Maritime Farmer.

FREDERICTON, N. B., May 6, 1885.

A Popular Candidate.

Since the announcement of Mr. Hazen's candidature, he and his friends have received the most gratifying assurances of support from all parts of the constituency. The universal verdict of the influential electors throughout the County is, that Mr. Hazen must be elected. The people recognize in Mr. Hazen, a young man of great promise, and they are willing and anxious now, to give him good start in the honorable public career that the future has in store for him.

Necessary Legislation.

Probably there is no legislation more necessary and desirable for the protection of the laborer at the present time, than a good lien law, such an one as Mr. Wetmore, during the last session of the Legislature, attempted to have put through, and which would have found a place on the statute book, but for the Opposition of the Attorney General. Mr. Hazen is strongly pronounced in favor of a lien law, and will use his best endeavours, if elected, to secure such legislation. In his remarks in accepting the nomination of his party, Mr. Hazen spoke warmly of the necessity for a lien law, and instanced how, during the present season, scores of our own York County laborers have suffered for want of the protection a lien law would afford.

Great Progress.

The progress made in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, is one of the wonders of the age. The other day, Vice-President Vanhorne cabled Sir Charles Tupper the information that by the middle of May, the Canadian Pacific Company will be in a position to transport Imperial troops from Halifax to Vancouver, British Columbia, through Canadian territory, in 11 days. Even the unfriendly *Telegraph* is forced to say that,—"The Pacific Railway Company have made most remarkable progress in the construction of that work. What had been before announced had prepared the public mind for great results, but the statements as to the early date of opening the road north of the lakes, and through to the Pacific also will astonish many."

They Will Call a Convention.

Mr. Blair has assumed the role of humble copyist. The Opposition party held a Convention to nominate a candidate for the Assembly, and now Mr. Blair is going to hold a convention. This is quite proper. "A convention is a good thing." Mr. Blair always controlled the party from his back office, but Mr. Gregory, his partner has likely hinted to Mr. Blair, that a candidate selected in that locality, isn't the popular thing. No doubt Mr. Blair was quite willing to admit that Mr. Gregory was an authority on that matter, bowed at once to his opinion, and now they are to have a convention.

We might retaliate on Messrs. Gregory & Blair, and tell the people that they have already selected their candidate, and that they are only making tools of our country friends in calling them together in Convention, but we do not care to adopt that course. Let them select a candidate, and let us have a fair stand up fight.

Mr. Blair as a Constitutional Lawyer.

What Mr. Blair don't know as a constitutional lawyer, would fill very many volumes. He has occupied the responsible position of law officer of the Government but a short time, but during that limited period, he has contrived to make more blunders than ought to be recorded against an intelligent lawyer in a life time.

Mr. Blair's first blunder was in passing the law Stamps Act, the principle of which was declared unconstitutional in Quebec. Then he got a grant passed for the Fredericton Bridge, and was compelled to ask the Legislature the next session to make it legal. About the same time Mr. Blair took it into his head to do away with Government House and abolish the Private Secretary. He passed a bill embodying both these boasted reforms, but again we learn he has come to grief. The payment of the Secretary is a part of the agreement the Province entered into under the terms of Responsible Government and Confederation, and Mr. Blair has'nt the power to lop off the Secretary's head. He has been informed of the fact, we understand through the medium of the Governor General, who disallowed the bill, so Mr. Blair again takes a back seat, and Government House and the Private Secretary remain.

A Great Constitutional Lawyer is this same Mr. Blair.

Another Slander Refuted.

It would be a weary task to follow Mr. Blair's subsidized organ through all its slanderous course, and we do not propose to do it; it would not be worth while, so little dependence do the public place in its utterances, but when the organ perpetrates such a falsehood, as it did the other day regarding Mr. Warden Estabrooks, it is only fair to the gentleman concerned, that notice should be taken of the matter. Mr. Estabrook's letter which we publish below, most successfully refutes the organ's latest slander, which is of a piece with its recent attack on Postmaster McPeake.

Mr. Estabrooks writes: "In the Fredericton *Gleaner* of the 22nd ult., I notice the following paragraph headed 'A Model Warden.'"

"Among the persons in outside districts to whom Mr. C. W. Beckwick sent copies of the petition in favor of the Short Line project, was Mr. Leverett Estabrooks, Warden of the County, who was requested by the City Clerk to circulate the same for signature. Mr. Estabrooks wrote back, declining to circulate the petition, giving as an alleged reason, the statement that he had some doubts as to whether the people in his locality were in accord with Fredericton on the question of the route to be chosen!! And yet Mr. Estabrooks pretended to be interested in the welfare of York County."

