



Trivy Council

The United Service Gazette.

Devoted to the interests of the Passed Candidates of the Military Schools, the Volunteer and Service Militia, and the Naval Forces of the Dominion

VOLUME I.

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WHAT THE LATE ADMIRALTY HAS DONE.

The English papers generally regard the work accomplished by the late Admiralty very favourably. The *Army and Navy Gazette* says:

The late Board have many claims on our gratitude. They may justly boast that they left the Navy, both as regards *material and personnel*, in a fit state to maintain the honour and dignity of the empire. They have increased the number of our iron clads, our cruisers have been diminished in numbers but improved in quality, and the sailors of the Royal Navy were never more contended and efficient than at present. The first thing that strikes us in reviewing the programme of the late Admiralty is the fact that they vigorously set about the building of a large number of ships. Of this the Government dockyards, even at the present moment, give ample evidence. In Chatham dockyard two new ships have been laid down, almost the whole force of the establishment having hitherto been expended upon the two large rivals which the late Government laid down—the broadside Hercules and the turreted Monarch. In Pembroke dockyard, where the iron-clad twin-screw frigate Penelope has been completed, and the high-flying unarmoured but iron-built frigate Inconstant, is rapidly approaching completion, another large iron-clad, the Iron Duke, has been ordered; and the building slips of Woolwich, Sheerness, Portsmouth and Devonport resound with the din of building operations. In private establishments, also, many new ships have been ordered by the late Board, among which may be named the Invincible and Audacious (sister ships to the Iron Duke), and the ram Hotspur, which Messrs. Napier are building on the Clyde; two fast iron corvettes, the Volage and Active, which the Thames Company are building; the Vanguard, a sister ship to the Iron Duke, building by Messrs. Laird; and two very similar frigates, but with single screws and coppered bottoms—the Swiftsure and Triumph, building by Messrs. Palmer, of Jarrow. The turret-ship Captain is fast approaching completion, under Captain Coles' guidance, at the works of Messrs. Laird, of Birkenhead.

—The 28th Regiment, which forms part of the Garrison of Gibraltar, was lately presented with a new set of colours by Lady Airey. In the course of her ladyship's address to the regiment, she alluded to the circumstance which gave rise to the "28th" being called the "Slashers." She said, "It was in America your regiment acquired the name of 'Slashers.'" The corps in those days wore small short swords which they were famous for making good use of. On one occasion there was a certain magistrate in Canada, of the name of Walker, who had given great offence to the regiment from not having provided sufficient shelter for their wives, several of whom had in consequence perished during the severity of a Canadian winter. This exasperated the officers, and some of them disguised themselves as Indians, attacked the tent of the magistrate, danced a war dance round his table, and finally caught hold of his head with their swords and slashed off his ears. After this circumstance the regiment became known by the name of 'Slashers,' of which they have been very proud ever since."

—Last year 461 divorce suits were commenced in Chicago, of which 285 were instituted by wives, and 176 by husbands.

—Thirty-three planing mills in Chicago handled 220,000,000 feet of lumber last year.

PICKINGS FROM PUNCH'S ALMANACK.

There are two periods in the life of man, at which he is too wise to tell woman the exact truth; when he is in love—and when he isn't.

"A Question to be Asked."—If Secret Voting be adopted, and Spinsters get votes, how will they like to be called Ballot Girls?

Proverbial Philosophy.—Do not kill the Golden Calf for its veal.

Chit-Chat.—Girl's talk.

A Just Tribute.—Women are nobly honest. We firmly believe that the only female in this country who likes to be in debt is Britannia.

STRONG MOTIVE POWER.—There is perhaps no mechanism equal to that of the Beer-Engine in its power of elevating the masses.

A NEW SAW.—Industry is the parent of Idleness.

If fish can judge of space, it is supposed they do so by the rod, pole or perch? or, if musically inclined, do they sing "I'd chossed to be a dacey?"

Musical Slang.—"That's terribly bald," said a critic, after hearing a new overture. "Bald, eh?" remarked his friend. "I suppose you mean to say that good airs are rather scarce in it."

Local Examination Paper.—Geography.—Name a bigger Isle of Dogs than our own. Newfoundland.

"Sweet-cheek" was a pretty term of endearment a couple of hundred years ago. It might be revived with appropriateness; for not only are the cheeks of our young ladies quite as sweet as their ancestors, but to do some of them justice, their characteristic is—of course the nicest, but still—cheek.

By a Composer.—Novelists have no hesitation in saying that Augustus imprinted a kiss on Anastasia's fair cheek. By way of a change, how would it sound, if they were to say stereotyped instead of imprinted?

Toast and Sentiment.—The bank that no cheque will stop.

The Effects of Education.—Our housemaid (Amelia) is fond of fine words. The other day she gave warning. When asked the reason, instead of the usual answer that she wanted to better herself, she said she wished to ameliorate herself.

Why would you expect most gardeners to be proud? Because they are taught *Haughty Culture*.

Proverbially So.—A young lady's taste in poetry is not always unexceptionable. When you see a pile of books on her table, you know pretty well what will be TUPPER-most.

Charade.—My first is part of a firm, my second is a sister, my third is a musical instrument, and my whole is nonsense. Conundrum.

OPENING OF THE QUEBEC LEGISLATURE.

The *Montreal Gazette* says:

Considerable surprise is expressed that the Mayor of Quebec was not invited to take his seat on the floor of the Council Chamber at its opening. He has invariably been invited hitherto.

There were present, in places of honour, when the speech was delivered—Archbishop Baillargeon and Bishop Williams, Vicar-General Cazeau; the French and Spanish Consuls in full uniform; Judges Duval, Meredith and Caron; Col. Boucher, Commandant of the Garrison; Col. Sewell, Commandant of the Volunteer Force; Col. Lamontagne, Brigade Major; Deputy Adjutant-General Cassault, Captain Turnbull, and other dignitaries; and a large number of ladies.

The galleries were crowded, and there was a large crowd in front of the Parlia-

ment building.

At three o'clock His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor proceeded in state to the Legislative Council Chamber in the Parliament building. He was escorted by the Queen's Volunteer Hussars, under command of Lieut. Macdonald.

A guard of honour was formed of the 53rd Regiment.

The members of the Legislative Council being assembled the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to command the attendance of the Legislative Assembly, and that House being present, the Lieutenant-Governor at once opened the second session of the first Parliament of the Province of Quebec with the following

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council; Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

I am happy to see you again assembled to consider the interests of this Province, and to render me your advice, and assist me in the conduct of its affairs. Since the first session of our Legislature the Right Hon. Sir John Young has been placed by Her Majesty at the head of the Government of Canada, in succession to the Right Hon. Viscount Monck, who, after having long presided over the Government of the late Province of Canada, had inaugurated our new constitution. Bound as we are to the Central Government, we must earnestly pray that the work so well begun, under Lord Monck, may receive its happy development under the rule of his successor. Among the important measures which marked the last session of the Federal Parliament, you have doubtless noted with interest that providing for the construction of a railway from Halifax to Riviere du Loup, which will complete the communication, at all seasons of the year, between the great lakes and the Atlantic, across so large a portion of the Dominions of Her Majesty. You will have observed with pleasure that the line chosen for this railway will traverse a wide range of the territory of this Province. My Government, desirous to profit by this opening for the settlement of our wild lands, at once undertook vigorously the works of survey requisite to that end. Explorations thus far, made with that view, indicate that a large area of cultivable land in this direction will soon be brought into value to the material increase of our population and resources. The outlay authorized last session for colonization roads has been promptly effected, and, as I trust, with commensurate advantage to the country. Regulations as to the cutting of timber on lands of the Crown have received the earnest attention of my Government, and I have deemed it my duty to sanction more prudent management of our forest resources and an increase of revenue, without injury to the real interests of this important branch of trade. I am happy to see the great progress made by the agricultural and manufacturing industries of the Province, and when I visited the Provincial Exhibition at Montreal, I could not fail to observe the lively interest taken by all classes of society in the development of these two great sources of our prosperity. The Constitution having assigned matters of immigration to the concurrent action of the Federal and Local Governments, my Government, in concert with those of Ontario and New Brunswick, has conferred, concerning it, with the Federal Government. I have reason to hope that the result of our joint efforts will tend to increase the prosperity of all the Provinces.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

