

Maritime Farmer.

FREDERICTON, N. B., June 1, 1887.

The Disallowance Question.

The Dominion Government achieved a signal party and patriotic triumph in the House of Commons, Thursday night, when the question of disallowing Manitoba local railway charters, was brought forward by Mr. Watson, M. P., for Marquette, who protested against the Government policy in this respect, and moved a resolution to voice his opposition thereto. There was a short but vigorous debate on the question, and when the division was called, the Government was sustained by the handsome majority of forty-nine, Messrs. Mitchell, Hale and Skinner, who have hitherto been accounted Grits, voting with the administration. The majority in the Commons are to be commended for taking a wide and intelligent view of this question. While the policy of disallowance may hamper the construction of railways in Manitoba, the interests of the whole Dominion are protected, by preventing American capitalists providing branch lines into the prairie Province, to tap the carrying trade, capture it for their own trunk lines to the eastern and western outlets of the continent, and thus paralyze the business of the Canada Pacific Railway, which has been constructed at an enormous expense by the older Provinces of Canada. The construction of branch lines from the Northern Pacific into Manitoba, would be but a successful plan to divert into American channels, the legitimate business of the Canada Pacific, and a Canadian who would encourage the schemes of the Northern Pacific people has very little regard for the general interests of his country, even though in voting against disallowance, he might in a measure, be prejudicing the progress of one small Province. It is fortunate for Canada that we possess in the Government and in a majority in Parliament, men who can look beyond the narrow, provincial question, and protect the great interests of the Dominion. We in the eastern Provinces have been looking forward with great expectations to the completion of the Short Line Railway, which we fondly hope will bring to our seaboard for shipment abroad, a portion at least, of the grain, cattle and other products of the Northwest, and with our fellow countrymen in the other Provinces, we have noted with pride and pleasure, the splendid trans-continental and trans-Pacific trade that is being established by our own through railway to the western seaboard. Shall we then decline to sanction the policy of disallowance inaugurated and supported by the Government for the protection of our greatest public work, and the welfare of six of the older Provinces of Canada, because the remaining one demands certain concessions? The patriotic section of Canadians, and after all they embrace the great bulk of our population will agree with the proposition, that the people of Canada are concerned in the policy of the Government. The older provinces have expended in cash in the construction of the Pacific Railway, and for the opening up of the Northwest, more than seventy million dollars, and the object of that expenditure was the establishment of inter-provincial communication, the promotion of inter-provincial trade, and the cementing of the federation. The overwhelming mass of the Canadian people truly observes the Montreal Gazette, will applaud the determination to safeguard the Canadian Pacific Railway, to preserve the trade of the country to themselves, and to make the national line fulfil the expectations formed of it. Connection with the United States railway system means the divergence of the traffic of the Northwest to American ports at the expense of our own, a threat to the progress and prosperity of the Canadian Pacific, and a loss of trade to our merchants and manufacturers, which they rightfully claim as their own, and the possession of which benefits the whole country.

In view of the circumstances then, it is strange to see some Maritime Province representatives voting against the Government on the disallowance policy of the Government. It is a spectacle indeed to witness Mr. John V. Ellis of St. John, who has been clamoring for the completion of the Short Line Railway, who has abused and ridiculed the Government in his newspaper and on the public platform, because that project has lagged, it is highly entertaining indeed we say, to observe this gentleman voting against a policy, the destruction of which would defeat the very interests of which he pretends to be so sincere a friend. If there is anything that St. John exports benefit from in the future, it is the traffic which the Short Line Railway will bring to that ambitious city. Yet in Parliament two of St. John's representatives, blinded by party zeal, and prejudiced against everything that emanates from a Conservative source, rise in their places and vote to give an American company the very rights which this country has expended millions of money to secure. The Telegraph goes out of its way to abuse Mr. Skinner, because he had the patriotism and the independence to vote with the Government on this important question, but our contemporary would be more in the line of duty if it called upon Messrs. Weldon and Ellis to resign the trust they have so deserted and betrayed. Mr. Skinner in the vote he gave in Parliament Thursday night, was guided by an honest desire to serve the best interests of his constituency and his Province; Messrs. Weldon and Ellis on the other hand, jumped up at the crack of the party whip, and against what they themselves must have been convinced, was the true, the honest, and the patriotic policy for Parliament to pursue. It is from these two gentlemen, and not from Mr. Skinner, that the Telegraph should demand an explanation.

