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FOREIGN NEWS.

THE APPROACHING CONGRESS.

THE AUSTRIAN VOTE OF CREDIT.

Disorderly Meeting in Hyde Park.

STATEMENTS BY COUNT ANDRASSY.

Lord Derby Insists that the Whole Treaty Should be Submitted.

Resignation of the Italian Ministry.

Revolt of the Papal Swiss Guards.

ALL THE LATEST TELEGRAMS.

FRIDAY, March 8.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—In the House of Lords yesterday, Lord Derby, replying to a statement made by the Duke of Argyle, that Turkey having broken the treaties of 1856 and 1871, they were practically at an end, admitted the state of things contemplated by those treaties had ceased to exist, and that they were, therefore, only binding until a new system was ratified. England wished the question to be settled in an European, not exclusively a Russian, sense, and on a durable and equable basis. The desponding tone of his Lordship's reply caused uneasiness in the lobbies. All the Powers appear to have agreed to the Congress being held at Berlin—except France and England, and it is considered it will be held whether they consent or not. The reports as to Prince Bismarck presiding are contradictory, the *North German Gazette*, the Chancellor's particular organ, affirming he is hardly well enough to do so, and a Berlin despatch stating, in giving her consent to the Congress, Germany also gave notice the Prince was willing to preside. It is said at the Congress Princes Bismarck and Gortschekoff will propose that Austria shall occupy Bosnia and that the latter will also suggest that Austria participate in the second year's occupation of Bulgaria. Reouf Pasha has been chosen to accompany General Ignatieff to St. Petersburg to conduct the negotiations for ratifying the Treaty, and it is thought possible that during the negotiations Russia may make some further concessions. The Grand Duke Nicholas has not yet visited Constantinople, the obstacle being his insistance upon being accompanied by a military escort. It is reported when the British fleet entered the Dardanelles the Grand Duke received imperative instructions from St. Petersburg to occupy Constantinople, and that it was only by his disobeying those instructions that war with England was averted. France is opposed to a British occupation of Egypt, but would consent to guarantees being secured regarding the Suez Canal. Prince Bismarck, according to a Paris correspondent, recently stated that he himself would propose an English occupation of Egypt, Germany guaranteeing France's nonintervention. Roumania is now reported as willing, with the consent of the Powers, to cede Bessarabia.

SATURDAY, March 9.

LONDON, March 8.—Four additional ironclads have been ordered to Besika Bay.

Lord Lyon will, doubtless, be the British plenipotentiary.

Lord Derby, in the House of Lords, said the Government had stated their opinion that not merely a part, but the whole of the Treaty between Russia and Turkey, should be submitted to Congress.

A Vienna despatch says Count Andrassy's statement to the Delegations will be to the effect that peace can only be brought about by an understanding between all the powers. Austria cannot look to this, or that power, for a settlement. She will defend the interests of Europe with Europe, and her own interests, if necessary, alone.

A Vienna correspondent says it is expected the vote of credit will pass the Austrian as well as the Hungarian delegation, but the former with difficulty.

It is regarded as certain that France will join the Conference.

Sir Stafford Northcote announced in the House of Commons yesterday that the Government had not received the authentic terms of the Treaty.

The official journals in St. Petersburg say the peace conditions published were premature. The documents signed by the Grand Duke Nicholas and Safvet Pasha have not yet reached the Russian Foreign Office.

Lord Derby said Persia has assured the Government that she has no understanding with Russia regarding the cession of a district on the Caspian.

A Pera letter states Suleiman Pasha has been drowned. His papers prove he was contemplating a conspiracy for the overthrow of the Sultan.

A Vienna correspondent confirms the report that Count Andrassy has told the Hungarian Delegation that the Government had no intention to annex or occupy Bosnia and Herzegovina, and that the Powers had now accepted the proposal for a Congress at Berlin. France, however, has also expressed the wish that the Congress be confined to the Eastern Question. This wish arises from a fear that the Congress may claim the right to sanction all recent territory changes. There is little doubt that France will receive reassurances. Prince Auersperg stated in the Reichsrath to-day that every question but the Eastern would be excluded from the scope of the Congress. England, also, although accepting the Congress, seems averse to the introduction of questions not directly raised by the war, such as the Greek question, the final settlement of which is not yet imperative. All the other Powers being ready to accept any date of meeting, the only question is will Russia accept that proposed towards the end of the month. Russia's answer is expected immediately, and when it arrives the date will be fixed. The Berlin Government will issue formal invitations.