The public accounts for 18 months, covered by your votes of last session, will be promptly laid before you. You will find that the expenditure has been kept

considerably within the limits so set, and I trust that it has been regulated with due regard as well to economy as to efficiency of the public service. I regret that, from circumstances beyond our control, the arbitration required under the constitutional act for the division and adjustment of the debt and assets between this Province and that of Ontario has not yet taken place. The uncertainty hence resulting as to our permanent resources unhappily involves delay in the definite settlement of some important matters dependent necessarily on the ascertained state of our finances. The position in which the Province thus finds itself requires at our hands the utmost prudence and wise economy, but you will not hesitate, I trust, while providing for the reasonable wants of the various branches of the public service, to adopt a vigorous policy for the settlement of the country, and the development of its material resources. Votes will be asked from you with this view.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council; Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

At your last session you devoted a large share of your attention to our municipal institutions, and to subjects of agriculture and colonization. These will be submitted for your consideration. The project of the municipal code, which, while correcting what may be thought defective in our legislation on this subject, will aim at placing it in a shape more convenient for the numerous and important classes of the community interested in it. Measures will be proposed to you respecting the management and sale of Crown Lands, and for the development of agriculture and colonization. Public opinion is, with reason, much directed to these important subjects. You will, no doubt, feel that they are entitled to your most careful consideration. Several new railway projects, such, as it is hoped, may be carried out at small cost, are under discussion, and the subject is so intimately connected with that of the settlement of our wild lands as to call for your most favourable attention. The general revision of the Railway Act, in reference not only to this class of railways, but also to all others to be constructed under provincial charter may advantageously receive consideration at your hands. Revision of our Jury Law and some portions of our School Laws, as also other matters connected with the administration of justice and better organization of the machinery of our provincial system, will, no doubt, receive their share of your attention. In the discussion of all these matters, and of whatever other subjects may seem to you to be worthy of attention, I do not doubt that you will be animated by that spirit of loyalty and devotion to your gracious Sovereign, which has heretofore distinguished you, and that you will show yourselves sincerely attached to our new institutions, and anxious to maintain harmony and good will as between all various classes of our community. I pray earnestly that Divine Providence may bless your efforts, and that your labours may be crowned with all success.

The address in reply to the speech from the throne will be moved to-morrow by Mr. Dumoulin, of Three Rivers, and seconded by Mr. James Ross, of Compton.

Hon. F. H. Lemair will move the address in the Legislative Council, seconded by Hon. Thos. Wood.

—On Sunday before last, one of the Japanese students in attendance upon the Monson academy, Kudo by name, received Christian baptism, and united with the Congregational Church. This young man is about twenty-three years of age, and is characterized by thoughtfulness, earnestness, gracefulness of manner, and unblemished character.

EUROPEAN MAIL NEWS.

The German mail steamer *New York*, from Southampton 5th, and the Inman steamer *City of Antwerp*, from Liverpool 6th instant, arrived at New York Monday. Confirmatory intelligence has been received in Liverpool of a terrible collision between two Turkish steamers, and the loss of 220 lives. The news comes from Constantinople by way of Havre, and is dated from the latter port December 31. The following are the main facts, so far as at present can be learned of this catastrophe: About midnight, on the 17th of December, forty-one miles from Smyrna, at a place called Caraboumon, two steamers belonging to the Azizie Company—viz., the *Gallioop* and *Charkeich*—came into collision. The force of the contact was dreadful, and the *Gallioop* foundered almost immediately, only thirty passengers out of 250 being saved. The *Charkeich* was so greatly damaged by the collision that she had to be run ashore at Chesme, ten miles from Smyrna, to prevent her from sinking. The *Gallioop* had a very valuable cargo, and a large quantity of specie on board, when she foundered.

At Leeds, on the 4th inst., three men who had been convicted of garotte robberies, received twenty-five lashes each, with the cat-o'-nine tails, in the central hall of the borough jail. A new triangle, much stronger than the one hitherto in use, was employed, and the prisoners were secured to it so firmly that the struggles of two of them scarcely caused the least vibration in the solid timbers. The first man flogged was John Edwards, aged thirty-six, who took the first two or three strokes of the cat very coolly, but the fourth elicited a scream of "Oh!" and dreadful groans and howling proceeded from him until he had received seventeen of the whole twenty-five lashes. At the end of twelve strokes a second jailor handled the cat. For the last half dozen lashes he was perfectly quiet, and when free walked firmly back to his cell. Joseph Robinson was the next delinquent brought to the whipping-post. He was full of fear from the first. Not only did he groan deeply, but he exclaimed despairingly "Stop off," "Murder," "Pull me off," and "I'll never do it again." He showed throughout more feeling than either of his fellow garotters. When he was loosened he fell into the arms of the attendants, and crawled back to his cell. The next prisoner was Solomon Robinson, aged nineteen, who went to the ordeal with evident determination to put on an appearance of bravado. Though the youngest of the victims, he was infinitely the most self-possessed. He never uttered a sound from the first stroke to the last.

The *Constitutionnel* says that a foreign diplomatist having recently asked the Emperor whether it was true that the Prince of Carignan was the candidate proposed by him for the Throne of Spain, his Majesty replied:

"I know the Spanish character too well to ever commit the fault of recommending one candidate more than another. Whatever chance of success he might have it would be sufficient that he was supported by France for Spain to reject him. For these reasons I have directed that positive orders should be given to my representative at Madrid to abstain from all advice, and even from all insinuation of a nature to engage in any way whatever the responsibility of France, and to merely confine himself to the assurance that no one wishes more sincerely than I do that Spain may pass successfully through her present crisis."

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* notes that no less than one hundred and thirty-nine new journals were started in Paris in the course of the past year—that is, since the law of previous authorization was abolished. Of these, one hundred and four were literary and art journals; fourteen treated of political matters, six of them appearing daily; twelve on art applied to industry and science; one on magnetism; one on the rural police; one on *cafés-concerts*; one on aerial navigation; one on railroad stations; and one on house porters. Soon after the appearance of the *Lanterne*, thirty-three papers of the same form and character were started. They bore, some of them, the most out-of-the-way names, such as the *Camelion*, *Balayeur d'Aneries*, *Chavour*, *Lumignon*, *Concierge*, and *Panaïses dans le Beurre*. The *Moniteur*, having become an inde-

pendent journal, speaks very boldly in its first free number of the existing regime. "The Second Empire," it says, "claimed to take from the *Moniteur* its character of a calm chronicler, and make of it a more active political organ; to stamp upon it more distinctly and more completely its own impress; in a word to extend even to the smallest details, even to its literary articles, the same official character. But the old traditions of the paper resisted; an institution which counts nearly a century of existence does not easily allow itself to be transformed in a day, when it has proved that it knows how to march by itself, with progress. The Minister of State, irritated by this resistance, decided on undoing what the First Consul had done, and on having a journal for himself, in which everything should be official, and in which not a line should be inserted but what the Government was responsible for. The will of the Minister of State dispenses with the mission which we held from the First Consul, and we now revert to that which we filled from 1789 to 1800. We shall endeavour to be what we then were, the most exact, and the most impartial centre of information."

The King of Portugal opened the Cortes on the 3rd. His Majesty in his speech alluded to the disaster which occurred at Mozambique, and said that the Government had taken energetic measures to retrieve it. The state of the finances was grave, but by good order in the administration and diminution of the expenditure, and self-sacrifice, his majesty hoped the difficulty might be overcome.

Snow fell in such abundance in St. Petersburg and its suburbs, in the latter part of December, that in several streets it rose to twelve feet in height. Accounts from the provinces state that whole villages are buried under the drift.

PRETTY COOL.

The *Globe*, referring to the Report of the Minister of Public Works, having special reference to the proposed drainage of drowned lands in Kent and Essex, says:—

"In this matter of swamp lands, then, the Minister of Public Works has a great opportunity of distinguishing himself by inaugurating a system of reproductive undertakings, which would add amazingly to the health and wealth of the country—and, instead of costing the public purse anything, would actually yield a revenue while affording present employment to hundreds. We hope it will not be allowed to go to sleep, and still more, will not be so managed as to benefit individuals at the public expense."

Now, seeing that it was Mr. Carling who first took the matter in hand, sent down Mr. Molesworth and Mr. Gilmour to make the investigation, prepared the report and submitted it to Parliament, and took a vote in aid of the contemplated improvement, it does not appear that he has been "sleeping" much. On the contrary, he seems to have been quite wide awake. He has been the first Minister of Public Works to devote himself to these practical improvements, whether of reclaiming drowned lands, or of improving inland navigation, so as to open up new territory. Nearly a million acres of splendid land now lie useless, awaiting the application of science and labour to reclaim them. This Mr. Carling hopes to do, and in having laid the foundation for the work, he shows not only that he is not asleep, but quite as much awake, if not a little more so, than those who would offensively patronize him, now that he has shown that good measures are possible even outside the range of the daily contracting *Globe* party.—*Free Press*.

