

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 26, 1870.

SUNDAY, March 20.—3rd Sunday in Lent. Newton died 1727.  
 MONDAY, " 21.—St. Benedict. Archbishop Cranmer burnt, 1556. Battle of Aboukir, 1801.  
 TUESDAY, " 22.—Knights Templars suppressed, 1312. Goethe died, 1832.  
 WEDNESDAY, " 23.—Shakespeare born, 1564. Sir George Arthur, Lieut.-Governor, 1838.  
 THURSDAY, " 24.—Queen Elizabeth died, 1603. John Harrison died, 1776.  
 FRIDAY, " 25.—ANNEXATION OF B. V. M. Sir C. Metcalfe arrived at Kingston, 1843.  
 SATURDAY, " 26.—Bank of England incorporated, 1694. Duke of Cambridge born, 1819.

## THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1870.

The publication of the papers on the North-West difficulty—or of such of them as a committee of the House have seen fit to lay before Parliament—adds but little to the general stock of information already in possession of the public. There is nothing particularly new as to the cause of the rising, nor is there much to guide us in determining what considerations induced the Hon. Mr. McDougall to prematurely assume authority before he was formally invested therewith. It is clear, however, that he anticipated Imperial and Canadian action in a manner inconsistent alike with the formal instructions from the Government which he carried with him, and with his own positive declaration made but a short time before. Of course Mr. McDougall must have had grave reasons for following a course so extremely hazardous; and for which the Governor-in-Council, when made acquainted with it, censured him pretty sharply, quoting not only from his instructions, but also his previously expressed intention to await the official notification of his being authorized to act. There is no reply to this despatch in the printed papers, though it is more than probable that Mr. McDougall may have made one, the publication of which is, for prudential reasons, deferred.

Among the papers is a report by a Mr. Wallace, noting down the results of his observations between the 4th and 22nd of November, he having left Pembina on the former day with a letter to Governor McTavish from Hon. Mr. McDougall. During Mr. Wallace's stay at Fort Garry he had interviews with a great many parties; and discovered that the sympathy with the insurgents was wider than at first supposed; that there was a general feeling that the people were being unfairly dealt with; that the intentions of Canada should have been made known and the views of the settlers consulted, &c. But when Mr. Wallace comes to give his own judgment upon all the facts collected by him and the opinions advanced in his presence, he drives us to the conclusion that these alleged causes for the disaffection were mere excuses, trumped up to hide the real cause, for in stating his "opinion of the whole (case) as precisely as possible," he says: "The movement from the first has been of a Republican Fenian kind. 'I am fully convinced that no offer that could be made by the Canadian Government would be accepted by the French half-breeds, and their friends the Americans; and that unless forced into it by the Convention, and the threatenings of the English half-breeds and whites, or perhaps troops, they will not accept a Governor from the Dominion on any terms.' This opinion, if well-founded, does away with the necessity of seeking for other causes for the rising, though other causes may have contributed to its success. However, Mr. Wallace is just as fully convinced that on the Hudson Bay Company's 'head lies a full measure of blame,' in that no proclamation was issued by its officers commanding obedience to the law until after the rising had taken place. He says also that the English and Scotch settlers would not attempt to bring in the Governor an opinion which subsequent events fully justified, for they neither sustained Colonel Dennis nor the movement of Schultz and Boulton at counter-revolution. Amongst other causes of mischief Mr. Wallace mentions the *Globe* of Toronto as having 'done infinite harm to Canadian interests in the Settlement;' and we think it not at all unlikely that had he extended his investigations further, he would have found that for one cause or another, nearly all the Canadian officials employed in that neighbourhood, during the last year or eighteen months, have managed to make themselves unpopular with the people generally and the Hudson's Bay officials in particular. In this list, too, might be classed, perhaps, the officious patronage of co-called Canadian interests by Dr. Schultz, through his paper, the *Nor'-Wester*, the local unpopularity of which—long before there was any outside appearance of trouble—was such as to induce Messrs. Ross and Coldwell, lately of the Toronto press, to return again to the Red River to

start a newspaper in consonance with popular sentiment. That that paper should now be the *New Nation*, and in out-and-out opposition to the Canadian connection, only shows the *facilis descensus averni*, when men are spurred by passion, prejudice, or self interest to disregard their obligations to lawful authority.

