

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1891.

ALL matter for publication in the HERALD should be in this office by noon on Tuesday. Persons wishing their advertisements changed must advise us Saturday forenoon.

DRAWING TO A CLOSE.

It is now more than a year since the public first heard of the charges of corruption and malfeasance in office, preferred by the Grit, on the platform, in Parliament and through the press, against Thomas McGreevy, M. P., and Sir Hector Langwin, Minister of Public Works. During the election made these charges do duty for all that they were worth against Sir John Macdonald and his administration. Indeed, they constituted one of the chief planks in the Opposition platform, and they were, possibly not without hope that they might obtain power by means of them. The members of the Government met the issue squarely, and informed the public that an opportunity would be given for the fullest possible investigation of the charges, and that to everyone found guilty a severe punishment would be meted out.

When the elections were over the Grits, as usual, found themselves in the minority. Then, when Parliament met and the charges were formulated by Mr. Tarte, the whole case was referred to the committee of privileges and elections. This committee has a wider jurisdiction than an ordinary court, and is fully empowered to enter into and pursue to a close the most searching and thorough investigation of any case committed to it. This being so, it would be natural to expect that anyone tried before it would not be prejudged, and that those interested, if actuated by a love of justice or fair play, would await the hearing of the evidence on both sides before passing judgment.

Has this been the course pursued by the Opposition in this matter? Not at all; from the day the committee commenced its labors the Grit newspapers have been filled with all manner of ridiculous, exaggerated and false reports regarding the evidence, while everything favorable to the accused was conveniently suppressed. Time and again, according to the reports sent ahead by the opponents of the Government, the administration was "tottering" and the Opposition were preparing to assume the reins of Government. Mr. Murphy and Robert McGreevy, who have been proved to be about as unreliable and shrewd characters as could well be imagined, were trotted out to destroy the Liberal-Conservative Government. These men by their conduct on the witness stand have only succeeded in covering themselves with a greater degree of odium and reproach than previously attached to them, if such a thing were possible.

For upwards of three long months the investigation has been continued; many witnesses have been called and innumerable documents have been submitted for examination. Much of the time of Parliament has been spent, uselessly in many cases; but what cared the Grits if they could only see any hope of "smelling office," as Grip puts it. During all this time Sir John Thompson, who watched the case for the Government steadily adhered to his determination of sifting the case to the bottom, and of finding out the guilty ones and punishing them when found.

To injure the Government by fastening a charge on Sir Hector Langwin, one of its members was the desire of the opposition in this whole matter. In the charges preferred by Mr. Tarte nothing was laid directly and personally against Sir Hector, but only by implication and insinuation, so that the Minister of Public Works could only gain from the progress of the investigation, the nature of the defense he would be called upon to make. When the time came for him to put in his defense he voluntarily appeared before the committee, and admitted a thorough and lengthy vindication of his public and private character. He gave a categorical denial to every charge made against him, then submitted himself to a rigid cross examination, during which he did not deviate one iota from his positive statements. Realizing the necessity and justice of the members of the cabinet, as well as the other members of the committee and of the House having the greatest freedom in dealing with him, Sir Hector tendered his resignation as a minister of the crown before he appeared before the committee.

Sir Hector is the man the Grits were looking for, and now that they have had an opportunity of dealing with him they don't appear to be so jubilant as they were before he gave his evidence. We don't see such flaming headlines in the Grit papers over the news from Ottawa as we saw during the earlier stages of the investigation. All the evidence has been given before the committee and its labors are completed with the exception of the hearing of crossed witness.

As the Privileges and Elections committee have to do with the labor it is possible to make some compilation of what will cost the country. These have been laid to rest since that between \$20,000 and \$25,000 will have to be expended to meet the cost of the inquiry. The Grits

commenced to-day. It will likely take some days for counsel to address the committee. After that will come the report of the committee to the House and the action of the Commons thereon. Until that takes place let all who are actuated by a spirit of justice and fair play withhold their support.

THE BAIE DES CHALEURS SCANDAL.

As we have already intimated, the investigation of the boodling in connection with the Baie des Chaleurs railway has caused quite a sensation in political circles in Ottawa as well as in the Province of Quebec. A notable feature of the affair is the conduct of those Quebec Cabinet ministers and other Grit politicians whose names have been connected with the affair. No sooner was the scandal discovered than they hid their heads under the bush, and some were all at once taken seriously ill, others crossed the line into the United States, and some took passage to Europe. Not only that; but the Grit members of the Senate and their friends at Ottawa did everything possible to prevent the investigation.