To the word "signature," the above paragraph is true. I did receive the petition from Mr. Beckwith. The remaining portion of the article is ENTIRELY UNTRUE. I did not write back to Mr. Beckwith, as he will no doubt testify. I did not decline to circulate said petition. On the contrary, after receiving it by Monday's mail, I passed it around that afternoon and obtained a number of signatures. I then handed it to Dr. Mott, who circulated it around in the lower part of the Parish. It was then sent to Lake George, and on Friday evening and Saturday, I went over the upper end of the Parish and Rosborough Settlement, on foot, the roads being very bad, and on that trip I obtained fifty names, which will be sufficient proof that I did not decline to circulate the petition. I then enclosed the petition as directed, and forwarded it to Mr. Beckwith, at Fredericton.

Having convicted the *Gleaner* of falsehood, I leave it to the enjoyment of its own unenviable reputation."

Anybody who knows Mr. Estabrook's reputation for common sense and candour refused to believe that he would be guilty of the action charged against him by Mr. Blair's organ, and now that he has given the most emphatic denial to the charge the dishonesty and depravity of the organ are revealed in all their hideousness It does not pay to publish slanders such as the organ has sent broadcast over the country regarding Postmaster McPeake and Warden Estabrooks, and no newspaper with any character to lose would do so. We hope the organ has been taught a useful lesson, and that some attempt will be made to improve its manners and morals. It ought to have sufficient employment in the publication of paid puffery for Gregory & Blair and of dead-head advertisements, without having to go out of its way to slander respectable people.

A Pleasant Reception.

The Halifax *Mail* contains a lengthy and interesting account of the rousing reception given the Halifax volunteers at Winnipeg, by Nova Scotians resident in that city. The affair was held in Selkirk Hall, and included a succession of clever speeches and musical selections. Judge Killam of the Supreme Court Bench of Manitoba, formerly of Yarmouth, N. S. occupied the chair, and in his opening remarks, expressed the great pleasure it afforded him of welcoming the citizen-soldiers of Halifax to the prairie city of Manitoba. It would take the mantle of the late lamented Joseph Howe to enable him to adequately express to the officers and men of the battalion the kind feelings the people of this Province entertained toward them. He (the judge) had once belonged to the military in Nova Scotia, and knew something of a soldier's life, and he had kept his tunic as a memento of the old days he had spent in the Province by the sea.

Another speaker was our own Hon. C. P. Brown, now one of the most prominent politicians of the West. Mr. Brown extended to the boys the fullest and heartiest welcome to the prairie city of Manitoba. He said that while the circumstances that brought them from a remote section of our great confederation were to be regretted, still he believed it would ultimately result in doing a great deal of good. We attach the greatest importance he said to the fact that before a nation can become great, we have got to have a national spirit. No one more than he appreciated the material features which make a people great. He went on to refer to the vastness of Canada and said that even now the boys were nearly 1000 miles from the battle field.

Rev. C. B. Pitblado, the celebrated Presbyterian clergyman, who has since gone to the front as chaplain to the Halifax corps, and who formerly resided at Halifax, said he was never so near Halifax in Winnipeg as he was then. The regimentals reminded him of Halifax in a way he never thought of before. He knew all of the boys and had had sweet counsel with many of them in days gone bye and would never forget it. He had been where they had, all around Halifax, down the shore, across the Annapolis valley, and had seen the beautiful daughters of Acadia peeping through the apple blossoms. He had been at many of their homes and knew many of their fathers and mothers and brothers and sisters who were asleep to-night. He was reminded to tell the boys that already Nova Scotians were in the front, many having seen gone from his church and his son, John, was among the number. When he went to the station to bid him farewell his only regret was that he could not accompany him too. Referring to Halifax, he said he was reminded of the old flag that had been unfurled for over 150 years on Citadel Hill. Once or twice his heart had been full and his eyes filled as he looked at it half-mast. He well remembered one Sabbath morning while going down to Chalmer's church, seeing it half-mast for Hon. Joseph Howe. No name was probably nearer to the heart of Nova Scotians than Howe's and he (Mr. P.) could never forget the solemn funeral ceremony, as he stood over his grave.

Happy speeches were also made by Lt. Col. Bremner and Major MacDonald of the corps, and there was unlimited enthusiasm, which did not subside till the Halifax boys took the train for Swift Current.

Press Comments on Mr. Hazen's Candidature.

(St. John Globe.)

Mr. Hazen is a bright and clever young lawyer.

(Fredericton Reporter.)

Mr. Hazen is a young man of good parts, and possesses all the energy and enthusiasm of vigorous youth which he will take into the contest. He made a good record for his speaking ability during the last Dominion contest, which will serve him to a good purpose in his own.

(Chignecto Post.)

Mr. J. Douglas Hazen, grandson of the late Hon. John A. Beckwith, has been nominated for the vacant seat in the Assembly for York by the elevation of Hon. Mr. Thompson to the Legislative Council. Mr. Hazen is a very clever young Barrister and promises to command some day a leading position politically.

(Fredericton Capital.)