The concluding paragraph in Mr. Wallace's long report may possibly give the clue to the Hon. Mr. McDougall's issuing his proclamation on the 1st of December. Keeping in view that Mr. Wallace represented the movement as Republican Fenian; that the insurgents would refuse any offer from the Canadian Government, and deny admission to the Governor unless overawed by a display of force, the significance of the following passage will be at once apparent:

"In conclusion I would say if this Convention does not do something towards a settlement in a few days, the cheapest and safest course, and the one likely to prevent the destruction of life and property, is for the Canadian Government to send a sufficient force to take the Governor in at once. By 'at once' I mean to have them at Pembina by the middle or end of January, for there is great danger of Fenian hordes early in the spring."

This report is dated Nov. 22, eight days before the anticipated issue of the Queen's proclamation. What more natural than that Mr. McDougall should have attempted a *coup de main* in the hope that he would at once end the difficulty? Nothing was wanted to justify the step but success. Though he had no authority in the actual circumstances, he surely had the most solemn assurances that he would be duly invested with it so soon as it could be safely asserted. And those who opposed his entrance were, and are still, not only without authority but in actual rebellion against it. Mr. McDougall's action was beyond the law, rather than contrary to it; and though failure has stamped upon it the seal of impropriety, there are considerations enough to account for his having made the attempt, even at some risk of failure, because of the train of calamities he had a right to suppose he would have averted if he had had the good fortune of success. For the present, it is only by such conjectures that his policy can be explained.

There are some things made manifest by the progressive development of this Red River difficulty: the widening area of the anti-Canadian feeling; the want of cordial sympathy between the "Canadian" party and the officials of the Hudson's Bay Company; the reluctance of the English and Scotch loyalists to risk their personal safety by the assertion of force against force—at least under such guides as Col. Dennis, Dr. Schultz, and Major Boulton; the strength of the annexationist feeling among the insurgent party; and, it may be added, their cunning in only "showing their hands" when it was absolutely necessary for them to do so, as evidenced by Riel's stratagetic movement at the late Convention when he compelled the delegates to formally instal a Government of which he himself was confirmed as President, though that Convention only assembled to hear Mr. Commissioner Smith, and prepare a "bill of rights" to be the basis of negotiation with the Canadian Government. It was this step on the part of Riel which led to the counter-excitement of which the proceedings of Messrs. Boulton and Schultz were the inglorious termination, leaving Riel again master of the situation, with a new batch of prisoners in lieu of those he had released. It is to be hoped that no new features of a more discouraging character will be developed, at least until the Commissioners from the Convention, now on their way, can be heard at Ottawa.

The *furor* for protection is growing apace in the Western Province. A meeting of "manufacturers and producers from all parts" of Ontario has been called to assemble at Toronto, for the purpose of forming a Provincial Association to promote Canadian industry—a very laudable object; and also, "to appoint a deputation to proceed to Ottawa to urge a protectionist policy on the Government"—which is a step in which the still greater body of consumers have quite as much interest as the manufacturers. It is reported that salt, flour and coal are already down upon the list for duty when the new tariff comes in force—articles in which surely the poor have an especial interest in buying as cheaply as possible; while "fancy" stock, in the way of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, &c., which only the rich can buy, are to be admitted free; and the duty continued on the "common" stock of the same animals—the only kind the poor man's purse is long enough to reach. And all this as the fruits of the new born "national" policy! Well! There may be state reasons for a small duty on certain articles of raw material, the common product of this and the neighbouring country, but there are certainly no reasons of sound policy to justify any further leaning towards the protection of "manufactures" properly so called, which are already protected by the existing tariff to an extent altogether disproportioned to the consideration given to other branches of industry and trade no less beneficial to the progress of the country. As for protection to the farmer the cry is a complete delusion; and so it must continue, even according to protectionist principles, so long as the agricultural

products of the country exceed the amount consumed within it. The price at which the surplus can be sold, where no local causes intervene to disturb the general operation of the laws of trade, will assuredly regulate the price in the local markets for the whole product, so that to the farmer—the original producer—the question of duty or no duty is one of comparative indifference, however much it may affect millers, dealers and the whole class of middlemen intervening between the first seller and the last buyer.

