

# THE DISPATCH.

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## THE MUSINGS OF THE IMP.

### HE ENTERS INTO A CRITICISM OF DOMINION FINANCING.

Highly Appreciates the Tendency of Woodstock People to go in for Sports.—And Purposes Golf as Fashionable.—Will a Man Ever Decide if he Will be Born.



The dominion government has had the heartless and unchristian cruelty to raise the duty on whiskey and sugar. Human nature can't stand everything. If they raise the duty on lemons and nutmegs I will do the worm act and the above profound resolution of mine reminds me of the fact that some people object to cards on the sole ground that they have had the misfortune to be in very bad company all their lives, and rather suggest wine and cigarettes. The same objection ought in all good reason to obtain against lemons and nutmegs, two delicacies of life that could not be produced at a profit if the barroom demand were cut off. And I have known conscientious men who had just the same objection to these two little luxuries that they had to cards, namely, their evil associations, and would not allow them in their houses.

Woodstock seems to be going in for amusement at an almost reckless pace this coming summer. What between lawn tennis, cricket and bicycling most of our spare time will be pretty well taken up. But all these out door amusements have an invigorating effect, and it is more than likely that we attend to our business all the better for having some innocent and at the same time health affording diversions. For my own part I am, above all things fashionable, and while I have a certain regard for such regulation sports as cricket and tennis, I think I will inaugurate a golf club. Golf is an exceedingly fashionable pastime, and while I don't know anything much about it yet I may be able to learn and I cannot give my approval of anything which is not quite up to date.

I always had a sort of impression that it is not a fair deal for a fellow to be brought into this vale of tears without any fault of his own, without even his inclinations being consulted, and then to be driven through the miseries of life and upbraided for not being what he isn't and not doing what he doesn't. But these are the days of advance and the men of mind will probably grapple with this problem and solve it. I can readily believe that in future, though it may be the distant future, no person will be allowed to be born into this life without first having presented to him a correct and full statement of what life here means, nor without having a vote himself as to whether he will be born or not. That will be a golden age indeed.

If any man has the audacity to doubt my word as to the music of 'Chimmie Fadden' he has only to buy the book and read for himself. Chimmie is a bright star of the east side, New York, and he shines with a steady light from start to finish. Other luminaries in the book are 'Miss Fannie,' the 'Duchess,' who is Miss Fannie's maid, 'His Whiskers,' Miss Fannie's father, and 'His Whiskers' Walley, who takes care of His Whiskers' whiskers. Some of Chimmie's observations on the female sex are quite 'up ter de limit' to use his own expressive phraseology. The book is all the go in that part of the reading world that draws the line at Browning, and I found it an easy thing to keep step with fashion in this particular.

There are six lawyers on Queen street and a seventh is to open an office there soon. If the Baptists are going to build a new church this summer it might be a good scheme to build it on that street as a sort of corrective.

Some one has suggested that the Bicycle Club parade for church service next Sunday at the boundary line. I call that rather rank.

### THE IMP.

#### Wedding Bells.

On Tuesday afternoon, April 30, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Palmer, Waterville, was the scene of a very pleasant event, when a number of their friends met to witness the union for life of Mr. Harold B. Palmer, Sprague's Mills, Me., and Miss Helen R. Brown of New York city. The

nuptial knot was tied by Rev. A. G. Downey. The bride was handsomely attired in white silk trimmed with white moire ribbon with white ornaments, and carried a beautifully hand-painted fan imported from Paris. She was attended by Miss Ada Palmer, who was dressed in steel moire, who also carried a fan. The groom was supported by Mr. Horace B. Sloat, Grafton. As the bridal party entered the room the wedding march was rendered by Miss May Palmer. After the ceremony the guests repaired to the dining-room where a happy time was spent around the beautifully decorated table. The following list of presents shows the esteem in which the bride was held by her many friends.