—The *Brownsville Ranchero* of Jan. 1, in summing up the history of the last year in Texas, says cattle raising was unprofitable; the cultivation of the soil was partially a failure from scarcity of labour, excessive rains, and the grasshoppers; the commercial classes made small profits; the people enjoyed better health than usual, and were not visited by epidemics; and murder and crime ran rampant through the State. Not a very favourable report, surely.

—Anna Dickenson, in reply to the hateful remark that people call her a "man hater," demurely says that "it depends upon the man."

DEATH OF MR. JAMES CHALMERS, C. E., FORMERLY OF MONTREAL.—This gentleman, the well known inventor of "The Chalmers Target," and the projector of several other highly important schemes of an engineering kind, died in London, on the morning of Saturday, at the age of fifty-four. He was a native of Perthshire, and possessed a vigorous and highly inventive mind, with a decided bias towards mechanical contrivances of a very bold and vigorous kind. His system of war-ship defences tried at Shoebury in 1863 is now making the tour of maritime Europe as decidedly the best yet devised. It has been with some slight modifications adopted in our navy; and the late Government, in view of further testing its merits, had ordered another specimen target on the Chalmers type to be constructed, doubtless with the intention of its more extensive use should it pass through a second ordeal of artillery trials as successfully as the first. Mr. Chalmers resided a good many years in America, in various parts, and was full of information on all matters connected with the countries or localities in which he had sojourned for periods. His remarks were always weighed with good sense and a penetrating intelligence, arising from the independent use of his singularly close powers of observation. If in early life he had possessed the facilities of a good literary and scientific education, there could have been little doubt of his rising to great eminence in his chosen calling of engineer. Notwithstanding the disadvantages under which he laboured in this respect, he contributed a number of excellent papers to the scientific journals of the country, and wrote several pamphlets on the engineering matters in which he was interested, all in a lucid and vigorous style of exposition. To solve his "Indian Problem" in chess, which has baffled some of the keenest adepts in that scientific game, to acquire for his own use the art of mechanical drawing, so as to be on a par with people who have devoted their lives to that study; or to master for his occasional use a colloquial knowledge of the French language, were matters of easy accomplishment to this remarkable man. He was a person of equable and genial temper, a kind and faithful friend, and in his domestic life a loving husband and father. He has left a widow—who is a native of Glasgow—and two daughters and two sons to mourn his death.—*North*

—A writer from the *Daily News* gives some details of theatrical management in England. He estimates the expenses of a large West End Theatre at from £420 to £480 sterling a week. As a rule, the receipts are below the expenses; the loss is made up by some lucky hit, when they are largely in excess. Christmas is the best theatrical season in the year; summer is the worst, except when it is wet. Above £500 a year is spent on colours and canvas. The gas bill comes to £30 a week; but at Christmas the moon generally costs the manager £20 a week on its own account. One of the difficulties of a manager is getting actresses to play the parts of women—they all want to be fairy princesses and so on. Ballet girls get about 25s a week, and the writer vouches for their morality. The tariff of dramatic authorship varies very much. Three or five act plays, when not paid for by percentage on profits, usually cost from £200 to £300, or from £3 to £5 every night they are acted. The price of a good burlesque varies from £50 to £120. Farces are seldom worth more than £10.

—The Kingston (N.Y.) *Argus* says that a post office official, while on a tour of inspection among the post offices in that county, recently came to a settlement, and on inquiring for the postmaster at his house, was informed by his wife that he was at work in the field. He was shortly found, and upon inquiring for the post office, the farmer took from his hat several letters. This office is located at Turnwood, in that county, and was the only portable office the official saw in his travels. The same paper says that at one of the county offices the postmaster, not being able to sell the requisite number of postage stamps to increase his salary by the use of ordinary means, resorted to strategy to accomplish that result. He bought a number of new books and paid for them in postage stamps, thus selling enough of them to raise his salary to the extraordinary sum of \$25.

—Another accident happened on Christmas Day, on one of the Welsh lines, presenting nearly all the elements which caused the disastrous catastrophe at Abergele. Thirteen coal-laden trucks appear to have been on a siding without sufficient break power, where there was an incline of one in forty, and the consequence was that the waggons began moving and continued with increased velocity a journey of seven or eight miles. Perceiving that something was wrong, one of the officers at a station the carriages were approaching had the presence of mind to direct the runaways into a goods shed, through which they dashed, destroying considerable property, but, no doubt, saving many lives. Had the progress of the waggons not been thus interrupted, they would probably have run on until they had come into collision with a train due from Cardiff. A shocking accident occurred at the Shrewsbury railway station. A passenger was standing on the edge of the platform watching a passing train, when his foot slipped, and he fell on the rails. Eight carriages passed over him, and he died in a few minutes. The name of the unfortunate man is not mentioned.

—The official stamp of the Goldsmith's Company, London, by which English jewellery buyers are supposed to be protected against imposition, has been degraded during the past few years under a new law allowing it to be placed on articles of 9, 12, and 15-carat gold. The stamp was formerly confined to 18 carat, and should be so still. Gold of nine carats is, in reality, copper alloyed with gold. Even 12 carat is only half gold, and half alloy. The "hall mark," as it is called, has become entirely worthless, therefore, as a security against fraud. Gold chain makers have a way of cheating which could hardly be avoided even under a good system. They send a chain to receive the mark on every link. These are then separated, and each is placed on a chain of inferior quality.

CROWN LANDS.—At the sale in Stratford of Crown Lands in Elma, there were 28 lots of pine lands sold, consisting of 2,650 acres. They fetched from \$3 to \$7.50 per acre, realizing altogether \$13,347.15. 800 acres of marsh lands were disposed of, at from \$1 to \$3 per acre, the sum realized being \$1,501.40. Eight swamp lots, of 750 acres, sold from \$2 to \$4 per acre, realizing \$1,951.50. Altogether 44 lots were disposed of for \$16,800.05. The pine lands were put up at \$3 per acre, the marsh lands at \$1, and the swamp lands at \$2. The attendance of purchasers was pretty good, and the sale on the whole satisfactory to the department, the lands bringing an average of \$3 per acre.

—East India papers publish the confession of a Hindoo, named Ramadheen, not quite 21 years of age, who for the last twenty months has followed the calling of poisoner. He does not pretend to scruples or remorse of any kind. He calls his victims "shikar" (game), and alleges no other excuse for his practices than that it was very dull at home in his village. The persons he poisoned in the year and a half are about twenty-seven; but he is very careless in figures, and talks of a family whom he may murder with a lordly negligence as to the number of its members. Most of his victims were either Brahmins or fakirs, and his favourite hunting-grounds were what he calls "holy places."

—The municipal elections in Spain have been favourable to the Republican party. They lost Madrid, but they have obtained large majorities in the Councils of twenty cities, including Barcelona, Seville, Malaga, Toledo, Valladolid, Valencia, Saragossa, and Cordova; small majorities in twelve other capitals; and had minorities in only nine. Their victory, however, was secured mainly by small numbers of voters, and it is doubtful whether those who stayed away agree with their opinions. The result of the national election is therefore still doubtful.

—Gen. Grant is 47, and Mr. Colfax 46; Andrew Johnson is 61; Mr. Seward 68; Gen. Schofield but 38; Mr. Welles, 67; Mr. McCulloch, 58; Mr. Randall, and Mr. Browning, 59; Mr. Wade, the President of the Senate, is 69; Senator Sumner is 58 and Senator Trumbull 56. The members of the House of Representatives are nearly all young men. James Brooks, and E. B. Washburne are among the oldest, and are respectively 59 and 53 years of age.

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The United Service Gazette.

"Free be our aid, independent our might,
"And the sword that we brandish, our own."

OTTAWA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1869

THE RESERVE FORCE.

Matters have so far progressed in the preparations for enrollment of this branch of the Militia Force of the Dominion, that we believe we are justified in saying that it will be completed by the 28th of February, the time required by law. The appointment of the regimental staff officers of this force will be one of the most important proceedings connected with the carrying out of the new militia act, and particularly of the commanders of regimental districts, inasmuch as on them will depend the prompt filling up of the active force, and the procuring of men in case of invasion, or should the Government require them. Where military, combined with other qualifications, can be found, it will, doubtless, be the desire and the policy of the Government to employ it; but where these elements together do not exist, the law provides a means by which those appointed to responsible positions may acquire a knowledge of their duties, and it should be the determination of all gentlemen who accept command to exert themselves in such a way, that on any occasion where the Reserve force may be called out, whether for inspection or active service, they may be able to acquit themselves in a soldierly manner. The appointment of some six thousand officers to this force is of itself a matter of magnitude; but the establishment of our admirable military school system will greatly facilitate the authorities in making proper selections, as where a sufficient number of Passed Candidates exist, the Government, having an exact knowledge of their qualifications, certified to by regular officers, will have no difficulty in making proper appointments. Where these qualifications are not known to exist, the compliance with a regulation for the ac-

quisition of a certain amount of military knowledge, within a fixed period, ought to be rigidly insisted upon, as a consideration without which no officer should be allowed to retain his position; and wherever it is possible such knowledge should be had before appointments take place. This much is due to those who have already gone to the trouble and expense of attaining a military education, as well as to the efficiency and discipline of the force, and Lieutenant Colonels placed in command should be impressed with its justice and importance in selecting their officers for recommendation to His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY OFFICIALS.

