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Editor & Proprietor

The Public Accounts

As we pointed out last week the Provincial Auditor's report on the public accounts of the Province for the year ended December 31st, 1896, shows that the work of piling up the debt of the Province, so peculiar and apparently so congenial to the present Government, goes gloriously on. Year after year large amounts are being added to the debt...

Let us now look at the receipts and expenditure of the year 1896. The receipts were as follows: Dominion Subsidy, \$1,833,000.00; Public Lands, \$3,670.00; Commercial Travellers Licenses, \$3,670.00; Incorporated Companies, \$7,015.34; Fines, \$1,181.66; Provincial Secretary's Office, \$72,800.00; Auditor's Office, \$1,181.66; Vendors Licenses, \$3,670.00; Hospital for Insane, \$1,181.66; Prisons of Wales College, \$1,181.66; Fines and Penalties, \$1,181.66; General Revenue, \$1,181.66; Private Bills, \$1,181.66; Succession Duties, \$1,181.66; Provincial Land Tax, \$1,181.66; Income Tax, \$1,181.66.

A comparison of these receipts with those of the year 1895 shows that, with the exception of the Dominion subsidy, which the Local Government does not control, there has been a falling off in most of the items. Against these receipts, the public accounts show a total expenditure of \$2,877,631.27, leaving a deficit, as already shown, of \$1,044,631.27. The principal items of expenditure were, for education, \$1,237,411.50; Hospitals, including the administration of Justice, \$1,140,883.27; interest, \$15,441.18. It must strike our readers as a most extraordinary condition of affairs that one of the largest items of expenditure, \$15,441.18, has been for interest. The measure of the debt is the measure of the interest paid for it, and this enormous amount of interest imposed on the taxpayers of the Province, shows the magnitude of the debt which the present Government have saddled upon the Province. Are the people satisfied with it?

The Champlain Election

On Wednesday last, an election for the House of Commons, was held in the County of Champlain, Quebec. At the general election in June, Dr. Marrot, Liberal Conservative, was elected by a majority of upwards of three hundred votes. The election was protested and voided on Dr. Marrot admitting corrupt practices by agents. It is true that the constituency has, for the most part, been Conservative; but at the election, on the 7th, Laurier's friends felt sure of carrying it. It is in the diocese of Three Rivers, over which Bishop Lafèche presides, and it will be remembered that at the general election, his Lordship took strong ground against Laurier on the school question. On the occasion of the by-election on the 7th, the Bishop issued a circular to his clergy, which was read in all the churches of the diocese on the preceding Sunday. It was moderate in tone; but condemned in the most positive terms, the so-called settlement of the Manitoba school question. He set forth that it was "considered by the Bishops as insufficient, imperfect, and consequently, unacceptable." He further called to the attention of the clergy that the question was now in the hands of his Excellency, Monsignor Merry del Val, the Apostolic Delegate, around whom we all group ourselves. These declarations of his Lordship seemed so reasonable and straightforward that even some of the strong Grit papers considered them as the presage of victory for their side. On the day before the election, the Montreal Herald, an uncompromising supporter of Mr. Laurier, commenting on the circular declared that "it left the people perfectly free to do as they chose." In consequence of this it felt sure that, on the morning, they would elect a supporter of Mr. Laurier and his policy of conciliation and mutual good will. They were, however, disappointed. The Grit press that the Conservatives went to the polls perfectly free to do as they pleased. The consequence was that Dr. Marrot was elected by a majority somewhat reduced from that of June last, but which at last accounts was placed at 191. Now a word about the manner in which the Government side conducted their campaign. Their candidate, Dr. Trudel, declared himself in favor of the Grit organized hypocrisy. The Government put forth every effort to accommodate by saying that he would oppose it, if the Papal delegate would oppose it. In this particular he showed his peculiar aptitude for membership in the Grit organized hypocrisy. The Government put forth every effort to accommodate by saying that he would oppose it, if the Papal delegate would oppose it. In this particular he showed his peculiar aptitude for membership in the Grit organized hypocrisy.

Leader of the Government, felt that he could not support the resolution, having regard to the deplorable condition of our provincial finances. He would be pleased to see all our young men and women obtain the best possible intellectual training. For his own part, he had received no training; what education he possessed he acquired of his own exertions by the light of the fire. He did not think the building proposed was very badly needed. What were the high schools throughout the country for? They, he thought, might very well do much of the work that was done at the Prince of Wales College. In any case, the present condition of our provincial treasury did not warrant us, he considered, in undertaking the erection of this building. The House then went into committee on the resolution.