Russian leather album, groom; onyx piano lamp, Mr. Keys, New York; silver cake basket, Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Slipp; bisque vases, Mr. and Mrs. Probst, Germany; 5 o'clock tea cloth, Miss Druebber, Philadelphia; gold enamel mirror, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, New York; silver sugar spoon, Mrs. Nash, Woodstock; silver berry spoon, Mr. and Miss Appleby, Woodstock; silver fruit dish lined with gold, Mr. Robert Brown, Northampton; 1/2 doz cut glass salt and pepper bottles and china butter dish, Mr. and Mrs. Scott, New York; sewing machine, doz dinner knives and forks, brides mother, New York; 1 doz silver tea spoons, Mr. and Mrs. A. Brown, New York; set of smoothing irons, Mr. Holland Estey and sister, F'ville; vase, the Misses Esty, F'ville; pair of vases and jewel case, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Estey, Wicklow; sugar spoon, Miss Schindler, New York; berry spoon, Miss Bennett, New York; olive spoon, Miss Enderly, New York; lamp, Miss Rafferty, New York; salt box, Miss Gardner, New York; vase, Miss Vanwart, Woodstock; table cloth and doz napkins, Mr. and Mrs. Getchell, Waterville; pair pillows, Mrs. Holms, Connell; silver butter dish, Mr. and Mrs. Leverett Kimball, Fort Fairfield, silver pickle castor, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Palmer, Waterville; silver butter dish, Messrs Joe and Mark Palmer, Waterville; lemonade set, Wm Culberson, Waterville; three silver table spoons, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. White, Woodstock; pair vases, Mr. and Mrs. Wm Kimball, Waterville; pair of vases, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Palmer, Waterville; epergne, Miss Ferguson, New York; table cloth and 1 doz napkins, Miss Graham, New York; chenille table cover, Mrs. Geo Palmer, Victoria Orner; two tidies, Mrs. Boughton, New York; brass frame, Miss O'Donnell, New York; brass frame, the Misses Currie, New York; brass frame, Miss Boughton, New York; picture, Miss Ludgate, St. Stephen.

### Imperial Parliament.

A late dispatch says in the House of Commons Sir William Harcourt announced that the estimated expenditures for the coming year would be £95,981,000 and the estimated revenue £95,662,000. Sir William Harcourt, continuing, said that the imports and exports for the past year had shown that though low prices ruled much benefit had been derived by the workingmen. Agricultural distress had been keen and labor troubles numerous, yet the general condition was better than during the previous year. The most gratifying sign of prosperity, he said, was the deposits in savings banks which in 1890 amounted to a little over £30,000,000. In 1891 they were £31,000,000; in 1892 nearly £33,000,000; in 1893, £35,000,000, and in 1894, £45,500,000. Nothing, he said, better proved the sound financial condition of the country.

The budget passed the first reading without a division. Sir Ellis Askmead Bartlett asked if the government would make a statement in regard to the situation in the Chino-Japanese peace treaty.

Sir Edward Grey said that communications were now passing between the powers concerning the conditions of peace between the two eastern countries, and it would be impossible at this time to make a statement. He could not say when an official statement of the conditions of peace would be received.

The increase in the expenditure over last year was due to the additions to the navy. The deficit of £319,000, as shown by the budget, must be met by the imposition of a duty upon spirits or upon beer. The strong objections raised by the Irish and Scotch manufacturers of the spirits led him to propose the continuation of the duty of sixpence a barrel upon beer, which would yield a revenue of £500,000 and cover the estimated deficit.

Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, president of the local government board, introduced a bill providing for the abolition of plural voting and for the holding of all elections on the same day. The bill received its first reading.

### Lumber News.

The lumber driving outlook for the season is good. The water is at fair pitch and the best authorities think the chances are that all the drive will be got into the boom at Fredericton. Fred Moore has had 30 or 40 men on the river for some days, and on Monday he sent 60 men and 10 horses to Aroostook to make the first through drive. Hale's drive on the Tobique is within corporation limits. Mr. Moore says there is almost no old lumber to come down the St. John this season. He has himself between six and seven millions of spruce, cedar and hemlock in his boom on the Medunakag now, of which about two or two and a half millions are of last year's cut.

## DEATH OF OSCAR THISTLE.

### GRAD RESULTS OF THE VICTORIA CORNER CONFLAGRATION.

A Man Much Respected—A Serious fight on the Corner of Queen and Carleton Sts. Various News from all Quarters.—The Budget Speech.

Oscar Thistle who was so badly burned in the recent fire at Victoria Corner, succumbed to his injuries on Sunday evening last. It was hoped at one time that he would recover but recently the injuries assumed a very grave form, and his case assumed a hopeless phase.

