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FOREIGN NEWS.

THE APPROACHING CONGRESS.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

Austria and Germany Said to be Satisfied With Russia's Policy.

ENGLAND.

ALL THE LATEST TELEGRAMS.

FRIDAY, March 15.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—England and Austria persist in their demand that all the terms of the Treaty shall be submitted to the Congress. Russia is dissatisfied and is said to be indifferent as to whether the meeting takes place at all. The reports, however, are of the usual contradictory character and but very little reliance can be placed on them. According to a Vienna despatch, Russia has expressed her desire that the Congress shall meet on 30th March, the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris, while a Berlin correspondent avers that an early meeting is no longer probable. Meantime warlike preparations continue in England, and everything is still being done to guard against any surprise. All outward bound men-of-war have been ordered to be detained with a view to strengthening the Mediterranean fleet. Opposition is manifested in extreme anti-Russian quarters to the appointment of Lord Lyons as British representative at the Congress on the ground that he is not in perfect accord with Mr. Layard. Turkey, at the instigation, it is supposed, of Russia, has decided to oppose any occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria. General Ignatieff and Reouf Pasha have arrived at St. Petersburg with the Treaty. Suleiman Pasha is not dead, but is ordered to Constantinople for trial. The *Agence Russe* says:—"Russia is not so confiding as to conclude secret clauses with Turkey, when she knows the slightest transactions are communicated to Minister Layard." The *Agence* points out every Power will enter the Congress with full liberty as to the attitude it may assume relative to the claims brought forward and the decisions arrived at.

SATURDAY, March 16.

LONDON, March 15.—The *Times* says the Russians are making further advances towards the Bosphorus. Our Government must have satisfied themselves that the virtual command of Constantinople gave Russia no insuperable advantage, and we may, therefore, view with comparative indifference that movement, which in some way more alarming than those in which we have already acquiesced.

A Vienna despatch says it is announced semi-officially from St. Petersburg that Prince Battenberg, the Czarina's nephew, has been definitely proposed for the throne of Bulgaria.

All the officers of the corps of Royal Engineers who are first on the list for foreign service, have been ordered to provide themselves with field equipment, and to be ready for immediate service.

An Athens despatch says the Commander-in-Chief of the Greek army has notified the Minister of War that the Turks have committed unparalleled cruelties on the Christians in Epirus. A large number of destitute fugitives has entered Greece.

The *Pesther Lloyds* states England and Austria have agreed to demand the annexation of Thessaly, Epirus, and Macedonia to Greece if Russia persists in the extension of Bulgaria.

A St. Petersburg special says the official world here again entertains grave apprehension of serious complications. The men who have considerable influence in causing or averting events, which they profess to foresee, say it is by no means certain that Congress will meet, and if it does meet it is not very likely to succeed in consequence of Austrian and English jealousy of Russia's success.

The *Political Correspondence* of Vienna publishes a letter, from a diplomatic source in Paris, which asserts that France, at the Congress, will endeavour to bring about a compromise, and will refuse to take part in, or sanction, any partition or radical change of territory.

Constantinople news says it is asserted Northern Syria has revolted and proclaimed itself separate from the Sultan.

A Ragusa telegram states the Turks have strengthened the garrisons in Herzegovina, and are working day and night in entrenchments in the neighbourhood of Krupa, Gabella, and Mostar.

A Constantinople telegram says it is untrue that the Porte has given orders to prevent any more British men-of-war from passing the Dardanelles. Mr. Layard has recently obtained a firman permitting the passage of the Hotspur and Condon, which vessels are expected in the Gulf of Iamid shortly. Mr. Layard has also received permission to send the Rapid to the Albanian coast to embark refugees.

A Vienna correspondent says Russia has notified the Powers that the Treaty will be sent to them immediately after the ratifications, Russia having no reason to conceal anything. This seems intended to reassure England that there is no secret understanding.

The Budget Committee of the Austrian delegation adopted by a vote of eleven to nine a resolution to the effect that in the event of Eastern affairs rendering a display of military force unavoidable for the protection of essential interests, the common Government is empowered to incur, with the assent of the Austrian and Hungarian Ministers, an expenditure not exceeding sixty million florins. The minority has given notice of a counter resolution.

