

CHAMBER OF THE SENATE. OTTAWA, Tuesday, 29th May, 1874. This day, at 3 o'clock P.M., His Excellency the Governor General, proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Senate, in the Parliament Buildings, and took his seat upon the throne. The Members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, the following Bills were presented to Her Majesty the Queen, by His Excellency the Governor General, viz:— An Act to amend the Act respecting the construction of the Intercolonial Railway. An Act to amend the Act respecting the prompt and summary administration of Criminal Justice in certain cases as respects the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company. 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An Act to authorize the Brookville & Ottawa Railway Company to issue Preferential Mortgage Debentures, and for other purposes. An Act for the removal of obstructions by wreck and like causes in navigable waters of Canada, and other purposes relative to wrecks. An Act to amend an Act to incorporate the Canada Mutual Marine Insurance Company. An Act to amend the Act 31 Vict., chapter 48, intituled "An Act respecting the Insurance Companies registered in England, and to amend the said Act, and to amend the Act 26 Victoria, chapter 81, for the re-adjustment of the salaries of Judges, and other purposes. An Act to amend an Act respecting the Administration of Justice, and for the establishment of a Police Force in the North-West Territories. An Act to amend an Act respecting Vagrants. An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial Oaths. An Act to amend the Dominion Lands Act. An Act to authorize Joseph Mendall to build a Toll Bridge over the River L'Assomption, in the Province of Quebec.

OTTAWA, Tuesday, 29th May, 1874. This day, at 3 o'clock P.M., His Excellency the Governor General, proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Senate, in the Parliament Buildings, and took his seat upon the throne. The Members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, the following Bills were presented to Her Majesty the Queen, by His Excellency the Governor General, viz:— An Act to amend the Act respecting the construction of the Intercolonial Railway. An Act to amend the Act respecting the prompt and summary administration of Criminal Justice in certain cases as respects the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company. An Act to Consolidate the Mortgage Act, and to amend the Act respecting the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada, and for raising further capital and for establishing a superannuation and provident fund association, and for other purposes. An Act to incorporate the Niagara Grand Island Bridge Company. An Act to amend the Act to incorporate La Banque d'Hochebourg. An Act to continue for a limited time certain temporary provisions in the Act respecting the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Dominion. An Act to amend the Pilotage Act, 1872. An Act to exempt Transports from Port and Harbour Dues. An Act to incorporate the Lochiel, Hawkesbury, and L'Orignal Junction Railway Company. An Act to incorporate Lamb's Waterbury Gun Manufacturing Company. An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Maritime Warehousing and Dock Company. An Act to incorporate the Bank of Ottawa. An Act to amend an Act for the incorporation of the Department of Marine and Fisheries of Canada. 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JAMES POOLE,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

The Herald,
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT \$1 A YEAR.
CARLETON PLACE, JUNE 3, 1874.

Surprise is frequently expressed at the fool-hardiness of miners who despise the warnings so constantly given to them by serious accidents occurring from carelessness, and who seem recklessly to invite danger. But the lessons which severe calamities teach are, though they make a deep impression at the time, very soon forgotten. It is not so many years since, at Holmfirth, in Yorkshire, the bursting of a reservoir dam carried loss and destruction to a vast number of homes and factories, and swept away many human beings in the current. Few occurrences have created a greater sensation in England, or have been more widely known, and only a year or two ago a popular novelist made striking use of the incident in one of his well-known stories. The accident in Massachusetts, which we last week recorded, is exactly parallel to that of Yorkshire—a vast reservoir, insufficiently backed up, at the head of a long narrow and factory-crowded valley, suddenly bursts the dam, thousands of tons of water rush with overwhelming force upon the devoted villages; several persons warned by the rushing noise, and by a man who, mounted on a good horse, is just able to keep ahead of the following wave, make good their escape, but a vast number, probably nearly 150, are caught in the stream, and to be caught is death. The flood, of course, subsides almost as rapidly as it arose; but what a change it has wrought on that busy and smiling valley! Houses wrecked, factories swept away, bridges gone, families drowned, a confused mass of ruins, machinery, trees and dead bodies piled up in confusion or scattered broadcast over the more open fields. We think pitifully of the rashness of people who live on the slopes of Vesuvius, or in the most notorious earthquake districts of North America; but their danger and their recklessness is trifling compared to that of those who pitch their houses in a narrow valley, at the head of which is an enormous reservoir.

An excessive desire to put the deeds of his official predecessors in the worst possible light leads a man sometimes unconsciously to give a very false idea of the true state of affairs. When the naval estimates were brought up by Mr. Ward Hunt in the House of Commons, he set himself diligently to work to prove that Mr. Gladstone's naval administration had been a mistake, a failure and a fraud. Of course this attack brought up Mr. Goschen and Mr. Childers. The general impression produced by the Minister and the confessions of the ex-Ministers being that the navy of England was a delusion, and the naval administration a snare. All ended, however, like the typical moral tale, most happily; and it was admitted that England is quite able at the present moment to hold its own against all the nations of the world, and could with a few months preparation, seal up in their own harbours all the navies of the world.