Scolding Mr. Skinner.

The St. John Grits are very, very angry because Mr. Skinner voted with the Government on the Northwest Railway disallowance question, and the feeling of indignation was voiced the Telegraph Saturday in the following words:— "Mr. Skinner's attitude and vote certainly calls for explanation. The policy of the Liberal party has been against disallowance of provincial legislation where the Legislature was intra vires. If Mr. Skinner held views on this question, at variance with those of the party whose candidate he was, he should have stated them publicly. The question of disallowance was frequently spoken of during the election campaign, and Mr. Skinner, as St. John expected Mr. Skinner to vote when that question came up? To put it very mildly, Mr. Skinner's vote is a sad disappointment to those who supported him, and worked for him in the election, and calls for a better explanation than the mere fact of Sir Charles Tupper's invitation to him to vote with the Government. Mr. Skinner's future votes on party issues will be watched with close interest, not unmingled with some suspicion as to his party fealty. We shall be glad to find that he will in future show more regard for the interests of the constituents who elected him."

The Telegraph also scolds Peter Mitchell and Mr. Hale of Carleton for voting with the hated Tories, drawing it rather mildly on these gentlemen, because it says they were elected as independent Liberals. But poor Mr. Skinner, nothing is to hard to say against him. Possibly, however, Mr. Skinner will survive. He has shown a degree of independence that ought to raise him in the esteem of the best men of both parties, and he can afford to smile at the scoldings of the Telegraph. We never did believe that a gentleman of Mr. Skinner's progressive spirit and liberal views, could long find congenial society with the Grit party, and after all, he is but returning to his former friends, from whom he was estranged by unfair treatment from a certain section of the Conservative party in St. John. Instead of censuring Mr. Skinner, they drove him out of the party, and it was more their fault than that of Mr. Skinner, that for a time he was unfortunately associated with the Grits. With Mr. Skinner as a candidate on the Conservative side, St. John would have remained loyal to Sir John in the late elections, as we believe to day, Mr. Skinner is loyal in his heart to the Conservative cause. Let us see, with Mr. Skinner, Mr. Hale and Mr. Mitchell voting with the Government, there were only three New Brunswick M. P.'s left to support Mr. Blake, viz., Messrs. Weldon, Ellis and Gilmor. Alas! alas! the Grit party are in a bad way in New Brunswick. Where now is the former Grit Province of which we used to hear so much from 1878 to 1882. On the 26th day of May, 1887, in Parliament, on a straight vote of confidence vote in the Tory Government of Sir John A. Macdonald, this is how the representatives of New Brunswick stood:—

Tory. Grit. Wood, C. W. Weldon, Foster, Gilmor, Temple, Ellis—3, Costigan, Hale, Skinner, Mitchell, Baird, Moffatt, Burns, Wilmut, Dr. Weldon, Landry—13. Comment is needless. We commend the bald facts to our angry and disappointed Grit friends.

Mr. Campbell's Death. The news of the sudden death of Mr. Campbell, M. P., for Digby, N. S., is contained in our news columns to-day. Following so closely Mr. Moffatt's death, and bearing so close a resemblance to the latter's sad decease, Mr. Campbell's demise caused a great shock to his fellow members, to his constituency, and to the country. Mr. Campbell came of a political family. His grandfather represented Shelburne, in the N. S. House of Assembly for twenty years, and his father, the late Colin Campbell, sat for Digby county in the same body, from 1859 to 1867, and again from 1874 to 1878, being also during the latter term, a member of the Government of N. S. The late Mr. Campbell, M. P., was in the prime of life at his decease, being just forty years of age. He was first elected to Parliament in February last, when he defeated Hon. W. B. Vail, and redeemed Digby to the Conservative party. He was a general popular gentleman, who made a great many friends at Ottawa during his brief Parliamentary career, and his untimely death is sincerely lamented.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER. An American Estimate of the Finance Minister.

