

Maritime Farmer.

Fredericton, N. B., March 20, 1889

The Jesuit Matter.

It is not so much Unrestricted Reciprocity, Commercial Union or any other question at Ottawa and in the Upper Provinces generally, at present, has the Jesuit matter, which Col. O'Brien of Manitoba proposes to bring before Parliament. The facts of the case are as follows: The Jesuits, a Roman Catholic society, which from the earliest history of Canada, labored in a missionary way among the Indians and settlers, became possessed of certain lands in Quebec, valued in recent years at \$2,000,000, and which the Jesuits passed on of their hands without their securing recompense therefor. Their claims have always been recognized, but no understanding as to the amount they should receive as compensation, was reached until last session of the Quebec Legislature, when it was agreed that the sum of \$400,000 should be paid them from the Quebec treasury in full satisfaction of their demands. The proposition passed the Quebec local legislature without a dissenting voice, Protestant and Catholic members alike supporting it. This settlement of a vexed and long standing question, apparently had been reached to the satisfaction of all parties in Quebec. It was the business of the people of that Province alone; the money came out of the treasury of that Province only, but the Toronto Mail, a most mischievous and unprincipled newspaper, which has been read out of the Conservative party, and which seems to exist but for the purpose of exciting religious and sectional quarrels, saw an opportunity of making war upon the Dominion Government which it hates, by demanding that the Quebec bill, granting compensation to the Jesuits, be voted at Ottawa. This, briefly stated, has been the cause of arousing excitement at Ottawa on the Jesuit question, and setting the country in a religious blaze.

The Dominion Government take the position, and in this, they are supported by the best elements of both the Conservative and Liberal parties, that the question of the settlement of the Jesuit claims, is one to be dealt with entirely at Quebec, and does not come within the pale of Dominion interference. The Federal Government has no more authority to attempt the control of Quebec's expenditures—how that Province disposes of its revenues—than it has to come down to New Brunswick and dictate to Mr. Blair's Government how they shall expend the revenues of this Province. But the question is raised for political purposes. The same motive that prompted the Riel agitation, is behind the Jesuit row. In the former, the Dominion Government stood firm against the introduction of race and religious prejudices, in the latter, they will resist the vain attempt that is being made to stir up similar feelings among the people of Canada. Col. O'Brien is being pushed by his party, by enthusiasts and bigots, who are the tools of designing politicians, but the result will be the same as in the Riel matter. Canada is too small a country to harbor race and religious war; too liberal and progressive to countenance internal feuds to bolster up a failing political cause.

The Toronto Globe has performed another political conundrum. All along it has supported the Dominion Government's view, that they have no right to veto the Jesuit bill, but Saturday the Globe announced that it saters company with all who oppose the bill. The original sudden change of base has brought consternation into the Grit party in Parliament, very many of whom, believing strongly in provincial rights, support Sir John's position on the question, which, raised by the Grit party in Ontario to embarrass the Government, is proving a complete boomerang to its originators.

The Franchise Bill.

The Franchise Bill introduced by the Attorney General in the Assembly Saturday, is the most important measure presented there for some time, and will no doubt demand a large amount of attention from members. The object of the bill is to extend the franchise, and its effect is to grant substantially, residential manhood suffrage. The bill provides that (1) no property qualification will be demanded of persons who shall have been residents of any district for one year; (2) that non-residents, or persons who have not resided for the required time in the district to otherwise qualify them, may vote upon real estate of \$100 value, or upon an income of \$400; (3) ministers and teachers will have the right to vote on registering. The persons excluded from voting, are women, lunatics, paupers, criminals, Indians on reserves, and minors.

Under the present law, a candidate for election to the Assembly, must own real estate worth \$1200, but the new measure sweeps this qualification away, the only demand being that candidates must be British subjects and 21 years of age. Candidates on being nominated, will be required to put up a deposit of \$100 with the returning officer, and the same will be forfeited if the candidate fails to poll one half the number of votes polled by any successful candidate. Clergymen of all denominations will not be eligible for nomination.

Such are the leading provisions of the new measure submitted by Mr. Blair. The details we shall refer to again. The Government are to be congratulated upon the important and liberal movement, and we believe they will be accorded a most hearty support both in the Legislature and in the country.

An express and freight train collided on the Intercolonial near Rimouski, yesterday, killing the engineer, Whitney, and the fireman, Throy, of the former, and conductor Michael and fireman Levesque of the latter. The accident resulted from disobedience to orders by the freight train. The details we shall refer to again. The train consisted of 100 cars, and the passengers were slightly injured, but all the passengers escaped with only a few scratches.

