

persons came forward, and enrolled their names therein. The following officers were then elected:— Enoch Bamford, President. Joseph Dunphy, 1st, Vice-President. James Jilks, 2nd, Vice-President. Sophrona Wasson, 3rd, Vice-President. Eliza Young, Secretary. David Bamford, Treasurer.

It was then decided that the Club be known as the "New Salem Reform Club" and that it meet every Saturday evening for the transaction of business, the meetings to be held alternately in the school houses of Districts No. 2, and 2 1/2. During the signing of the pledge, and at intervals during the meetings, the choir furnished appropriate music.

After a vote of thanks had been unanimously tendered to the speakers and Chairman, the meeting closed by singing the Doxology.

Yours, &c., REFORMER.

Among the Lumber Camps. BAY DU VIN, 26th, Feb. 78. To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

DEAR ADVANCE.—In my last letter I promised to let you know what I saw at Rogerville, but I must leave that for another visit, as I had not time to make any visits to the different places such as I would wish to do before reporting what is actually taking place there. From Carleton Station I walked 4 miles and reached Alfred Pine's camp on the head of Bay du Vin.

In travelling this distance we cross, Big Brook, a branch of Barnaby River. On this brook where the road crosses there is a large landing of logs, but as I had nothing to do, as an official here, I did not learn the name of the party hauling them. A great part of the Crown land on this road is surveyed off in lots for settlement, and a great part of it has been underbrushed, that is all the small wood has been cut down, and the large trees remain standing until this underbrush is burnt. There are also different houses occupied by settlers already living there. The houses are about 20x18 and built of logs hewn square with the roofs boarded and shingled. The settlers that have their houses built now, have generally obtained the boards that they have used in building from Acadiaville, but I suppose that now they get them from Cowie's mill at Rogerville as it is much nearer. There is a good road from Carleton Station to Pine's camp; it is cut out the full width for turning the great part of the way. From Pine's camp or the head of Bay du Vin it is only about 5 miles to Acadiaville, this road is all cut out and part of it trucked. It being Sunday when I arrived at Pine's camp and as there was a very good prospect for living, I determined to stay over Sunday with them. Early on Sunday morning George, the cook, aroused me to partake of the flippers he says he always gives the men on Sunday morning. If I am a judge, I would say that George stands well in his profession as head cook and bottle washer. At this camp they are not without news as I saw the ADVANCE, which the men say is warmly welcomed as a visitor to cheer them in lonely hours. After dinner on Sunday, which was a first class one, I visited, with the men of the camp, the settlement which is only about 1/2 of a mile from the camp. This is the largest settlement from Rogerville to Acadiaville. It runs from Bay du Vin towards Kouchibouguac and is known as block 14, although it is not in block 14 of the Miramichi. I arrived in block 10 range 11. There is in this block surveyed for settlement 14 lots and the most of them are taken or applied for. If I am not mistaken there are now eight settlers on those lots viz: A. Martin & Son, T. Thorbeau, O. Milliner and M. V. E. & V. Thibodeau. The settlers here seem to be contented happy and comfortable. It would naturally be supposed that the bears would be troublesome to settlers, but such is not the case; though they are said to be plenty, they do not molest either the cattle or their sheep. The settlers catch a good many of them. After spending a very pleasant Sunday, I resumed my travels on Monday morning down river. The following parties are hauling logs for J. Graham, Esq., to be sawn at the Bay du Vin mills. Pine, Sullivan, Ramesbury, Flynn, Ridley, McArdery, Luskett, Miller, Fraser and Pitman. J. McDonald and Edward Quinn are hauling for Snowball, also to be sawn at Bay du Vin, and the Watlings are for Muirhead. There are 26 horses working on Bay du Vin and about 60 men.