Now that the construction of the great military and national necessity has become a fixed fact, it is pleasant to notice that among those who have been charged with the superintendence of its construction are gentlemen who have never hesitated to lend their aid to further sterling British principles in this country, even if at all times those principles were not as popular as they are now, and only too often involved hardship and loss; and it is still more pleasant to know that the reward which has at last followed the faithful services of at least two of them has met with the cordial support of their neighbors of all classes. "Glorious Old Norfolk," a name which recalls many pleasant associations, on Monday last did honor to herself by endorsing the appointment of her representative, A. WALSH, Esq., M. P., as chairman of the Intercolonial Commission, at a public dinner to that gentleman, at which Lieutenant Colonel TISDALE worthily presided, and at which were all the most prominent gentlemen of the County, as well as members of Parliament and other distinguished visitors from a distance. After the toast of the evening had been enthusiastically honored, and responded to, the chairman proposed the health of "WILLIAM WALLACE, Esq., Accountant of the Intercolonial Commission." After this toast had been warmly received, a pleasing incident occurred. Mr. R. T. LIVINGSTONE, on behalf of his friends presented Mr. WALLACE with a beautiful and valuable gold watch on his approaching departure for Ottawa. The present was accompanied by an address couched in feeling terms, which concluded with these words: "We have every confidence that the same qualities that have gained for you such general respect and esteem in Simcoe will enable you to fulfil, with every satisfaction, the important duties of the new position to which you have been called, and will continue to gain for you the respect and esteem of all with whom you may be brought in contact. That you may, during your absence from among us, be blessed with the enjoyment of health and prosperity, is the earnest wish of your numerous friends who unite in presenting you with this token of their regard." We have all the more pleasure in recording this testimony to the worth of a loyal and able gentleman, from the fact that Mr. WALLACE has, for many years, been editor of the Simcoe *British Canadian*, in which he did more than yeoman service for the cause of British Constitutional Government in his county; and indeed before he became connected with the Press, wherever a blow was to be struck for Queen or Country, the lance of our old and valued friend was foremost. He has won his position bravely and well, and the appointment does honor alike to the heads and hearts of those who made it.

LOSSES AT THE LATE FIRE.

We suppose the business in all the public offices will be retarded more or less by the late disastrous burning of the Queen's Printing Office. The Adjutant General's office suffered considerably in this respect. Several matters of importance to the force, which had taxed the energies of Lieutenant Colonel POWELL, D. A. G., to their utmost, during the previous week, and which had so far been completed that revised proofs had been returned to the printer, were utterly destroyed, so that the laborious work will have to be done over again. We do not know that any interests will suffer, except from delays, and we make this statement in order that, should unexpected delays occur, they may be attributed to the proper cause, and thus create less disappointment. We know that every member of the Volunteer Force will deeply sympathize with Captain DESBRATS in his severe loss. He has ever been a warm friend of the Volunteer movement, and during several years, at considerable expense and loss to himself, has kept up a fine company, composed entirely of his own employees, and whenever any project was on foot for the benefit of the Volunteers or Militia, he has always been found liberal, soldierly and energetic. A full account of his losses, from the *Ottawa Times*, will be found in another column.

Since the above was in type, we learn that proofs of the annual report of the Dominion Rifle Association, which had just been revised by Lt. Col. STUART, Asst. A. G., were also consumed, which will delay the issuing of the report for a short time.

DISTRICT AND BRIGADE APPOINTMENTS.

It will be seen by reference to General Orders, which we publish to-day, that the Government has followed the time-honored military principle of continuing in its service, under the new law, those who have served them faithfully under the old. Although by this policy a few expectants may be disappointed, it is a course than which nothing could be better calculated to inspire confidence in the fair and impartial spirit of the authorities in its dealings with the force, and will have the effect of making the service desirable, inasmuch as in it there will be a certainty that patriotic exertions will receive proper recognition.

"RIFLE SHOOTING."—Lt. A. L. RUSSELL, now of Toronto, and Secretary of the Rifle Club there, but well known in the capital, and among riflemen generally, as an enthusiastic devotee of the target and rifle, will shortly issue an illustrated handbook, containing remarks on the theory and practice; directions for target practice; rules of Dominion of Canada and national rifle associations; descriptions of principal rifles and ranges; "general orders" respecting arms, ammunition, &c.; disc-marking; specification for constructing ranges and butts, as at Wimbledon; register and match forms; celebrated battalion, company, and individual scores; curious and useful data, &c.; price 50 cents. From diligent study and practical experience, (being himself a first-class marksman,) Mr. RUSSELL is well-qualified for the task he has taken in hand; and as the work will be of great benefit to our Rifle Associations, we hope he will meet with the encouragement that the work deserves. Orders for the work, or for advertisements, may be left with the editor of THE UNITED SERVICE GAZETTE.

DINNER TO A. WALSH, ESQ., M. P.

SPLENDID DEMONSTRATION.

Condensed from the Spectator.

The people from the county of Norfolk, feeling proud of the honour conferred upon their representative, A. Walsh, Esq., in his appointment to the chairmanship of the Intercolonial Railway Board, resolved to testify their continued confidence in him by a public dinner, which took place in the Music Hall, Simcoe, on Monday last. Early in the day the farmers began to flock in from the surrounding townships, and when the hour arrived for the dinner, upwards of three hundred of the most influential residents of the county had assembled. There were, in addition to the cross table, at the head of the room, which was elevated on the platform of the hall, six tables running down the room, besides one in the side gallery; and a few minutes after the doors were opened all the tables were comfortably filled. The chair was occupied by David Tisdale, Esq., the Warden of the county,

Daniel Mathews, Esq., and Messrs. Roger Crisler, George Snyder and George Jackson filling the vice-chairs. To the right of the chairman sat the guest of the evening, Mr. A. Walsh; and on the platform were the following reverend gentlemen, who had attended to testify their personal respect for Mr. Walsh, and their sense of his honesty and integrity of purpose, viz.: Rev's Messrs. Grassett and Harris of the Church of England; Rev. Mr. Scott, of the Baptist Church; Rev. Mr. Craigie, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; Reverend Mr. Livingstone, of the Church of Scotland, and the Rev. Mr. Wilkinson, of the New Connexion Methodist Church. In addition to those gentlemen there were on the platform, Messrs. J. Y. Bown, M. P.; John O'Connor, M. P.; James Cotton, of Ottawa, James G. Moylan, of Toronto; Thomas White, jr., of Hamilton, John Elliott, of Brantford, Peter E. Young, Major Maybee, Captain McLaren, Captain David Walker, Dr. Coverton, and Dr. Pine. In the body of the hall we noticed Messrs. Thomas Waters, Robert Riddell, James Riddell, Oliver Maybee, Adam L. Potts, E. P. Martin, Charles Robinson, deputy reeve of Wyndham; D. A. McCall, reeve, Charlottetown; William Cown, deputy reeve; W. H. Ball, W. Stevenson, Robert H. Clement, Abraham Bartholomew, Peter Cline, William Wilson, Dr. John Wilson, John Carter, L. D. Livingstone, Oliver Maybee, William Rolph, George Peter, Alexander McKay, William Depew, Thomas M. Walsh, James Bell, George Liddell, J. W. Squires, John Pardee, John E. Potts, William Depew, Squire L. Curtis, Major McKerly, C. S. Harris, &c., &c.

After dinner, and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been disposed of, the chairman gave "The Health of Sir John A. Macdonald and of his colleagues," reading the following letter of apology from the Premier:

"OTTAWA, January 11, 1869.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I am much obliged for the kind invitation forwarded through you to me, from the Committee of Management, to a public dinner to be given to Mr. Walsh on the 18th inst.

"I am afraid that my duties here will prevent my having the great pleasure of joining in this fitting compliment to my old and valued friend. It is just possible, however, that about that time, I may be obliged to go to Toronto, and if so, I shall probably be able to extend my journey to Simcoe, and be present on the occasion.

"Believe me, my dear sir,

"Yours faithfully,

"JOHN A. MACDONALD."

"D. Tisdale, Esq., Simcoe."