Public Works Department.

We have received the report of the Public Works Department for 1888, giving in detail the expenditure of the department for the year. The different services draw on the exchequer as follows:—

Grants Roads and Bridges	\$102,475 58
Legislative and other Public Buildings	10,888 72
Lunatic Asylum	798 37
Steam Navigation	9,502 61
Departmental Expenses	1,215 55
Miscellaneous Accounts	1,243 65
Amalgamated Lunatic Asylum	1,630 08
New Departmental Building	20,685 00
	\$147,503 36

The expenditure on Legislative buildings and public offices amounted to \$75,255 divided as follows:—Normal School, including grounds, \$2,861.38; Lunatic Asylum, \$793.37; Government House, \$1,773.29.

For a more detailed account of the expenditure, our readers are referred to the very candid and well conceived statement of Hon. Mr. Ryan made in the Assembly when the item for public works came up for discussion in Supply.

The country is to be congratulated on the possession of so careful and efficient an administrator of the Public Works Department as Hon. Mr. Ryan, who, during his term of office, has won golden opinions from the people of New Brunswick. Personally courteous and unflinchingly always in his relations, whether in private or public, honest and honorable, he has been a source of great strength and popularity to the Government. No job or scandal has attached itself to his administration of the important department under his care, and although his position often calls for the most delicate balancing, he has given general satisfaction. Mr. Ryan is a modest man, and doubtless will blush should meet his eye, but we have only done scant justice to the hon. gentleman who has made for himself a large place in the regard of the people of New Brunswick.

The responsible departmental officials, Mr. T. B. Winslow and Mr. A. G. Beakwith, should also be awarded their meed of praise for the successful discharge of their duties. Both gentlemen are most courteous in their dealings with the public and efficient in their work.

The Short Line.

The question of constructing the Harvey-Moncton link of the Short Line Railway, received some attention at Ottawa last week. It would appear that the C. P. R. Company have no intention of constructing the road, unless compelled to by some superior power. The company have before Parliament a bill to consolidate their indebtedness, and to authorize them to issue more bonds. This has been under the consideration of the Railway Committee of which Sir Hector Langevin is chairman, and it is in consequence of discussions there, that the present position of the Company towards the bill, has become manifest. The Government is asserting that the bill is defective, and that it is necessary to amend it. The bill, as it stands, would allow the company to borrow money at a rate of interest of 5 per cent, but it would also allow them to pay interest on the bonds at a rate of 4 per cent. This, it is claimed, would be a disadvantage to the company, and would therefore be a disadvantage to the Government. The bill, as it stands, would also allow the company to pay interest on the bonds at a rate of 5 per cent, but it would also allow them to pay interest on the bonds at a rate of 4 per cent. This, it is claimed, would be a disadvantage to the company, and would therefore be a disadvantage to the Government.

The vote of the citizens of St. John and Portland on the union of the two cities was in favor of union by a majority of 1096, Carleton only casting an adverse vote. The necessary majority to complete the union will be sought immediately. The result is the source of general congratulation.

The Government have so far resisted the pressure of the North Shore lumbermen and politicians for a reduction of the stumpage, but it is stated that the Government are now considering the matter of extending the leases, as a kind of compromise.

In Parliament, last night, the opposition want of confidence resolution was voted down by a majority of 43. Mr. Skinner of St. John again voting with the Government.

The Attorney General, in the purchase of his policy of reform, proposes to abolish Government House as an official residence.

Our Millville correspondent writing on Monday, says—Very fine March weather is upon the bay and the warm sun has done much to make roads and to make sleighing somewhat tedious. The lumbermen of our village are dropping home. Messrs. Hallett & Dunn got home with their crew from the lumber works of the Tobique on Saturday. Messrs. Robert and Josiah Hallett, and their families, also got home on Saturday. Mr. Robert Hallett has been doing some home trading and now awaits a fine sailing to the mill. Mr. Josiah Hallett is spending a few days on a visit to his friends in St. John. Mr. J. L. Lawrence, estate agent, guests, Mr. and Miss Atherton from Carleton County. Miss McGuire of Queensbury, has been spending a few days at the Millville House. She has been attended by Dr. Owens who has successfully removed a tumor from her face, very near her eye. She left for her home on Friday recovering from the operation. Mr. John Murphy, who has been in poor health for some time, is now confined to the house with a severe cold.