Mr. Hazen is a young man of brilliant parts, sterling honor and integrity, and is well worthy the trusts of the people of York, whatever may be the name of his party. By his addresses through the county in former campaigns, he has won for himself many warm friends and supporters, and made his name a household word in almost every home in the county. Much might be said of and about Mr. Hazen, both personally and with regard to his fitness for the position of a representative of this county. Nothing can be said—no one dare say anything—against his character, reputation or ability.

(St. John Sun,)

We congratulate the Local Opposition in York county upon the selection of J. Douglas Hazen as its standard bearer, in the contest for the seat in the Assembly, made vacant by Attorney General Blair's elevation of one of his relatives to the Legislative Council. Mr. Hazen is an eloquent speaker and a well grounded lawyer, is conversant with the minutiæ of local politics, and possesses from personal observation, a pretty general acquaintance with the special requirements of the rural sections of the county—is, in a word, just the man that York needs at the present juncture as a check upon the unholy ambition of Mr. Blair, who acts as if he were called into power solely to lavish office upon a small clique of relatives and personal friends. Mr. Hazen received the unanimous vote of the County Convention—a pretty sure indication that he will be upheld at the polls by all who are opposed to the Gregory and Blair Government, and consequently by the majority of the electors of York.

(Moncton Times.)

In York, the opponents of Mr. Blair's Government feel too strongly in the matter to allow the seat to go by default even for one session, and as announced some days ago, have selected Mr. J. D. Hazen, a clever young lawyer, to test the feelings of the electorate. Of course Mr, Blair will be obliged to fight Mr. Hazen, and should he come out of the contest with any but a big majority, he can well tremble for the fate of his Government when next an appeal is made to the country. We should be glad to see Mr. Hazen elected. He would, if reports are true, be a creditable addition to the Legislature. We would also welcome his return as an indication of the strong disfavor in which the people hold the present administration at Fredericton. Mr. Blair came into power under the most favorable auspices. The people and the press were disposed to look upon his acts with a good deal of leniency and to applaud everything in the direction of the economy so necessary where the revenues are limited and the expenditures of a useful nature so largely fixed by statute or custom. The *Times*, though not approving of all the acts of previous administrations, never had a great deal of confidence in that formed by Mr. Blair. It was willing to be convinced, however; but as Mr. Blair brought forth nothing but increased debt, increased expenditure, together with decreased aid to many useful services, where he had promised just the reverse, we have been obliged to oppose the Government, and will therefore welcome the return of Mr. Hazen, or any other indication of the disfavor with which we, in common we believe, with the majority of the electors, look upon Mr. Blair and his associates.

The Anglo-Russian war cloud has evidently blown over, and the differences between the two nations as to the Alghan boundary will likely be submitted to the arbitration of friendly powers.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

The Policy of Obstruction--Grit Determination to Block the Franchise Bill --Wild Scenes in Parliament--Sir Leonard Tilley's Health.

(From our own Correspondent)

OTTAWA, May 1, 1885.

The merry month of May has come, and it finds the Federal legislature still bvsily in session, and from all appearances, the May flowers will have budded, bloomed, and passed away, and the June roses have come to take their place, ere the Governor-General will be able to dismiss our faithful legislators to their homes again. It is now generally understood, that the session will be one of unusual, if not unprecedented length. The majority of the members are, of course, heartily sick of the business already, particularly as the sole cause of the delay, is the uncontrollable loquacity, and purposeless obstinacy of the opposition, who seem to have but one idea, one plan of action, and that is to obstruct every government measure to the utmost of their powers. I shall refer to this again.

The first intelligence of the first engagement between the rebels and the force under General Middleton's command, reached here shortly after midnight on Friday, and as may be easily imagined, the excitement was immediately intense. The Franchise Bill, at that moment under discussion, was utterly forgotten in the general rush to hear the news, and all about the corridors could be seen little groups of members eagerly and anxiously discussing what news had come and impatient for more. At first of course, the information was exceedingly meagre, but as the hours went by, fuller details came in until the facts, as they are already known to you, were pretty generally in the possession of the House. As the facts of the case dawned upon one's mind, it was not easy to determine which feeling overbore the other, pride at the splendid bravery shown by our citizen soldiery, or sorrow for those noble hearts whose life blood had gone out on our behalf. If it only could have been a bloodless victory, what words would have sufficed to express our joy! But there is no evading the stern remorseless logic of war. Victory is but another way of spelling death, for victors as well as vanquished, and so to-day the broad bosom of the prairie is

Dotted with our Soldiers Graves,

and there are mourners that no laurel wreath can comfort in many a Canadian home. The death-roll of a regular army is sad enough reading, but when the names of citizens, not professional soldiers are upon it, a chord of sorrow deeper still is touched within us.—While some are thus falling victims to the sword far off in the North-West, others are falling beneath the strife of tongues here. Ever since the opening of the Session, it has been noticed that the

Health of Sir Leonard Tilley

has not been at all that which his friends—and he has no enemies—could desire. To be sure, he looked and spoke like a man in full vigor, when delivering his admirable Budget Speech, but his intimates knew that he was a steady sufferer, and as the Session lengthened out, it became very clear that the labors it entailed were pressing too heavily upon him. At last he felt compelled to withdraw from his work, and is now in retirement at his home, to the general regret of Government and Opposition alike, and it is scarcely probable, although recovering somewhat, that he will be in his place in the House again this Session.