It has been so far a splendid winter for working in the woods, with not over 1 1/2 feet of snow and the swamps frozen hard. After the logs are sawn at the Bay du Vin mills, the deals go to J. B. Snowball, Esq., who is the shipper. The chief branches of the Bay du Vin river are Two Mile Brook, Ramesbury's and Peabody's forks on the south side, and Big Hovel and Goodfellow's forks on the north side. The chief places of interest on the river, or the places that are well known as Landings are: The Head of River, Thomsen's High, Ullocks' High, Big Hovel, Green, Fishers, Williams & Adie and Davies. (This landing has been known as Davie's landing, as on it David Cameron got his back hurt, so he is still living and resides at Black River, the landing is on Peabody's Forks.) The Horse, Raspberry, Hay Camp and the City Landings. The Still Waters, Fishers, Williams & Adie and Davies. (This landing has been known as Davie's landing, as on it David Cameron got his back hurt, so he is still living and resides at Black River, the landing is on Peabody's Forks.) The Horse, Raspberry, Hay Camp and the City Landings. The Still Waters, Fishers, Williams & Adie and Davies.

In my next we will take a peep at Black River and its branches and in the meantime, I remain, yours, etc., etc. TEASER.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

THE Teachers' Institute of the Inspectors' District of Northumberland County, are hereby invited to meet in the HARKINS' SEMINARY, in the town of Newcastle, at 10 a. m. on

THURSDAY, 14th day of March next, for the purpose of organizing a Teachers' Institute for said District. Please see Regulation 23 of the Board of Education, and also the Progress of exercises in Educational Circular No. 6, page 117.

C. S. RAMSAY, Inspector, Northumberland Co. February 12, 1878.

FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber offers for sale the fast sailing Schooner "MARIA," 28 tons Register. This vessel and gear is in First Class order. Apply to

WILLIAM TAIT, Chatham, Feb. 18, 78.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" is published at Chatham, Miramichi, N. B., every THURSDAY morning in time for despatch by the earliest mails of that day. It is sent at any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain (Postage prepaid by the Publisher) for \$1.50 a YEAR, or 75 CENTS FOR 6 MONTHS—the money, in all cases, to accompany the order for the paper.

Advertisements are placed under classified headings. Yearly or season advertisements are taken at the rate of Five Dollars an inch per year. The matter is space secured in the year, or as desired, may be changed under arrangement made therewith with the Publisher. The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having the large circulation distributed principally in the Counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche (New Brunswick), and in Bonaventure and Gaspé (Quebec), among communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers superior inducements to advertisers. Address Editor "Miramichi Advance," Chatham, N. B.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish to communicate directly with the editor of the ADVANCE will, during the Legislative Session, address him at Fredericton.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1878.

OUR USEFUL UP-RIVER MEMBER, Mr. SWIN, has the honor of moving the address in the Legislature this session. He will, no doubt, introduce it with a capital speech.

THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION opens very quietly. The respective parties appear to be studying how to pursue a course of masterly inactivity, so far as political warfare is concerned. In the words of Mr. Covert they are "lying low." It is to be hoped they will not become demoralized by the example of the Dominion Parliament.

NOTICE is directed to that portion of the speech of the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Legislature, wherein reference is made to commercial depression. We do not think, however, that it was intended by His Honor, or any of his advisers, that they should be understood as entertaining the belief that Canada has a monopoly of commercial depression although the thirteenth paragraph of the speech was calculated, unintentionally, of course, to convey that impression. We hardly think our Local Government could intentionally give color to the mere campaign utterances of either of the parties in Dominion politics.

"That Official Document."

We, this week continue our extracts from Mr. Finance Minister Cartwright's reply to the absurdities contained in Senator Macpherson's Pamphlet, which was quoted in his last Newcastle Speech by Hon. Mr. Mitchell:—

I perceive that Mr. Macpherson is continually charging us with expenses incurred under contracts for Goderich Harbour, Chantry Island, Bayfield, and many other works entered into by our predecessors. Now, I desire to protest once for all against the gross unfairness of attempting to hold us responsible for expenditure incurred in completing works actually commenced and put under contract by our predecessors. But in order that you and the public at large may understand what an enormous mass of obligations were left behind them by those gentlemen, I have here a statement of the total amount spent in public works "chargeable to income" during the three years 1874-5, 1875-6, and 1876-7. These amounts respectively to \$1,757,075, \$1,948,941, and \$1,314,000, making a total of \$5,020,016. Of this expenditure about \$500,000 a year consists of items which may be described as absolutely fixed, and practically out of the control of any Government, being the sums expended in keeping existing buildings in proper repair, and for arbitrations, awards, dredging, and other needful services. If, therefore, you deduct for these three years the sum of \$1,500,000 of absolutely necessary charges, you have a balance of \$3,520,016 to be accounted for.