Mr. Thistle was a man whose age at the time of his death was somewhere between 42 and 45 years. He had lived for many years at Victoria Corner, was a farmer there, and was a man very generally respected. He leaves a wife and several young children.

The funeral of Mr. Thistle will take place at Andover today, on the arrival of the 1.00 p. m. express from Woodstock.

### A Sunday Fight.

The quiet of last Sunday was broken at an early hour by a very unusual row, fatal in its consequences, which took place on or near the corner of Carleton and Queen streets. Two roosters, who for a long time had an antipathy toward each other, chose this inappropriate occasion for a duel. While the antipathy had been deeply rooted it had never gone so far as to result in blows until the fateful occasion which is here mentioned. A fine bird, the property of Mrs. Andrew Colten, attacked an equally attractive fowl which belonged to Mrs. Wm. Brown. They met in open warfare in the public street, and kept up an exciting battle for an hour and a half. First one or two of the residents in the locality where the contest occurred were attracted by the warlike voices of the contestants, and also by the amount of plumage which floated through the air. It was a very intense fight, and after keeping up his end nobly, Mrs. Brown's bird collapsed entirely and was taken off the scene quite dead. Mrs. Colten's bird set up a song of triumph and then started away quite as well satisfied with his work as a human being would have been under something like similar circumstances.

### The Budget Speech.

The centre of interest in parliament last week was, of course, the budget speech, which Mr. Foster delivered on Friday. A synopsis of his speech and the speech of Sir Richard Cartwright immediately following, is herewith given:

Mr. Foster gave a statement of the receipts and expenditures for the year 1893-4, as compared with 1892-3. The total revenue was \$36,374,603. The total expenditure was \$37,585,025, a deficit for 1894 of \$1,210,332. The net debt June 30, 1794, was \$236,183,000, an increase of \$4,501,000. The expenditure for 1894, \$37,585,025, was an excess over 1893 of \$770,972. He accounted for this increase by saying that interest on debt, sinking fund and subsidies to provinces had increased by \$712,442. A change of book-keeping also credited the expenditure with \$88,000, which until a few days ago did not appear. Dairy advances accounted for \$36,000. Post offices and expenditures for binding twine had also to be taken into account. Mr. Foster finally figured out that they had been economical to the extent of \$1,100,000 below the previous year. He admitted that there was a deficit in 1894 of \$1,210,000, and an anticipated deficit for the current year ending June 30 next of \$4,500,000. He also stated that capital expenditure had been increased in 1894 over 1893 by \$1,203,000, chiefly in canals. The total anticipated revenue to June 30 1895, for the current year was \$33,800,000 and anticipated expenditure of \$38,300,000, an expected deficit of \$4,500,000. The addition to the debt for the current year is \$7,300,000. Mr. Foster turned to the success he met with in floating his loan of last fall in London and the low rate of interest secured. This fact he considered highly satisfactory. This borrowing incident Mr. Foster cited as an evidence of the prosperity and standing of Canada. Another evidence of prosperity was an increase in the savings of the people.

In failures the average liabilities from 1874 to 1878 averaged \$22,000,000, and for 1894 \$15,000,000. Then the trade returns Mr. Foster considered very satisfactory and he gave a number of comparisons. He drew attention to the lessened value of all goods and claimed the volume of trade the largest since confederation, allowing for these lessened values. In nearly all his comparisons Mr. Foster chose 1890 with 1894 and sometimes 1889, but carefully avoided any comparisons with any of the last three years, thus serenely passing over the depression. While the debt had been increased by millions, the increase in net interest was only \$100,000, and the per capital net interest had fallen from \$1.86 to \$1.79. No banks had failed. Industries had been well maintained and want and poverty were practically unknown. Mr. Foster then read figures of trade returns to show that other countries were in a bad way and that Canada, when Sir Richard Cartwright was finance minister, was in a deplorable condition. Dealing with the debt Mr.

Foster said that the increase of debt from 1867 to 1894 created by the Dominion for Dominion purposes was \$137,000,000, a sum more than accounted for by the expenditure on the C. P. R., the Intercolonial railway and the canals. Looking out over the fiscal year, 1895 6, there were current obligations as follows: Subsidies to railways, \$6,543,000; subsidies to railways under contract, 2,257,000; subsidies to railways granted but not yet used, \$2,587,000; canals, \$5,000,000. The liabilities which will accrue within four years he estimated at \$9,700,000, and he expected to meet this by an average capital expenditure of \$2,500,000 a year, or equal to the sinking fund, so that the debt would not be increased. Coming to the provision for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1895, Mr. Foster anticipated a revenue of \$35,000,000, an increase over the current year of about a million and a half.