Every session is demonstrating more clearly the wonderful versatility of the leader of the Opposition, and even those who have known him best and longest, can hardly miss being astonished at the number and variety of parts the Hon. Edward Blake essays to perform. In days of yore he posed before the people as a political Sir Galahad, who felt too deeply the responsibilities of his position, as the champion of purity ever to suffer the faintest ripple of a smile to break in upon the chiselled grimness of his spotless lips; to-day he fain would be the Parliament's prime jestor, whose very rising to his feet should be the signal for a general cachinnation. Once upon a time, the dignity of Parliament was by him held so dear, that the slightest breach of etiquette or discipline, evoked his righteous indignation; but now their is no offence against what is right and proper of which he will not cheerfully approve, provided some trifling advantage remains with his side. He has indeed, played many parts, and taken for his models, many different types of statesmen, but never until the protracted debate on the Franchise Bill which will go into history as the

Longest Session on record of the Canadian House of Parliament.

did he come out frankly as an admirer and painstaking imitator of the policy of obstruction patented, and put into practice by Parnell and his band of obstructionists. This new departure is well worth telling with considerable detail.

As soon as the determination of Sir John to put the Franchise Bill through the House this Session became known, the Opposition held a caucus, at which it was decided to place every possible obstacle in the way of the passage of the measure, primarily, of course, in hopes of delaying it so long as to compel the Government to abandon it, but also with the ulterior object of protracting the Session late into the spring, lest, possibly, affairs in the North-West might take on so disastrous a complexion, as to enable them to bring forward, with every chance of success, their want of confidence motion, which they have been threatening so long. In pursuance of this decision, the motion for the second reading of the Bill was vigorously opposed, and only passed after an all-night session. This was on Tuesday last. On Monday, the Bill, which had been declared an order of the day until finally disposed of, came up again, and the motion was made to go into Committee. Then did the tacties of the worthy Grits reveal themselves. Refreshed by the rest of a Sunday, which had probably been spent in bed in anticipation of the coming struggle, they entered upon

A Course of Systematic Obstruction,

under the then pretence of supporting the the female suffrage clause, which Mr. Townshend (Cumberland) had moved should be struck out. During the afternoon there was some *bona fide* debating, but after the dinner recess, the Government members, rightly deeming that the subject had been sufficiently discussed, called for a vote, and to this call the opposition responded by a series of what could hardly by the very widest stretch of license be called speeches, or indeed anything in particular, extraordinarily composed as they uniformly were of extracts from books, pamphlets, newspapers, Hansard, poets, lawyers, historians, and the readers themselves only know what. Not the slightest pretence was made at argument, sequence, or relevancy. Even supposing these valuable utterances had been audible they could only have impressed listeners with the idea that they were attending the session of a Parliament in Bedlam. But as a matter of fact, they were not audible for the Government members, and many of the Opposition members took very good care that speakers who were so transparently talking against time should certainly not have an attentive hearing, and accordingly devoted their talents to the invention, and their energies to the production of every noise that comes within the range of human capability. The jubilant crow of the chanticleer, the sharp inquiring bark of doggy, and the plaintiff wailing of grimalkin, were interspersed, and varied by vocal choruses and solos, in which a tribute was paid to each nationality represented in the House; "Mulcahy's gone away," appealing to the Hibernian, "La Marsellaise," to the Gallic, "Rule Britannia," to the British, and "Auld Lang Syne," to the Celtic element among the members, while all joined with rare unanimity in "God Save the Queen."

Singing of the National Anthem

was quite a striking incident. Somebody made the remark that they had been having everything except God Save the Queen. Forthwith the Hon. Minister for the Exterior (Peter Mitchell) sprang to his feet, and beckoning to the House to rise also, started off lustily with the opening line. Without a moment's hesitation the rest of the House imitated his example, the reporters in the Press Gallery were too loyal not to do the same, the occupants of the public galleries fell into tune also, and all with one voice united in giving the glorious National Anthem with a heartfelt vigor that threatened to bring the roof down upon their heads. Thus Monday night slipped by, and Tuesday came and found the House still sitting, and the Grits still

"In their wells a' diggin'
In their usual ridiculous way."

All day Tuesday, the farce was kept up, until at length on Tuesday night at ten o'clock the obstructionists collapsed, and Mr. Townshend's amendment having been passed, the House adjourned after a continuous session of 31 hours—the longest in the history of our Parliament. If the opposition carry out their intention of obstructing each clause in the Bill in the same way, there is no telling when the Session will end, for the Bill must pass, as Sir John himself hath said it; but it will be hardly needful to tell the country how utterly unworthy of its support or confidence are the men who descend to such disgraceful and unpatriotic practices.

