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Miramichi Advance,

CHATHAM, N. B. - - - JULY 8, 1886.

The Irish Question and British Elections.

It may almost be taken for granted that Mr. Gladstone and his Irish policy will be defeated in the pending elections in Great Britain. Although the counties have not yet been heard from it will be difficult to make up the losses the government has sustained in the borough consituencies. Nevertheless, the glamour that attaches to a great name is wonderfully strong. While there may be differences of opinion in reference to Gladstone's change of front and concessions to circumstances which he refuses longer to control, there is still faith among his followers in his honesty of purpose. This belief in sincerity is sometimes looked upon as a justification of extreme courses by those who will follow a leader whose eminence sheds a halo of dignity on measures that stagger their reason. To this may be added that clinging to party which, as in divisions in domestic affairs, will keep the skeleton in the closet rather than evict it. It is to be hoped, however, for the sake of trade and the stability of government, that whichever side gets a majority, it will be sufficient to make it both independent of obstruction and of a policy more intended to pander to the political exigencies of the hour than to effect the final settlement of domestic legislation, the confusion of which is doing so much to distract business and create want of confidence.

A series of short-lived parliaments would be most unfortunate, as they would enfeeble the country in foreign affairs. It has before happened that the instability of government in Great Britain has been the prelude to European conplications, which only great and wasteful wars have terminated. In a pending discussion of radical constitutional changes, the time would be inopportune for abandoning parochial politics to take up arms and defend national interests from the attacks of watchful enemies. It is, in this connection, worthy of note that the press of those countries which look upon the power and prosperity of the Empire with fear and envy regard with most pleasure any disturbance which tends to weaken its unity and squander its wealth. If Gladstone's policy finds favor in these directions, it would, in this light, be, at least, inexpedient, whatever other arguments may be for or against it on its merits at home. Irish home rule, as expressed by the defeated bill, has been discredited in this regard. Should Gladstone be squarely defeated it will, in all probability, be his disappearance forever from the lead in public affairs, and the friends of reform in Irish government will turn to Chamberlain or some other leader of his views. Gladstone's possible return to power could only happen after several years, which would add to an already old age the infirmity of natural physical decline. The mortal setting of the jewels of his immortal abilities must be nigh worn through. A few years, at most, and he and his many-sided character will be matters of history, nor will this generation be capable of adequately estimating one who has excited the extremes of admiration and severest criticism. It will scarcely be conceded that he was as great a statesman as parliamentarian. Originality and permanence are not the marks of a mind which has devoted all its culture and marvellous energy to the adornment of common-place, and to ingenious explanations of how things that are different are really the same. In the exuberance of sentiment and the seduction of phrase his reason has been too often found worshipping at the shrine of popularity, where judgment blinks in the splendid vanity of *vox populi vox Dei.*

Attorney-General Blair on Repeal.

When the question of repeal of the Union with Canada was before the Liberal Convention at Fredericton on 24th ult,—

Hon Attorney-General Blair said that "he did not see any reason why a liberal convention should discuss the question of repeal. The repeal of the union was not yet a factor in dominion politics, and if it ever became one those who desired to bring it about would not be the liberal party but the repeal party. To pass a resolution which might be construed as favoring repeal, if such a resolution could be passed in the convention, would not tend to strengthen the hands of the liberal party of Canada, and consequently it could not be considered as coming within the objects for which the convention was assembled. It seemed rather that to pass such a resolution would be to vote want of confidence in the liberal party of Canada, and while the convention with one breath would be declaring its confidence in Mr. Blake, with the next breath it would be asserting that it hoped for nothing at the hands of the liberal leader and his friends. But this is not the occasion to discuss repeal. We have not yet exhausted the resources of the constitution. We have not yet tried all the remedies that are open to us. If the tory party have failed to give us the policy which will tend to promote prosperity and satisfaction we have no right to say that the liberal party will also fail. It is our duty, if we feel the grievance of our present position, to unite in a determined effort to place those in power in whose judgment, honesty, and sound commercial policy we can rely. No one need despair of the future of the country. It is too early to proclaim it a failure. Let us go forward determined to right all wrongs and make the future of Canada worthy of its great resources and honorable traditions."