Several special despatches from Rome to London journals concur that Signor Crispi was forced to resign the Ministry of the Interior in consequence of a domestic scandal. It seems he was married with religious rites at Malta in 1854, that his marriage was registered at the Sardinian Consulate in 1855, that in 1874 he separated from his wife and on 26th January last married again, and is now threatened with prosecution for bigamy. But he claims that in 1854 he was a Neapolitan subject, and that his marriage certificate should have been countersigned by the Neapolitan consul, failing which his marriage was void.

A Rome special announces the Ministry has resigned.

Signor Depectis has hopes of forming another Government.

MONDAY, March 11.

Another attempt to hold a peace demonstration in Hyde Park, London, was made yesterday, but, like the previous one, was brought to an end by the arrival of a disorderly crowd of Government supporters. Bradlaugh was badly beaten, and forced to take flight in a cab. Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, when going to church, were compelled to take refuge in a friend's house. The Duke of Teck was mistaken for Prince Schouvaloff, the Russian ambassador, and came in for some rough handling by the mob. Several people were hurt, and had to be taken to the hospital.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—The situation appears to become daily more reassuring. The Euphrates and Seraijs, two troopships detained at Malta, one being outward and the other homeward bound, have been allowed to proceed to their destinations, and the difficulties regarding the terms of the Treaty to be submitted to the Congress, but the later despatches hold out a hope that the latter obstacle may be successfully surmounted. Germany is said to consider all the points must be submitted, and Russia is reported to be disposed to yield once more to her views. March 28th is now suggested as the day on which the Congress shall assemble; from Berlin, however, it is hinted that the invitations will not be issued until every difficulty is settled. A report comes from Paris, but is generally discredited, that if Greece is to be represented at the Council of the Nations, Prince Gortschakoff will insist on Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro sending representatives. The peace conditions will be communicated to the Powers after the ratification of the treaty, until which time the Grand Duke Nicholas has postponed his visit to the Sultan. England and France are expected speedily to come to an agreement on the Egyptian question. The Roumanian agent at Vienna is expected to hand Count Andrassy to-day a memorandum intimating that Roumania will not be bound by the Russo-Turkish Treaty.

A Terrible Tragedy.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 2.—Dr. Wheeler, a veterinary surgeon, of St. Louis, returned home to-night from a visit to Monroe County, Ill., bringing news of a most shocking tragedy in the vicinity of Fisk Landing. Moritz Kaiser was 50 years of age, a Switzer by birth. Mrs. Ellen Kaiser was 25 years of age, born and raised in Monroe County. She married Kaiser when she was only fifteen, and had brought him six children. The four boys were aged ten, nine, seven, and five years. The farm was small and Kaiser was old. The farm was leased, and he found it impossible to make both ends meet. He had fallen behind with his rent, and on the 1st of March he was to give up the premises. This preyed on the old man's mind continually. A younger man with a grown-up family like his might have been braver. Kaiser fell into great despondency. He went about the surrounding country looking for another farm, but the only one he could find within his means was a place with an old log-house upon it. "Oh, Christ," he said to a neighbor, "I can't take my wife and little ones into a log-house. What have I come to? Would to God I had never been born." Thursday night he made his appearance at the store at Fisk Landing, acting like a man possessed with some horrible mania. He called for whiskey, and swallowed three drams of the villainous stuff which is to be found at Mississippi landings. Then he had a bottle filled, which he put in his coat. His talk during all the day was of his family and his troubles. "I'm no better than a beggar," he would cry out, "to take my family into such an old hole. I'd rather be dead than do it." The people tried to comfort him, but he raved on, and would listen to nothing. A horrible plan was forming in his disordered mind. Finally, about 9.30 o'clock he plunged into the darkness crying, "I'd better be dead. We'd all better be dead than come to this. My God! My God!" That was the last seen of Kaiser alive. He killed his wife and babies in their first heavy sleep, and composed their bodies in the bed. Then he called down his boys, and as they reached the bottom of the stairs the matlock descended upon each head, and the father stood surrounded by the bloody evidences of his purpose. Finally the fleeting hours admonished him that it was time to be completing his work. He fired the house, and then, stupified by liquor, possibly gashed and weakened by loss of blood, he lay down to wake up with his loved ones in eternity.