A Vienna correspondent asserts Count Andrassy informed the Austrian delegation he will resign if the credit is refused.

A Berlin despatch says Germany upholds the proposition of submitting all the terms of the Treaty of Peace to the Congress except the question of pecuniary indemnity.

MONDAY, March 18.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—The San Stefano Treaty was ratified at St. Petersburg yesterday. Its conditions will at once be communicated to the Powers and afterwards be made public. Lord Derby, it is expected, will receive them on Saturday, it being the intention to despatch a courier to England to-morrow. The question of the Straits is reserved for the Congress, and the southern frontier of Bulgaria and the question of the annexation of the port of Kavala are to be decided by the International Commission. A meeting of the Congress now seems far more probable than it has done for the past week. Bismarck has again thrown himself into the breach and prevailed upon Russia to consent that all the conditions of the Treaty shall be submitted, if the Congress so demands. This, Count Andrassy and the Prince are reported to consider satisfactory, but Lord Derby is said to insist upon a formal engagement that all the clauses shall be submitted, to which Russia is unwilling to accede. It remains to be seen whether England will fall into line with Germany and Austria and isolate Russia half way. A preliminary conference of ambassadors is being planned at Berlin to decide upon the mode of procedure. England has obtained permission from the Porte to embark some troops on the Island of Tenedos, and to send four more ships to the Sea of Marmora. These concessions the Russian dragoman at Constantinople is reported to have protested against. According to a Vienna despatch, negotiations are in active progress for an Anglo-Austrian alliance, upon the success of which the fate

TUESDAY, March 19.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—The situation as regards the differences between England and Russia increases in gravity. A protest has been sent from London to St. Petersburg against the continued advance on the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, but no reply has yet been received. England stands to her demand that Russia shall formally engage to submit all the terms of the San Stefano Treaty to the Congress, and Prince Gortschekoff has again replied, merely reiterating his promise that all the conditions shall be submitted to the Powers. The *Times* declares the latest phase is that Russia, while willing to submit all the points of the Treaty, declines to be ultimately bound by the decision of the majority of the Powers. A correspondent at the Russian capital of the *North German Gazette* says Russia will not allow the war indemnity, Armenia, or Bessarabia to be discussed. Turkey, in the event of the difficulties between Russia and England resulting in war, has, it is reported, decided to remain neutral, which means, if true, that she will stand by and see her former enemy either gain additional glory and more power to crush her, or look on and not take the advantage to administer a blow which might ultimately restore her to her former state. The proposition for a preliminary Conference has been coldly received, and is not expected to come to anything. All the Powers are agreed that Greece could not be admitted to the Congress on the same footing as the signatory Powers, but could only be consulted where the interests of the Greek race are concerned. England has requested permission from the Porte to establish a coaling station on the Island of Tenedos.

WEDNESDAY, March 20.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—According to a Vienna correspondent, England is isolated in her demand for a formal engagement from Russia that the whole of the Treaty shall be submitted, Germany and Austria being satisfied with the compromise that the terms shall be read and Congress be left to decide upon the articles to be discussed. Austria is said to have been confidentially informed of the conditions, and to have given them her approbation at the Congress. Count Andrassy, addressing the Hungarian Delegation, plainly evidenced that he was not in accord with England. He declared that the whole Treaty being communicated to the Powers, every Government would be able before entering the Congress to state the points it considered would effect European interests. He further said Bismarck would not have undertaken to preside if the Congress was merely intended to register the conditions. The *Times* heartily supports the Government in the demand that the whole Treaty be submitted, arguing that if the public law of Europe is valid until formally repealed, any new arrangement between Russia and Turkey must of necessity fall within the scope of the treaties of 1856 and 1871. A movement, which was quickly suppressed, is reported in Albania in favour of annexation to Italy. The Austrian vote of credit passed the Hungarian Delegation unanimously yesterday.