Mr. Campbell then took up the debate in committee. He did not doubt but the Premier might have good intentions. He had looked over the portion of the petition, but had not found thereon the name of a property holder. There might be some, but he had not reached them. One thing was certain, we could not afford to erect this building, in consequence of the taxation. He thought that the schools of the Province stood in need of improvements in other directions than the Prince of Wales College. They should begin at the beginning. Besides, there was no need for additional room; the portions of the building occupied by Principal Anderson should be utilized for school purposes, then there would be no need for additional room. We already had plenty of deficits, without saddling an additional twenty thousand on the farmers of the Province. If matters went on this way the Premier better give a mortgage of the whole island. The farmers of the country, he felt sure, would not support the Premier in adding to the public debt. It was on a policy of deception regarding taxation the Government came into power. Let the Government remodel the system of education and money enough would be saved to build the new college.

After some remarks by Mr. Rogers, of Alberton, Mr. Shaw took up the cudgels. He was particularly anxious to know how the late acting Premier, Mr. Farquharson, felt on the question. He went on to show that a committee had been appointed with, as he believed, the approval and the concurrence of the Government, to canvass the Province from end to end for signatures to the petition that had been presented to the House. He created no little merriment by reading the names on the first few pages of the petition. They were all names of young girls, who were attending the college, or had just attended there not long since. Certainly these signers would not feel the burden of taxation the new building would involve, as they paid no taxes. Thus it was, he said, extraordinary efforts had been put forward and the greatest industry had been exercised to obtain the names of men, women and children to the petition. It must be taken for granted that all the rest were against it. He considered that the charging of fees for entrance to the college was objectionable, as it was on the principle of taxation without representation. It had been insisted that \$3,000 from fees were available for the building. Where was that money? It had been put by the Government into the general revenue, and had been squandered with the rest.

Mr. A. J. McDonald objected to the expenditure for this building. There were, he said, many other features of our educational system that needed looking after worse than this Prince of Wales College. The debate was continued after recess by Mr. Campbell, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Bell and Mr. Sinclair. Finally the committee rose, and the resolution was declared agreed to without amendment.

The Premier moved the following resolution: "Resolved, that it is advisable that a bill be passed authorizing the Government to promote the introduction in the Province of a first-class cold storage system by some private company by granting aid thereto in the form of an annual grant or bonus or guarantee of a certain rate of interest or profit, or in such other manner as be deemed advisable—such assistance not to exceed \$500 in any one year, and not to be given for more than three years." Debate on this resolution was participated in by the Premier, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Bell and others. The debate was finally adjourned, and the House adjourned till Saturday.

The annual report on the public schools of Prince Edward Island, by D. J. McLeod, Esq., Chief Superintendent of Education, presented to the Legislature a few days ago, shows that, during the past year there were, in the Province, 468 school districts, an increase of 3 over 1895. The districts were thus allocated: King's County, 185; Prince, 151; Queen's, 130. The number of teachers employed was 569, an increase of 10 over 1895. Of these teachers 65 were of this class; 306 of the second class, and 198 of the third class; 324 were males, and 245 females. The pupils enrolled numbered 22,138, and the percentage of attendance was 60.68. On the matter of attendance the Superintendent says: "As will be seen by the above table the average daily attendance shows a very gratifying increase during the year covered by this report, although the attendance at many of the schools throughout the Province has been rendered very irregular by the unusual prevalence of diphtheria, measles and whooping cough. In 1896 the average daily attendance was 53.60 per cent, in 1895, ten years after, the percentage of attendance was 55.43, showing an increase of but 1.83 per cent, from 1895 to 1896 there has been an increase of 5.15 per cent. This I consider the most encouraging feature in connection with our school work, for nothing so regards the progress of education in our schools as irregularity of attendance."