The total estimated expenditure had been reduced by \$1,600,000, and would be \$36,700,000, giving a deficit on next year's operations of \$1,700,000. He did not intend to impose new taxes for the deficit of last year or the larger deficit of this year, but it was not wise to go into the coming year without imposing new taxes. The government, therefore proposed to place half a cent a pound on raw sugar, which is now free, and to increase the protection on refined sugar and the articles into which sugar largely goes, proportionately to the increased cost of the raw sugar. That upon this year's import would give \$1,200,000 or \$1,250,000. The excise duty on distilled spirits would be increased from \$1.50 per gallon to \$1.70, and the customs duty on the same article from \$2.12 1/2 per gallon to \$2.25. This would bring \$500,000 or \$600,000. All the increases would be expected to give a total additional revenue of \$1,700,000 or \$1,800,000. Mr. Foster announced that no railway subsidies would be voted this year. Since 1884 the sum of \$12,000,000 had been given in railway subsidies.

Sir Richard Cartwright pointed out the omission from the budget speech of any laudation of the National Policy for the first time in sixteen years. While the total deficits in Mr. Mackenzie's time amounted in three years to about \$4,500,000, the same deficit was now announced for one year. He ridiculed the idea that the present government had discovered that they had made people rich by taking off taxes, and declared that, taking into account both what went into the treasury and also what went to protect interests, the taxes now represented \$60,000,000, as against \$20,000,000 in Mackenzie's time. He noted the sanguine estimate of the current deficit of \$4,500,000, which would more likely be \$4,754,000, taking the figures already known up to 1st May. Sir Richard Cartwright, commenting on the list of liabilities by the finance minister, asked what about the Trent Valley canal, the Chignecto Marine railway and the fast Atlantic service votes?

To each question Mr. Foster demurred, but finally answered to each: "It is not a present liability."

Finally Sir Richard asked what about the Hudson's Bay Railway?

Mr. Foster sat silent and Sir Richard urged him to answer, and keep his promise of the other day to make a frank and full statement. Finally Mr. Foster said the House knew the liability with respect to the Hudson's Bay Railway. It was for Parliament to say whether it constituted a liability.

"Then," said Sir Richard in scornful tones, "the leader of the House does not know." This drew out a defiant, "You have no right to know," from Mr. Foster. "I am within my right in demanding to know," retorted Sir Richard, "and the House is entitled to a full statement of the liabilities of Canada in the annual financial statement." The opposition cheered this, and Sir Richard reminded Mr. Foster that the House could vote no money without a message from the crown brought down by responsible ministers. This was such a palpable hit that Mr. Foster got up and began in a rather excited way to speak, but Sir Richard did not pause in his denunciation of concealment, and Mr. Foster, unable to make himself heard, sat down again. Sir Richard warned Mr. Foster not to be too sanguine in anticipation of a revival in revenue. He had given no reasons for anticipating an early buoyancy in the revenue. Sir Richard did not feel disposed to go into the fiscal question until he had seen the proposed tariff changes. He therefore moved the adjournment of the debate and the House adjourned until Tuesday.

### Trilby.

Trilby was on the boards in Graham's Opera House last Tuesday evening. The company was one of the very best that ever played in Woodstock, and was such a company as Woodstock audiences don't get a chance to see at all often. W. V. Ranous as Svengali, for the time being, was the very Jew himself, dirty, horrible but musical. Miss Le Rane as Trilby O'Ferrall, who much to the disgust of Mrs. Bagot and "that old ass my uncle" had "posed for the altogether," was worthy of all acceptance. Mr. Bagot, the pie faced divine brought down the house, he was irresistible. Mr. Roberts as Taffy, Mr. Southard as the Laird and Mr. Leigh as Little Billee, "three nice clean Englishmen," breathed forth the spirit of bohemianism in that heaven of bohemians, the Latin Quarter of Paris. Some of the audience had not read Trilby and were therefore denied the greatest pleasure from the play. Even those who thought Trilby a failure as a drama, were forced to admit that the company had brought out to advantage all there was in it.