The consecration of the Rev. Charles Hamilton, Bishop-elect of Niagara, by the Metropolitan, took place at the Cathedral in this city on Friday last. The day was fine and the attendance large. There were present thirty-six of the clergy and the Bishops of Quebec, Toronto, Maine, Nova Scotia, the Coadjutor and the Metropolitan. The ceremony was most imposing and lasted from half-past ten till one. The Bishop of Quebec preached the sermon from the first Corinthians, third chapter, 10th verse. After the service the new Bishop was presented with a very complimentary address by the clergy present. The interesting part of the service was the possession of robed clergy and Bishops entering the Cathedral by the western door, singing as they walked slowly up the aisle "Onward Christian Soldiers.

Sir Leonard Tilley.

[Toronto Mail.]

The illness of Sir Leonard Tilley at this time is a matter of serious regret. He has, no doubt, had to overwork himself, and at his age that is always a serious matter. His anxieties have been many, and will weigh no doubt to render his recovery slower. The enormous responsibilities resting on his shoulders mare us all hope that he will be able to sustain them in due season. His personal sufferings are, of course, a matter of sorrow to everyone who knows how kind and considerate, and how unwilling to inflict even annoyance, Sir Leonard Tillley is. In the midst of the military excitement, the public can still spare a kind thought for the kindly Finance Minister.

Dumont and Riel.

George H. Ham, the Toronto *Mail's* correspondent with General Middleton, in his report of the fight at Fish Creek, says: Dumont was not seen during the fight, but one of our scouts saw him riding off after all was over. His directing hand was plainly seen, however, as nobody else on Riel's side could have arranged the rebel plans or picked the ground so well. The rebel movements appeared to be directed by long, low whistles. General Middleton said it was like the piping of a boatswain. Occasionally they could be heard shouting to each other to 'keep back,' 'go on,' 'this way,' 'fire lower,' 'fire higher,' etc., but during the serious part of the day they fought in grim silence. The rapidity with which some of them loaded their shot guns with the old-fashioned powder horns and paper wadding, was truely marvellous. A few of them who had Winchesters ran from one part of the ravine to the other, strengthening their lines as circumstances directed. Gen Middleton says they are finer skirmishers and bush-fighters than he ever imagined them to be. Riel was not in or near the fight as far as we can learn. The scouts say he was at Batouche's all day, getting his reserve force ready. It is now said that he is quite insane. The buckshot has made very ugly and painful flesh wounds. Old style leaden balls were also fired with considerable effect. Had the rebels been armed with Sniders they would have wiped us out in short order from the shelter they occupied.

A Horrible Discovery.

On Friday at Pittsburgh, Pa., baggage master Jenkins, at the Union depot upon bursting of a trunk which gave out a suspicious odor, was horrified to find therein a body of a man securely bound and in an advanced state of decomposition. The face was badly discolored and bloated. The trunk was a common wooden one and evidently had not been in use before. It arrived from Chicago over the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago railroad that morning and was checked, but no person called to claim it. In order to get it into the trunk the body had been bent almost double. Around the neck, arms and legs was cord, which had cut deep into the flesh. There were no marks of violence. The body was that of a laboring man, probably 30 years of age.

"Which Way?"

That every article used for the same purpose is of equal value no one admits. As in natural productions, so in the manufactured; all have their degree of merit, and Soap is as conspicuous in its variety as anything else. But in this, as the demand for the *Pure* and *Reliable* increases, so does the value of the productions of CURTIS DAVIS & Co., especially their "WELCOME" and "UNEQUALLED EXTRA" brands, being practically recommended by other manufacturers, who imitate them in every conceivable way. But, while this compliment may be appreciated, what can be said in favor of such competition, or the character of such goods and their makers? No one should be deceived, as the original has the name of CURTIS DAVIS, in full, either on the bar or wrapper, and it is their purpose to let their reputation stand on this class of goods.

The claim that the limited express from New York to Chicago is the fastest train in the world is altogether absurd. The schedule time for the 911 miles requires only an average speed of 36½ miles an hour, or, exclusive of stoppages, a little over 40 miles an hour. A dozen or more English trains make better time than this every day. The Royal Mail Express from Charing Cross station, London, to Dover, 76½ miles, runs in a 105 minutes every day in the year. An express train on the Great Northern, from London to Manchester, 203 miles, always runs through in 4 hours and 15 minutes, or at the rate of 50 miles an hour. Regular express trains to Edinburgh, 390 miles, run in 9 hours. The special Scotch express leaves King's Cross station every day in the year at 10 o'clock. Two hours and nine minutes later, it makes its first stop at Grantham, and Grantham is 105 miles from London. In 5 minutes less than 4 hours it has reached York, 188 miles, and through not running so fast north of there reaches Edinburgh at 7 o'clock. From Euston station, London, of Liverpool, it is about 220 miles, and the fastest to the regular trains make the run in four hours and forty minutes. The Irish mail runs from London to Chester, 185 miles, in a few minutes more than four hours. These are speeds unequalled in this country.

