLE CONDUCT.

The most recent developments relative to the Behring Sea outrages are certainly not calculated to favorably impress the thinking public regarding the United States Government. It is a matter of history that Secretary Bayard, last winter, after several months delay, was obliged to confess that he was not in possession of official information regarding the seizures of the vessels and the trials of their crews. He, however, promised that their would be a stay of proceedings, and that the vessels would be released. It now transpires that United States Attorney General Garland telegraphed to the authorities at Sitka to release the vessels; but it appears that those whose duty it was to have this official command enforced, after issuing the order to release the vessels, immediately countermanded it on the ground that it might be a forgery. And up to the present day the authorities at Washington have not made any attempt to prove that the order was genuine; so that these vessels have been rotting on the shore ever since. Not only that, but other vessels have been seized this summer. This would seem to indicate that they are actuated by a spirit of duplicity or that they do not properly understand their duty. It would seem unreasonable to entertain the latter opinion; but the utterances of some of those connected with the matter is very strong evidence in its favor. The governor of Alaska has lately made the declaration that the United States had the same right to exclude foreigners from the sealing grounds as Canada had to protect the cod fisheries on the banks of Newfoundland. That Canada has assumed possession of the banks of Newfoundland will be news to most people in this country; and to find the governor of a Territory making such a statement in an official message, proves that he is blissfully ignorant of the question which he undertakes to discuss.

The following, from the New York World, may be taken as a sample of the opinions of United States writers regarding the exclusive claim of the Government to the Behring Sea fisheries:

"The counsel for the owners of the Behring Sea vessels seized in Alaska waters by our authorities has presented his brief to the Canadian Government. His argument is that the United States twenty years ago something that she did not own, and she could not give it to us. The United States Senate will ratify what the commissioners shall advise, is a just basis of settlement, admits of some doubt. But yet, should they repudiate what the best men of their country shall regard as just and proper, they certainly stand for themselves the unenviable reputation of being a set of fossil politicians who consider they are discharging their duty to their country by opposing everything proposed by the President, because he is not of the same political faith as the majority of their body."

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

ABOUT the celebrated case of the crown against J. C. Ayer & Co., for violation of the Customs Law, which had for some time been going on in Montreal, we concluded on the 28th ult., and judgment was rendered. Mr. McFarlane, Q. C., was counsel for the Ayers, and made a powerful plea in behalf of his clients.

The election in Charlottetown, Quebec, on Wednesday last, the 28th ult., to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons, caused by the death of Mr. Cimou, the late member, resulted in a victory for the Conservative candidate, Mr. Cimou, son of the deceased, by a majority of about five hundred votes. At the general election in February last, Mr. Cimou, father of the member elect, who was a Nationalist, carried the county, by a majority of about three hundred, over Mr. Clement, Conservative. Thus, Sir John's majority is increased by one more, and Grit hopes are once more disappointed.

This Opposition petitioned against the election, in Colechester, N. S., of Hon. Mr. McLean, Postmaster General. As soon as Mr. McLean discovered that improper practices had been resorted to during the election, by some of his agents, he resigned his seat; but the evidence at the trial proved that whatever there had been improper in the conduct of his agents or representatives during the campaign was without the knowledge or consent of the Minister. The Judge, in declaring the seat void, stated there was no evidence to connect the Hon. Mr. McLean with any corrupt act. He therefore decided that the respondent should have the costs incurred by him in resisting the personal charge made against him. It is thought, Mr. McLean will be re-elected by acclamation.

An Order-in-Council has been passed by the Government at Ottawa, bringing into force the Supreme and Exchequer Court Bill, passed at the last Session of Parliament. The Exchequer Court is especially designed for the trial of all claims against the Crown, superseding the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Canada and Dominion arbitrators, in Exchequer business. Mr. Burbridge, Q. C., Deputy Minister of Justice, has been appointed Judge of the Exchequer Court. Mr. Burbridge is a barrister of seventeen years' standing, and for the past five years has been Deputy Minister of Justice, affording him an extensive knowledge of the details of public business and the workings of the several Departments of the Public Service. These are qualifications which would seem to eminently fit him for the position of Exchequer Court Judge.