(From the Boston Post.) As Sir John A. Macdonald's first lieutenant, and second only to him in ability and energy, stands Sir Charles Tupper. He was one of the cabinet at the time of the "Pacific scandal," and with his chief he fell in 73, while Sir John was in the Victoria. Sir Charles by birth, Sir Charles began life as a student for the medical profession. He was attaining much success there, when an opportunity arose for him to enter Parliament. He opened his career as an opponent of Joseph Howe, but before that celebrated Nova Scotia's death and Tupper became close allies. Tupper was from the beginning a great admirer of confederation, and was also, it may be said to his credit, the prime mover in introducing the "free school" system into his native province. Of late years he has occupied the position of minister of railways, high commissioner to Great Britain, and is now minister of finance, succeeding Sir Leonard Tilley, who, on account of falling health, has resigned the office of public life, enjoying the honor and ease which is derived from the governorship of New Brunswick. Sir Charles Tupper is an unusual character, and a most complete master of sarcasm, and inspires terror in the heart of many a timid political opponent. Tupper is a great worker. It is said that after the fall of his party in 73, while Sir John was in the Victoria, and Mr. Tilley was enjoying the gubernatorial seat in Fredericton, Dr. Tupper was busy working, and in a large measure it is due to his efforts that the Conservative party retained the victory in 1878. Should Sir John retire from public life, it will be Tupper who will lead his party. He cannot do it as well as Sir John, but he can do it far better than any other man of the party excepting the Premier.

Weather Probabilities. It is probable that in the breaking up of winter we shall have much damp sloppy weather, when rheumatism, neuralgia, &c., will be the order of the day. Hagyard's Yellow Oil is the popular household remedy for external and internal ailments. Its curative power is truly wonderful.

LANDLORD AND AGITATOR.

The Governor General's Reference to O'Brien's Visit. A Catholic Organ's Opinion of the latter's Crusade. Speaking at a banquet given in his honor at Toronto last week, Mr. Lansdowne said in reference to Mr. O'Brien's visit:—"Short as our visit has been, we leave Toronto knowing it and its people much better than we did when we arrived. I feel that if I had been called on to visit Toronto, I should have had an opportunity of residing here for a week as we have done, I should have carried away a very different impression of Canada from that which I have now. The cordiality, the kindness and hospitality of your people has been as delightful as the weather which we have encountered. It is true that during our visit a slight touch of electricity has been perceptible in the atmosphere, and that certain stars have shot madly from their spheres into your quiet firmament. They have expanded their wings, and have been seen in such erratic constellations. The disturbances have been brief and inconsiderable. I trust that it will leave no trace behind it. As far as I am concerned, I may say that, owing to your kindness and hospitality, I have not interfered with my happiness or convenience. I might go a good deal further, and add that it is to the fact that we were not the only visitors to Toronto, that we owe the extraordinary demonstrations of loyalty and goodwill which we have here experienced. Your conduct has, in fact, acted as a tonic to the political system of the Dominion. The disturbances have not been impugned, so long as his conduct in any other capacity has been called in question by constitutional methods in the Legislature either of Canada or of his own country, he may safely leave his public or his private reputation in the custody of your people. It has shown more, for it has afforded a signal proof not only of this, but of your adherence for the methods of those who seek to achieve by intimidation and prosecution what they know could not be obtained by legitimate means. If I could ever have had any doubt as to the result, the action of your people has removed it. The appeal has been made to you; by your judgment I am perfectly content to abide."