Special religious services have been held, continuously, in Upper Kingsclear and Prince William Baptist churches since New Year's, conducted by Rev. Calvin Currie, pastor. Rev. Saunders Young, evangelist, Rev. James A. Porter, county missionary, and Rev. H. H. Haywood, general home missionary. The results of these efforts are very satisfactory; up to date, 47 have been baptized, and a good degree of religious life is manifested. The spiritual benefits are the only ones enjoyed, far while the churches have been religiously quickened, the temporal needs of the churches have not been overlooked. Before the Rev. Mr. Young left us, the good people of Prince William Baptist Church, gave a donation of over fifty dollars, and on Monday evening the 17th of March, the church and congregation were engaged in a most interesting and profitable session. These donations were being dispensed with, to the great relief of the ladies. The people connected with the two congregations mentioned in these notes are kind and generous, and in proportion to their numbers and wealth, do more financially, for their minister than is done in many other places.—Com.

If the sufferers from Consumption, Scrofula and General Debility will try Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, with Hypophosphites, they will find immediate relief and a permanent benefit. Dr. H. V. Mott, Brentwood, Ont., writes: "I have used Scott's Emulsion with great advantage in cases of Phthisis, Scrofula and Wasting Disease. It is very valuable." Sold by Druggists, at 50c and \$1.00.

LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

Dr. Atkinson's Criticisms of the Government, and the Attorney General's reply thereto.

Government House to be Abolished as an Official Residence.

Chief Commissioner Ryan's Speech on Public Works Expenditure.

General Legislative Notes.

Dr. Atkinson, M. P. for Carleton, made the principal speech in criticism of the budget in the Assembly last week. He said no important subject than the finances of the country could engage the attention of the house. He could not, after the manner of the financial history of the province for the past 10 or 12 years, contemplate our financial position with any degree of satisfaction. He did not mean to say that the province was unable to meet its liabilities.

THE WEALTH OF THE PROVINCE puts that question beyond the possibility of doubt. To withhold the money of the province from the people, and to place it in the hands of a few, is a reflection upon the county he is supposed to represent. The hon. gentleman in his government charges, the expenditure on account of the Fredericton bridge, the Asylum and the importation of stock to current account. He thought the public would prefer that the expenditure be made out of capital account rather than be made at all.

THE ACTUAL RECEIPTS OF THE OLD GOVERNMENT were in 1882, \$670,710; in 1881 they were \$635,584; in 1880 they were \$607,380; in 1879 they were \$578,250; in 1878 they were \$568,929, or an average of \$598,000. The actual expenditures of the old government during the same years were in 1882, \$1,010,381; in 1881, \$941,045; in 1880, \$902,654; in 1879, \$872,297, or an average of \$906,000. Here we find under the old government an average deficit of 40,000 a year as compared with a surplus of \$12,000 a year by this government. An examination of the public accounts will show that the government has saved 12,000 a year or in all \$60,000 of a saving since they came in power. The actual receipts were as follows: 1884, \$670,404; 1885, \$670,404; 1886, \$670,404; 1887, \$670,404; 1888, \$670,404; 1889, \$670,404; 1890, \$670,404; 1891, \$670,404; 1892, \$670,404; 1893, \$670,404; 1894, \$670,404; 1895, \$670,404; 1896, \$670,404; 1897, \$670,404; 1898, \$670,404; 1899, \$670,404; 1900, \$670,404; 1901, \$670,404; 1902, \$670,404; 1903, \$670,404; 1904, \$670,404; 1905, \$670,404; 1906, \$670,404; 1907, \$670,404; 1908, \$670,404; 1909, \$670,404; 1910, \$670,404; 1911, \$670,404; 1912, \$670,404; 1913, \$670,404; 1914, \$670,404; 1915, \$670,404; 1916, \$670,404; 1917, \$670,404; 1918, \$670,404; 1919, \$670,404; 1920, \$670,404; 1921, \$670,404; 1922, \$670,404; 1923, \$670,404; 1924, \$670,404; 1925, \$670,404; 1926, \$670,404; 1927, \$670,404; 1928, \$670,404; 1929, \$670,404; 1930, \$670,404; 1931, \$670,404; 1932, \$670,404; 1933, \$670,404; 1934, \$670,404; 1935, \$670,404; 1936, \$670,404; 1937, \$670,404; 1938, \$670,404; 1939, \$670,404; 1940, \$670,404; 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