Young Men!—Read This.

THE VOLTAIC BELT Co., of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belt and other Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days, to (young and old) afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism, neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk is incurred as thirty days trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet free.

THE REBELLION.

Another Bloody Battle.

Col. Otter Victorious over the Redskins.

A Sketch of the Month's Campaign.

The news from the North West to-day, brings a meagre account of a battle fought with the Indians on Sunday near Battleford.

General Middleton has been waiting for supplies, which were received yesterday, and it is supposed he will attack Riel immediately at Batouche crossing. An account of Col. Otter's fight follows:

The First Despatch.

A flying column of 300 men under Colonel Otter, attacked the Indians, 600 strong, at five in the morning. The fight lasted till noon.

The enemy lost 50 killed and wounded.

Otter covered, including the engagement 70 miles, fought the battle and returned to Battleford inside of 30 hours. The men behaved magnificently.

The list of killed is as follows:—

Mounted Police.—Corpl. Laurie Corpl. Sleight, Bugler Burk.

Ottawa Sharpshooters.—Pte. Osgood, Pte. Rogers.

C Co., Infantry School.—Bugler Foulks, Pte. Dobbs.

The wounded are as follows:—

Mounted Police.—Sergt. McLeod.

B. Battery—Lieut. Peltier, Sergt. Gaffney, Corp. Morton, Gunner Reynolds.

C. Co., Infantry School.—Sergt. Major Spackman.

Ottawa Sharpshooters—Col. Sergt. Winter, Pte. McQuilkin.

Queen's Own Rifles.—Sergt. Cooper, Pte. Nary, Pte. Watts.

Battleford Volunteers.—Pte. Gilbert.

The Latest.

The following special telegram to the FARMER, kindly furnished by the St. John *Globe* at noon to-day, contains all the particulars of the fight received up to that hour.

"Further particulars of Col. Otter's battle, indicate that the Indians fought with coolness and bravery, but they were poorly armed.

Many squaws took part in the fight and behaved as courageously as the braves.

Although exhausted after their long march, Col. Otter's column fought steadily for seven hours, by which time the Indians seemed to have had enough, and retired for a short distance.

Col. Otter took advantage of this to draw his men back for rest and refreshment.

It is believed that the first blow has been struck of what will prove a long and bloody Indian war."

The Month's Campaign.

What has been done by the authorities since the insurrection began.

[Toronto Mail.]

The Government had for some months received intimation of the dangerous attitude assumed by Riel, and of the influence he exerted over the half-breeds and Indians in and around Beardy's reserve. The mounted police had been quietly increased in Fort Carleton till double the number ever thought necessary were on the spot. The rising took place, the Government receiving information on March 21 that rebellion had undoubtedly raised its head. On the 22nd the Adjutant-General, Col. Powell, sent the first telegram indicating that the time had come for the Government to take cognizance of the fact that liberty of speech had been abused, and that a definite attempt had been made by Riel to set at defiance constituted authority. Col. Powell telegraphed to Col Houghton at Winnipeg asking, if troops were wanted for the North-west, how soon could they be ready to move. The answer was by Wednesday, which was the 25th. On the morning of the 26th one half of the 90th Winnipeg battalion moved out of Winnipeg to Qu'Appelle Station.

GEN. MIDDLETON TAKES THE FIELD.

In the meantime General Middleton had left Ottawa on the 23rd on his way to Winnipeg. On the day the first half boarded the train at Winnipeg station for the West, the engagement at Duck Lake took place and roused the country to a realization of the fact that Riel and Dumont had only used the claims of the half-breeds as a pretext for their rebellion against coustituted authority, and had determined, come what might, to appeal to arms to establish a republic of their own between the two branches of the Saskatchewan. Up to that time the threats and blusterings of Riel appeared to be altogether unlikely to lead to armed trouble. The claims of the half-breeds to land and to wood and water rights in the Prince Albert district had been so largely settled, that not more than ten per cent. of the whole original claims remained to be settled. Riel and Dumont saw their opportunity slipping away from them, and on March 26 occured the collision on Beardy's reserve, whether intentionally or accidentally remains to be seen. At any rate the crisis had come sooner than was expected. From a war of words the rebel leaders had passed to actual fighting.

TROOPS TO THE FRONT.

The Government acted promptly. Part of the 90th was already on the way. The General commanding had been three days on the way. He reached Winnipeg on the 27th and was at Fort Qu'Appelle on the 30th. On the 27th the "A" and "B" batteries were ordered out, and on the 28th they started for Winnipeg 200 strong. Let us see what the Department of Militia has accomplished during the month ending April 26th, and exactly one month from the date of the Duck Lake encounter. It must be remembered that the Minister of Militia (Mr. Caron) has been, ever since he took charge of the Department, fighting hard to bring up the militia force to something like efficiency. His plans have been broad and comprehensive, but he has been year by year fiercely opposed by the Opposition, the expenditure of money for militia purposes having been opposed tooth and nail. The Militia Department in the minds of the general public was assumed to be an expensive toy of very little practical use. Under these circumstances, the promptitude and real excellence of the work of the department during the month which ended yesterday must have been a surprise to the public, who had been assured by the Opposition press that the Militia Department was worthless and useless, and presided over by a Minister more ornamental than useful.