It had been hinted that Sir John's name had been mentioned merely to attract visitors, but they knew sufficiently that no such attraction was necessary, for that everybody would be there without it (cheers). The letter which he had just read to them explained perhaps sufficiently the causes of the statesman's absence. But, like those of other illustrious statesmen, Sir John's letters did not always convey literally their full meaning. (Laughter). There had been a certain little matter told him (the chairman) in confidence, and he hoped that if he should relate it, gentlemen of the press would not only forbear from putting it in the papers, but would even deny themselves the pleasure of relating it at all. Sir John had told a friend of his confidentially, and this friend had told to him confidentially, and he told to them confidentially, and they could tell to their wives confidentially (laughter), and then everybody could not fail to know it (renewed laughter), that he was just then expecting an important event in his family (cheers and laughter); and had added that, although Premier of the Dominion, his influence or authority was powerless (roars of laughter) to accelerate or postpone the event which was absorbing his attention (prolonged cheers).

The toast having been duly honoured, The chairman next gave "The Army, Navy and Volunteers."

Major Maybee responded, explaining that, though politically opposed to Mr. Walsh, he had come there to show his personal regard for Mr. Walsh, and his pride in his preferment. Had it been necessary to appeal to his constituents, Mr. Walsh would have found Reformers uniting with Conservatives to return him by acclamation. (Cheers.)

Several other gentlemen also responded, speaking in very complimentary terms of Mr. Walsh.

The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, said that the main object of their meeting therewith was to contradict the assertion that Mr. Walsh could not be re-elected had he offered himself; and for that purpose there was no need of other attendance than of those whom he saw before him. After complimenting the Premier of Ontario as a moderate supporter of the coalition which had been endorsed by Norfolk, he read the following messages of apology from ministers as well as from the local representative of the North Riding, Mr. James Wilson, the gentleman for whom they had all laboured so hard last election. [Laughter.]

"18th Jan., 1869.

"By telegraph from Toronto,

"To D. Tisdale, Simcoe,

"I thank the committee for their kind invitation, and regret I cannot be with the electors of Norfolk to join in their expression of confidence in their able representative, A. Walsh, Esq.

"M. C. CAMERON."

"18th Jan., 1869.

"By telegraph from Toronto,

"To D. Tisdale, Simcoe,

"I feel highly complimented by the invitation to join in the demonstration this evening, in honour of my friend, Mr. Walsh; say this to the committee. The motive which has prompted this manifestation of the esteem in which he is regarded by his constituents in faithfu-

ly expressing their views in the Commons for successive years, is as creditable to them, as the evidence of it must be gratifying to him. The necessity which compels my remaining here to attend to public affairs alone prevents my being present with you on this occasion.

"J. S. McDONALD."

Mr. Walsh had been first brought out in their county—as a moderate man, able to reconcile parties, and as a man who was equally averse to hasty changes as to the obsolete practices of the times, for which the days had gone by. It was such moderation that had returned Mr. Walsh and re-elected him, and that had gained for him his present high honours, just as it was similar moderation that had won their stations for Sir John A. and Hon. J. S. Macdonald, and had brought Reformers there to speak as they had heard, knowing Mr. Walsh to be honest and straightforward and worthy—a consistent supporter of consistent principles which he (the chairman) urged men of all stripes to stand by as calculated best to promote the advancement of the country. Reformers and Conservatives and all would admit that in the whole country there could be found no man more capable to fill such office, and acknowledge, too, that his friends were always ready and willing to re-elect him, and what was more to the purpose, were able also. (Cheers.) Without any further preface he would then give them the health of their representative, Mr. Aquila Walsh, the chairman of the Intercolonial Railway Commission. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Mr. Walsh, who rose amid tumultuous applause, said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, it has been my good fortune, during the past eight years, to be entertained on many similar occasions, and it has been my duty to respond to the expression of the kindly sentiments of my friends in such language as I could then find, or the occasion seemed to demand; but to-day the kind and the hearty manner in which you, sir, have been pleased to propose, and you, gentlemen, to receive, this toast of my name, has made me, standing here before so large a gathering of my constituents, quite unable to respond as I should now desire. On all such occasions I have never found anything but the utmost kindness whenever I have mingled with you. Permit me here, on the first opportunity of this nature which has occurred, since then, to return publicly to the electors of Norfolk my cordial thanks for their support through the election of 1867. (Cheers.) Mr. Walsh then went on to express his thanks to the electors of the South Riding for their invitation to him to represent them at the time of the division of their county, but having previously sat for the whole county he had then thought it proper, he might say found it necessary, to go into that portion of it where his friends were weakest. (Cheers.) He thanked them for the double compliment to his past career and to his fitness for his present office, and supposed that in anything he had to say regarding his course in the House he did not need to refer to his actions previous to the last Parliament, but could plead the statute of limitations against any claim for earlier explanation, having been since then endorsed by the approval of the county expressed in his return. The condition of affairs had been gravely altered by Confederation, and, as a public man, he was ready to take his share of the responsibility of having brought such an alteration about, when he believed, and which all who assisted in it believed, would be for the profit of the country. In the present Parliament, they had to deal with the new element introduced from the Maritime Provinces, which had perhaps been accustomed to deal with smaller matters, and it was to be regretted that Nova Scotia had sent an almost unanimous representation, pledged to hostility against the Union. Her representation was, however, it gratified him to bear witness, composed of men of the highest character, and who reflected every honour on their Province. But these new and hostile elements had made it a matter of great difficulty to get through the business of the last session. It was the first duty of Parliament to assimilate the laws of the different Provinces, and in doing this, especially in matters relating to the tariff, great difficulty had occurred arising out of the different local customs duties, and the apparently diverse interests of the various Provinces. These difficulties had, he feared, for the moment somewhat aggravated the feeling of dissatisfaction among the Repealers in the Maritime Provinces. But a better feeling he was glad to say was springing up; and he had the strongest confidence in the future of the Dominion and in the removal of all dissatisfaction in any part of it. (Cheers.) After referring at considerable length to the measures of the last session, and his own course thereon, as well as several local railway enterprises, Mr. Walsh said the next point upon which he desired to address them was with regard to the more immediate object of the gathering which had met to pay him so high a compliment. And he had pride in assuring them that this appointment of which they had been pleased to approve, had been not only unsought, but even wholly unexpected by himself, [hear, hear,] and that the first intimation he had received regarding it was in the official intimation from the head of the Government, proposing it for his acceptance. This fact made in his estimation the distinction of the office far higher than if he had obtained it by outside influence, such as might be used through his friend on the right from Brant, [Dr. Bown,] or on the left from Essex, [Mr. O'Connor.] He would refer to the statement which had been made by a section of his opponents—that it had only been after it was found that he could not be re-elected that a loop-hole had been found for him to get through. [Laughter.] He had himself, at first, been of the opinion that re-