Mr. Blair and those who entertain the views he expresses will, no doubt, learn by experience that their hopes are as delusive as were those of the most sanguine and sincere confederates twenty years ago. At that time it was possible to make a success of confederation. Now the conditions have irrevocably changed. Then, we had a comparatively small debt and very little more than one-third of our present taxation. Under the rule of Sir John A. Macdonald the public debt has been so greatly increased and the public services all made so expensive that a high rate of taxation will be necessary for all time to come—not only so, but the new and vast territories of the west, with their sparse and comparatively non-tax-paying population—a people largely assisted by the native tax-payers in coming to the country—are and must be maintained at the expense of the older provinces, and, in the processes of administration, there must be a constant drain of our declining resources in that direction. We of the Maritime provinces, being shut out from our natural market in the United States in the interest of Ontario and Quebec—to whom we must go for manufactures and importations—will have constant reminders of the fact that we are but hewers of wood and drawers of water for our Canadian masters, no matter which party rules at Ottawa. It will, therefore, be found that the "repeal party" to which Mr. Blair refers is a very large one that only requires a strong man to lead it, when it will sweep the polls in New Brunswick as it has done in Nova Scotia.

The Scott Act Petitions at the Municipal Council.

The manner in which the petitions in connection with the enforcement of the Canada Temperance Act were disposed of at the Northumberland Municipal Council is not satisfactory to those who desire to see that body rise to the dignity of its position in County affairs. It is also disappointing to those who hope that the Municipal system will develop to a point of legislative capacity, reliability and importance which will justify the placing at the disposal of the County Councils local interests which are now controlled by the legislature of the province, but more properly are matters, almost exclusively, of County concern. The petitioners, erred, no doubt, in covering too much ground, but that did not justify the practical ignoring of the petitions. They asked very properly, that an inspector should be appointed under the recently-passed act of the local legislature, and they went further —viz., to nominate the man for the position. In the judgment of many the latter part of the business might have been left rather to individual influence than incorporated in a petition affecting the main and important issue, and it is unfortunate that a good many of the Councillors seemed to be under the impression that the petitions were for the appointment of an individual to office rather than for the more important purpose of influencing the Council to bring into operation a permissive enactment of the local legislature designed to enforce a Dominion law that is unblushingly violated in this and nearly every other community where it has been adopted.

The ordinary course pursued in regard to petitions presented to the Council is to receive them and then refer them to the standing committee on petitions. This would, doubtless, have been done in this case had it not been for the too-apparent fact that a number of the council's members had pre-judged the matter and determined to dispose of it in the most summary manner. Sober after thought will convince even those who are in favor of the open defiance of the notoriously inoperative Scott Act that the action of the Council will tend to discredit them, for the cause that, shirks discussion by resort to the force of a merely silent majority, will not commend itself to the public who wish to have matters affecting them dealt more intelligently with by their representatives. There are a good many prejudices and misconceptions connected with the Scott Act question, as it presents itself under the local act, and it would have been much better, all round, to have them cleared up, as they undoubtedly would have been had the majority not acted so arbitrarily. At all events, the action of the Council will not, by any means, tend to allay the public determination that things shall not remain as they are, for the subject will have to be grappled with and settled one way or another.

Liberal Meeting.

The president and secretary of Northumberland County Liberal Association announce a meeting of the party for next Thursday evening, 15th inst., in Masonic Hall, Chatham, for the purpose of completing organization. We hope that all the friends of the party who can convienently do so, will endeavor to be present.

Dominion Government Neglect and Indifference.

At the late Convention of the New Brunswick Liberal Association Mr. Weldon, Q. C., M. P., made the following statement of facts respecting the neglect by the Dominion Government of our important fishery and reciprocity interests:

A review of the facts would show that while the imperial government had been mindful of the interests of Canada the dominion government acted in a most negligent manner, and so as to create causes of irritation and ill-feeling between us and our nearest neighbors, with whom it is most desirable that we should be on friendly terms. In 1883 the U. S. congress had passed a joint resolution to terminate the fisheries clauses of the treaty of Washington. This was, of course, communicated to the imperial government, and Lord Derby at once, that is on March 28th, 1883, sent a despatch to the governor general enclosing a copy of the communication from the American government. Lord Derby's despatch closed with those words: "I shall, no doubt, receive an expression of the views and wishes of the Dominion government in regard to this matter." To this despatch the dominion government sent no answer. A short time afterwards, or, to be exact, on May 3, 1883, Lord Derby again wrote to the governor general, enclosing a note from the under secretary of state for foreign affairs. In this note the under secretary says; "It appears to Earl Granville expedient to take into consideration without delay what course it will be best to adopt with a view, if possible, to avoid a recurrence of irritating despatches in connection with the fisheries question, and I am to suggest that in the first place it might be well to communicate a copy of Mr. Lowell's note to the Canadian government and to ascertain what views they entertain on the subject." Lord Derby himself wrote as follows:—

"Although the articles in question will remain in force for two years after the notice is given, your government will no doubt agree with me in the opinion that it is desirable that no time should be lost in taking into consideration the course which it will be best to adopt in regard to the fisheries question on the termination of the articles of the treaty relating thereto. Her Majesty's government will be glad if your ministers will favor them with their views in the matter as soon as they are in a position to do so."

It seems to me that in sending these urgent despatches the imperial government showed themselves anxious to guard most carefully the interests of Canada, and when I tell you what is an undisputed fact that to this despatch no reply was sent, that to these repeated requests for advice concerning the wishes of Canada no attention was paid, that although the urgency of the case was pointed out no attention was paid to it, but the despatches "pigeon-holed" and the matter allowed to drop, you will agree with me in saying that the conduct of the Canadian government was culpable in the extreme; that they displayed a wanton disregard of the duties of their position and the necessities of the occasion, and merit the condemnation not of the liberals alone but of all the people of Canada. But this is not all. On January 30th, 1884, Lord Derby again wrote to the Governor General saying:

"With reference to my despatches of May 3rd and March 28th I have the honour to request that you will move your government to take an early opportunity of placing me in possession of their views as to the course to be pursued in consequence of the approaching termination of the fishery articles in the Washington treaty."

Even this urgent letter elicited no response, and after waiting in vain for nearly a year the Colonial Secretry again wrote asking for the views of the government "as to the course which they may wish to be pursued in negotiations with the government of the United States with the object of arriving at some satisfactory arrangement with that government in order to avoid the risks and complications which might arise from the fishery question being left in an unsettled and undecided state." At last a reply was sent, but what sort of a reply? Simply a proposition that the time during which American fishermen might have free access to our waters should be extended. Even then it was not suggested that any compensation in the way of free admission of fish should be granted to Canada. The whole subject was treated hurriedly and without consideration, and was left as the imperial government foresaw it would be in a most unsatisfactory condition. Can any one read these despatches and deny that the Canadian government merits condemnation? Iuvitation after invitation was sent, abundant opportunity was given to open the discussion of the whole subject of the fisheries and reciprocity with the United States government, but the only response from the Tory government of Canada was one which came at the eleventh hour and that it was simply a gratuitious concession to the United States of privileges never asked for. Surely, in view of these facts, it is not unreasonable for this convention to condemn, and to condemn in strong terms, the negligence and indifference of the ministry.

Tory Repealers

[Telegraph.]

We altogether dissent from the idea that the desire to be free from the Canadian confederation implies any disloyalty to the sovereign of the empire; but we do say that if it be disloyal to talk of breaking up the confederation, the Liberal party have no monopoly of the design. It was Manitoba's Tory premier, Norquay, who in 1884 declared that his province had been coerced into union with the bayonet, and if not more fairly treated, now that she had grown strong, would know how to find her way out. It was the Toronto Mail that, during the Riel agitation, threatened that, certain things happening, Ontario would smash the confederation into its original fragments. And we quoted the other day from the Summerside Journal, a staunch supporter of the Conservative government, the statement that the cry of repeal would sweep that province as it has swept Nova Scotia.

It was evident that the party which in its time mobbed a governor general and burned the parliament buildings, would not allow the British North America Act to keep it back from a selfish advantage. Sitting on the treasury benches, the Tory leaders are loyal to the Queen, the confederation and themselves, so long as such loyalty involves no sacrifices. But if British connexion conflicts with a Tory fiscal hobby the Mail cries out "so much the worse for British connexion."