THE LATEST—THURSDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—A despatch direct from London says it has been ascertained on good authority that the English Government has received a hint that Russia intends to yield to her demand for the submission of the whole Treaty to the Congress, but the Vienna and other correspondents all either distinctly affirm that the difficulty is unsettled, or imply as much. It is now reported that England has resolved to oppose any Russian annexation in Asia Minor. Should such be the case a fresh difficulty is certain to arise. A Vienna correspondent summarizes the terms of the Treaty as officially announced. He states they are much about the same as those previously published, except in regard to the boundaries of Montenegro, Servia, and Bulgaria, which he enumerates. A concession is also made regarding Bulgaria, Russia consenting that at the end of the year Turkey and the Powers may send delegates to join the Muscovite commissioner in superintending the carrying out of the reforms.

CALCUTTA, March 19.—The Indian Budget for 1876-77 shows a deficit of eleven millions, exclusive of nineteen millions for internal improvements. The estimates for 1877-78 show a deficit of seventeen millions, exclusive of twenty-four millions for internal improvements. The Government in 1877-78 borrowed forty-three millions. The estimates for 1878-79 anticipate a surplus of ten millions, exclusive of twenty-two millions for internal improvements. The loss on exchange is estimated at fifteen millions, and on the total remittance eighty-five millions.

From N. Plummer, M. D., Auburn, N. H.

"Although averse to countenancing patent medicines, I cheerfully make an exception of your very excellent lung preparation—DR. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY. This preparation I have used in my practice for more than ten years past, and have always found it to be of more effectual service than anything within my knowledge. I recommend it with the greatest confidence to those subject to coughs and pulmonary complaints."

50 cents and $1 a bottle. Sold by all druggists.

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of twenty-five years' standing.—The Second Vice-President of the Excelsior Savings Bank, Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue, Booth's Theatre, E. P. Lawrence, was lame for twenty-five years. Contraction of the muscles of his left leg—had no faith at first in the Liniment—was induced to try it from his knowledge of Dr. Giles, who is a scientific and able chemist, and has never yet made a poor article. Seeing its good effects on others—tried it, and to Mr. L's surprise and satisfaction, the stiffness left the cords of his leg, and it became as elastic as the other.

The Ladies' Pronunciamento!

While protesting against all the old worthless dentifrices now in the market, the Ladies, with one consent, have adopted the **Sozodont** as the one thing needful to insure the integrity of the teeth and a fragrant breath.

TELEGRAPHIC MISCELLANY.

Costa Rica and Guatemala are preparing for war.

A compromise with Germany is desired by the Pope.

The State of Siege Bill has passed the French Senate.

Typhus is reported to be raging in nearly all European Russia.

The idea of any desire to annex Holland is ridiculed in Germany.

A cargo of grain from a Black Sea port has arrived at Falmouth.

A revolution of serious proportions has broken out at Port au Prince.

The Pope has sent notice of his accession to the Emperor of Germany.

It is rumoured in London that Dr. Newman is to be made a Cardinal.

The Emperor of Germany has congratulated Leo XIII on his accession.

Over four million hogs were packed in Chicago for the year ending March 1st.

The Government's Colonization Railway bill is unfavourably regarded at Winnipeg.

Dunnville's celebrated distillery at Belfast, Ireland, has been destroyed by fire.

Lieut.-General Sir William O'Grady Haly died on Tuesday evening at Halifax.

Slight rioting in Belfast and Londonderry during the celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

Messrs. Almon & McIntosh, bankers and brokers, Halifax, N.S., have suspended payment.

Hon. John Creighton, President of the Nova Scotia Legislative Council, died on Saturday.

Three prelates have been charged by the Pope to examine the affairs of the church in Poland.

A Liberal-Conservative Association for the Province of Ontario was formed on Friday last.

The London masons' strike terminated on Thursday by the men acceding to the masters' terms.

Quebec city financial statement for the year is expected to show a deficit of sixty thousand dollars.

The bill to aid the James Gordon Bennett Polar expedition has passed both Houses of Congress.

The Nova Scotia Assembly has passed a bill assimilating the local election law to the Dominion Act.