Wrecking in Canadian Waters.

The following is a copy of the circular issued by the Department of Customs in relation to wrecking in Canadian waters. Mr. Stephenson, of Kent, has been unremitting in his efforts on this subject, and to him is largely due the issue of the order:—

"CUSTOMS' DEPARTMENT,
"OTTAWA, ONT., 8th March, '78.

"SIR,—I am now instructed by the Minister of Customs to call your attention to the bearing of the Customs law upon the treatment of wrecked vessels or property in Canadian waters, which provides in effect, that no vessel, foreign or Canadian, has a legal right to interfere with wrecked vessels or material in Canadian waters, unless permitted by the Collector of Customs at the nearest port, after reporting to him. And no foreign vessel should receive such permission, as it is contrary to the Customs law, and should be placed under detention in case of violation.

"I have the honour to be, sir,
"Your obedient servant,
"(Signed,) J. JOHNSON."

CAPTURING A PENITENTIARY.

The Buffalo *Express* says:—The sensation in Buffalo is the forcible capture of the Erie County Penitentiary on Friday at noon. One Weston had been Superintendent, and some time ago serious charges were made against him of malfeasance in office and brutal treatment of prisoners. An investigation brought to light very bad management. Weston is a Democrat. In February last a Republican, Samuel N. Baker, was appointed Superintendent, and Weston was removed. The latter, however, refused not only to give up the books of the institution for examination, or to allow any one to enter the building for the purpose of serving upon him legal or other papers. In brief, he held possession of the penitentiary in defiance of law, against the wishes of his own party leaders, and with public sentiment against him. The climax was reached on Friday at noon, when Baker and a large number of his friends, making altogether an invading army of about fifty or sixty men, rode up to the penitentiary doors, demanded admission, and, when they were refused, making a battering ram of a stick of pine timber about seven feet long and six by eight inches thick, battered down the door, rushed in, and took forcible possession. For a few minutes it looked as though a sanguinary battle was imminent, as Weston and his gang of shoulder-hitters were armed with revolvers. There was no bloodshed, however, and only one knockdown, and Weston and his men were given the "grand bounce."

WEDNESDAY, March 13.

PARIS, March 12.—The organ of M. Rouher declares the Bonapartists must hoist their own flag and trust to universal suffrage. This is regarded as a formal dissolution of the alliance of the Bonapartists and the Conservatives.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—Lord Derby, according to the *Republique Francaise*, published in Paris, told Count Schouvaloff that England would not consent to the Congress unless the whole Treaty of San Stefano was submitted. The Russian ambassador, having communicated with St. Petersburg, subsequently informed Lord Derby that Russia was willing that the Congress should decide on the points of the Treaty to be examined. The *Journal de St. Petersburg*, however, declares the demand that all the points of the Treaty should be submitted is untenable. Russia has consented to Greece being represented at the Congress. The sub-Committees of the Austro-Hungarian Delegations after further explanations from Count Andrassy have unanimously agreed to vote the credit of sixty million florins. One of the explanations was made under confidence, and is said to have created a sensation. It is further stated the vote of the committees was secured on the Count promising to adhere to the Treaty of Paris. Count Andrassy also said that throughout Austria had been willing to recognize the independence and neutrality of Roumania. The Russians are reported to be still advancing in the direction of Constantinople, and to have occupied most of the villages round the city.

THE LATEST—THURSDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION—Some excitement was caused in London yesterday by the prospect of fresh complications arising out of the reported movements of the Russians.

Another severe engagement, resulting in the defeat of the Kaffirs, has been fought in South Africa.

Wharfage has been secured at Montreal for a new line of steamers between that city and Glasgow.

Gold in New York reached 101 on Saturday, the lowest point since the suspension of specie payment.

Voting on the Dunkin Act in Haliburton on Saturday resulted in a majority of four in favour of the Act.

A bill is before the Nova Scotia Assembly, establishing a Board of Commissioners of Public Charities.

German painters and sculptors have been authorized by the Emperor William to participate in the Paris Exposition.

Counterfeiters have already been discovered at work on the new silver dollar by the Washington Secret Service.