This serves to recall that Mr. McLelan, now Sir John Macdonald's finance minister, in 1869 advised his fellow-citizens in Nova Scotia on the better terms question that "it would be better to accept an addition to our revenue for the present, but "we should continue the fight till we are "clear of our Canadian masters and seek "the co operation and assistance of the "maritime provinces to accomplish our "freedom!"

And these are the men who raise the cry of disloyalty when Liberals talk of repeal or secession as a last resort under long endured wrongs.

The Young Liberals.

THEIR MEETING AT MONTREAL—THE BUSINESS OF A TWO DAYS' SESSION.

The Convention of Young Liberals at Montreal on Wednesday and Thursday of last week was very largely attended, and was a grand success in every respect. The large attendance, and the deep interest shown in the proceedings, must be encouraging to the older members of the party who have, for years, been fighting for the cause of liberalism and good government,

The question of Canada's independence was discussed at length, and finally dropped until next year's convention.

The following, among other resolutions, were carried:—

Condemning the government employing the public funds for the purpose of assisting emigrants from the old country to settle in Canada.

That all restrictions on trade and commerce of the dominion are detrimental to the best interests of the people, and that it is absolutely necessary as a step toward the equitable government of Canada that at the earliest possible moment the tax on coal, flour and other necessaries of life, and on raw material for manufacture, should be abolished.

That this meeting expresses its sympathy with the gallant efforts now being made by Mr. Gladstone, Mr Parnell and their followers to grant to the people of Ireland a parliament to manage their local affairs.

That Manitoba lands be handed over to the province on such conditions as are just and equitable.

That this convention is convinced that no settlement of the respective fishing rights of Canada and the United States will prove satisfactory unless the policy of England, on negotiations, is based on recommendations of the Canadian government.

Protesting against the encroachments of the federal government upon the rights of provinces,

That the right of the province of Manitoba under the British North America act to charter railways within its boundaries should not be interfered with.

That no member, solicitor or employe of a corporation seeking or receiving land, money, subsidies or other pecuniary advantages from the government should be permitted to sit or vote in parliament.

That this convention is strongly in favor of a reciprocity with the United States.

The motion to abolish the senate was carried by 55 to 26, who were in favor of reforming it.

A resolution favoring the appointment of a board of arbitation was also passed.

Capt Quigley and the Yankees.

The Portland schooner City Point, which put into Shelburne Wednesday night for the alleged purpose of getting her decks caulked, was not permitted to proceed on the voyage, but was detained pending instructions from Ottawa. It appears that, besides running to Shelburne harbor to get a pre-arranged supply of bait after dark, as alleged, she landed two men with their clothes at a place called Gunning Cove, Sandy Point, Shelburne harbor, and took water on board. This was immediately after anchoring at dusk Wednesday night, and before the captain made any attempt to report at the custom house. An armed guard was kept on board that night and some work was done caulking the decks. When ready to sail, Collector Atwood told Captain Keene he could not give a clearance until authorized from Ottawa, and meanwhile the City Point must remain under cover of the guns of the cruiser Terror. On Friday instructions came from Ottawa to make a formal seizure of the American for violating the custom laws. This was done in the name of Queen Victoria by Captain Quigley and Collector Atwood.

HALIFAX, July 4.—Capt Quigley of the cruiser Terror took charge of two other American schooners Saturday morning and brought them to Shelburne. They are the George W Cushing, C B Jewett, master, Portland, Me., and the C B Harrington, Fralick, master, of the same place.

Commander Quigley was interviewed by a press correspondent and reports; "I went down with a boat's crew at half past seven o'clock and found the above named vessels in the harbor. I had been informed by parties at Sandy Point that they had been endeavoring to buy bait and ice during the day. I boarded the Harrington at half-past nine o'clock and found that two of the crew were then ashore. I enquired of the captain if he had reported at the custom house, and he replied that he had not. I thereupon ordered him to bring his vessel to Shelburne at day-break and placed an armed watch from my vessel on board of her. I next boarded the Cushing and enquired if any of the crew had been on shore that day and if the captain had yet reported his vessel. Captain Jewett replied that he himself had been ashore but he had not reported. I therefore treated him to the same discipline, as I had administered to the captain of the Harrington.