The estimate revenue of New Brunswick for the current year is $592,600, and the expenditure $586,827.

It is said the Dominion Government intend to remove the Oka Indians to a reservation on Lake Huron.

Fredericktown, N. B., is excited over the wilful damage of a number of monuments in the Catholic cemetry.

A Consistory will be held at Rome on the 25th instant, when the Pope will proclaim the hierarchy of Scotland.

Sitting Bull is trying to create trouble between the North-West Mounted Police and the Blackfeet Indians.

The Czar of Russia has authorized some New York capitalists to erect grain elevators throughout the empire.

The death of James Hain Friswell, a celebrated English author and journalist, is announced at the age of fifty-one.

Hon. Lewis Wallbridge has been nominated as Conservative candidate for West Hastings at the Dominion elections.

Another Ministerial crisis is considered probable in France if the Chamber of Deputies should delay voting the Budget.

"Rev." T. V. Roy, the converted Brahmin priest, was on Tuesday committed for trial at Hamilton on a charge of larceny.

The cotton manufacturers of Fall River, Mass., have given notice of a fifteen per cent reduction in wages. A strike is anticipated.

News has been received of the safe arrival of the steamship Mercedita, which preceded the ill-fated Metropolis in the voyage to Brazil.

The Nova Scotia estimates have been presented in the Assembly. The revenue is placed at $621,827, and the expenditure at $576,050.

All fear of a crisis has been averted in France by the adoption of the Budget by the Chamber of Deputies by an overwhelming majority.

A bill is before the Washington House of Representatives authorizing the use of return postal cards and a combined letter sheet and envelope.

A bill has been passed by the Council of India for the better regulation of the native press, its object being the suppression of seditious writing.

Eighteen illicit stills have been seized within four months in counties where the Dunkin Act has been in force. Two were seized last week in the vicinity of Napanee.

On Saturday Mr. Alfred Boultbee was tendered and accepted the nomination to contest East York in the Conservative interest at the general election for the Commons.

Mr. J. J. Hawkins has entered an action against the Brantford *Expositor* for a libel contained in an article alleged to have been written by a member of the Local Government.

Two German war vessels are at Panama and one at Aspinwall awaiting instructions to proceed to Nicaragua to demand satisfaction for an outrage on a German consul over a year ago.

The Montreal Police Committee are thinking seriously of temporarily increasing the force by a hundred men, and establishing a body of mounted police, owing to the troubled state of the city.

The Most Rev. Ashton Oxenden, D.D., Bishop of Montreal and Metropolitan of Canada, has signified his intention of resigning on his return from the Synod, to be held at Lambeth Palace during the ensuing summer.

Mr. Speaker Beaubien will proceed to Ottawa in a few days to present the address of both Houses of the Provincial Legislature to the Governor-General, and to request his Excellency to forward it to the Imperial authorities.

Leo XIII., notwithstanding violent opposition, has ordered the Italian Bishops to legalize their positions and given them liberty to demand an exequator from the Government, thus tacitly accepting the loss of temporal power.

In the House of Commons, the Under Foreign Secretary said the Government had been informed that in view of the cause of the breaking of diplomatic relations with Mexico, the initiative for a renewal could not come from England.

In the Nova Scotia Assembly a statement made by the Halifax *Chronicle*, that a supporter of the Local Government had been bribed with a thousand dollars to vote with the Opposition, was referred to the Committee on Privileges.

The new French tariff bill proposes to increase the duties on cotton, silk, and yarn tissues twenty-four per cent., and to impose a duty of fifty per cent. on the products of all countries which tax French manufactures over twenty per cent.

The Italian Government's action regarding the Bishopric of Salerno is expected to lead to a conflict with the Vatican. It is claimed that seven archbishoprics and seventeen bishoprics in the former Kingdom of Naples are the Crown's patronage.

The Cardinals have decided that the Pope can relinquish in the interests of the Church the material property of the Church. The question was asked so that, if found necessary, his Holiness might be relieved of all considerations relative to the temporal power.