The Catholic Weekly Review of Toronto, published under the auspices of His Grace Archbishop Lynch, has the following article on the subject of Mr. O'Brien's visit to Canada, so far, has been a great success—for Lord Lansdowne, it has benefited the country party here and abroad, and put the Catholics of this province at least in an awkward position, and it has done harm to the cause in Ireland. The present Governor-General might come and go to Toronto, as he did once before, and receive the same shabby recognition, but thanks to Mr. O'Brien, he has been feted and eulogized, addresses have been given in his honor from all quarters; an anti-Roman holiday, so to speak, was proclaimed for him and 15,000 people cheered themselves hoarse on his behalf. While Mr. O'Brien was having a rather unenjoyable dinner at the home of the Archbishop, the Archbishop's carriage, with the Loggancarran landlord in it, was being drawn from the Opera House to the vicar-general's residence by his enthusiastic followers. The Catholics of the country had a right to be proud of the man of the unquestioned ability of Mr. O'Brien would have sense enough to take up the situation as he went along. Montreal is the great Catholic city of Canada, and it is not the echoes of Davitt's visit still ringing in the ears of the people there? Well, this same people did not want Mr. O'Brien on his present mission. The Archbishop's visit to Ireland was something to be seriously considered? Does any man in Canada or America know more of the Irish people here than the Archbishop? The Archbishop of the venerable Father Down, who added on behalf of a city and province that no one knows better than he does. Mr. O'Brien does not know this country as well as these gentlemen. He does not know the relations in Parliament or in the Legislatures are the real voice of the people—how much must be set apart as genuine love for Ireland and how much done for the sake of the next election. He counted too close on appearances. Well, he has had some experience of the voices of the people in the streets of Paris, and if he had not been so lately, his visit has done more good than he fairly to be expected from these resolutions. If he had come on any other mission there is not the slightest doubt but he would have been welcomed as he deserved, but his present coming was ill-advised, and the object was to put the matter fairly—the talented man Mr. O'Brien certainly is, and unworthy of the cause he represents. There is no other word to express it. Landlordism in Ireland is bad, and Lansdowne may be a bad landlord, but for a sensible man, he could have thousands of miles to tell us Canadians that we should drive Lansdowne out of his position because of that, is about the silliest thing of its kind in his sense could conceive of. It will be in order for some one to say that Mr. O'Brien is in the secret pay to Lord Lansdowne. He has done him immense service, at all events.

"IN DIVERS TONES." A Critique on Prof. Roberts last Volume of Poems.

Prof. C. G. D. Roberts' recent volume of poems, "In Divers Tones," has received many encomiums from the press. The late Clarendon Steadman will place Prof. Roberts in his new edition of "The Victorian Poets." Dr. Holmes, Joaquin Miller, Edgar Fawcett, Edmund Spenser, R. A. Gilmer and others have also written the warmest congratulations. The Boston Advertiser gave the most eulogistic criticism of all. The New York Epoch was not far behind. The Canadian press has been equally generous in its praise. In America, publishes the following critique from the pen of Wm. Morton Payne. "A pleasant surprise comes to us in the shape of a volume by the poet, Charles D. Roberts, professor of English literature at King's college, Windsor, Nova Scotia. The Canadian poets are practically unknown in this country, with the exception of Fredericton, and he is a hardy thinker of an American poet, because he writes in the French language. But a poet of the power of Mr. Roberts ought not to remain unfamiliar to anyone who cares for poetry. We take pleasure in calling attention to the collection which he has entitled 'In Divers Tones.' That it is a volume of very uneven quality is the first thing that strikes the eye. The greater number of the pieces which it contains are of the mediocre sort of verse, of which far too much has already been written; but there are also some poems of quite superior beauty, and it is to them we will chiefly direct our attention. The most prominent characteristic of this verse is found in its harmony and its melody. Mr. Roberts has a ear for the music of poetry which is rare among poets.