The Government of Quebec passed a bill through the Legislature giving it power to revoke railway charters then passed an order in council revoking the charter granted to the company who had first contracted for the building of the Baie des Chaleurs railway. The next move was to get some one to take up the work, at least apparently. Mr. C. N. Armstrong seems to have been the man for the place. He entered into negotiations with Mr. Pagan, editor of L'Espece, the leading Mercantile organ in the Province of Quebec. Mr. Pagan is also, it appears, chief Grit organizer in the Province. He acted as middle man in the negotiations between Armstrong and the Government. It has now come out in Armstrong's evidence that Mr. Pagan would not agree to go on with negotiations unless he were promised one hundred thousand dollars. Finally Armstrong agreed to give that amount in order to proceed. Then the Government of Quebec granted \$200,000 as a subsidy to the railway. Mr. Armstrong was given letters of credit to that amount, and out of this Mr. Pagan received his \$100,000. Of this amount Mr. Pagan appears to have reserved for himself the larger share, and the balance seems to have been given to associate hoodlums, among them a less personage than Mr. Tarte, the prosecutor in the McGreevy affair. Besides this about \$75,000 more seem to have found their way into other channels than paying for work on the Baie des Chaleurs Railway. It is estimated that something over fifty thousand dollars of the money was to go to Premier Mercier's private debts. This will give some idea of how the public money was manipulated in this scandalous transaction for the personal aggrandizement of the Grits. Mr. Pagan is the man who could tell us all about this affair than anyone else, started for Europe as soon as he found he was summoned to appear before the committee of investigation. He announced in his paper before starting that he was advised to take the trip by Mr. Mercer and Mr. Langwin. The public will find their own conclusions from this fact. Mr. Garneau, who was acting Premier when the order in council was passed authorizing the payment of the money, on being summoned to appear before the committee, went out of the way as quickly as he could to get to Ottawa. Mr. Langwin, another man whose presence was wanted to go off to Old Orchard Beach, in the State of Maine, so as to be out of reach of the authorities. Thus it will be seen that everything possible has been done by Mr. Mercer's friends to prevent an investigation. We would ask the public to contrast the conduct of the Grits in this matter with the Conservatives in the Tarte-McGreevy affair. In the latter case the Liberal-Conservative Government did everything possible to facilitate the enquiry and to sift the matter to the bottom, but in the matter of the Baie des Chaleurs railway scandal not only do the Grits at Ottawa try to prevent an investigation, but every witness wanted from the Province of Quebec gets out of the way as quickly as he can. But then, it must be remembered that this is the "Party of Fidelity."

When Mr. Mercer first took office he found it hard to make ends meet; but now he lives like a Prince. Referring to this fact L'Espece, a Montreal newspaper, says: "It is known, and it can be proven, that when he came into power in 1878 he had no fortune, which is no dishonor. It is equally proven that Mr. Mercer, after having lived in great style, is to-day the proprietor of real estate exceeding in value the full amount of his salary since 1857. Has the country not a right to have an explanation on this score? Mr. Mercer is the country's employe, and he must be treated like every other employe. There is in this matter no party question. There is a question of national dignity and of public morality. The dignity of the country requires that all that is said of the first minister be shown to be false; that he should not be able to do as he pleases, and that he should not be enriched by the public money. Mr. Mercer has not established that the capital needed to purchase his property has been legitimately acquired; the people will have a right to think and to say that they were furnished in spite of himself and that there is no difference between the money of the first Minister and the exploits of a vulgar Robert Macaire."

A SUCCESSFUL ISLANDER ABROAD.

Mr. Charles D. McPhee, of Denver Colorado, accompanied by his wife and two children, is in this matter a striking example. Mr. McPhee was, justly and without fear of contradiction, styled one of the most successful islanders abroad. He is a nephew of the late Rev. J. W. McPhee and was born and brought up at Big Point, La. But then, it must be remembered that this is the "Party of Fidelity."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THREE MILLION Canadian eggs received in the English market in the space of two days and selling at a remunerative price and outlook for the Opposition. They will have to hatch elsewhere for a grievance.