The Inflationists in Congress were not covered by President Grant's veto. A new Bill, embodying their views, was introduced in the Senate, and has passed both Houses. Its leading principal is to concentrate repudiation; being the realization of an old project of Butler and Morton to drop the pretence of intending to pay United States notes in gold, and making them payable in bonds which in turn, are not to be redeemable at all for fifteen years, and then only at the pleasure of the United States. That is undignified repudiation. The bill also provides that the National banks be relieved from the obligation of keeping on hand "any amount of money whatever," in respect to their circulation. It authorizes a maximum of \$32,000,000 United States notes to be issued, for which nobody could get a dollar in cash for the next fifteen years, if ever. The scheme is one of downright robbery; and it may be taken for granted that the President must interpose with his veto to prevent it becoming law.

We are requested to intimate that the Rev. James Carmichael will preach in St. Andrew's Church in this village next Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock, and in Fonthill town at the evening.

THE NORTH WEST COMMITTEE.—Some very interesting evidence is being given before this Committee; and we last got to the bottom of the grounds upon which it has been said that the late Government promised the amnesty. The early evidence and documents tend to prove that to contradict this pretension, especially we may remark the letter of the Archbishop, written from Red River the day after he had promised amnesty, and which proved conclusively that he was aware that he did so without official authority. But we now find that though there is no evidence of any such official engagement, there is very strong reason for supposing that the men in office pledged their personal honour to accomplish it. This results from the evidence, especially of Major Fytovye, Lieutenant Governor Archibald, and Senator Girard, but especially of Sir John Macdonald himself. Major Fytovye was, as we all know, Sir George Cartier's Deputy Minister of Militia, and he had been his Deputy Attorney General under the system which prevailed before Confederation. He is also well known to have been a strong personal friend of the late Baronet. His statements made before the Committee, as they are represented in the scraps of evidence which leak out from the closed doors, leave nothing in doubt on the subject. Major Fytovye declares that at a time when Sir John A. Macdonald was sick, when Sir George Cartier was, therefore, Premier under circumstances which made it improbable that he would ever be replaced by his colleague, Sir George told Father Ritchot who was pressing for the amnesty, that he should have all he asked. Father Ritchot subsequently expressed himself thoroughly satisfied, and sent the assurance of his contentment to Sir G. Cartier by Major Fytovye. He seems on reflection however, to have concluded that a matter of this importance should have been put into writing, and there is a reason to suppose that it was the very promise to which he referred in the letter read during the debate on this Bill matter, containing the demand for a written assurance that his desire had been granted. Subsequently Sir George told Major Fytovye repeatedly that he had promised a general amnesty, and employed him to draw up a confidential memorandum to be submitted to the Governor General. It should however be remembered that this conversation with Father Ritchot must have been before the outbreak of Scott's rebellion, and that the doubtless placed obstacles in Sir George Cartier's way. But it is plain that he was quite willing to undertake in private that which, with all his alleged courage and tenacity, he dared not put into shape as would permit of its being brought up against him. Sir George Cartier's words, as reported by Mr. Girard, may admit of certain glosses as the expressions, so far as we have heard, are at present of a somewhat general character. It is certain that Mr. Girard repeatedly pressed Sir George on the subject of indemnity and that Sir G. promised that a matter of this nature, which they say, would be admitted in such varied interpretations, that it would not be fair to argue to much from the reported expressions, unless they could be given with great exactness, or unless we knew the form of the particular request which the general amnesty was given. Something of this kind will be forthcoming, inasmuch as Mr. Girard believes that he can produce Sir George E. Cartier's letters. We do not learn at what date this correspondence took place and whether before or after the murder of Scott which is one of the most interesting points in the history of the rebellion. Archibald seems to have left no doubt as to this part of the subject. His evidence is to the last degree damaging to Sir John Macdonald; for a more complete exhibition of falsehood and dissimulation it would be impossible to make. This same matter of the amnesty, during the election of 1872, declared his desire for the punishment of Riel as a murderer, gave the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province instructions to procure the Parliamentary seat of Provencor, for which Riel was a candidate, for Sir George Cartier; at the same time cautioning him to take care that he should not appear to have any hand in the matter, and especially that there should be no indications of the truth that there was an agreement by which the murderer of Scott was to retire in favour of the Minister of the Crown. We come now, however, to Sir John Macdonald's own evidence. The Archbishop told the Committee that Sir John Macdonald had promised, in case he failed to get Riel out of the way, that he, Sir John, would procure Riel's amnesty, and make his cause his own.—When Sir John was questioned on this passage of history, he gave the Archbishop the most flat denial—"I certainly," said he, "never said anything of the kind." But, when he came to sign his deposition he seemed a little shocked and by the breadth of this denegation, and asked leave to correct it, which he did according to report in something like this manner:—"I may have said that I would use my personal exertions in his behalf and so make his cause my own." Thus we have the Prime Minister, also the Minister of Justice who wanted to punish a man whom he called a murderer, promising to make the murderer's cause his own; and notwithstanding this undertaking while he was in power, we find him, now that he has been dismissed from the Ministry, vowing to expel the same man from Parliament.

NEITHER FAIR NOR HONEST.—All most every L. O. L. in the Province has passed resolutions denouncing Messrs. Mackenzie and Blake because they offered a reward for the apprehension of Riel; and now when it is admitted before the Northwest Committee that he sent him (Riel) \$3000 to get out of the country immediately after the reward was offered, the Orangemen are beginning to pass resolutions against that heretofore infallible brother. A few weeks ago we published resolutions passed in Haverhill Lodge No. 476, County of Ontario, concerning the case of Sir John A. Macdonald. A few of the conservative papers published the former part of the resolution because it is against the present Government, but omitted the last portion in view. Is that honest?