'Had they succeeded in purchasing bait or ice,' was asked by the correspondent.

'No,' but both captains frankly admitted that they asked for them, but were unable to purchase either from the fishermen although bait particularly was plentiful and they offered as high as seventy cents a hundred for it.'

Both vessels were brought up to anchor abreast of the Terror.

The correspondent secured an interview with both captains.

Capt Jewett, of the George W Cushing, had no hesitation in saying that his sole object in coming into port was for bait. He says his vessel had been laying idle in Portland for ten days, he feeling that it was useless to attempt to fish unless he could get fresh bait from the Provinces.

A few days ago the American papers published a statement that Canada was going to surrender her right to refuse Americans bait and men, and had withdrawn her cruisers. It was solely by this report that he was induced to come here an endeavor to procure bait. He admits that yesterday morning in company with Capt Fralick he went ashore at Sandy Point and endeavored to buy bait, but he was unable to procure any, as the fishermen positively refused to sell.

He would have sailed to-day for the eastward in search of bait had he not been seized. He had not reported to the customs house, therefore the seizure, and was unaware that it was a breach of the law to do so before allowing his men to go ashore.

Capt Fralick of the Harrington had about the same story to tell, except that he wanted ice beside. He says this will prove disastrous work for the Americans this season.

The George W Cushing is a fine vessel of sixty-one tons, belonging to E G Hillard of Portland.

The C B Harrington is owned by C A Dwyer and W S Jordan & Co. of same place and is a much smaller schooner than the former, being only about 21 tons burden.

Both vessels were formally seized and are lying with the previously captured City Point alongside the Terror.

CANSO, July 4. Schooner Hereward of Gloucester, Mass., arrived from Halifax last week and reported she came in for water. She was seized on Saturday by sub-collector Young for shipping a man named Rhynold, a native of this place, and the fisheries department notified of the same. It is understood the captain was warned and the vessel released last evening.

The schooner Everett Steel, of Gloucester, anchored in the harbor Saturday morning, and towards evening went out, being intercepted en route by one of the trap owners with bait, which was transferred to the schooner as she left the harbor.

A good many Yankee fishermen are dodging around and some have obtained bait.

No government cruiser has been in port since the 26th June.

The N. P. Swindle.

(Montreal Witness.)

During the past six six years, that is, since the National Policy came into force, imported breadstuffs and coal were taxed over seven millions of dollars. By setting the farmers to protecting themselves by taxes upon the coal miners, and the coal miners to protecting themselves by taxing the manufacturers, and the manufacturers to protecting themselves by taxing the farmers and coal miners, all under the name of the National Policy, the Dominion Government, in addition to the glory, has carried off in taxes taken from all the nice little sum of seven million dollars—within a couple of million or so of enough to make up an acceptable present to so great a corporation as the Canadian Pacific. If divided equally among the people of Canada, it would give every man, woman and child of them a dollar and a quarter. Yet the coal and bread taxes are but a small proportion of what the people are cozened out of under the name of Protection and the National Policy.

Canada in London.

The *Canadian Exhibitor*, a most creditable paper printed in the Canadian Department of the Colonial Exhibition, on paper furnished by the Canada Paper Co., Moitreal; with type supplied by the Dominion Type Foundry, Montreal; and with Ink from the Canada Printing Ink Co., Toronto, came to hand last week. Among other things it says, —