As will be seen by the figures in another column, the new City Bill, submitted to the plebiscite vote on Wednesday last, was carried by a considerable majority. A large number of electors did not vote. We did not notice the list was just to the ten-copies of the Charter, and that that reason strongly opposed it. However, since it has been carried we shall be pleased if it produces as much good as its advocate claimed for it.

FRANZ Mercier's chief supporters no longer heard of the proposed investigation into the Bay Chaleurs scandal than they developed remarkably good health and departed forthwith for the one-hour to Armstrong left Ottawa immediately to reside at Old Orchard Beach. Mr. Garneau breathes the sea breeze at Old Orchard Beach. Mr. Garneau, Mr. Mercer's ministerial secretary, writes from Point St. Charles "my state of health does not allow me to go to Ottawa at present. There is no doubt but there is a sick lot of Grits at Quebec who are terrified at the prospect of an investigation into the McGreevy government's scandal."

accountants and engineers also have been paid close upon \$1,000, if not more than that, but the principal charge will be that for printing, which will be enormous. The work at the printing house is being inspected by the vast amount of material thrown upon it by the investigation in progress, and this promise to be increased by the Senate inquiry, and at present over four and a half tons of type are standing in the Government printing office.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

In the House on Monday, the 19th inst., in answer to a question, Mr. Foster told Mr. Lester that the government had heard of a commercial treaty between the United States and Spain, also the negotiations for a treaty between Canada and Spain would be resumed.

Mr. Foster asked what is the total amount paid by the government for type purchased for the printing bureau, and what commission was paid to the printer by the government of printing. Mr. Ingram, who is regarded as a labor representative from Ontario, and who was himself a railway brakeman before he came to the House, read of the great loss of life resulting to employees of railway companies in the coupling and uncoupling of railway cars. He stated that it was estimated that a sum of money should be set apart by parliament to be offered as a prize for the invention of the best and most satisfactory self-coupling car. Mr. Ingram referred with pleasure to the last international railway convention, in which it was decided for the protection of life, steam heating and electric lighting and air brakes should be used on all railway cars. He stated that three thousand inventions of automatic systems only three were of practical utility, therefore he hoped that the government would adopt the course suggested in his motion, which, it being six o'clock, he withdrew and his two friends invited the latter to take two friends of his own party and examine that list. If among the contributors the name of a single person could be found who could be assumed to have benefited by the influence of the minister in consequence of the gift, he would promise to resign his office. He did not ask proof; proof was difficult but he would accept the opinion of Sir Richard Cartwright and his friends as sufficient proof.

RUSTICO.

Among the many thriving agricultural settlements in our Province, Rustico holds no secondary place. The district of Rustico is situated on the North Shore about 1,500, when a number of miles from Charlottetown. Like many other places, it has subdivisions—such, for instance, as South Rustico, North Rustico, Rusticoville, etc. Rustico proper fronts on Rustic Bay, which has its outlet to the sea by St. Lawrence, by the big and little harbors. On the East side, Wheatley River, which empties in the bay above named forms a boundary, while on the west it is bounded by Hunter River, which also flows into the same bay. Besides these rivers, the place is cut up by many other minor streams. This district is in the winter River, which extends some considerable distance from the bay.

The inhabitants of Rustico are principally Acadian French, whose ancestors settled there many years ago. St. Augustine, and the spirits who are the large congregation are ministered to by the Rev. G. DeFiance, a native of Old France. The church is flanked by a commodious parochial house, and close by a large and beautiful convent where good sisters of the Congregation of the Holy Name carry on the work of Christian education. Here the daughters of the parishioners are trained in learning and virtue. Not far from the church is a substantial stone building in which is conducted the business of the smallest bank in the world. This bank was founded through the exertions of the Rev. Father Belmont, a former pastor, and has been a source of great convenience to the people. It has recently had a Grand Prix or Simons Point, not far from the Church is about the oldest settled portion of Rustico. Near here resides Mr. Adrian Durois, a prosperous farmer and cashier of the Rustico Bank. Rusticoville is towards the Northern portion of the parish, not very far from the big harbor. Here there are wharves for the big harbor. Mr. Charvillat carries on an extensive business at this place. At the big harbor, Mr. Charvillat and vessels may be seen prosecuting their search for the fish inhabitants of the coast and the small, are for the most part well cultivated, and there is a general air of thrift and comfort among the people.