It is anticipated President Hayes will send the correspondence asked for by Senator Blaine relative to the Fisheries Commission to the Senate on Monday, with a message advising the payment of the award, but declaring the privileges secured not worth the money.

M. Paul de Cassagnac, writing in *Le Pays*, on the birthday of the Prince Imperial, who completed his twenty-second year on Saturday, expresses a belief in the speedy restoration of the Empire, and declares the Prince, like his father, is a believer in Providential intervention.

The House of Commons rejected a motion stating the reestablishment of the monopoly of the Cunard, Inman, and the carriage of mails, whereby the English Government was paying twice as much as the United States was prejudical to the public service.

The Treasury Department at Washington is considering whether cod liver oil from Canada should be admitted free under the Washington Treaty. Our own Government has decided that, under the Treaty, only oil from fish caught in United States waters can be imported into the States duty free.

In the New Brunswick Legislature the the Attorney-General has given notice of a series of resolutions declaring it would promote the ends of justice if such persons were permitted to give evidence in their own behalf, and that it was expedient an address should be presented to the Governor-General praying that he take the resolutions into consideration.

London Cruelty Case.

LONDON, March 14.—The hair factory cruelty case was continued to-day at the police court, the examination lasting all day, and the court-room being crowded as before, many ladies being present.

The forewoman of the factory, Margaret Donnelly, was put upon trial as an accomplice of Hargraves.

The girl Annie Sparks gave further testimony, stating that the defendant assisted by Hargraves forced her to take sulphur by striking her repeatedly with a stick of wood as large as a man's arm, and afterwards putting her into the dark room.

In the afternoon the case of the boy McGoey was taken up. This lad worked in the factory before Christmas. For some trifling acts of disobedience Hargraves beat him with a leather thong and put him through a course of what he called exercises. He made the boy strip off all his clothing and prostrate himself upon his hands and toes. In this position he was to bow till his nose touched the floor, and each time he missed or stumbled he received a thwack of the leather strap, this being repeated over one hundred times, another of the apprentices being compelled to count the strokes. After the lad was hung up by the hands in the dark room once, he was quite suspended when some one smuggled a chair in for him to stand on and get rest. Hargraves happening to visit the room and seeing the chair kicked it away, leaving the boy dangling before. The little girl Sparks seems to be a very bright and spirited child, and gave her evidence in a clear and straightforward manner.

The defendant was bound over in the sum of $2,000 to appear.

Popular interest in the case is unabated, and Hargraves and his partners in guilt are subjects of general execration. A drawing of the dark room with a female suspended by the hands and two villains pulling at a rope appears in the Albion window and attracts crowds of eager spectators.

THE RINE CASE.

The following particulars are in addition to those which appear in another portion of our columns:—

STRATFORD, Ont. March 19.—The following is the letter of apology tendered by Mr. Rine to the father of Miss Gibling, but refused by him. Mr. Hurst swore that Mr. Flagg of Mitchell was present when Mr. Rine was writing it, and warned him "not to incriminate himself":—

MITCHELL, March 16.

"MR. J. C. HURST, FOR WM. GIBLING:—

"I desire to say that your daughter (disappended) any action or word of mine as intended to injure her feelings, or insult her in any indecent manner. I did not intend to, and am exceedingly sorry she so thought. I hope you will say to her that I most humbly apologize to her, as well as to you, her father, for what she says I did; and I think, when you consider that there was nothing immoral or criminal, you cannot appear against me, and cause so much trouble for an injudicious or imprudent act, without crime, as the charge is crime, to us. I have been very free and social everywhere I have gone, and this I am sure, will be a good lesson to me in the future. I do not desire that it should come to more publicity than it has and I hope you do not, and that you will accept the apology I make, and the explanation, which leaves your daughter without any demerit to her name. I furthermore believe that Mr. Hurst acted as a true friend and protector to your child, and did, under the circumstances, precisely what I should have done under similar circumstances, and he is to be commended for the way in which he has acted; and I now apologize to him, and hopeho will look over the injudiciousness of what has happened, and be to me what he has been—a true friend. I acknowledge to you that I was very imprudent, but as I did not intend to commit a sin, I hope you will accept this humble apology and let the matter stop where it is, and by your daughter not appearing, I can go on with my work and be more careful in time to come.