A GOOD MONTH'S WORK.

Within the month General Middleton had at Fish Creek a successful engagement with part of Riel's force. Some of his men, for instance the Grenadiers, had been called out and sent 1885 miles by rail, made marches of 83 miles around the north shore of Lake Superior, of 198 miles to Clarke's Crossing, and of 25 miles to Fish Creek, all in 27 days from the time they left Toronto. Withln the month Col. Otter's force was at Battleford. This consisted of "B" Battery 114 men, Queen's own Rifles 275 men, Infantry School Corps (part,) 45 men, Todd's Sharpshooters 51 men, one-half Winnipeg Field Battery 30 men, 35th Battalion (part,) 265 men. These had travelled 2,065 miles by rail, and 285 miles by marching, making in their forced marches from the Saskatchewan to Battleford 34 miles a day. Within the month General Strange has massed at Calgary the 65th Battalion, 312 men; Col. Smith's battalion, 267 men; police and scouts 143 men, and an ambulance corps. Some of these, as the 65th, had travelled 2,280 miles by rail, and had marched 83 miles around the north shore of Lake Superior, and 120 miles from Calgary towards Edmonton, in all 203 miles of marching before the month was up. They left at Calgary 150 men of Stewart's Rangers. Besides these there were at Swift Current the 9th Battalion, 259 men; the 7th Fusilers, 232 men, and the Midland, 376 men. At Qu'Appelle fort the Winnipeg troop of cavalry, 39 men; the Governor General's Body Guard, 81; the 35th Battalion, two companies, 80 men; the 91st Battalion, 396 men; Turnbull's cavalry, 48 men, and White's scouts, 51 men. The Halifax Battalion, 380 men, had left Halifax on the 11th, and reached Winnipeg on the 22nd, having travelled in the 11 days 2,240 miles by rail, and marched eighty miles.

THE TOTAL FORCE IN THE FIELD.

To recapitulate, there has been sent within the month from Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia 231 officers, 2776 men, 132 horses, and 6 guns; making with the Winnipeg cavalry, artillery, rifles, scouts, rangers, and with Dennis's Dominion land surveyors, who had formed a corps of scouts, 325 officers and men, 473 horses, eight guns and two Galtings, ordered out, equipped, supplied; Battleford relieved and the battle of Fish Creek fought, all within thirty days. Supplies had to be purchased and forwarded and the men fed: ammunition, arms and accoutrements had to be sent forward; field hospitals had to be organized; telegraph wires strung; transport service established.

THE MINISTER'S WORK.

Then there was the huge task of looking after supplies, transports, etc., and keeping the men in the field supplied with food and the horses with fodder. General Laurie, at Swift Current, has charge of this, and is rapidly getting it into good working order. Sitting down in the Minister's office, I have watched with wonder the splendid manner in which all this extra work suddenly thrust upon the department has been performed. Now the Minister is dictating a telegram to Gen. Middleton; now receiving a telegraphic enquiry from Calgary; again examining samples of boots, deciding upon the supplies wanted, hearing the reports of the efficient deputy, Col. Panet, or that model official, the Adjutant-General, Col. Powell, or of the painstaking director of stores, Col. Macpherson. His two active, clear-headed secretaries, Benoit and Aldrich, are rapidly disposing of the letters he has dictated them, taken down in short-hand. Out in the corridor, a dozen or twenty men are awaiting each his turn to propose something wanted, to state the needs of this, that or the other town in the North-West, or to show samples of articles required. Everything is decided upon carefully and rapidly, with work at high pressure, yet well done. Some idea of the work done may be gathered from the fact that during the thirty days there have been received in and sent from the office of Mr. Caron's private secretaries 1,133 telegrams concerning movements of troops, 1,620 telegrams sent in answer to offers of service, supplies, etc., and 2,430 letters and telegrams (mostly the latter) about officers of service, etc., and about 1,000 letters in answer to enquiries of various kinds, in all 6,183 letters and telegrams from the Minister's private office, besides those sent and received by the Deputy Minister, the Adjutant-General, and the medical branch, all of whom have had a large correspondence and numberless telegrams to acknowledge.

The British-American Rebel.

A United States Senate Clerk tells of Louis Riel's former Crimes.