A FAMOUS INSTITUTION.

The San Francisco Chronicle of July 27th, contains the following account of the proceedings at St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum. Father McKinnon, Superior of the house, in his address to the W. D. McKinnon, formerly of Melrose Grand River Bay.

The second quarterly meeting of the Society of St. Vincent's was held yesterday at St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum, near San Rafael. Over 200 members of the Society, and a number of invited guests left the city by the morning train, and about 50 more joined the party at San Rafael. Upon arrival at the house, the party proceeded to the chapel, where Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father O'Connell of St. Bridget's Church of this city. Archbishop Ryan presided. Seated on either side of him were Mayor Sanderson, Supervisor Burling, J. M. Burnett, president of the Society, and Father McKinnon, Superior of the house. Reports were read from thirteen conferences of San Francisco and from the Youth Directory, giving receipts and expenses. The Archbishop spoke in high praise of the Society, saying there were 600 little boys in the institution, and that he was glad to see them so well provided for. He said that the Society was doing a noble work, and that he was glad to see them so well provided for. He said that the Society was doing a noble work, and that he was glad to see them so well provided for.

After the sermon the meeting of the Society was held, the Archbishop presiding. This meeting was strongly opposed and somewhat disturbed at first, but now, as the end of seven years, it had so amply justified itself that there was not the slightest movement of agitation for a return to the old system.

At the conclusion of the exercises the guests were invited to partake of a beautiful collation spread in the dining-room. An inscription of the entire institution, showing the names of the pupils, the donations being accumulated, and other departments equally well kept.

It is not in business alone that Mr. McPhee has become closely identified with the city of his adoption. In fact, he has been and indeed is every week of his life the easily seen of Denver foremost citizens. A few years after his advent to the city of the plains he married a lady of that place. Eight children, three sons and five daughters, are the fruit of this happy union. These, the crowd, are to be sent to the best Catholic schools in the country to complete their education. His eldest son, a young man of about eighteen years, has just graduated, a gold medalist, from the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, and his eldest daughter is attending the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Manhattanville, N. Y.

Mr. McPhee is still in the prime of life, being but about forty-six years of age. He has paid many visits to the island since he made Denver his home. Some idea of the amount of man he may be learned from the fact that he was principally to afford his aged mother the pleasure of seeing all his children together before she should die, that he took the trouble of bringing them all with him on this visit. Such men as Mr. McPhee are worthy of respect and admiration, and their respected citizens do not forget the home of their childhood.

RUSTICO.

When the estimates of the North-west railway were before the House Tuesday afternoon, Col. Amyot occupied about an hour in an explanation of the "forty-two provisions" despatched from the North-west. These provisions were justified by stating that ten or a dozen of the enemy might have been sent to the North-west, and that the provisions and rations would have been used for the purpose of disciplining and insulating his race.

When the House was moved into session Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Cameron of Huron moved a want of confidence in the Hon. Mr. O'Brien, on the ground that he had been guilty of a gross error of judgment in the course of the Government in the matter of the Tay Canal. The motion was carried by a large majority, and Mr. O'Brien, who had been in the House since 1888, ought not to have committed such a public work and that he had lost his position.

The discussion continued until 9:30, when a vote was taken in somewhat a hazy manner. The vote stood for the motion 52 against 109. Mr. O'Brien, the conservative whip, claims that one of the opposition members broke his word and voted for the Government.

LOCAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

REV. MR. LEVY has returned to the city and resumed his music teaching. Pupils will find him on Pleasant Street, as will be seen by advertisement in this day's HERALD.

REV. FATHER CARON and Gregoire, Rensselaire, were at the Palace on Friday night last, when they were present day morning to conduct missions at Fifteen Point and Egmont Bay.

As will be seen by advertisement in this day's HERALD, the Convent of Notre Dame opens its academic year on the first of September. This institution possesses exceptional advantages for the mental and moral training of young ladies, and it is every day deserving of extensive patronage.

On Tuesday the 11th inst., Rev. Francis LeBlond, the former pastor of St. St. George's Grand River East, celebrated his seventy-fifth anniversary of his birth day. A number of his brother priests and friends assembled to celebrate the day in a manner most suitable and agreeable to the venerable priest. About six o'clock solemn high mass was sung, Rev. Father McLean, of St. Margaret's, being called upon with Rev. M. J. McMillan of St. Theresa's as deacon, and Rev. J. Gillis of St. Peter's as sub-deacon, while Rev. Damien LeBlond acted as organist. The Rev. Director of Palmer Road presided at the organ, and the choir, consisting of the members of the congregation turned out in large numbers to honor the occasion. After the religious services the venerable priest and the remainder of the day was agreeably spent.