"Yours in sorrow,

"D. I. K. RINE."

BARRIE, March 19.—Mr. D. I. K. Rine, accompanied by his wife and sister, arrived here by the Northern railway at five p. m. Mr. Harvey, President of the club here, and some other gentlemen met him near Bradford. There was a large crowd at the station to meet Mr. Rine, and on his appearing, he was met with faint cheers, but loud hisses. To the President and gentlemen who met him, Mr. Rine contradicted the reports which appeared in *The Mail* and *Globe* of to-day, but which are believed by most to be true. The feeling here is very strong against him. To-night he delivers an address in the Town Hall, taking as his subject:—"Master Passions."

A Minister Rotten-Egged in the Pulpit.

OTTAWA, March 19.—A disgraceful disturbance took place last evening at the French Mission rooms, Hull, during services. The Rev. Mr. Syvret, the French Missionary, and the Rev. Mr. Picotte, late Missionary, at Hayti, have been holding special meetings, every evening for the past week. Last week they were disturbed by a crowd outside opening the door and shouting, but last evening more violent measures were taken. Mr. Syvret had spoken more than once to one man, who was continually muttering to himself. About the middle of the service, this man got up and went out. Three others followed him. When just outside the door, one of the men put his hand in his pocket, turned round suddenly, and threw a rotten egg, hitting the Rev. Mr. Picotte in the eye, and scattering the foul contents of the egg in every direction. The rev. gentleman still went on with the services. Shortly after the first man came in again. On being spoken to by Mr. Syvret, he said he had not thrown the egg. All was quiet then until the termination of the sermon, and as the audience knelt down at the last prayer, this man went out again. Immediately thereafter four large stones came crashing through the window, two of them through the front one, and two others through the glass of the fanlight. Some Indians who were present rushed out and gave chase to the scamps but did not overtake them.

Coughs.—"Brown's Bronchial Troches" will allay irritation which induces coughing, giving oftentimes immediate relief in Bronchitis, Influenza, Hoarseness, and Consumptive and Asthmatic Complaints.

AFFAIRS AT OTTAWA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Colby's magnificent speech so exhausted the trade question, and produced so marked an effect upon the House, that though there were other members of the Opposition who contemplated speaking before the debate closed, they preferred to let the division be taken, rather than extend the speaking into another day. The few speeches delivered after Mr. Colby's were brief and rather explanatory, than contributions to the discussion of the main subject. As the hands of the clock pointed to 2, and then to 3, the House began to manifest some impatience, which was quite marked when Mr. McKay, of Cape Breton, rose. He had wit enough to cut his remarks short, however, and about 10 minutes to 4 the members were called in. It was a very full House, there being present, including the Speaker, 192 members. Some of the remaining 14 were absent without pairs, and some were paired for the occasion. The announcement of the result against the amendment 37, was received with enthusiastic cheers and clapping of hands from the Opposition, and amid the profoundest silence on the Ministerial benches. Mr. Mackenzie looked the picture of despair, and, for a considerable time, sat in his chair glum and dreamy, like one transfixed. It was by far the best division obtained by the Opposition in the present Parliament, and may well cheer them in the approaching contest upon the issue so clearly defined by Mr. Cartwright in his Budget speech, and so heartily accepted by the Conservative side of the House.

"What a disagreeable fellow that Dymond is," said a member of the House after it took recess to-day. "Disagreeable" hardly expresses the verdict which one is reluctantly compelled to pass upon the member for North York. One may question the taste and propriety of particular motions made in Parliament, and if these considerations are put aside, Mr. Dymond had no doubt the right to call public attention to the matters which he brought before the House to-day. But it is not easy to set taste and propriety aside, and one cannot envy that member who is seemingly not only ever ready but zealous to do the dirtiest work of the Government. Mr. Dymond is the mud-slinger for the Administration. Let there be a scent what seems like a scandal in any quarter, and they turn at once to the member for North York. I must do him the credit, however, of saying that I do not think he has any consciousness that he is perpetually placing himself in a position from which men of gentlemanly instincts would shrink.