The House of Commons met for less than an hour on Tuesday the 6th, and did no business. The reason was that the Government tried to get the second reading of a bill before it was laid, and when the objection was taken Laurier refused to allow any other business to be done and adjourned the House. The speaker then reminded the speaker that the bill had not been printed in both languages as the rule required. Laurier said that the rule was waived, but Laurier did not consent, while Sir Charles Tupper and Hon. George E. Foster pointed out that the measure was not pressing for immediate attention and that the order paper contained enough other bills to occupy several weeks. But Laurier would have his say, and he said nothing. He got nothing. What Taylor reminded the Premier that Mr. Laurier had begged him last session to allow his alien labor bill to stand till this session promising to help forward and the greatest industry had been exercised to obtain the names of men, women and children to the petition. It must be taken for granted that all the rest were against it. He considered that the charging of fees for entrance to the college was objectionable, as it was on the principle of taxation without representation. It had been insisted that \$3,000 from fees were available for the building. Where was that money? It had been put by the Government into the general revenue, and had been squandered with the rest.

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On Saturday the debate on the cold storage resolution was concluded and the resolution was agreed to. The Premier moved the following resolution: "That it is advisable to amend the Assessment Act, 1894, in such a way as to adjust the tax so that its burden may fall more evenly on the property holders of the Province." The inconsistency of the Government regarding the tax act was pointed out in vigorous terms by Mr. Shaw and Mr. Campbell. The very objectionable features they had objected to in the present act, they were now about to incorporate in a new bill. The debate was adjourned till Monday.

On Friday afternoon last Premier Peters tabled estimates of expenditure for the current year. They are as follows: Administration of Justice, \$800; County Stipendiary Magistrates, \$2,015; Courts, \$2,015; Jail, \$1,330; Prince County, \$345; King County, \$345; Law Courts, \$120; County Courts, \$2,830; Coroners' Inquests, \$250; Dairy Associations Bonus, \$200; Executive Council, \$350; Education, \$127,075; Provincial Exhibition, \$3,000; Prince County, \$1,500; King County, \$1,500; Hospital for Insane, \$39,540. This includes 20,500 towards construction of new buildings.

On the 11th inst. the Rev. D. F. Morrison, brother of Rev. Dr. Morrison, of St. Dunstan's Cathedral, arrived home from Quebec on Friday last. At the recent examinations in Theology at Laval University, he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity. Congratulations.

On Thursday last the conference of the Archbishops of Canada, arranged for by Mr. Merry del Val, Papal Delegate, was held at the Archbishop's Palace, Montreal. The Archbishops present were: D'Amel, of Ottawa; O'Brien, of Halifax; Walsh, of Toronto, and Langens, of Winnipeg. Archbishop Cleary, of Kingston, sent word at the last moment that, owing to illness, he was unable to attend. Mgr. Marois, Vice-General of Quebec, represented Archbishop Bogen and Can. Bourget represented the Archbishop of Montreal. Bishops LaSche, Gravel, Blain, Knard, Labrecque, Larocque and Deslauriers, were also in attendance.

This week's estimate brought down in the House of Commons on Thursday last one of the first instalments of the proposed expenditure for the Dominion for the next fiscal year. How much is left for the next fiscal year is not known. But the House is now asked to appropriate \$38,111,000 for the current expenditure of next year. This is \$1,587,262 less than the total appropriation of last August, for the present year. As compared with the total expenditure of \$38,946,142 in the last year of the late government, this shows an increase of over a million, plus the supplementaries. The items for this Province are: Kier's Shore Pier, \$2,000; Souris Breakwater, \$17,500; West Point Wharf, \$6,000; Banquereau protection, \$30,000; Belfast pier, \$10,000. The government organs here also report \$7,500 to be expended on a survey of the proposed Southern railway, and \$5,000 to be expended upon the proposed bridge across the Hillsborough.

At Somerville, Mass., on the 6th April, Samuel McBerry, aged 47 years. R. I. P. At 7 Arnold St., Boston, on the 4th of April, William E. Story, a native of this Province, aged 25 years. R. I. P. At Little Pond, Lot 56, on the 7th inst. of Le Grippe, James V. Macdonald, formerly of Victoria River aged 48 years. He leaves a widow and six children to mourn his loss. May his soul rest in peace. In this City, on the 11th inst., John W. Morrison, aged 77 years. In Charlottetown, on the 10th inst., Richard Saunders, aged 65 years. At Baldwin's, on April 8th, John Robertson, aged 102 years and 15 days.

