

TRI-WEEKLY CIRCULATION
FOR WEEK ENDING
April 6th, 1889.
Tuesday.....1,030
Thursday (with extra) 1,930
Saturday.....2,308
Total.....5,149
Average.....1,719

The Gleaner.
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1889.
JAS. H. GUNN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

MR. FOSTER AS AN FINANCIER.
Mr. Foster is truly a genius in financing. One of his first acts after being installed into office was to borrow. We had no need of the money, but through some process of reasoning he convinced himself that we might just as well borrow. He issued his paper, and thereon received \$18,491,280, nominally at three per cent. The money at Ottawa, the next point for settlement, was what was to be done with it. He never before had such a point presented to him for consideration. What was to be done now. He resolved to speculate, and then he flew round to watch for chances to lend the cash he had borrowed. He might make a trifle, and thereby prove to the world the force of Sir John's remark that "he was a wonder in finance." His efforts, however, were attended with the result of placing the money in the hands of the class of financiers he had originally borrowed from at a lower average rate of interest than he paid for it. Of the eighteen and a half millions at nominally three per cent, he placed \$7,215,000 at 2 1/2 per cent, \$1,187,324 at 2 1/2 per cent, \$1,200,000 at 3 per cent, and \$8,215,324 at 3 1/2. And further, the Toronto Globe remarks, while thus placing immense sums at very low rates he went on paying four per cent for money borrowed through the Government Savings Bank. All this was called by the Tories a triumphant exhibition of financial genius. Yet they did not then know about the most brilliant point of the loan. Sir Richard Cartwright has uncovered that. The money was supposed to have been taken for fifty years at three per cent. But the prospect on which the stock was issued shows that it must be redeemed at the rate of \$1,700,000 annually and whatever price the holders may put on it. Probably the money will cost Canada eight or ten per cent. before all is done. Mr. Foster is as great a success in the finance department as he was in the department of money. He will be known to fame as the statesman who administered the finances like a financier and the finances like a marine.

THE LIEN BILL.
Mr. Wilson has been going before the electorate of York as the friend of the working man and as the promoter of a Lien Bill. During the session of 1888 he introduced a measure into the assembly which provided for a lien on lumber, a lien on ships, a lien on stone quarries and a lien on buildings. The measure was introduced March 12th last session, and was not brought before the house in committee of the whole till April 4th, only two days before the session closed. This session Mr. Wilson introduced the bill again (providing this time for a lien on logs only) on March 14th and not till April 5th did he move the house into committee of the whole to consider it. Mr. Wilson may make loud professions, but do his acts show him to be the friend of the laboring man or that he is anxious that a lien law be placed upon our statute books? Look at the action and the action of Mr. Blair's session when he introduced the bill. The bill was committed last session, as already stated, on the 4th of April. It was thoroughly discussed. The principle of the bill was adopted by a vote of 28 to 10. As is well known, when the principle of a bill is adopted, it is the duty of the committee to work out the details and make the measure as perfect as possible, especially those of the committee who are favorable to the bill. Did Mr. Blair attempt to exercise the skill he is supposed to possess in shaping a bill upon this bill? No. It was left to the committee to work out the details and make the measure as perfect as possible, especially those of the committee who are favorable to the bill. Did Mr. Blair attempt to exercise the skill he is supposed to possess in shaping a bill upon this bill? No. It was left to the committee to work out the details and make the measure as perfect as possible, especially those of the committee who are favorable to the bill.

Previous to committing the bill this session Mr. Wilson was loud in his declaration to fight the matter out to the bitter end. When he placed the matter before the committee, and during the discussion which followed, he again declared his determination to press it to the end. But although only one section of the bill was passed, he has not again submitted it to the committee, and when Mr. Phinney attempted to bring it again before the committee of the whole house on Thursday last Mr. Blair was on hand to block the way. It was remembered that during the campaign which occurred in York at the time of the Wilson-Hazen election of 1888, Mr. Blair was charged with being opposed to the bill, and in reply to the charge, in a speech delivered at Stanley during that election campaign, he said he was at heart the true friend of the lien bill. He was in favor of the principle of the bill, but as the majority of the house had declared against the principle of the bill, he had never had the opportunity of working on the details of the bill. The house both last session and this session adopted the principle of the bill by large majorities, and if Mr. Blair was as he declared himself in 1888 to be "the friend of the bill" why did he not show some disposition to "work on the de-

tails," as he expresses it? He has not only done so but he has thrown obstacles in the way. A declared friend of the lien bill, he got Mr. Wilson to drop it last session and prevented Mr. Phinney from bringing it before the house this session. If Mr. Blair is strongly in favor of a bill, he is very feeble in its advocacy and ready to block it at every step? What do Mr. Blair's acts show with regard to the lien bill? Are there any so blind as not to see through the insincerity which characterizes his actions upon this matter? He votes for the principle of the bill, he prevents it from becoming law; he blocks it at every step. He puts it off year after year and still with abandon tells himself a "friend of the measure." We are certain of one thing: he cannot fool the electorate of York into the belief that he is a friend of the bill. His insincerity is now quite apparent. As for Mr. Wilson, he will find his (we are sorry to be forced to characterize it so) double dealing on this bill, instead of as he hoped, increasing his popularity in this county will be a stone round his neck.