Some officials of the Prussian Finance Department are to visit the United States to study the tobacco taxation system.

The death from starvation of a miser named Jerry Tullis, worth two or three million dollars, is reported at Cincinnati.

Rev. J. Lewellyn Jones, M. A., Rector of Little Hortford, Tenbury, England, has been appointed Bishop of Newfoundland.

Thirty-six failures were reported in Montreal during February, the liabilities being $1,935,200, and the assets $989,950.

A communist meeting was held at St. Louis on Monday. The red flag was unfurled and incendiary speeches were made.

The surplus earnings of the Union Pacific railway last year over working expenses amounted to over seven million dollars.

A movement is on foot in Montreal for the amalgamation of several Canadian insurance companies, in order to form one strong company.

It is stated from Washington that a Canadian saw-mill is fulfilling a contract on the Canadian Pacific railway, by means of timber stolen from American soil.

The Nova Scotia Bar Society has adopted the draft of a bill to be submitted to the Legislature abolishing trial by jury in civil cases, except in exceptional instances.

Montreal's debt is $11,331,786. The treasurer's Report for last year shows a surplus of $50,000, every committee having spent less than their appropriations.

Over six hundred and thirty-two thousand hogs were packed in Cincinnati during the season ending March 1st, an increase over last year of a hundred and nine thousand.

Secretary Evarts has instructed Minister Welch to direct the attention of the British Government to the Newfoundland Fishery Troubles, and to request an investigation.

The United States war steamer Plymouth has been ordered to San Domingo to protect American interests, the United States consul having been thrown into prison by the Revolutionary party.

A bill is before Congress restoring a hundred and twenty-five million acres of lands granted to railroad companies, &c., to the public domain, the conditions on which the grants were made not having been fulfilled.

Mr. Gladstone has declined an invitation to be a candidate for Leeds. It is thought a number of constituencies will be placed at the right hon. gentleman's disposal, and that he will accept either Chester or Oxford University.

A mutiny occurred on Friday on board a British barque in Chesapeake Bay, the crew alleging the vessel was unseaworthy. Assistance was rendered from the Annapolis naval academy and the mutineers were placed in irons.

The Spanish Budget shows a deficit of eight millions pesetas, twenty million dollars. A special duty is to be imposed on petroleum and other mineral oils imported from countries not having commercial treaties with Spain.

The first division of the session has taken place in the Nova Scotia Assembly on a motion for a committee to investigate certain matters connected with the Crown Lands office, the Government being sustained by the narrow majority of three, which included the vote of Mr. White, the newly elected Conservative member for Shelburne.

The New York *Herald* is again on the war path. It now says the mere repudiation of the Fisheries Award may not end the matter, but the provision of the Washington Treaty under which Canadian fish and fish oil are imported into the United States free may be set aside, and a tax be imposed on those articles without any discrimination at all in favour of Canada.

In receiving a number of parish priests lately, the Pope warned them to guard their flocks against the immoral and irreligious teachings of a corrupt press. His Holiness is said to discountenance Mariolatry, which was encouraged by the late Pius IX. Comment is made upon the fact that in his coronation speech the Pope made no allusion at all to his predecessor.

Further disturbances in the British labour market are expected. The coal owners' association of Yorkshire and South Derbyshire have resolved to reduce wages seven and a half per cent. The men are willing to accept a five per cent. reduction, but will not consent to more. The masters in the North of England iron trade are also demanding a reduction in wages from ten to seventeen per cent., to which a general resistance is being organized.

King Humbert has opened the Italian Parliament in person. In his Speech he said the experience of recent wars necessitated the army and navy being newly equipped with arms. Italy unhesitatingly assented to the Conference, desiring to secure a durable peace for Europe, and her impartiality would give greater value to her counsels. His Majesty's speech concludes by referring in a very non-committal manner to the death of Pius IX. and the election of his successor.

The United States Senate Committee on Public Lands is said to have unearthed a nest of corruption in which fourteen members of Congress, two United States District Attorneys, and one United States judge, were concerned. A private Secretary of President Lincoln is also reported to have been proved guilty of selling the secrets of the Cabinet meetings to Wall street gold brokers, and to have unlawfully used the President's name in signing land patents.