That the impurities which have accumulated in your blood during the winter shall be promptly and thoroughly expelled if your health is exposed. When the warmer weather comes these impurities will be made manifest in various ways and often lead to serious illness. Unless the blood is red and pure that third feeling will afflict you, your appetite will fail and you will find yourself "all run down." Hood's Sarsaparilla tones and purifies the blood, and makes pure, rich, healthy blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier of the best spring medicine. Be sure to get only Hood's.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON WEDNESDAY, the 17th inst. at 10 o'clock, by the undersigned, in front of the Law Courts, Charlottetown, P. E. I., the following: A power of sale contained in an order of the Supreme Court, bearing date the 2nd day of March, 1897, and made by the Hon. J. C. McDonald, J. C., in King's County, in Prince Edward Island, in favor of the said Hon. J. C. McDonald, of all that piece or parcel of land situate in the Parish of St. John's, bounded and described as follows: (1) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (2) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (3) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (4) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (5) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (6) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (7) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (8) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (9) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (10) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (11) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (12) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (13) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as follows: (14) A certain piece of land, bounded and described as 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No other oil and no other medicine has ever been discovered which can take the place of Cod-liver Oil in all conditions of wasting. New remedies come, live their little day and die, but Cod-liver Oil remains the rock on which all hope for recovery must rest.

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GETSAMINE.

(Caroline D. Swan, in Sacred Heart Review) A golden chain, O Lord, A chain of woe, Ever in sweet accord Swings to and fro.

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SOLD BY GEO. E. HUGHES.

THE BLACK FINGER

BY M. T. WAAGAMAN.

(From the American Messenger of the Sacred Heart.)

CHAPTER III.—(Continued.)

"The Right Baptized, and the Corporal's Works of Mercy, and the Seven Sins against the Holy Ghost, and all of them, sur. Shure there was not a sinisler giri in the whole Allegheny Ridge than the same Norah Kelly, and now her mother tells me she is tak all of a trumble if she hez to so much as pass the church door. Faith, if I got me hand on her I'd make her trumble in a minute."

cast a cautious glance around him and lowered his voice to a whisper: "Ye don't know the half of the devil's wurk that is going on up in these mountains. I haven't drawn an easy breath for yer riverince since—since that cold riprobrate (the Lord forgive me for calling him such hard names) Dan Bourke—died."

"Why?" asked Father Paul, his eyes fixed thoughtfully on the fire that was beginning to blaze royally under Tim's skilful touch.

"Shure, he was one of the boys, sur, the 'Hushers,' as they call them, and they're a dark murdering pack of wolves, that's what they are, yer riverince, and there's them that say Dan was head and master of them all and could lift the Black Finger on anybody from say to say."

"No," answered Father Paul, sternly. "I have not talked enough about these silly superstitions, Tim? That was the cry of some creature in pain. Hark! there it comes again, as the sound arose once more piteous and piercing over the storm."

"No," answered Father Paul, "what of Mick McGraw, yer riverince?"

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CHAPTER III.—(Continued.)

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But I'll never reach the cold and alive."

"And he didn't, sur. The next day he was found dead in Stuyker's Run."

"And does the law take no notice of these murders?" asked Father Paul, indignantly.

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CHAPTER IV.

A WAIF FROM THE STORM. "For me" said Father Paul, quietly. "Ab, I understand, Tim. You mean these poor, mingled wretches that I have learned too much. Ah, well, I don't worry about me. A priest, like a soldier, must do picket duty and take consequences. Hark! is that the wind, or do I hear something crying at the church door?"

DR. WOOD'S NORWAY PINE SYRUP. CURES COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, AND ALL DISEASES OF THE THROAT AND LUNGS. PRICE 25c. or 5 for \$1.00 FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS

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Fashions FOR Spring AND Summer. 1897. Among the many garments that will be worn this season will be the double breasted sack for business wear. The single breasted sack with three buttons will be worn more than ever this season, being unequalled for comfort and convenience—and when cut and made as we make them are very handsome garments.

The Three Button Cutaway. Is still popular with good dressers. It is made shorter this season than last. The Fly Front Overcoat. Is still king among over garments, always fashionable. We are prepared to make all kinds of Gentlemen's Garments in the very latest style. A full line of all the popular makes of cloth always on hand. A complete line of the best Gents' Furnishings always on hand.

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Calendar for... moon's New Moon, 1st day, First Quarter, 9th day, Full Moon, 17th day, Last Quarter, 25th day.

Table with columns: Day of Week, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat. Rows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31.

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