Mr. Frank Eastman, who has been clerk to the United States senate committee on claims for the past two years, was district attorney at Helena, Montana, in 1882. In a conversation on the Canadian insurrection, Mr. Eastman said: "I know Louis Riel well. He was the leader of the Red River insurrection in 1872, and was guilty of the most atrocious and inhuman crimes ever perpetrated by man. Add to the tortures of the inquisition every agony that devilish ingenuity could suggest or invent, and you may get a faint idea of the manner in which Riel treated the unfortunate captives who fell into his hands. The Canadian Government secured the services of a priest to visit Riel, and after much trouble he succeeded in inducing Riel to surrender. In spite of his many acts of fiendish crnelty and the fact that he was guilty of high treason, the Canadian Government failed to give him the hemp he so richly deserved, and is now reaping the fruits of its mistaken mercy. In November, 1882, Riel was engaged in selling whiskey eight or ten miles inside of the lower border of the Blachfeet reservation. He procured the liquor in Fort Benton, and failing to pay his bills and being unable to secure any more credit, he transferred his valuable custom to Helena. Here his credit also ran out, and when C. A. Broadwater, the partner and agent of Wilder of St. Paul, told him he could be credited no more, Riel said, 'All right, Meester Broadwater, but I would like to meet you out on ze perarie,' thus conveying a delicate suggestion of the hereafter. Reil was shortly after indicted for selling rum to the Indians, and when brought to trial refused to answer any questions frankly stating that he refused because he did not care to criminate himself. During the trial a juror asked Riel if he was not the man who incited the Red River insurrection in 1872. 'Sair,' replied Riel with great dignity. "I am ze man who attempted to introduce republican institutions in zat country." As no other witnesses could be procured, Riel was acquitted, although there was no doubt in the world as to his guilt. He was indicted at Benton for election frauds at Rocky Point in the spring of 1883, and, being unable to procure bail, was imprisoned in jail for two or three months, Then he succeeded in securing bondsmen in the persons of Wm. H. Hunt, the son of the ex-secretary of the navy, and then collector of the port of Fort Benton, and Thomas Cummings, a former collector. After being released he went up into Manitoba and from recent events it is evident that he was engaged in laying his plans for the present insurrection. He turned to Fort Benton and was tried, but as the people around Rocky Point led nomadic-lives, it was impossible to obtain any witnesses save Riel's half-breed wife and brother-in-law. Of course he was not convicted.

"Riel is a magnificently handsome man. He has a supberb figure, standing over six feet in height. His beard is long and silky and coal black, and he has melting Italian eyes, as soft as a woman's. If his beard was lighter he would be the image of Guido's Christ. He is a rank coward, and is absolutely devoid of the courage such a man should have. He was in very bad odor with the half-breeds around Fort Benton and Helena, and one day, in the fall of 1882 he went to Governor Bodkin and begged that official to make him a deputy marshal. He said his life was in danger, and he would live in daily dread if it was not protected by official sanction. His request was very properly refused. The Canadian Government, I think, deserve no sympathy in its present trouble with Riel. It should have hung him in 1872. You will soon hear blood curdling stories of his atrocities and cruelties. Riel is without courage and urged by wild ambition, and unhappily, gifted with a glib and facinating tongue, he is using the half-breeds to pull his chestnuts out of the fire. The Canadian Government has a grave problem to solve.

A Good Fight.

[Halifax Herald.]

The accounts now furnished of the fight which took place on the Saskatchewan, confirms our opinions of the fine behavior of our volunteers. The sturdy yeomen of Canada have faced the insidious foe and fought him with as much coolness and courage as that shown by the crack regular regiments in the Soudan. Our volunteers were working under a much greater disadvantage than the British soldiers at Abu Klea. The Arabs were in plain sight and could be shot. They were for the most part only armed with spears. Riel's forces were well armed and could not be seen, the only indications of their presence being the bullets which came from behind trees and rocks going with deadly certainty to their mark. It is against such enemies as these that the best qualities of an army are brought out. In a hand to hand conflict it is natural for a man to fight for all he's worth. But in Indian warfare it is only men of heroic mould who stand steadily to their work. The blood of the Canadian militia of 1776 and 1813 is in the veins of our militia of to-day, and the same spirit is in the sons and grandsons which won the battle of Queenstown heights, and half a dozen times drove back across the border the superior forces of a well drilled and hitherto victorious army. The battles of Lundy's Lane and Queenstown, were not of the kind that tries men like the conflict at the edge of the ravine by the Saskatchewan, but doubtless Brock's men would have behaved as well as Middleton's. It was to no ignoble stock that the men of Nova Scotia joined their fortunes in 1867.

Have you got one of the beautiful Panel Pictures that are given away with "Welcome Soap?" They are going very fast, and the Soap is always welcome in every family.

April 15th.

Carpets.

John J. Weddall's

Retail DRY GOODS trade having grown to such proportions that it is necessary he should have MORE ROOM for the successful carrying out of his plans, he has therefore decided to go OUT of the CARPET TRADE for the present.

THE WHOLE STOCK

OF

CARPETS,

will be sold at such prices

FOR CASH!

DURING THE

Months of April & May,

as cannot be touched by any HOUSE continuing in the trade