FLOATING ON A PAN OF ICE. Fearful Experience of a School Teacher in the Straits of Northumberland.

A Tiron correspondent of the Sumner, P. E. I. Pioneer of recent date, says:—"Authentic tidings of the fearful experience of Mr. John Sheriff, teacher, North Carleton, has just reached this place. Towards the middle of last week, Mr. Sheriff started last Monday morning to have a shot at geese, telling his young wife that he would be back in time to open school. Not putting in an appearance through the night, she and his wife went to his room, and search was instituted, but no trace of his person could be found. In the meantime poor Sheriff was drifting on the pan of ice in the middle of the Straits. Shortly after he left the shore his paddle goose-boat was partly crushed. After vainly trying to stop the inflow of water with his coat, he pulled the boat upon a pan of ice which kept drifting seaward. Night fell, and the wind blowing morning the wind veered around, and the pan of ice, with its now almost bearded occupant (his coat being saturated from being placed in the break in the ice) drifted shoreward. After traversing the Straits from Carleton Head to Sand Point and back to Carleton, he again launched his boat, which he refitted with the assistance of his shooting suit, and landed on the shore of Northumberland. Mr. Sheriff graduated from the Military School, in this city, last autumn, and is a captain in the 82nd Battalion.

ON THE BENCH.

Judge E. L. Wetmore holds his first Circuit at Whitewood. Ho raps the Lawyers' Knuckles and is Presented with an Address.

(From the Regina Journal, May 19th.) The first sitting of the Supreme Court of the North West Territories for the Judicial District of Assiniboia was held at Whitewood on Monday, the 10th inst., Judge Wetmore presiding. The court was called for ten o'clock in the forenoon, and sharp on the bench, but the members of the Bar, and the Whittowood Hotel puffing their fragrant Havanas and telling election yarns. The Judge arose, and in a few brief and very polite but not expressed regret of the want of punctuality on the part of the Bar, announced the mode of procedure he intended following in the future if cases were not ready, and adjourned the court until two o'clock in the afternoon. About five minutes after the court adjourned the lawyers came strolling in, and on discovering the time of the sitting, they hurried into their purple bags. They found the court room chilly, but it is usually a cold day when lawyers get left. It is needless to say that this session of the court was a most successful one in the estimation of the Bar and public. Promptness and dignity characterized his first day's sitting on the Bench, and won for him many well-deserved praises from those present. A twenty o'clock sharp the court opened the lawyers having been in their places fully half an hour. The members of the Bar present were D. L. Scott, G. C. of Regina, W. White and F. Forbes of Mooseau.

Mr. W. White, Crown Prosecutor for Eastern Assiniboia, Judicial District, thus addressed His Lordship, Mr. Justice Wetmore, on taking his seat on the Bench:—"Before entering upon the business of the Court, I wish on behalf of the Bar of this district to tender to your Lordship our congratulations, and to express our warmest wishes for the success of your judicial career. It is a great honor to have you on the Bench of the Supreme Court of this Judicial District, which is the most populous—and all I can be pardoned for saying is that all due respect is tendered to the Court, and to the Bar in that Province, before us and I must say that the North West Territories are to be congratulated on securing one so eminent a jurist to their Bench. It is a most important duty devolving upon one occupying so exalted a position. I hope, and in fact have no doubt but that the relations already existing between the Bench and Bar will continue cordial as at present, and I trust that your Lordship may be spared to fill and discharge the duties of the Bench with credit and honor. It has been your good fortune to know your Lordship personally for any length of time, but your record in public life in the Province from which you have just removed is well known to us, and as one of the leaders of the Bar in that Province, before us and I must say that the North West Territories are to be congratulated on securing one so eminent a jurist to their Bench. It is a most important duty devolving upon one occupying so exalted a position. I hope, and in fact have no doubt but that the relations already existing between the Bench and Bar will continue cordial as at present, and I trust that your Lordship may be spared to fill and discharge the duties of the Bench with credit and honor. 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