"To attempt to give a comprehensive sketch of even the Canadian section of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, much less the whole, would occupy a volume. We can only say, on the authority of experienced exhibition men, that for the vastness of the display and the diversity of products brought together from the four ends of the earth, this Exhibition stands unrivalled in the history of the world. As a grand object lesson to Englishmen and foreigners and as a spectacle through which the mind may take in the vast area of the British Empire and the immense scope of its products and resources, it is transcendent in its instructiveness. As to the part the Dominion plays in the great panorama, we need not be ashamed of ourselves. In education, if not in fine arts, we are pre-eminent; while in manufactures of wood and iron, as well as of raw products of the forest and sea, we take a position peculiarly our own. In machinery, at all events, we stand ahead of all the colonies, and the long array of moving wheels in the machinery hall is a surprise to most of the mechanicins who visit the department. This department, including the ironware and small tools, is, we are glad to note, in charge of a Canadian, Mr. James Clarke, of Cobourg, Ont., than whom no more efficient man could have been selected by Sir Charles Tupper. Amidst great difficulties, he has got the work together without a single breakage, and this hall, about 300 feet long, with two rows of machines, may be said to be the only machinery hall in the entire exhibition. On Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Cornwall and the other Canadians assisting Sir Charles Tupper, whose work will be referred to hereafter, one can scarcely bestow too much praise."

Home News from Abroad.

The St John *Globe* of 3rd inst. contained a very gloomy report from a commercial traveller just from the Miramichi. He said—

"On Wednesday last a very heavy frost visited the locality and completely destroyed the growing crops, Potatoes, beans and buckwheat alike suffered; as I drove through the district a few days later, the fields were a black mass. It will be a serious blow to the farmers, many of whom are poor, and can ill afford to bear the loss." Let us hope that matters may not turn out quite so badly as anticipated. "I tell you what,' said the gentleman, as he changed the subject, "I never saw business so dull in Chatham as it is at present; in the days of the old due-bills it was far better than it is now. Only one mill is running and there is no shipping in the harbor. The Chatham people want a hum the worst way, I can tell you."

It is true that business was, perhaps, never so dull here as it is at present, but the 'I tell you' man rather overdrew the picture. We continue to have a ship or two in port and on the day named we had several sailing ships and a steamer of over 2000 tons. As to the frost's ravages we have not heard of them to any great extent, and having driven that night over an 11 mile country road did not find any frost at all. In fact, the 'I tell you' man must have been celebrating Dominion Day rather hilariously and had a fit of the blues in consequence.

Mr. Fielding's Position.

Mr. Fielding, the Provincial Secretary of Nova Scotia, sent to the convention of Young Liberals in Montreal a letter in response to their invitation to him to attend their meeting. It excited a great deal of comment, as was, perhaps, natural:—

I regret I cannot attend convention, for the success of which you have my best wishes. Political issues in Nova Scotia are now deeper than ordinary party lines. Excessive taxation, neglect of our Provincial rights, general mismanagement at Ottawa, intensified the original grievances of Nova Scotia and produced a constitutional revolt against the union. The desire of our people is to be released from Confederation. We must press for that, regardless of party lines; but while Nova Scotia remains in the union the Liberals of the province will very thoroughly cooperate with their brethren of the other provinces in bringing about a change in the Ottawa Government; feeling assured that the whole country will be benefitted by having the affairs of the Dominion directed by a statesman of the lofty character and splendid abilities of the Hon. Edward Blake.

W. S. FIELDING.

Only one New Brunswicker appears to have attended the convention, Mr. James W. Harrington.—St. John *Globe*.

Gladstone's Eloquence.

Mr. Gladstone, in the course of his speech at Liverpool on 28th ult, said, 'It was here that I first drew breath. I have drawn it now 76 years. The time is not distant when I shall pay my debt to nature, and these possibly are the last words I shall speak in Liverpool." Mr. Gladstone quoted from the ballad Chevy Chase. "The child unborn shall rue the hunting of that day," and exclaimed 'If idle and shallow pretexts bewilder the mind of the people, or if power, wealth, and rank overbear the national sense, the child unborn shall rue the voting of that day. I entreat you to resolve that the civilized world shall no longer assert that Ireland is England's Poland, and to determine that England shall no longer have a Poland. She has had it long enough, Listen to prudence, courage and honour. Ring out the old, ring in the new, ring out the notes of memory and discord, ring in the blessed reign of a time of peace,"

A Great Sensation.