election would be necessary, judging from the general parliamentary principle, and without having very closely studied the law. He had consequently consulted his friends from the riding upon his prospects, and, from their cheerful assurances, was able to signify his willingness to accept the office, adding that he had every certainty that there would be no difficulty in securing his re-election, [loud cheers,] for he had yet to learn where there was to be found one man who had voted for him hitherto, who was not prepared to record the same vote again [prolonged cheers.] He took this first opportunity of making this personal statement publicly, and went on to express his approval of the principle which enacted that a Commission holding such extended power should be directly represented in the people's Council. Since their appointment the Commissioners had not been idle, and he thought they might fairly take credit for having, in the month immediately succeeding their having been gazetted, carefully examined 90 miles of the route, and travelled over the whole 500 miles of its distance. It might be said that such a flying visit was of no practical value, but they should know that the line of route ran within sight of the travelled road almost all the way from Riviere du Loup to Truro, and that a journey along the latter gave a very good idea of the nature and difficulties of the former. They had examined all the localities of the heaviest works, which were chiefly on the Restigouche and Metepedia, and last, he thought, exonerated themselves from any imputation of attending only to their own interests, which might be brought against them, had they sat down inactively in their office at Ottawa. He could venture to say for his brother commissioners as for himself that their only object was to build the cheapest and the best road (applause), and he would mention one item in which the determination they had come to would effect a large saving of expense, viz.: by building their bridges of wood in place of iron. It might be said that it was but false economy to construct such works to last only twelve or fifteen years instead of forever, but considering the peculiar nature of the line which was not likely to prove of commercial profit for some time, he thought their determination would generally be accepted as the correct one, especially when they reflected that its end would be to supply the material and the labour, and keep the cost of these in the country in place of paying England for English produce to the loss of the advantages they had thus agreed upon retaining. (Hear, hear.) These bridges would only cost half the price of iron, and could, therefore, be renewed at the same total cost for many years to come. The principle of employing such material was as he held, of sound economy, and had been largely practised in America, as well as very recently upon one of the Grand Trunk lines, in the case of the Paris viaduct. He added that the Commissioners had, as the Chairman though not perhaps the meeting was aware, made an alteration in the system of carrying on the works, which they considered of high practical importance. They had reversed the judgment of the Chief Engineer, who had proposed that their contracts should be let out on a fixed schedule of prices and measurements, while they held it was preferable to let all contracts at a specific fixed sum, whereby they could know all their responsibility at first, and would throw on the contractor the burthen of making all his calculations respecting the character of his cuttings or embankments, while the country would have the satisfaction of learning at once what each 25 or 30 mile section was to cost. This new system they had adopted in the case of the four sections which had already been advertised, and though their course had been said to have been adopted in the interest of contractors, none of them had expressed any satisfaction at it, which he (Mr. Walsh) held as a strong proof of its merit. It was possible that the surveys were not as yet sufficiently complete to enable contractors to send in accurate tenders, but they would know their estimates decisively on the 8th February, and how far their system would result in economical efficiency. He would take that occasion of saying for Mr. Fleming, that the difficulties of the Chief Engineer were very great, of running his lines over a vast extent of country, in making experimental surveys, and being able to concentrate his forces only where the Government had definitely located the route. He would also say most emphatically, whence his words would go out to the country, that from the Commission every contractor should have fair play, that there should be no such thing as favouritism, but that each and every tender should be judged upon its own merits solely. Referring to the subject of the route he said three distinct lines had been at various times proposed, The Central, Frontier, and North Shore. Reviewing their differing recommendations he said that he had never been inclined to view the road as one of great commercial promise, and had been even less so since he had traversed the country. But it was a political and military necessity, and no line which could be chosen was commercially desirable. The frontier route had been advocated on account of its shortness, and because it led directly to the city of St. John, N.B. But it would be utterly useless for military purposes, and the British authorities would never have consented to sanction it, while as a commercial undertaking it would have to compete with the road now being constructed from St. John to Bangor, in Maine, and these joint considerations he could not but regard as sufficient reasons for its rejection. As to the Central route, he had the very best grounds for stating that its cost, per mile or in the aggregate, would considerably exceed that of the line selected, besides which it would cross a country perfectly sterile and uncultivated, in the heart of the

Province. The Intercolonial line, as determined upon, would, on the contrary, supply the want of railway communication where New Brunswick most needed it. He believed therefore that, in their selection, the Government had taken the course likely to effect the greatest good to the greatest number. As the Commission had not been long enough in office to work as yet a great deal of either good or evil, he might perhaps be excused from saying anything further upon such a topic, but he still desired to reiterate his sense of the military and political necessity of the line, and of the absolute exigency of its construction for the maintenance of the Union of the Provinces. But upon this point he was glad to be able to say that, from his own observation and enquiries, and from recently obtained information, he was satisfied that the darkest hour of Nova Scotian disaffection had passed away, and that if the great question of Confederation were to be shortly submitted to the people, the Union would be ratified by a decisive majority. He was able to go farther, and to tell them without hesitation that, at the next session of Parliament the Government would be prepared to submit to the House propositions to make the basis of an agreement which should include Newfoundland. (Cheers.) Mr. Walsh then went on to enlarge upon the capacities of the great British Confederation which was to stretch from sea to sea, and to yield its productions of gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, coal, salt, coal oil, fish and forest, to be made available by its splendid climate, soil and water communication in connection with its vast agricultural resources and manufacturing enterprise. To enhance those glorious gifts of nature was the influence of their grand old British institutions pervading every relation of life, and working that happiness among us here which it had never failed to do in the parent land, and which gave the highest promise of the great future of our beloved territory. In conclusion he again sincerely thanked them for their friendship and gracefully acknowledged the presence of so large a number of clergymen of the town in which he had lived so long, and who, of these different denominations which he saw represented around him, came here, as he believed, not as politicians, but as his personal friends, and whose presence he gratefully accepted as having been given to express confidence in and esteem for himself; and he hoped and trusted that whether his commissionership should prove of short or long duration, he should be able to return to them at its close with a faithful account of his stewardship. He would only further detain them to express his deep sense of Major Maybee's kindness, as of a consistent opponent who had so generously expressed such liberal sentiments regarding his re-election, and of his regard of his presence, and that of others whom he similarly saw there as an evidence of the general confidence with which the county honoured him, and the general belief that he would do the best he could for the interests of the country. [Loud and prolonged cheers.]

Mr. Wallace, Accountant of the Railway Commission, was then presented with an address and a valuable watch, which, with the toast of his health he suitably acknowledged.

"The Legislature of Ontario" was then proposed, which was received with cheers.

Dr. Bown, M.P., being called upon to reply, said that he had much pleasure in coming there to witness the enthusiastic reception of their member on his return home. No man could possibly receive higher satisfaction from any expression of regard than it was Mr. Walsh's to experience that evening. This regard was manifestly that of no particular party, but of the whole general community. (Applause.) He (Dr. Bown) had been surprised to find such an important gathering at Simcoe, and heartily congratulated Mr. Walsh on the compliment thus paid him. He confessed to a difficulty in speaking to the toast, arising from nervousness, having but once attempted to address the House, and then broke down. (Laughter.) Still, he could tell them how he remembered having entered Parliament at the same time as Mr. Walsh had been returned for Norfolk. Things were greatly changed since then, and members were able to speak to their opponents, and to regard them as gentlemen without necessarily falling under the ban of their leaders. He had, himself, gone into Parliament as a supporter of party, not faction, and could not consent to be subjected to the orders of Mr. McKellar, Mr. McKenzie, or even Mr. David Christie. (Loud laughter.) And, for his independence, he was hounded all over the country, and told that he suffered from all sorts of maladies, such as weak knees, soft brain, &c., &c., as well as prescribed all sorts of remedies. Now, his real and only malady was that of a stiff neck. (Laughter.) He went on to urge the necessity of a modification of opinion in the light of experience, and disclaimed any unwillingness to confess errors of which he had become convinced, asserting that those who knew him best knew that when he wronged anybody he was always ready to make reparation, and to acknowledge his mistakes. Of such a course he could never be ashamed, having shared in scientific discussions in which the ablest men were willing to amend and correct their former opinions in the search of truth. He would, however, be ashamed if it were possible that he could persist that Wrong, which he knew to be wrong, was the Right he had once fancied it. He had been long ago told by a leading statesman that politics were a matter of expediency, but he had lived to see the party which held such a theory dwindle surely to decay. Going on to contrast the British and American forms of Government, he said that the latter placed the sovereignty in the popular, the former in the divine will. Severely censuring the

attitude towards Confederation taken by the Hon. George Brown, he stigmatized that gentleman as having attempted as an abortion to destroy the life of his own offspring. This man's failure had sufficiently taught the lesson that men could only truly benefit themselves by honest work for the benefit of the whole community. With his place in public disregard, they might contrast advantageously that of the memory of another politician. There had been a man who had come among them poor and suspected, with nothing but his honesty and his intellect to rely upon, with all the impulses of charity and benevolence working in his soul, but with little to give to those of his brethren whose needs claimed his infinite compassion beyond the treasures of that genius which had made its mark on the country and the age, and which he was ever ready to lavish in the cause of suffering humanity. This man it was who had magnanimously resigned his own claims to office for what he thought to be the general good, and who, in that last sad speech which none among his audience could ever forget, had enjoined the necessity of legislation in each Province for higher aims than purely local ones, and had thus won a grateful and popular recognition, declaring that, if ever any one deserved honour of his country, it was the murdered martyr Thomas D'Arcy McGee. [Loud cheers.] This was the man who had, day after day and night after night come down, with the knowledge that murder was on his heels, to do his duty to the country that he loved to serve. There was, it seemed to him, a valuable public lesson to be learned from the contrast of these two lives—of the one, who was now rolling in wealth, and of the other who had died wanting provision for the future of his family, which the gratitude of the country had provided for, although he feared but insufficiently. (Hear, hear.) He had often had to differ with Mr. Walsh, but he could notwithstanding assert that there was no one from whom the public interests could now derive higher service, and was confident that he would come back to them again, and again, to receive renewed assurance of their approval, while he himself, so long as Mr. Walsh went on as now would be always ready to defend him in the House. (Cheers.)