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DIED.

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TARTE-McGREGG INQUIRY

Sir Hector Langevin appeared before the committee on Tuesday last week. After the minutes had been read and approved...

THE BAIE DES CHALEURS BOODLING AFFAIR

On the 8th inst. the Senate railway committee applied to the Senate for power to send for persons and papers and to examine witnesses under oath...

WHAT THE GLOBE SAYS

When Mr. Armstrong was first brought before the Senate Committee, in connection with the Baie des Chaleurs Railway affair, he refused to give evidence...

"THE GUARDIAN ANGELS TEARS"

He came to my arms, my woe I hid, He had tried his tears, and play, And he lay, with his curly head near to my heart...

"TOWN PRICES, AUGUST 18"

Table listing various goods and their prices, including Beef (quarter per lb.), Pork (small per lb.), Butter (best per lb.), etc.

New York Steamship Co. CITY OF COLUMBIA, LEAVE ST. JOHN, N. B. Every Friday 3 p. m.

YARMOUTH, N. S. Every Saturday, 6:30 p. m. For New York, DIRECT, Every Tuesday, at 5 p. m.

Premier Captain A. H. Kelly, Appointed to sail as follows: FROM HALIFAX on Wednesday, 19th of August, at 7 p. m.

THE CLIPPER BARKENTINE "EREMA", 300 TONS REGISTER, Thos. Richards, Commander.

THE KEY TO HEALTH. BURDOCK'S BLOOD PURIFIER. Unlocks all the clogged channels of the system...

P. E. I. RAILWAY. COMMENCING on Saturday, 20th June, instant, and on every Saturday until September 26, 1891.

ST. DUNSTON'S COLLEGE. WILL reopen for the reception of students on Thursday the 3rd. September next.

SHORTHAND BY MAIL. SHORTHAND can be easily and quickly learned at your own home by my practical course of home instruction.

Farmer's Bank of Rustico. A DIVIDEND has been declared upon the Capital of this Bank for the last twelve months, at the rate of six per cent per annum.

GRAND PICNIC. THE Farmers Club of Red Point Wharf intend holding a Grand Picnic on Saturday, Aug. 22nd, near the Johnston's River Schoolhouse.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL. UNDER the management of the Sisters of Charity, visited daily by a staff of skilful physicians, supplied with all the conveniences for the treatment of all classes of patients.

TAYLOR & GILLESPIE. Are still to the front on best work at lowest prices in Blank Book Making & General Bookbinding.

McLeod & McKenzie. We always keep on hand a large and varied assortment of the best cloths to be procured in the market.

J. B. MACDONALD. is preparing for the Fall Trade. During this month we will give extraordinary Bargains in Men's & Boys' Clothing.

Dominion Boot & Shoe Store. Fall Goods will soon arrive. We are anxious to clear our Summer Stock. You never heard of such bargains as you will now get from us.

Dominion Boot & Shoe Store. WEST SIDE QUEEN STREET. 10th day of September, And will carry Freight, at through rates to the different Railway points on the Island.

PERKINS & STERN'S. New Ribbons, New Frillings, New Hosiery, New Velvets, New Umbrellas, New Veilings.

Come, Everybody TO THE OLD RELIABLE Clothing Store, Where you can get the Very Best Value FOR YOUR MONEY.

LIEBIG Extract COMPANY'S of Beef. For delicious Beef Tea. For Improved and Economic Cookery.

BOSTON STEAMERS TO BUY FOR CASH. AFTER careful study and consideration by adopting the CASH SYSTEM we shall be able to save our patrons a goodly amount of their jewelry bills.

STATE OF INDIANA CARROLL. LEAVE CHARLOTTETOWN Alternately every week on Thursday, at 5 p. m.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL. UNDER the management of the Sisters of Charity, visited daily by a staff of skilful physicians, supplied with all the conveniences for the treatment of all classes of patients.

Advertisement for a book titled 'New Canadian Series of Readers' by HAZARD & MOORE, featuring a list of authors and a detailed description of the educational content.