The Hibernians have been falling foul of the clergy in Philadelphia and Long Branch, N.J. In the former city the Archbishop declined to review the St. Patrick's procession, if the Hibernians took part in it, and the latter have resolved to parade separately but over the same route. Trouble is consequently anticipated. At Long Branch, the recent incendiary plot discovered there having been traced to members of the order, the pastor of the Roman Catholic church on Sunday denounced the organization from the pulpit.

A disposition to dispute the validity of the Fishery award is manifesting itself at Washington on the ground that it was not unanimous. Secretary Evarts has not yet made his report on the award, but when he does it is anticipated some of the eastern members of Congress will evince an inclination to repudiate it. It is also stated President Hayes will not transmit any message to Congress relative to the award until Minister Welsh has been heard from. The Finance Minister has made loud boast of his having reduced the rate of interest from $5.23 to $4.74, but Mr. Plumb clearly showed that the alleged reduction had not been secured, and the "mixer and muddler" was compelled to admit that the account which, for political purposes, he has for the first time put into the Public Accounts this year, is not correct. But he fell back upon the poor excuse that the account was practically correct after all, as he had saved as much in another direction as he had lost in the negotiation of his loans by the mode adopted by him. But this is no excuse at all, and the fact remains that Mr. Cartwright's statement of the interest payable on the Public Debt is a fraudulent and delusive statement. Mr. Plumb deserves all thanks for having brought this important fact to light.

M. Piche still retains his place at the Clerk's table, and it is now generally understood that he has been able to set both the Government and the Speaker at defiance. The fact of his being retained in his position is pretty fair presumptive proof that the allegations contained in his letter were not so very far wrong after all.

Mr. Thompson, of Cariboo, has brought out in the Public Accounts Committee the startling fact that last year there was paid for the storage of those costly and notorious steel rails which were transported to British Columbia the following sums:—

To the Hudson Bay Co.	$1,963 88
The Vancouver Coal Co.	1,400 75
	$3,364 63

The storage is in the open air, in which the the rails are fast corroding.

There is every reason to believe that the House of Commons will be called upon before long to sanction new contracts for the construction of the Canada Central Railway from Pembroke to Burnt Lake, and for the Georgian Bay branch, from Burnt Lake to the Bay. The bill to amalgamate the Brockville and Ottawa and the Canada Central railways, which Mr. Abbott was cleverly engineering to-day before a sub-committee of the Standing Committee on Railways and Canals, is a preliminary step to these contracts being let. The bill provides that the Canada Central shall be divided into two divisions, the eastern division to consist of the section of road between Ottawa and Pembroke, which is built, and the western division, the line between Pembroke and Burnt Lake. The eastern section is not to be liable for any obligations incurred in connection with the western section. This means that Bolckow, Vaughan, & Co., who now own both the Brockville and Ottawa and the constructed portion of the Canada Central Railway, are not going to subject their property to the risks of the new contracts. It is said that the favoured contractors of the Government are the late Mr. Foster's son and Mr. Duncan McIntyre, of Montreal. Mr. Mackenzie has substantial reasons for keeping in with the Foster interest, for, if Dame Rumour be not greatly astray on this occasion, the deceased ex-Senator left in the possession of his son a history of certain memorable transactions which, if published, would startle the community.

AFFAIRS AT OTTAWA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The proceedings in the Legislative Assembly of Quebec cannot be very palatable to the Lieutenant-Governor. It may well be fancied with what a wry face he received Speaker Beaubien and the Sergeant-at-Arms at Spencerwood as they presented to him the Assembly's address expressing renewed confidence in the DeBoucherville administration and declaring their want of confidence in any Government which does not command a majority in the present Legislature. But he will have to take bitterer pills before he has got to the end of his rope.

The *Globe* has given Hon. Peter Mitchell as authority for stating that the conduct of the Lieutenant-Governor in removing his Ministers was approved in Quebec where he was shortly after the dismissal took place. This is a most unjustifiable use of Mr. Mitchell's name. He denounces the whole affair in the strongest terms and may yet have an opportunity of publicly declaring his views.