Mr. O'Connor regretted that illness would prevent him from addressing them as he could desire, and would indeed have kept him at home but for his great regard for Mr. Walsh, and desire to join in doing him honour, knowing how truly he deserved the distinction which had been shown him. He knew Mr. Walsh in the House, and knew his upright straightforward and useful conduct there, which was such as to reflect all honour upon them who had sent him thither. He had read in a newspaper, edited by his friend, Mr. Moylan, (Toronto Freeman) the greatest praise which Mr. Walsh could have received was the marked absence of censure from his enemies.

The vice-chairman gave the railway interests of the Dominion, to which Thomas White, Jr., Esq., of the Hamilton Spectator, responded in an able and eloquent address.

The second vice-chairman, Mr. Chrysler, next proposed the 'Press,' to which Mr. Moylan replied. He had, like Mr. O'Connor, been present at great personal inconvenience to greet their guest, but was more than repaid by the great pleasure it gave him to offer to Mr. Walsh his humble but sincere endorsement, [applause,] and also to express his satisfaction with the leader of the government who had made so excellent an appointment. Dwelling at length upon the importance of the encouragement of immigration, he concluded by pointing out how valuable the efforts of the commissioners might be made in encouraging the settlement by their best employees of so great an extent of territory as they should find under their influence at management.

Mr. Walsh rose to explain that this subject of immigration in connection with the road had already engaged the attention of the commissioners, who, when they next met, would issue a recommendation to the governments of the different provinces suggesting a mode by which immigration might be much encouraged. He proposed that men who had been labouring on the road for a certain time, say two years, and who should have received certificates from their superiors, of good conduct during that period, should be entitled to a grant of from fifty to one hundred acres of free land, a system which, he believed, could not fail to attract a large supply of labor. Such men would make valuable settlers, and the commissioners would not fail in every exertion to press the project upon the governments.

Mr. James Cotton, also spoke to the toast; he thought it a pleasing coincidence that the most far-seeing statesmen of the country should have selected for this office the man whom they had chosen as their own representative, and believed that no minor less far-sighted would have made selection of so modest a gentleman [cheers] whose appointment he had himself been surprised at, when he first learned it, on that very score. He went on to refer to the appointment of Col. Powell as D. A. G., and spoke in the warmest terms of that gentleman's assiduity, and the general satisfaction which he gave; concluding by commending the general moderation of tone which now marked the journals of the Dominion, and for which he specially took credit to the Conservative side.

'The Educational Institutions,' 'The Agricultural Interests,' 'The Bench,' 'The Bar,' 'The Medical Profession,' &c., &c., were among the other toasts given and ably replied to; and the company broke up about 11 p.m., all highly gratified by the evening's entertainment.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.**The Queen's Printer's Block Entirely Destroyed.****IMMENSE DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.****ALL THE PRESSES, TYPE, AND BINDING MACHINERY DESTROYED.****Two Hotels, a Bank, a Tailor Shop, and a Millinery Establishment Consumed.****LOSS OVER \$100,000.**

from the Ottawa Times of the 21st inst.

About one o'clock yesterday morning a fire was observed in the rear of the Queen's printing office block. Efforts were made to extinguish it, and the cry of fire was raised in the vicinity, and as soon as possible after the fire engines and apparatus were on the ground, and did the best they could under the circumstances, but enough could not be done to get the fire under. The fire speedily broke out in the main building, and continued in spite of all that, until the whole magnificent block was enveloped in flames, and finally destroyed. Fortunately a slight breeze from the east prevailed, but for which many other buildings, perhaps the whole of the north side of Sparks st., from O'Connor-st. to Bishop's buildings would have been burned also. The only building to the west of Desbarats' block, was the Carleton House, which being of wood, and very dry, became ignited and totally destroyed. This building was owned by Mrs. Wright, and was rented by Mr. John Graham.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTING OFFICE.

The building known as the Queen's Printing Office, or Desbarats' block, was the finest and largest building in the city, erected about four years ago, for the express purpose for which it was used. It was a handsome and extensive stone building four stories in height. In the western end of the block was the printing establishment. The basement was used as a press and engine-room, and for wetting paper. There were six large steam presses, three Hoe's, one of them of very large size, and three Adams', an addressing machine, and a lathe used for repairing machinery which might get out of order. The engine and boiler were situated in a room just off the press room, and connected by belts with the entire machinery of the establishment, presses, lathe, hoisting apparatus, and binding machinery, up to the third storey.

On the first floor were the counting-room, clerk's offices, and paper-rooms, in which was stored a large quantity of fancy paper.

The third flat was occupied as the composing-room, in which were employed a large number of compositors. In this flat was an immense quantity of type, and other material—probably the largest amount of material used in any printing office in Canada. Just off this flat, in a new building erected last summer, was the stereotyper's room. This branch of work was used largely in connection with the establishment. In this room was also a Degerin liberty press, run by a belt leading from the engine-room.

On the fourth flat was situated the bindery, in which some of the finest specimens of bookbinding in Canada were executed. The work turned out here was of a very fine quality, some specimens of which took a gold medal at the Paris Exposition, and others received honourable mention. Here were employed some twenty or thirty hands. On this flat was also stored a large amount of paper.

A portion of the fourth flat was occupied by Mr. Joseph Bureau, foreman of the printing department, as a residence. Mr. Bureau happily succeeded in removing his family in safety; but lost almost the whole of his furniture and effects, on which, we believe, there was no insurance.

The openings in the floors through which material was conveyed up and down to the several flats of the establishment no doubt accelerated the destruction of this part of the building, as the forked tongues of flame played up and down with fearful violence.

The loss to Mr. Desbarats could not be correctly ascertained at the time, but there is no doubt but it is very great; and there is no one who knows that gentleman but will be heartily sorry on his account.

East of the above was the office of the Royal Canadian Bank from which the books, papers and money were removed. Over this was the Ottawa & St. Lawrence Railroad Company's office, and, we believe, the residence of Thos. Guerin, Esq., portions of whose property were saved, more or less damaged.

The next portion of the building was occupied by Miss Maguire as a millinery and residence, whose property was also partly saved. The next portion of the building was occupied as a store by Messrs. Craig and McKenzie, merchant tailors. The east end was occupied by Mrs. Trotter, and known as the Toronto House, the upper portion extending over the adjoining store to the west. Mrs. Trotter succeeded in saving part of her effects, but in a damaged condition. On the sidewalk of the opposite side of the street lay large quantities of valuable furniture, pianos, &c.; and some of the persons who had escaped from the fire were but partly clothed. So far as we have heard, there has been no accident causing personal injury.

The Mayor and Chief of Police with the whole force, and a number of the Rifle Brigade, were on the ground, and did good service in preserving order. Notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the firemen and all the assistance which was freely rendered, it became evident in less than an hour from the time the fire was first seen that the building must be destroyed.

One after another, the floors gave way throughout nearly the whole extent, and the bare walls, lighted up by the intense fire within presented a grand but ghastly spectacle. Hundreds of eyes were directed to these, as in some places they were seen to warp, and it was expected from one moment to another that they would fall. Presently there was a cry, "the western wall is going," and in another instant it toppled, then there was a cloud of dust, and that end of the building was a mass of debris; the north wall towards the west end was expected to follow, but did not, and will continue to be dangerous until removed.

THE INSURANCE.

The cost of the building was about \$48,000. During the hurry and excitement of the fire it was almost impossible to obtain correct information as to the insurance; but we give the following items as we received them: Insurance on the building \$16,000; on Mr. Desbarats' stock \$24,000, in the Hartford, Etina, and Home. Craig & McKenzie, \$2,000 in the Home. Mrs. Trotter, \$3,000. Carleton House furniture, \$1,000 in the Imperial of London.

THE ORIGIN OF THE FIRE

is involved in mystery, but sufficient is known to point at least possibly to its being the work of an incendiary. Mr. Alfred Brown, the grocer, adjoining the eastern end of the block, retired to rest about eleven o'clock, and shortly afterwards, perhaps an hour's time, he heard a noise as of some one chopping with an axe in the rear of Desbarats' block, and the noise aroused his watch dog which barked loudly, as at some intruder. Mr. Brown did not then think the matter sufficiently serious to arouse him to get up; but about an hour afterwards the glare of the flames aroused him.

Mr. Guerin, who lived with his family in the building, was awake by the glare of the flames on the gallery, in rear of his rooms, but then the fire had obtained too much headway to be got under.

The watchman employed by Mr. Desbarats first observed the fire on the stairway in rear of Miss Maguire's millinery establishment. He immediately gave the alarm, and set to work to put the engine attached to the printing office in running order. Attached to the engine were two hose pipes to be used in case of fire. These were used, but from the great rapidity with which the flames spread, owing partly to the outbuildings in rear of the whole block being of light wooden structure, and the large stock of paper in the establishment at the time, which ignited through the rear windows, but very little, if any, good was effected at all. A slight idea of the astonishing rapidity with which the flames spread may be obtained, when we state that in about two hours' time from the alarm of fire the whole structure was reduced to one tottering mass of ruins, part of the walls fallen in, and almost the whole stock destroyed.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

In addition to the necessarily hurried account we gave yesterday morning of the fire which laid Desbarats' block in ashes, we add the following particulars:

INSURANCE.