## OUR TOWN WISE MEN.

### THE GLIDDEN DAMAGE MATTER DID NOT PAN OUT.

A Report on John McKenzie's Bill.—Committee Recommends the Payment, but Suggests More Care in the Future About Town Business.

Very much interest was felt in anticipation of the meeting of the town council of Monday evening last. It was felt that some important action with regard to the verdict awarded last week to Mrs. Mary Glidden in her action against the town for damages sustained by her coming in contact with a hydrant would be taken. As is pointed out in another column the damages which she claimed were \$5000; the damages which the jury awarded amounted to \$1000. Of course citizens were divided as to the justice of the award. Some thought that Mrs. Glidden had a just claim against the town, an opinion which the result shows was shared by the jury. Others thought that if she was entitled to any damages the jury should not have only given her \$1000 when she claimed \$5000. In other words they said if she was entitled to any sum at all, if her injuries were the result of the negligence of the town, such a meagre sum as \$1000 should not have been tendered her. Anyway she got that verdict.

But it so happened that the matter did not come up beyond a verbal report by Coun. Leighton. He remarked that with reference to the case against the town, it was carried on in the interest of the town as well as it could be. He rated certain members of the council for not being in their places when the case was under trial, and expressed the opinion that if they had been in their places the result would have been altogether different. No further action was taken in the matter.

The mayor, Councillors Leighton, Carr, Nicholson and Smith had an interview on Friday evening with Mr. Appleby and Mr. Gregory in reference to the further prosecution of the case. It was pointed out to the town authorities that if the case was carried up to the supreme court and if the town should fail the extra cost incurred would not exceed \$100.00, and also it was pointed out that in a matter of so great importance it was necessary that the town should have the solemn decision of the full court as to the right and liabilities of the town.

Coun. Leighton submitted a report on behalf of the committee appointed to investigate the charge made by John McKenzie for the painting of the hose cart. Mr. McKenzie stated that the chairman of the fire committee had ordered him to put up as good a job as he knew how. He claimed moreover that the bill of \$55.00 did not pay him for the work done. He could have done the work for \$25.00, but the best being ordered, he had made as fine a job as he was able.

The committee recommended that the bill be paid, and advise that committees in the future be more careful how they transact the town business. The report was adopted.

The tender for the finishing of the lower corner engine house was given to Mr. Townsend at \$600.00.

Jas. Coyle and John Price both tendered for the repairs on the poor farm. Coyle's tender was for \$64.00, and Price's \$50.00. Price's tender was accepted.

J. C. Millmore, J. E. Slipp, John Graham and J. W. Dalling tendered for supplies for the poor farm. The tenders were referred to the poor committee.

Among the bills considered was one from G. F. Gregory for the defence in the town suit in which Mrs. Glidden was plaintiff. It amounted to \$125.00.

### Circuit Court.

The case of McBride vs McCormac which was before the court when we went to press last week, terminated on Wednesday afternoon in a verdict of \$5.00 for the plaintiff. The case that had most interest for the town was that of Glidden vs the town of Woodstock. The important question in this case was whether the town had been guilty of negligence in placing a hydrant with two posts as guards, on Maple street. The defendant asked for a nonsuit on the ground that as the town had been authorized by act of parliament to use its discretion in placing hydrants and taking precautions to guard them from injury and as they had used their discretion, it was not the province of a jury to say that their discretion was bad. The judge told the jury that the town had a right to place the hydrant wherever they deemed proper but left it to the jury to say whether there had been negligence in placing the posts. Verdict for the plaintiff for \$1000.

### Woodstock Markets.

The bottom has fallen out of potatoes, they only fetch 60 cts.; oats are strong at 38c. to 40c., there are plenty in the market to supply the local demand; beans, yellow eyes, \$2.00 a bus., and firm at that; peas, \$1.25 to \$1.35; eggs, 10 cts.; cheese, 9 1/2 cts.; butter, 16 cts. Some wag says it will be stronger in July; turnips, 50c. to 60c.; carrots, 75c.; parsnips, 60c.; maple honey, \$1.00; maple sugar, 9c. to 12c.; timothy seed, \$3.50 to \$3.75 a bus.; clover, 12c. to 15c.; seed oats, re-cleaned, imported, 40c. to 55c.