Before the orders were called on Thursday, Sir John Macdonald rose and read a letter from Sir William Young, Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, and Judge Debarres, in reply to the accusations of "foul slander" brought by Mr. Jones. The letter fully endorsed the charge of disloyal utterances against Mr. Jones. The Minister in reply, made a sneering assault on the Chief Justice, insinuating that he was too old to remember, and that his faculties were failing, and that he (Mr. Jones) would "spare the old gentleman," &c., although Mr. Jones knows very well that the faculties of Sir William Young are to-day ten times the power of Jones', and far more cultured and keen. Mr. Jones also read a certificate of character from a number of people in Halifax, stating that he did not use treasonable language, and that the report of his language in the *Chronicle* (his own organ) in 1869 was "substantially correct." The *Chronicle's* article is no doubt written to get the leader of the party out of a scrape. He boasted that the certificate of his confederates in Halifax was of more value than the Chief Justice's letter.

Mr. Dymond tried hard to make the longest speech of the session, having spoken for three hours and a half. It was for the most part an old and oft-told story. Mr. Dymond had not great success in obtaining the attention of the House.

Mr. Charlton's honesty has been well illustrated. He cited the contents of a number of letters which he had received in reference to the business done by several manufacturing establishments. When he had completed his citations, Sir John Macdonald asked him if he had received a letter from Robinson & Co., of Galt and Preston. Mr. Charlton hemmed and hawed, and was somewhat in doubt. "I think you must have," said Sir John, "because they have sent me a copy of it." Mr. Charlton then discovered that he had such a letter, and the House laughed immoderately. He rivalled Mr. Dymond in the length of his speech.

By the way, Mr. Brown has not yet replied to the Montreal correspondent of the Ottawa *Citizen* with respect to his interview, in that city, with the Lieut.-Governor of Quebec. Mr. Brown's silence is being interpreted to his sore disadvantage, and, taken in connection with the tone of the *Globe*, gives strong indication of his complicity in the plot.

The Canada Southern bill has had another long airing in the Railway Committee. It was finally referred, on motion of Mr. Bowell, to a sub-Committee, with instructions to report that the head offices be retained in Canada, and that the floating liabilities be made a first charge on the Company's receipts. This practically secures all that has been contended for by the opponents of the bill.

An amusing incident took place on Friday night during the delivery of Mr. Charlton's speech. The member for North Norfolk was delivering himself of a lot of statistics, and proceeding with a fluency which did not seem quite natural. "Where did you get those figures? What are you reading from?" asked Dr. Orton across the the floor. "Some statements which I prepared," answered Mr. Charlton. "Why," retorted Dr. Orton, "you are reading from Mr. Mills' speech at Fergus. The remark caused much laughter among those who heard it.

Mr. "Proton" Nixon's accounts have been up again in the Public Accounts Committee, and though the result attained was, so far as the Government were concerned, like drawing their teeth, yet something was accomplished. Mr. Plumb renewed his motion (which the carriage of the motion for adjournment on Thursday last negatived) to summon Mr. Peter Sutherland before the Committee. It was objected by Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Mackenzie that no charge of wrong-doing was alleged, and that consequently the motion could not be allowed to pass. After some sparring, Mr. Plumb, who said he declined to appeal as an informer, moved—"That having been informed that gross irregularities exist in connection with the North-West accounts, Mr. Sutherland be summoned before the Committee." This was more than the obstructionist Ministers looked for, and they immediately came down from their high horses. The motion, however, Mr. Mackenzie said, involved the reputation of Mr. Nixon, who had been appointed to his present position because he was a man of "high moral worth," and he, too, should be summoned. At this stage Mr. Blain, who is always appearing at strange times to say strange things, protested against the motion being adopted unless a direct charge was alleged, and he for one thought the best way to proceed would be to refer the accounts to a sub-committee, who might order such witnesses as were found necessary to be summoned. The Government and their followers stood aghast to hear the member for West York proposing what they had voted down at the last meeting of the Committee, and the Opposition members could not refrain from indulging their cachinatory propensities at the *mal-apropos* suggestion of Mr. Blain. Had he been present at Thursday's meeting he would, of course, have voted against his own proposal.

There has been a very interesting wrestling match between Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Plumb as to [illegible] payable in London. The Finance Minister has made loud boast of his having reduced the rate of interest from $5.23 to $4.74, but Mr. Plumb clearly showed that the alleged reduction had not been secured, and the "mixer and muddler" was compelled to admit that the account which, for political purposes, he has for the first time put into the Public Accounts this year, is not correct. But he fell back upon the poor excuse that the account was practically correct after all, as he had saved as much in another direction as he had lost in the negotiation of his loans by the mode adopted by him. But this is no excuse at all, and the fact remains that Mr. Cartwright's statement of the interest payable on the Public Debt is a fraudulent and delusive statement. Mr. Plumb deserves all thanks for having brought this important fact to light.