AMOUNT DUE ACTION OF LATE GOVERNMENT.

My returns show that of this sum there was expended in works actually commenced by the late Government in 1874-5, a sum of \$1,116,643; in 1875-6, a sum of \$1,106,687; in 1876-7, a sum of \$587,000, being a total of \$2,810,330 out of \$3,520,016; while we have expended in works originated by ourselves an average amount of \$236,582 per annum. [Hear, hear, and cheers.] Now, I need hardly tell you that every Government—no matter how economical, no matter how desirous to reduce expenditure—must, of necessity, incur some outlay from time to time for the public works of such a widely-extended Dominion as ours. But I leave it, in perfect confidence, with you to say whether our bitterest enemy can accuse us of gross extravagance in view of an expenditure like this. [Cheers.]

COULD NOT REDUCE.

Permit me to add, that it is in just such expenditures as those I enumerated above, and which were literally forced upon us by our predecessors, that you will find the reason why it was utterly impossible for us at any earlier day to reduce our ordinary expenditure within moderate limits; a fact which I have pointed out many times in the course of my budget speeches, and which any honest and intelligent enquirer might have ascertained for himself by a very cursory examination of the ordinary estimates. [Hear, hear.]

COMPOSABLE MISTAKES.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman, anybody who chooses to analyse Mr. Macpherson's statements will find an unlimited quantity of composable blunders: as when he states on page 37 that the service of the Mounted Police began in 1874, in happy ignorance of the fact that this force was created by an Act of Parliament passed in May, 1873, and that the whole force was organized, and its pay, numbers, and allowances were settled, long before we took office at all. Also, when, on the same page, he speaks of the Boundary Survey as having begun in 1874, when the fact is, that it was begun several years before, and was concluded and the whole expenditure incurred some time before the close of the fiscal year 1873-4. [Hear, hear, and cheers.]

PAUSE IN REVIEW.

And now, Mr. Chairman, I must stop here in my review of Mr. Macpherson's errors. Human endurance is limited, and neither my voice nor your patience will permit me to go on instructing that gentleman in the very A B C of the finances of the Dominion.

HINT TO SENATE.

I shall only venture in all humility to suggest that if members of the Senate do feel a vocation to instruct the general public in matters of finance, it would be advisable (always supposing that Mr. Macpherson is to be regarded as a fair representative specimen) to provide in future that all individuals of that august body entertaining such intentions should be required at stated intervals to pass an examination in the simpler rules of arithmetic, in order to insure that they know, or have not forgotten, so much of the rules of division and multiplication as might prevent a repetition of the blunders which it has to-day been my unpleasant duty to call your attention to. [Hear, hear, laughter and cheers.]

PRACTICAL MATTERS.