On the building, valued at forty-eight or fifty thousand dollars, there were insurances effected to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, distributed among the following companies: Provincial, Royal, Lancashire, and Queen. The Lancashire will be the largest loser, the risk in it being eight thousand dollars.

On the stock the total amount of insurance was about forty thousand dollars, divided mainly between the Provincial and three Hartford companies, the Etina, Home and Hartford.

After deducting sixty-five thousand dollars, covered by insurance, Mr. Desbarats net loss will be about \$100,000.

Mrs. Trotter, of the Toronto House, had effected an insurance on her furniture and

household effects, valued at \$5,300, in the Etina, of Dublin, for \$3,000; but it is doubtful if her policy is worth a penny. If this be the case, and we fear it is, her loss will be ruinous.

Craig & McKenzie's stock was nearly all saved, and whatever loss they may have sustained is fully covered by insurance in the Home, of Hartford, for \$2,000.

The Montreal Millinery establishment, kept by Miss McGuire, together with the stock and furniture, as well as the furniture and clothing of Mr. Thos. Guerin, whose residence was over the store, were almost entirely destroyed. The estimated value was \$1,200, on which there was no insurance.

The Carleton House was insured in the Home, of Hartford, for \$1,200, and, we believe, there was also an insurance on the stables of \$200.

The furniture, effects, and stock, owned by Mr. John Graham, were insured in the Imperial for \$1,000 which would, perhaps, have covered his loss so far as the goods insured are concerned, but the improvements made by him, on and about the building, make him, by his calculation, a loser of about \$1,200.

We regret to learn that, in the excitement and hurry occasioned by the fire, Mrs. Trotter had the misfortune to fall outside the door by which she sustained a fracture of her left arm, near the wrist. Under the care of Dr. McGillivray, however, she is progressing favourably, and bears her double misfortune with commendable fortitude.

Thomas Reynolds, Esq., Manager of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway, was, we regret to learn, a heavy loser. His valuable furniture and household effects, to the amount of about three thousand dollars' worth, was destroyed.

The Hon. Mr. Rose, Finance Minister, residing with Mr. Reynolds, was disturbed while engaged in writing a letter by the cry of fire; and so suddenly did it approach that he was unable to save some papers, letters, and articles of minor value scattered about his room.

Col. Bernard, who was also temporarily sojourning with Mr. Reynolds, had to make a hurried exit; but we believe his loss is comparatively trifling.

Lord Russell and several of the officers, and the Rifle Brigade, were present at the fire, and exerted themselves to the utmost in preserving order and rendering assistance to the sufferers.

The portion of the wall which we mentioned as being dangerous while it stood, was thrown down yesterday afternoon by means of gunpowder, under the direction of Mr. Perry, City Engineer, who called in the services of Capt. Forsyth, and some of the men of his battery. This was effectively accomplished without accident. All of the front wall now remaining is that of the portion lately occupied by Mrs. Trotter, including the stone containing the inscription commemorative of the assassination of the late Mr. McGee. The ruin of the once splendid building is complete, and seldom, perhaps, has the devouring element made so great a wreck in so short a time.

Yesterday morning Mr. Desbarats commenced arrangements for continuing his business, in which, we understand, he was freely assisted by the other establishments in the city, so that as little public inconvenience as possible, under the circumstances, may be expected to result from the calamity.

The Halifax Express, which has ever been a strong champion of the Union cause in Nova Scotia, has in its issue of the 13th, an article on "accepting the situation," in which we rejoice to see that sound views are enunciated as to the course the Union party proper ought to pursue at the present juncture of affairs. As the subject is exciting very general interest here we reproduce the sensible and well-timed remarks of our confrere. The Express says:

At the present moment there may be said to be three parties in the Province. Those who have always been in favour of the great principles of Union; those who are now disposed to make the best of what they call a bad bargain, and the Repealers who declare that they will accept of no terms of Union whatever. It may not be uninteresting briefly to analyze the composition of these three parties. The first, as we have often stated before, comprehends within its ranks the great bulk of what may be called the educated portion of this Province. It includes, we believe, the whole of the Bench, and nearly the whole of the Bar, it embraces at least three-fifths, probably a good deal more, of the clergy belonging to the Province, nearly all who are

engaged in manufacturing industry, and a large proportion of the commercial and industrial community. The numerical strength of the second party will, when the hour of trial comes, be found, or we are much mistaken, to be considerably greater than is generally supposed. We have never questioned the sincerity nor the honour of these men, even while maintaining that they had got upon an entirely wrong path. The third class, if we may believe its organs, includes the great body of the general community, and if noise and clamour are any proof of the assertion, few of us could entertain much doubt that such is the case.

Public attention at present is more particularly directed to the action of what, for the want of a better term, we may call the Howe party, or the party disposed to accept the situation, provided some modification of the terms of the Union can be obtained in favour of Nova Scotia. We stated in a former article that the continued existence of three political parties in Nova Scotia was simply an impossibility. The middle party must eventually make common cause either with the Repealers or the supporters of Union. Looking at the present aspect of affairs, we think there can be little doubt as to the direction in which the amalgamation will take place. Every day is making it more and more evident that the prospect of Repeal is a foregone conclusion. The Local Executive have received an answer to their insolent and insulting minute of council, just such as might have been expected. This answer sets at rest all hope of any countenance being extended to them by the British Government; for though the Duke of Buckingham is no longer Colonial Minister, his successor, Lord Cranville, has spoken out not less decisively in favour of Union of these colonies than any member of the former Administration. Indeed the whole of the present Cabinet, with the single exception of Mr. Bright, is as strongly committed to the upholding of the policy of Confederation, as were their predecessors who carried it. The idea of another Delegation, therefore, is simply preposterous. Nor do we think it likely that even the present Local Government will venture to throw away any more money on such a fool's errand.

But the blow which has really struck them down, which has left them without cohesion or fixed policy, is the defection of Mr. Howe. His remarkable ability, indomitable energy and wonderful tact, gave the cause of Repeal, both in this Province and in England, a position and character it would never otherwise have possessed. Mr. Howe fought long and manfully, but was not presumptuous enough to believe that he could, by his unaided efforts, overturn the fixed policy of the British Empire. Accordingly on his return from the last delegation he informed his friends that in his opinion further efforts were hopeless; that there were three courses open to them to assert their independence, to seek annexation to the States, or to endeavour to obtain better terms for the Province if they were to remain in the Union. The first proposal was out of the question, the second he was not prepared to support, so that it may be concluded that Mr. Howe will bend his whole energies to the securing of the best possible terms for the Province, and upon this condition that he accepts the situation. In other words he becomes practically a Union man, prepared to work out the great problem of Union, in such a manner as will likely be most conducive to the interests of the United Colony.

The Repealers boast that they are still a unit, knowing and feeling at the same time how hollow and baseless that boast is.

We are convinced that at this moment four-fifths at least of what was the Anti-Union party, are as one with Mr. Howe as to the only policy which ought now to be pursued. There are still many who refuse to avow what they believe, but there can be no question that every day the strength of the party who are prepared to accept the situation is increasing. The friends of Union are just as anxious to secure improved terms if they can be obtained as the most zealous of the Howe party. They did the best they could at the time the original terms of Union were settled, but that is no reason why, with the experience of a year and a half, they should not be as zealous as any body else to get "better terms."

The interest and the object of these two parties are, therefore, really identical; and in order to command success they must sooner or later, and the sooner the better, work together as one. We trust, therefore, that Mr. Howe's reported mission to Portland, for the purpose of entering into negotiations with the Hon. Mr. Rose, will be a satisfactory and successful one.

The interests of this Province and of the Dominion require the services of Mr. Howe, and it is to be hoped that the issue will be his acceptance of office under the present Government. There is no reason we can see, when we look at the conclusions at which he has arrived, why such men as Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Geo. E. Cartier, S. L. Tilly, Edward Kenny, Adam G. Archibald, and Dr. Tupper, should not work in harmony with the former champion of Repeal. All have, or ought to have, one common object in view,—what will be most conducive to the best interests of their native country.

—The hundredth anniversary of the introduction of vaccination in Russia by the Empress Catherine II. is to be celebrated in a few days at St. Petersburg. A prize of 3,000 roubles (£400) is offered by the Government on this occasion for the best history of vaccination. The competition is to be open to all Europe, and the history may be written in any modern European language.