It is a noticeable feature in the debates, during the present session of Parliament, that no opportunity is lost for bringing up the question of increased railway and canal communications throughout the Dominion. The recently discovered importance of Lake Neepigon and the country surrounding it have probably imposed new obligations upon the Government in relation to the selection of a route for communication with the North-West Territory; and there seems to be a firm determination among the people's representatives to force this question on the attention of the Government. The most feasible plan, if there be a feasible plan at all, to secure some of the public works now under discussion, would be to effect an understanding between the General and Local Governments for the cession of lands to companies prepared to undertake their construction. What with canal enlargements and the building of harbours of refuge, piers and lighthouses, at Government expense, it is to be feared that if the Cabinet is also to be forced into a large expenditure for other public works, the Minister of Finance will be tempted to listen to the oily tongues of the protectionists and anti-Morrill Morrill in the way of high tariffs. But by the giving away of the public lands on condition that public works be constructed, and with a reasonable proviso for settlement, or surrender, within a period which might be made a matter of mutual agreement, there would be not only no loss, but an absolute gain to the country. In fact even a proviso for settlement is hardly necessary, as any company entering into such an arrangement would from self-interest become a most active immigration agent, and dispose of its lands as fast as possible.

The New York Life Insurance Company in its Twenty-fifth Annual Report shows a most healthy state of business. This Company has a local Board of Directors in Montreal, whose names are a guarantee of its respectability, and appears to have had an exceedingly profitable year here; for while receiving nearly \$30,000 in premiums, not a policy became a claim during 1869. Mr. Walter Burke is the local Manager. For an abstract of the financial statement for 1869 see last page.

THE CANADA BOOKSELLER, Toronto, Adam, Stevenson & Co. — This new publication, intended to be a Quarterly Record of Current Literature, supplies a want that has long been felt in Canadian journalism, and will prove an invaluable boon to booksellers, biblioplists, and general readers. The *Bookseller* contains classified lists of all important works published in Britain and America, with lists of new editions and American reprints, articles of interest in trade, Book Notices and current Literary gossip. As a specimen of Canadian typography the *Bookseller* is very creditable.

THE TECHNOLOGIST is the name of a new illustrated journal issued by the New York Industrial Publication Company. It is devoted to the interests of Engineering, Manufacturing, and Building, but at the same time does not disdain literature of a lighter kind. Besides a series of very readable articles on scientific and industrial matters, the first number contains a news summary, including notes of new undertakings, scientific discoveries and mechanical inventions, a list of new industrial publications, and a quantity of recipes and statistics well worth preserving, and which will make the volumes of the *Technologist* of great value as a work of reference, as well as a chronicle of the scientific progress of the day.

## OBITUARY.

## COUNT DE MONTALEMBERT.

CHARLES-FORBES DE TYRON, Count Montalembert, whose death was announced by cable a few days ago, was the son of a French emigrant who took refuge in England at the commencement of the French Revolution. At the Restoration his father returned to France, and was created a peer by the Bourbons, and died in 1830. On the death of the latter, his son took his seat in the Chamber of Peers, where he advocated Ultramontane and Legitimist principles. After the revolution of 1848, he figured as a member of Louis Napoleon's Legislature, and was afterwards made a member of the Legion of Honour. In 1832 he was elected a member of the French Academy; and the same year was returned to the Corps Législatif. In 1856 he assumed a position hostile to the Government, and lost his seat the following year. But it is not so much in his political career as in his character as an author, that Count Montalembert distinguished himself and will be hereafter remembered. He was for some time a contributor to the *Avenir*, an Ultramontane journal established by the Abbé Lamennais, and to his connection with this celebrated man is attributed the change which his political sentiments shortly afterwards underwent. The first of Count Montalembert's literary efforts, an essay "Du Catholicisme et du Vandalisme dans l'Art," appeared in 1822. Since that time he has issued