LONDON, June 29.—A sensation has been caused by an article purporting to contain "important Fenian revelations" published in the current number of The Fortnightly Review. The article is captioned "Behind the Scenes," and is ostensibly contributed by an Irishman. It tells substantially the following story:—

Frank Byrne, Secretary of the English Branch of the Irish National League, occupied an office on Bridge- street opposite Westminster Hall in the spring of 1882. The office adjoined the rooms occupied at the time by the Irish Parliamentary party. Mr. Parnell used Byrne's office for the transaction of private business, because as he said it was the quietest place he could get in the neighbourhood. The knives used in the assassination of Lord Cavendish and Burke in the Phenix Park were purchased with League money. The knives were then given to a Fenian cobbler to cover with leather sheaths, and from the cobbler's shop they were delivered at the office of the League by a brother of Frank Byrne, and were subsequently entrusted to Mrs. Frank Byrne to be conveyed to Dublin, and there to be delivered to James Carey. Miss Maggie Byrne took £200, furnished from the League treasury, to Dublin, to enable an organizer to escape to America. Mr. Patrick Egan, who was then the Treasurer of the League, bolted the country shortly afterwards.

IN THE COURTS.—The big timber raft at the Joggins will be ready for launching on Saturday next, but a serious difference that has arisen between the New York promoters of the scheme and Mr. Barnhill will probably result in a postponement of the launch for the present. It seems that the contract entered into between Barnhill and Godfrey, of New York, did not specify the number of feet the raft would contain, but that it was represented and understood between the parties that three million feet would be required. and on this understanding Barnhill went to work, and now that the raft is about complete he finds he has about two-thirds of a million it will not carry. For this he claims payment, and Godfrey disclaims liability, and has brought an action in the supreme court, Amherst, for some $5,000 already paid Barnhill for timber, and for $10,000 damages for alleged breaches. Unless the matter is settled, the public will hear full particulars in October, at the next term of the Amherst supreme court.—*Chicago Post.*

Northumberland Municipal Council.

The half-yearly meeting of the County Council convened in the Court House Newcastle, at 11.30 a. m. on Tuesday, the Warden, C E Fish, Esq., in the chair.

The following is a list of the Councillors for the present year:—

LUDLOW.—John McAleer, Samuel Amos
BLISSFIELD.—Enoch A Bamford, Jno T Mersereau.
BLACKVILLE.—B N T Underhill, Michael Whalen.
NORTHESK.—Michael Ryan, Robert Adams.
SOUTHESK.—James Somers, Jared Tozer.
DERBY.—Jas Robinson, Jno. Betts.
ROGERSVILLE.—Reuben S Cormier, Peter Thibedeau.
NELSON.—Daniel Baldwin, Allan A M. Saunders.
NEWCASTLE.—John Woods, Chas. E, Fish.
CHATHAM.—Roger Flanagan, D. G. Smith.
GLENELG.—Hugh Cameron, Robert McNaughton.
HARDWICKE.—Thos B Williston, Michael Branstield.
ALNWICK.—Wm B Stewart, Romain Savoy.

Council was called to order by the Warden. Roll called. Couns Flanagan and Smith, Chatham, Reuben S Cormier, Rogersville, Hugh Cameron, Glenelg, and Wm B Stewart, Alnwick, were absent. [Couns Flanagan, Smith and Stewart arrived by the boat leaving Chatham at 11 a. m.]

Reading of minutes of last meeting read and on motion approved.

Coun Whalen moved that W C. Anslow be appointed Official Reporter. Carried.

On motion, John Cassidy was appointed constable.

On motion that the pay be $1.50 per day, moved in amendment that it be $1.00. Amendment lost. Original motion carried.

Motion made that vote be recorded. Yeas for the amendment Couns Ryan and Bransfield.

Nays—Couns McAleer, Amos, Bamford, Somers, Robinson, Betts, Mersereau, Whalen, Underhill, Saunders, Baldwin, Williston, Savoy, Woods.

Coun Betts presented the following petition from R R Call:—

To the Municipal Council of the County of Northumberland:

The Petition of Robert R. Call, of Newcastle, in the said County, Merchant respectfully showeth.

That on the 9th Januray, 1866, your petitioner and George A. Willard obtained a lease from the Justices of the front part of the Public Wharf in Newcastle for a term of 20 years at a yearly rental of $200 and under which the said lessees were bound to keep the front wharf in good repair.

That your petitioner occupied the said property until 1875 and during that time spent a large amount of money in erecting and repairing said wharf.