M. Piche still retains his place at the Clerk's table, and it is now generally understood that he has been able to set both the Government and the Speaker at defiance. The fact of his being retained in his position is pretty fair presumptive proof that the allegations contained in his letter were not so very far wrong after all.

Mr. Thompson, of Cariboo, has brought out in the Public Accounts Committee the startling fact that last year there was paid for the storage of those costly and notorious steel rails which were transported to British Columbia the following sums:—

To the Hudson Bay Co.	$1,963 88
The Vancouver Coal Co.	1,400 75
	$3,364 63

The storage is in the open air, in which the the rails are fast corroding.

There is every reason to believe that the House of Commons will be called upon before long to sanction new contracts for the construction of the Canada Central Railway from Pembroke to Burnt Lake, and for the Georgian Bay branch, from Burnt Lake to the Bay. The bill to amalgamate the Brockville and Ottawa and the Canada Central railways, which Mr. Abbott was cleverly engineering to-day before a sub-committee of the Standing Committee on Railways and Canals, is a preliminary step to these contracts being let. The bill provides that the Canada Central shall be divided into two divisions, the eastern division to consist of the section of road between Ottawa and Pembroke, which is built, and the western division, the line between Pembroke and Burnt Lake. The eastern section is not to be liable for any obligations incurred in connection with the western section. This means that Bolckow, Vaughan, & Co., who now own both the Brockville and Ottawa and the constructed portion of the Canada Central Railway, are not going to subject their property to the risks of the new contracts. It is said that the favoured contractors of the Government are the late Mr. Foster's son and Mr. Duncan McIntyre, of Montreal. Mr. Mackenzie has substantial reasons for keeping in with the Foster interest, for, if Dame Rumour be not greatly astray on this occasion, the deceased ex-Senator left in the possession of his son a history of certain memorable transactions which, if published, would startle the community.

THE COMING CAMPAIGN.

BRAMPTON, March 7.—A large and influential delegation of the Liberal-Conservative Party from all parts of Peel met to-day in the Concert Hall for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the approaching election for the House of Commons. Notwithstanding the bad state of the roads every delegate who had been appointed, with the exception of four, was present. The chair was occupied by Mr. McCullogh, and Mr. Campbell, of the *Conservator*, was appointed Secretary. Among those on the platform were Sir Melville Parker, Bart, Rev. Mr. Middleton, Messrs. Solomon White, R. Cotton, Wm. Magrath, Wm. Elliott, J. A. Macdonnell, N. F. Davin, J. A. Proctor, &c.

There were five candidates, Mr. Solomon White, Mr. Elliott, Hon. Wm. Macdougall, Mr. Cotton, and Sir Melville Parker. After the preliminary ballot, Mr. Elliott was chosen unanimously to be the standard-bearer of the party at the next election. Mr. Macdougall was not present. The other gentlemen, on the result of the ballot being made known, came forward and promised Mr. Elliott their strong support. Mr. Solomon White made a most eloquent and generous speech.

NAPANEE, March 11.—The Conservative party held a meeting to-day, which was largely attended, for the purpose of selecting a candidate to oppose Hon. Mr. Cartwright at the next election. Hon. Wm. Macdougall was chosen as the man most likely to give the strongest opposition. The Conservatives are well organized, and should Mr. Macdougall accept the nomination they feel sanguine of success.

The season is opening up very early in the Hamilton section this year. This week a gentleman living near the eastern limits of the city began taking up vines and trees for sale. This is said to be the earliest period at which this has ever been done here, and if anyone our readers know of it being done earlier, we should like to hear it.

Brain, Bone, and Muscle are nourished by the blood. When the vital current lacks richness in consequence of incomplete digestion and assimilation, PHILLIPS' PHOSPHO-NUTRITINE supplies it with strengthening elements and insures perfect assimilation. It is the most salutary solution of wheat phosphates ever produced and different to all other preparations of phosphates ever known. All chemists sell PHILLIPS' PHOSPHO-NUTRITINE.