Coming, however, to matters of more practical moment, I propose to lay before you a few simple facts, from which you will be able to draw your own conclusions. When we took office in 1873-4, the total population of this Dominion was estimated not to exceed three and three-quarter millions. Our present population for the year 1877-8 is estimated by the best authorities to be fully equal to four millions, the fact being that the natural increase of population in Canada is always very considerable, and, moreover, that the emigration to the United States has been all but entirely stopped since the year 1873. As it is well known that that emigration cost us previously at least 40,000 people a year, and that in spite of it the population of Canada always steadily continued to increase, there does not appear to be any possible room for doubt that the figures I have given you are rather under than over the mark. Now, I propose to show you:— First, that the total burden of interest yearly accruing on our debt and subsidies, measured per capita, has hardly increased at all since we took office. Secondly, that the amount of the debt itself, measured by the same standard, has increased very little. Thirdly, that the total taxation per head is not increased. Fourthly, that the amount of new taxes imposed at the same time, sufficient to meet the amount of new taxes to meet the new expenditure. [Cheers.] No rule of fiscal policy is clearer or better established than this: that if a Government allows itself to be forced into new expenditures without at the same time putting on new taxes, it deprives itself of the only safeguard which any Administration possesses against the continual pressure of its own supporters for special favours, and in our case it is very unlikely that anything like the amount of new charges which were imposed in the fatal session of 1873 could have been carried had this elementary rule of true statesmanship been adhered to. [Hear, hear.]

ACTUAL FACTS.

As it was, you will remember that in 1873-4 we found that the total estimated expenditure incurred under the acts and estimates of the late Government had run up to \$23,316,316, which, divided by three and three-quarter millions, gives an average of \$6.22 per head. Our estimated expenditure for the present year, 1877-8, deducting, as it is but just to do, that portion which is derived from actual cash investments not existing in 1872-3, amounts to \$23,128,000, which, divided by four millions, gives an average of \$5.78 per head, being a reduction of 44 cents per head in our favour on that estimate, or nearly two millions per annum. [Cheers.] It may be observed that this statement is very unduly favourable to the late Administration, inasmuch as the expenditure actually incurred in 1873-4 was nearly \$600,000 in excess of the amount recorded in the public accounts, the fact being that the whole expenditure for the Boundary Survey, amounting to \$235,846 additional had been incurred prior to the close of 1873-4, although, owing to the delay in the verification of the accounts, which were in the hands of the Imperial auditors, the money was not actually charged in the two subsequent years. Similarly, nearly \$100,000 additional should be added to the expenditure of 1873-4 on account of the expenses incurred by the Mounted Police in that year, and charged subsequently; as also the remaining half year's sinking fund and interest due on Mr. Tilley's loan, amounting to something like \$225,000, all of which items I have omitted for the purpose of this calculation.

FOURTH STATEMENT.

Fourthly, I repeat that if you will compare the expenditure of the late Government for 1872-3 with our estimated expenditure for the present year, 1877-8, you will find that upon deducting those increases which are unmistakably due to the acts of the late Government, our total expenditure is very nearly 14 million less than their expenditure for 1872-3, and our relative expenditure, taking the per capita standard, between three and four millions less than theirs. [Loud cheers.] On turning to the public accounts, you will perceive that in the year 1872-3 the total expenditure amounted to \$19,174,647. Now our estimated population in the year, which, being in mind, was prior to the admission of Prince Edward Island, amounted to 3,600,000 souls, and our expenditure per head was, therefore, as nearly as may be, \$5.32. Now, if you will take our estimates for the current year, 1877-8, you will find that the total amount that we demanded for all services was \$23,378,000, of which some \$250,000 formed a cross-entry represented by interest on investments made since 1872-3, leaving an estimated amount—to be provided by taxes of one kind or other—of \$23,128,000, showing a difference between the ascertained expenditure of 1873 and the estimated expenditure for 1877-8 of \$3,953,353. Since 1872-3 our ordinary expenditure has been increased by the following items:— Provincial Debt and Subsidy of New Brunswick, \$829,000; Prince Edward Island, including railway and steam ferry, \$300,000; Mr. Tilley's loan, say, \$450,000; Post-office increase by Mr. Tilley's estimate, \$200,000; Interest on capital, \$250,000; Working expenses Intercolonial Railway, \$500,000; Montreal Harbour works, \$1,200,000; Indian treaties, say, \$200,000. Total, \$3,529,000. Which deducted from \$23,128,000, will give a sum of \$19,609,000.

RESULT.