Lord Lovat, of Scotland, died rather suddenly a short time ago. Lord Lovat was a Catholic, and a very lengthy and interesting account of his funeral obsequies was published in the Scottish Highlander of a recent date. An exchange has the following regarding him:

"He was a liberal who seldom, save on important occasions, voted in the House of Lords. He is described as a model Highlander and most thoughtful of his age. He was a member of the Scotch branch of the ancient family of Fraser, and the title, which had been forfeited by his grandfather, was restored to him in 1837, he being declared the representative of the famous Simon Fraser, who discovered the Pacific Ocean. Lord Lovat was an inveterate sportsman, and his estates in the west, and include some of the best deer-forests, grouse-moors, and salmon-rivers in Scotland. The property has been admirably managed, and the estate now exceeds £30,000 a year. About three years ago Lord Lovat rebuilt Beaufort Castle, the family seat near Beaufort, a great expense, and the new house is a splendid building in the old Scottish baronial style. His reputation as a sportsman was always most cordial, and they regarded him as a fine specimen of the Highlander gentleman. He was a man of high character, and his life among his people, and identified their interests with his own."

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KING'S COUNTY EXHIBITION.

THURSDAY last, the 29th ult., was a most charming day, and Georgetown was thronged with people from all parts of the Island, who had come to witness King's County Exhibition and Cattle Show. Crowds had come during the morning by carriage as well as by the regular train. The special train from Charlottetown, which arrived after 11 o'clock, was the most numerous of any Exhibition. In this connection, the efficient and painstaking Secretary, George F. Owen, Esq., deserves much praise, as, no doubt, the success of the Exhibition is due, in no small degree, to his efforts. To him and his worthy assistants, as well as to the Chairman of the Exhibition Commissioners, we beg to tender our thanks for courtesies extended. Following is the PRIZE LIST:

Carriage Station—1st, W. D. Shaw, Montreal; 2nd, J. A. Collins, Sturgeon; 3rd, J. B. Brooker, Sturgeon; 4th, R. H. Underhill, Sturgeon; 5th, D. S. Sisson, Montreal. Cart Horses or Mares—1st, Patrick Hughes, Charlottetown; 2nd, Daniel Sisson, Montreal. Carriage Horses or Mares—1st, E. McGowan, Sturgeon; 2nd, Charles E. Dingwall, Montreal. Cart Horses with her Cart—1st, Robert G. Graham, Sturgeon; 2nd, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon; 3rd, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon; 4th, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon; 5th, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon.

Best Yorkshire Bull, any age—Leslie Pool, Lower Montague; 2nd, Paul McKeen, Lower Montague; 3rd, David Reid, Baldwin's Road. Best Yorkshire Bull, under 3 years—Robert G. Graham, Sturgeon; 2nd, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon; 3rd, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon; 4th, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon; 5th, J. D. Robertson, Sturgeon. Best Yorkshire Bull, any age—Alex Smith, New Perth; 2nd, John O'Hanley, Cabbie Head; 3rd, P. J. McDonald, Little Pond. Best Shorthorn Bull, under 3 years—William Gordon, Brudenell; 2nd, J. M. Hughes, Sturgeon; 3rd, J. M. Hughes, Sturgeon. Best Yearling Shorthorn Bull—Robert Duff, New Perth. Best Yearling Ayrshire Bull—Benj. Wright, Lower Montague. Best Ayrshire Cow, in milk—F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 2nd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 3rd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty. Best Shorthorn Cow, in milk—R. D. Dewar; 2nd, F. G. Boyer. Best Shorthorn Heifer, under 3 years—1st, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 2nd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 3rd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty. Best Ayrshire Heifer, under 3 years—1st, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 2nd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 3rd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty. Best Shorthorn Heifer, under 3 years—1st, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 2nd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 3rd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty. Best Ayrshire Heifer, under 3 years—1st, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 2nd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty; 3rd, F. G. Boyer, Royalty.

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LOCAL AND SPECIAL NEWS.

Henry George used to be an Inspector of Police in London, and he was before he thought of being a politician. The two occasions don't count.

Box (twelve line) Cannon Lobsters, John A. McLean, St. Peter's Bay. Box (twelve line) other Cannon Lobsters, John A. McLean, St. Peter's Bay; 2nd, do, do.

Half dozen Mackerel, 1st, McDonald Bros., Georgetown; 2nd, do, do. Quinal (fish) (dry), 1st, E. Jordan, Murray Harbor South; 2nd, Caleb Jordan, do. Quinal (fish) (dry), 1st, Caleb Jordan, Murray Harbor South; 2nd, E. Jordan, do.

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LOCAL AND SPECIAL NEWS.

Henry George used to be an Inspector of Police in London, and he was before he thought of being a politician. The two occasions don't count.

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