The Dundas *True Banner* says that the rules of the road do not seem to be fully understood. In meeting a team drivers should turn to the right in passing, but in passing a team going in the same direction, drivers should turn to the left and not to right. The Guelph stage driver recently discovered this bit of law when he tried to pass a carter on the Hamilton road by turning to the right and was driven up an embankment and had his stage upset—the Police Magistrate of Hamilton deciding that the carter was in the right. This information is worth remembering.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

Mysterious Shooting Affair in the Streets of Montreal.

Another Result of Party Bitterness.

Arrest of Suspected Persons—Deposition of the Wounded Man.

By Telegraph from Our Own Correspondent.]

MONTREAL, March 13.—Last night a young man named David Carrey, who lives with his widowed mother, was returning home along St. Mary street, and had turned down into his own street, shortly after 11 o'clock, when he was suddenly fired at, and struck by two shots, one in the face near the eye, and the other in the right leg above the knee. He was so completely taken by surprise that it appears he had only time to observe two or three men, who had been standing at the north-west corner of Jacques Cartier street and St. Mary street, fire at him, and run away. He also ran off, shouting "murder and police," and was met by Constable Dodd a few seconds after in Campeau street, in a most excited state and covered with blood from his two severe wounds. Constable Dodd at once conveyed the wounded man in a cab to Gain street police station, where Dr. Bouchard was called, and found that one ball had entered the young man's nose and had forced its way upward and back into the skull, producing a most dangerous wound, the second ball being imbedded in the flesh of the right leg, just above the knee. Carrey stated to sub-Chief Paradis that the man who had shot him was close by when he fired, and that there were several shots discharged. He suspected James Irwin, a brass finisher, and John McNaughton, a printer and clerk, as his assailants. He was soon after removed to the General Hospital by the doctor's orders, but, before going, was asked if he could recognize any of the persons who had crowded into the station on learning of the shooting as having been around at the time he was hit, but could not. However, seeing one Freeman standing by, he exclaimed, "Arrest him; he's a Briton, anyway." The accused, Irwin and McNaughton, were both in bed when arrested, and denied all knowledge of the shooting. Irwin was much excited and annoyed at being arrested, and said he had never carried a pistol in his life, but after this he thought he would. He declined to tell the sergeant where he had been that night. McNaughton said he had no connection with the shooting, and that he had been talking for a few minutes with Watchman Kelly near the corner of St. Mary and Campeau streets, and just left when he heard reports of the revolvers, and jumped into a doorway to escape injury. He saw one man run along St. Mary street, presumably Carrey, and then turned down Campeau street, while two others rushed down Woodward lane. He then spoke to Sergt. Lancy, and a volunteer who was passing, and Mr. Kelly, and that was all he knew about it. The Police Magistrate took Carrey's deposition to-day, in which he stated:—

"I positively swear that one James Irwin is one of the men who followed me from the entrance of my yard off Jacques Cartier street. I have no doubt in my mind that the said James Irwin is either the man who fired his firearm at me, or the companion of the person who shot me, and that they were acting in concert together, and I believe they intended to murder me, as they discharged their firearm or firearms three or four times while running after me in Jacques Cartier and St. Mary streets. When I reached the corner I saw, standing at the said corner one, John McNaughton, who is now a prisoner, and I declare positively that the said John McNaughton was not, to my knowledge, in any way concerned in the shooting against me, but I really believe that he knows the persons who followed me as far as the corner above stated."

Mr. McNaughton proved an *alibi* at the Police Court this morning, and was released. Carrey is not considered in a dangerous condition. It is stated that Carrey is a leading End member of the Irish Catholic Union, and that he had some trouble with one of the Britons last Christmas.

ANOTHER FACTION FIGHT.

A Young Man Dangerously Wounded.

MONTREAL, March 11.—Last evening another party fight occurred on Craig street, in which revolvers were used, a young man named John Bell being dangerously wounded between the hip joint and the shoulder blade. Bell was conveyed to the Craig street police station, where Dr. Bouchard was called, and found that one ball had entered the young man's nose and had forced its way upward and back into the skull, producing a most dangerous wound, the second ball being imbedded in the flesh of the right leg, just above the knee. Carrey stated to sub-Chief Paradis that the