His evidence taken before the Kaministiquia Committee throws new light upon the extraordinary character of the Neebing Hotel purchase. The valuator satisfied himself by accepting all that was said to him by Messrs. Oliver, Davidson, & Co., and questioning nothing. He paid for large quantities of lime, although a very small quantity was used. Shingles were charged for in which a nail was never driven. So, too, with regard to flooring. Tin was paid for, though there was not a foot of tin used in the building. A considerable amount was paid for paint, although not a paint brush had ever passed over the ricketty shed. Besides, Mr. Wilson was compelled to acknowledge that one lot had been paid for twice. The disparity between the quantities of material used and those paid for is amazing. So far the evidence given reveals a state of things more extraordinary than anyone could have dreamt of. A more flagrant job it would not be possible to conceive of.

The Government have given up their defence of the Fort Frances locks. In a debate in the Senate provoked by a motion of Mr. Aikins, Mr. R. W. Scott admitted that the usefulness of the lock had been reduced to a minimum by the change made in the line of the Canadian Pacific railway. A good deal of money had, however, he said, been spent on the lock, and the Government thought it desirable to complete it in some form. This is a very frank and practical admission that this single blunder of a very practical Minister of Public Works will cost the country at least a round quarter of a million of dollars.

That guileless soul, Mr. Peter J. Brown, of Ingersoll, partner in the firm of Oliver, Davidson, & Co., has been examined before the Kaministiquia Committee. In the innocence of his heart, and with a purity of motive, which of course no one will question, when he saw by the evidence adduced before the Committee that $500 had been paid twice for a certain lot, once for the lot itself, and once under the guise of supplies, he went straightway to the bank and paid it back to the Government. There is in this a degree of heroism and moral stamina which suggests a golden age of virtue. Perhaps Oliver, Davidson, & Co., will next refund the enormous overcharges in connection with the Neebing Hotel.

Why will Mr. Herman Cook make himself ridiculous, and persist in showing how little faith he has as to his political standing in North Simcoe, by persistently asserting that Mr. D'Alton McCarthy will not be his opponent in that constituency. His whining braggadocia appears in print this evening in the columns of the Government organ here. It may be as well to say, though it should not be necessary to do so, that there is not the shadow of a shade of truth in this statement. Mr. McCarthy has solemnly pledged himself to run in North Simcoe. That pledge he will carry out, and no one knows it better than Mr. Herman Cook, as no one dreads the consequences of it more. Mr. McCarthy, at all events, has no fears as to the result of the contest.

It is now a few days over five weeks since Parliament met, and it is, therefore, not unnatural that people here should begin to ask themselves and each other how long it is likely to last. If there were much public business before Parliament one could not safely look for its termination before two months from now. But there is not much public business, and such as there is bids fair to pass into law without much opposition. The North-West bills will create no discussion of any consequence. The same may be said of the bill for the re-arrangement of the Departments. And I do not anticipate much debate over the Liquor Bill, because though it is a bill which is not likely to effect much good, it cannot do a great deal of harm; and there is a world of force and of truth in the remark attributed to General Grant, that the best way to secure the repeal of a bad law is not to enforce it. It was hard to persuade many good people that the Dunkin Bill must fail; but when they see municipality after municipality in which it has been in force for a short time repealing it, they must be convinced that all the wisdom is not on their side. Local prohibition is an absurdity on the face of it; but the bill will no doubt pass—perhaps with some amendments—and get a trial. The estimates are all of a public nature that remain. They are being fought vigorously, but they will not take any unusual time in getting through the Commons. The probability is that prorogation *will* take place before Easter.

Mr. George Brown cannot feel very happy in the company of his Senatorial colleagues after the scurrilous manner in which that paper has spoken of the Kaministiquia investigation. A grosser insult could not be perpetrated. Pottering over a few shingles and a little flooring, indeed! Charming euphemism for downright robbery. But we may look for anything from a paper which regards M. Letellier de St. Just as a model Governor, and the embodiment of constitutional propriety and right.