Which amount, divided by four millions, is as nearly as possible \$4.90 per head. In other words, were you to deduct those increases which are directly due to the action of the late Government, you would find that we were administering the affairs of this country some 82 cents per head cheaper than they were able to do in 1872-3, or in round numbers, for \$3,280,000 less a year, taking their own standard of measurement. [Hear, hear, and loud cheers.]

ITEMS OF LAST.

Now I call your special attention to the items comprising this list. Of them all I can imagine but two—that is a part of the cost of new Indian treaties, and a small part of the item for interest on capital expended on public works—as to which it is even possible to raise a question as to the liability of the late Government to anybody pretend that this Government are responsible for the assumption of the Provincial debt; or the additional subsidy to New Brunswick; or for the admission of Prince Edward Island; or for the loan contracted by Mr. Tilley; for the alteration in the mode of keeping the Post-office accounts, resulting in a nominal addition of \$300,000; for the working expenses of those portions of the Intercolonial Railway opened since 1872-3; for the interest upon capital sunk in carrying out public

works commenced by these hon. gentlemen; for the expenditure caused by the Mounted Police, which they organized, and whose numbers and pay we have not increased; or for the system of Indian treaties which they had inaugurated, from which if you deduct the proportionate amount for the estimated increase of one-quarter of a million between 1873 and 1878, you will find that our effective income does not exceed \$10,000,000, which, with the heavy expenditure on public works chargeable to income, nor of sundry minor matters which might be fairly used to swell the total against them. I have dealt with items of permanent increase alone; and though I do not pretend to say that all of these were unnecessary or uncalled for, I do say that it is the height of injustice to debit us with the increased expenditure fairly and directly due to the acts of our predecessors; and that in any comparison made between the present and the late Government, the least you can do is to compare our expenditure, after deducting these items, with theirs under similar circumstances. [Hear, hear.]

ONE MORE CALCULATION.

I shall only trouble you with one calculation more. You will observe that Mr. Tilley, in his budget speech of 1873, declared that he was about to alter the mode of keeping the public accounts, by causing the Post-office Department to pay a considerable sum of money into the hands of the Receiver-General which hitherto they had received and disbursed without that formality, and which amounted, as he states, to nearly \$300,000. Now, if you will add that amount to the actual gross receipts for the year 1872-3, which amounted to \$20,813,469, you will find that that sum, divided by 3,600,000, the then population, gives an average amount, collected in one way or another from the people of Canada, of \$5.86 per head; while, if you take our estimated gross revenue for 1877-8, which amounts to \$23,400,000, and deduct the \$250,000 interest on our cash investments since 1872-3, you will find that our gross revenue on a population of four millions is \$5.79 per head, being absolutely 74 cents less than theirs in 1872-3, without making one single deduction on any account. Or, better still, taking the actual receipts for stamps, customs, and excise, which amounted in 1872-3 to \$17,615,000, and which are estimated for the present year at \$19,150,000, you will find that our real tax for 1877-8 is nearly as possible \$4.79 per head, as against \$4.90 in 1872-3, being a difference on the actual taxation of nearly half a million in our favour, measured per capita. Work the sum which you please, and the results are always more or less in favour of the existing Administration. [Hear, hear.]

SUMMARY.

Putting it broadly, although in 1877-8 we are providing for the wants of a quarter of a million people more than they did in 1873-4; although we are paying half a million more into the Sinking Fund in direct reduction of our debt; although we have to provide for a great many more services; and although we pay a very large sum annually as interest upon works to which these gentlemen committed us irrevocably before we took office, yet our gross estimated expenditure barely exceeds \$62,000 over their gross nominal expenditure for 1873-4, while if we deduct our receipts for interest, and charge them with the genuine expenditure properly belonging to 1873-4, there would be a balance in our favour of three-quarters of a million in our favour on the real cost of the two years compared together. [Hear, hear, and cheers.]

EASILY REFUTED, IF WRONG.

This, in fine, is our case. You will observe that these statements depend for proof on very plain and simple facts. If I am wrong, nothing can be easier than to detect and expose my errors, and probably there is not one man among you who cannot easily verify my calculations for himself if he likes to take the trouble.