THE SITUATION IN ENGLAND.
Through the three great forces, Salisbury, Balfour and Hartington, against the Home Rule movement, are unchanged by recent revelations, are we to imagine that the Parnellite position is no better than it was before the recent collapse of the Times' main charges. The New York Sun points out, in the first part of its work of the Parnell Committee in its review. The three judges composing it have refused to make an interim report concerning the authorship of the letters infamously imputed to Mr. Parnell, although they were authorized to do so by the law creating the Commission, and although the forgery of these documents is notorious. The tribunal's refusal to perform a prompt act of justice to a calumniated man betrays its Irish bias, but this revelation of the court's predilections will only add weight to the judgment which it must ultimately render. Meanwhile, Sir Charles Russell's opening speech for the defence, a speech said to be the best delivered in a political trial since Burke's arraignment of Warren Hastings—is exerting a tremendous influence on English public opinion, inciting momentum to the reaction of which there are many concrete proofs.

Among these indications of a profound change in the current of opinion may be mentioned the fact that now Mr. Gladstone is greeted with cheers whenever he appears in the streets of London, whereas a year ago he was received with boos and jeers. Now his name is applied in the music halls; a year ago he was there but. The same reversal of metropolitan feeling is unmistakably evinced in the two by-elections which have taken place since the collapse of the "Parnell and O'Brien" campaign. The Tories have lost Kennington, and they are reduced to congratulating themselves that in the subsequent contest at Enfield their majority should only have been cut down by 500. What, in view of such reverses, must be apprehended by the conservative party? Look at the action and the action of Mr. Blair's session when he introduced the bill. The bill was committed last session, as already stated, on the 4th of April. It was thoroughly discussed. The principle of the bill was adopted by a vote of 28 to 10. As is well known, when the principle of a bill is adopted, it is the duty of the committee to work out the details and make the measure as perfect as possible, especially those of the committee who are favorable to the bill. Did Mr. Blair attempt to exercise the skill he is supposed to possess in shaping a bill upon this bill? No. It was left to the committee to work out the details and make the measure as perfect as possible, especially those of the committee who are favorable to the bill.

THE HARBOR OF GUYANA.
The most difficult feature of the Nicaragua canal is the restoration of the harbor of Guyana to its former state, destroyed by its deposit from the San Juan river. The United States survey allows \$1,075,000 for this purpose, but it may cost \$800,000. It is not more difficult, however, than was the construction of a harbor at Port Said, and the work will resemble it in character. The method of restoration is a question wherein opinion differs; that favored by the United States engineers being the diversion of the lower San Juan into the Colorado branch, which already carries to the ocean the surplus water of the river. This can easily be effected, and once the harbor is isolated, it is intended to dredge it, and to run a breakwater 8,000 feet from the outer line of the harbor into the Caribbean, with six fathoms at its seaward end. The breakwater may have to be subsequently extended seaward. The soil is a volcanic sand, easily handled, but difficult to locate permanently—Overland Monthly.

THE NEW STAGE MANAGER—What makes you think I'm not an experienced actor? Manager—Why, I noticed that you took your hat to the leading lady when you came on the stage this morning. He sat at the end of the week—Joker.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.
The Albert Railway Co. and Its Overdue Interest.

Mr. Foster, It Seems, Knows Nothing About It.
Minister Dewdney Reads His Speech on the Cape Route.

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Mr. Foster, it seems, knows nothing about it. He was not in the hands of private business. Mr. Foster moved an amendment that Monday be set apart for the discussion of his home rule resolutions.
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CONGRATULATING PARNELL.
A Great Mass Meeting in the Albert Hall, London, on April 12.—A great mass meeting of about 7,000 persons was held on Monday night in the Albert Hall, London, to which it is estimated that 10,000 persons were present. The meeting was presided over by General Master Workman Parnell, and was participated in by the Catholic priests of the entire diocese. The meeting was preceded by a great procession of Irish societies. The following programme was adopted:—The people of Scotland and Lancashire, and Wyoming Valley, in mass meeting assembled, heartily congratulate you on the collapse of the Tory conspiracy of piracy and dog, very aimed against you, as the truest leader of the Irish race, and many thanks to you for your noble efforts to secure home rule for Ireland.

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