M. Laflamme has introduced his little Bill, announced with a flourish of trumpets in the Speech from the Throne, to remodel the Departments. It simply provides to abolish the Receiver-General's Office, and Mr. Coffin will doubtless be abolished with it, and to divide the work of the Law Department by constituting an Attorney-General as well as a Minister of Justice. It is another case of the mountain labouring. It was hardly worth while making so much noise about so small a matter.

Mr. Hector Cameron, M. P., has been confined to his rooms for some days with a severe ulcerated sore throat. He is now in a fair way to recovery.

Mr. D'Alton McCarthy has left for the West after speaking on the Independent Order of Foresters, his attention being to attend the meeting of Conservative electors called to meet in North Simcoe on Thursday next, to nominate a candidate for the House of Commons in their interest. Perhaps the result of that meeting will be to close Mr. Herman Cook's mouth as to the person who is to be his opponent at the next election.

More Outrages in the Streets of Montreal.

MONTREAL, March 18.—A number of pistol shots were heard at different hours last night, but no one was injured so far as could be learned, and no arrests were made.

While patrolling St. Antoine street, soon after eight o'clock last evening, subconstables Kilfoyles and Larimee observed a crowd of eight or ten fellows at the corner of St. Antoine and St. Margaret streets, and as they approached, one of the crowd raised a revolver and fired at them. The ball whizzed past Kilfoyle's ear, startling him considerably. The crowd immediately ran off down St. Margaret street, pursued by the policemen, and escaped after a lively chase. The police claim that, in the present state of affairs, they ought to be furnished with firearms.

About four o'clock yesterday, Jacob Hamilton was on his way to his son's residence in Shannon street, and when at the corner of Ottawa and Shannon observed a crowd of young men on the opposite side of the street. One of them cried out "Go for him, the old Orange ——," upon which they made a rush at him, but were kept at bay by Mr. Hamilton. Then the rest of the crowd, numbering a dozen or more, furiously set upon him, threw him down and kicked him about the face and head in a murderous manner.

Mr. James Hill, labourer, of Murray street, was also, last evening, the subject of a brutal attack by three young men at the entrance to his own gateway.

A man named Wm. O'Brien was yesterday arrested for carrying a revolver, and was this morning committed to stand his trial at the Court of Queen's Bench, bail being refused.

St. Patrick's Day at Ottawa.

OTTAWA, March 18.—The St. Patrick's Society and Irish Catholic Union celebrated the anniversary of their patron Saint by a grand procession to-day. The only Irish society that did not take part was the St. Patrick's Literary Association, they having had some difference with the others. Notwithstanding this division, the procession was the largest seen here for some time. Grand mass was said at St. Patrick's church, the sermon being delivered by Father O'Connor. Everything passed off in a most orderly manner. This evening the rival parties held separate concerts, the Literary Society in the Opera House, and the St. Patrick's Society and Catholic Union in the Canadian Institute building. At the former there was a good attendance, the house being comfortably filled. Mr. Waller, the President, occupied the chair, and on the platform were Hon. A. Mackenzie, Senator Power, Hon. R. W. Scott, Hon. W. Laurier, and Speaker Anglin, each of whom gave short addresses.

The Canadian Institute was the main attraction, and the theatre was crowded to its fullest capacity. After the chairman's opening address and a few remarks from Hon. Jno. O'Connor,

SIR JOHN MACDONALD was called upon, and on advancing to respond was greeted with most enthusiastic applause, the entire audience rising to their feet and cheering again and again. The right hon. gentleman said he always felt at home among Irishmen. (Hear, hear.) His old friend and colleague Mr. O'Connor had spoken of the wit and wisdom of Irishmen, and that Island had produced some of the greatest men of the world. He thought that the good people of Scotland were akin to the Irish, but still he did not hold with the idea that Ireland was peopled from Scotland. If St. Patrick was a Scotchman—(and he did not believe he was)—he was none the worse for it. (Laughter.) He congratulated the Irishmen resident in Canada upon the names they had made for themselves. The old grievances of Irishmen were wearing out, and he hoped that ere long