CONSEQUENCES, IF RIGHT.

But if what I say is true, then, not only are Mr. Macpherson's allegations utterly disproved, not only is he individually convicted of having played the part of a bitter and dishonest partizan, but what is much more important, the whole general policy, financial and other, of the Macpherson Administration is triumphantly vindicated, and the responsibility justly attaching to the men who engaged in this country in a network of most onerous and most uncalled-for obligations is placed where it deserves. [Cheers.] There is a good deal, therefore, involved in these four simple propositions, and I am not making a very unreasonable request in bespeaking your best consideration for the statements I have been making.

ANOTHER SUGGESTION FOR "DRUM-MAJOR" MACPHERSON.

And now, Mr. Chairman, in bidding farewell to Mr. Macpherson, and in cordial acknowledgment of the really important service he has rendered us in enabling me to call your attention to these exceedingly useful facts, and in supplying us with such an excellent standard whereby to measure the relative economy of the late and present Administrations, I would venture to express a hope that the next time it pleases him to be ragged regiment in advance of Sir John's ragged regiment—(loud laughter)—a post which, I admit, he has very special gifts and graces—he would kindly contrive to get his various wind instruments into somewhat better harmony. [Hear, hear, and renewed laughter.]

The Eastern Question.

It is reported that Lord Lyons, British Ambassador at Paris, will represent England at the Conference of the Great Powers, which is shortly to be held. The situation, however, seems to have materially changed, and new peace conditions have lately been demanded by Russia. They include new boundaries for Bulgaria, and provide for the assembling of notables to elect a sovereign prince, whose nomination is to be sanctioned by the Porte and the Foreign Powers. A Russian commission is to supersede the Bulgarian Government for a period of two years, and fifty thousand Russian troops are to occupy the principality during that period. The conditions also provide for a cession of territory to Montenegro; for the transfer of the Dobruzschta to Romania in exchange for Bessarabia; for the cession of territory in Bosnia to Serbia; for the prohibition of the passage of men-of-war through the Straits, and absolute freedom of passage for merchantmen at all times, and for the payment of an indemnity of fourteen hundred million roubles, to cover which Turkey is to cede Batoum, Kars, Bayazid, Ardahan, and adjacent territory. Turkey is also to pay forty millions sterling in bonds, the interest and sinking fund of which will be guaranteed by the Bulgarian and Egyptian tributes and in other ways. Russia, a Constantinople despatch announces, will hold her present positions until the indemnity is paid. The draft of the

peace conditions is also said to contain a stipulation that six of the principal Turkish iron-clads shall be ceded to Russia. Russia, however, is said to have withdrawn her demand at present, on condition that the vessels shall not be sold to England. Considerable excitement prevails in England, both in and out of Parliament, relative to the points which more particularly affect British interests.

Pope Leo XIII.

On Thursday last, Cardinal Gioacchino Pecci, Archbishop of Perugia and Chamberlain of the late Pope Pius IX, was elected to fill the Papal Chair as Leo XIII, after a third ballot. He was born in 1810, and is in his sixty-eighth year, having filled the high office of Cardinal for nearly a quarter of a century, in a manner which has won him universal esteem. He is said to be of tall and commanding presence, of a practical and vigorous turn of mind, a thorough business man, and moreover a man of the world accustomed to, and discreet in dealing with men. With good administrative abilities already tested, and holding moderate opinions, there is every reason to hope that he will deserve an honored niche among his predecessors, among whom are two noted namesakes, Leo I, surnamed "the Great," accounted one of the saints of the Roman Catholic Church, a man of great zeal and activity, who filled the Pontificate for 21 years, and Leo III, who during a reign of equal length, crowned Charlemagne, Emperor at Rome.

The Report of the Minister of Agriculture.

The report of the Minister of Agriculture for 1877 embraces quite a variety of subjects in addition to the one from which it derives its title, such as Copyrights, Trade Marks, Patents, Quarantine, Immigration, Statistics of Insolvency, &c. The report states that the Statistical Office at Halifax has been closed on account of the cessation of the annual grant hitherto made by Parliament, all the documents having been stored in the Old Provincial building at Halifax, as the Local Government has for the present declined to accept them.

On the 25th of April, the Dominion Council of Agriculture was organized with the Minister of Agriculture as Honorary President, after which standing committees were appointed for the consideration of a variety of subjects in connection with Agriculture, but the only paper that had been forwarded so far to the Minister is the Report on Forestry and Forests of Canada, by H. G. Joly, one of the members of the Council.

In consequence of the prevalence of rinderpest in various parts of Europe last year, it was found necessary to alter the Cattle Quarantine Regulations which had aimed at "Foot and Mouth" and other like diseases, and an order in Council was passed to that effect on March 2nd 1877. The only animals quarantined were 172 at Point Lewis, there being no cases of disease at St. John or Halifax. A representation was made to the Imperial authorities by parties extensively engaged in the exportation of live stock to the United Kingdom, relative to the detention of animals in the dockyards upon landing after a long ocean voyage, for examination by the inspector.

The ravages of the potato beetle are thought to be underrated on account of the Conference being informal and was confined to the discussion of the financial condition of the respective Provinces and the probable financial and general effects of the proposed Union; and I did not think it proper to commit you in any way to so important a constitutional change which—having the character of finality—would be the growth of a general feeling of its advantages, and the result of prolonged discussion. The visit of the delegation from Nova Scotia will lead to the more full and attentive discussion of this question.

The administration of justice being a matter of provincial concern, I would draw attention to the state of laws respecting evidence in criminal cases, in the hope that a change may be made by the Parliament of Canada, in which body alone the power to legislate in such matters exists. I regard it as conducive to the good administration of justice as in fairness to the persons charged with crime, that all persons so charged should (whatever the magnitude of the crime) have right to give evidence in their own behalf. The existing state of the law, however advantageous it may be to the guilty, is clearly prejudicial to the innocent. And if the object of the existing law were the protection of guilty persons, little could be said against it. I will ask you to join in an address to His Excellency, the Governor General, praying for this alteration in the law.

Your attention will be directed to certain matters affecting the interests of Agriculture, including provision for holding a Provincial Exhibition the present year, the more frequent holding of such exhibitions hereafter, and the importation of certain stock. I think it desirable that the School Boards in cities and incorporated towns should be enlarged with the view to a more varied representation on such Boards. I have caused renewed representations to be made to the Government at Ottawa concerning the claim of the Province to the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in respect to the Eastern Extension Railway. This matter was brought under the consideration of the Dominion Government in the month of December, 1874, and no conclusion having been reached, I deemed it advisable to send members of my Government to Ottawa early in the present session of Parliament, to endeavor to obtain through the co-operation of the Senators and members of the House of Commons representing the Province, a settlement of this matter. I am glad to be able to say that, with few exceptions, the members representing the Province cordially co-operated with the members of my Government. The Provincial investment in Eastern Extension Railway was made for a work undertaken by the Province in 1865, as a part of the Intercolonial Railway, and in view of the previous assurance of the Imperial Government that New Brunswick should not be prejudiced by commencing that portion of the work in anticipation of a final arrangement for the construction of the whole line, and that the Imperial guarantee when given (as it subsequently was given by the Imperial Government and accepted by Canada) should cover this portion of the road.—The road was subsequently adopted by the Dominion Government as part of the Intercolonial Railway, but the Province has thus far received from Canada only two hundred and fifty thousand dollars out of

the four hundred thousand dollars put into the road by the Province. There can be no doubt of the right of the Province to receive the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars on this account with interest.

THE LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

The New Brunswick Legislature was opened at 3 p. m. on Tuesday. The weather was beautiful, and there was a large attendance of ladies. The guard of honor was under the command of Major Staples, and consisted of Mr. Staples' and Capt. Cropley's companies of the 71st Batt., with the Cadets of the Military School. A salute was fired by a volunteer battery under command of Capt. A. G. Beckwith. The following:

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