

General Business.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL, And Bargains in all Classes of STABLE & FANCY DRY GOODS,

W. B. HOWARD'S, COMMERCIAL HOUSE, CHATHAM.

Tobacco! Tobacco!! I HAVE just received a large stock of

W. C. McDONALD'S TOBACCO,

which I will sell in Bond or Duty paid, CHEAPER THAN CAN BE IMPORTED.

Call and see Samples and prices.

ISAAC HARRIS, Water St., Chatham.

MOLASSES! SUGAR!!

IN STORE. 30 Hds. Choice Barbados Molasses.

FOR SALE VERY LOW, BY HARDING & HATHWAY,

17 & 18 South Water, St. John, N. B.

Vick's Floral Guide.

A beautiful work of 100 Pages, One Color Flower Plate, and 900 Illustrations.

Call and see Samples and prices.

James Wick, Rochester, N. Y.

Bowditch's FLOWER SEEDS.

My Catalogue for 1879 is the best and most comprehensive work ever published.

W. E. BOWDITCH, 645 WAREH ST., BOSTON, MASS.

20 Cards. All lovely Chromos, Motives, Flowers, &c.

CAUTION! GRAY'S Syrup of Red Spruce Gum.

Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Hoarseness, &c.

TRADE MARK NOTICE.

KERRY, WATSON & Co., Wholesale Druggists, Montreal.

BRIDGE NOTICE.

Public Works, Fredericton, at SATURDAY.

Law, etc.

E. H. MCALPINE, Attorney-at-Law.

Room 3, Prince Street, Barrhill's Building.

NOTICE.

APPLICATION will be made to the Lord Judge for an Act to extend the Parish of Addington.

Administrators Notice.

AL persons having legal claims against the late Mrs. Mary Ann McAlpine.

Sheriff's Sale.

TO be sold at Public Auction on FRIDAY.

NOTICE.

To all parties having or pretending to have interest in the estate of the deceased John McAlpine.

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Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, FEBRUARY 20, 1879.

A Serious Defeat of the British.

A letter of 27th January, from Cape Town, Africa and despatch to the New York Herald give some particulars of a great defeat of British troops, the main features of which are as follows:—

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made in "ignorance". We regret that a professional man like Dr. Thomson should lose sight of the points at which our remarks were directed and take a course calculated to continue the Hospital in the condition of which we complained. We said nothing respecting the Medical Officer or his ability to treat patients, nor did we presume upon a diagnosis of any patient's case. Why that gentleman should publish those particulars, therefore, is not logically apparent. Our remarks were directed against the uncleanly and slovenly condition in which we found the place. We stated that slops were emptied from the door of the Institution and were uncleanly and calculated to render the atmosphere of the Hospital infectious, besides threatening to pollute the water used in the Institution. Do we understand Dr. Thomson to imply the term "false" to these statements and conclusions? We also said the floors were dirty, that dirty rag and cast-off clothing were hanging about the walls and vestibule; that the ward occupied by patients was in a slovenly and uncleanly condition, that "gruel" we saw was a vile compound, full of lumps of meal, strewn with molasses. These things we saw and examined. Does Dr. Thomson deny the truth of our statements? It is needless to repeat other points advanced by us, for if Dr. Thomson denies any one of these statements he would, doubtless, do the same in respect of others. We can only repeat that they are true. What the Doctor means by attributing "party" motives we are at a loss to conjecture. We were asked to visit the place and report upon it as we found it, and we did so in the public interest, without reference to "party" or any other improper consideration.

On the matter of Finance and the Tariff the Speech contained the following paragraph:—

The estimates for the ensuing year will be made up at an early day. They have been prepared with the view to economy as is compatible with the efficiency of the public service. I regret that the receipts into the treasury from ordinary sources are not so large as to meet the charges against the consolidated revenue. You will, I don't doubt, be of the opinion that it is not desirable that our finances should remain in this condition. By the application of the strictest economy to the public expenditure, and by the re-adjustment of the tariff, with a view of increasing the revenue, and at the same time of developing and encouraging the various industries of Canada, you will, I trust, be enabled to restore the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, and aid in removing the commercial and financial depression which, unhappily, exists.

On the return of the Commission to their Chamber, Sir John A. Macdonald introduced a bill relating to the administration of oaths of office, and moved that the Speech from the Throne be taken into consideration on Monday next. Carried.

Sir John A. Macdonald moved that a Select Committee be appointed to strike the Standing Committee.

The House adjourned at 4 p.m.

No party caucuses have yet been held.

The Drawing Room to night is quite brilliant, the galleries containing those who cannot go to the next evening.

The State dinner last evening was also a brilliant affair.

Next week business will begin.

The Majority of the Government is expected to be about seventy-five.

There are not any indications of weakness or wavering in either Government or Opposition ranks.

Two Reasons Assigned.—The British Admiralty publishes the statement that the Committee appointed to investigate the disaster of H. M. Ironclad "Thunderer" have discovered that the gun which exploded had already been loaded with an extra charge which missed fire.

When a full charge was inserted and fired the explosion occurred. A previous announcement attributed the catastrophe to the ball rolling forward when the gun was deflected leaving a vacuum of some six feet between it and the powder charge.

DISMISSED WITHOUT CAUSE.—A short time since an attempt was made through the local Government to secure the dismissal of A. K. McDougall, Esq., from the position of Secretary to the Transatlantic Commissioners. The Governor, however, refused to undertake the job directly, but through the influence of Messrs. Young & Adams, new members were appointed to the Board and on Tuesday of this week accomplished the purpose for which they were added to that body.

Mr. McDougall is universally esteemed as an honorable citizen and conscientious officer, against whom no charge has been even hinted, and citizens of all classes will condemn Mr. Adams for all course he has pursued towards so respectable and blameless a gentleman.

OTTAWA, FEB. 12.

In the House of Commons during the forenoon, the clerks were engaged at the table swearing in members.

At 3 o'clock the House met. Shortly after the Union of the Black Rod summoned the members to the bar of the Senate, with the usual ceremony.

Arrived at the Senate, the members were informed by Chief Justice Ritchie that when they elected a Speaker, His Excellency would inform them of his reasons for calling them together.

On retiring to the Commons Chamber, the Clerk called order.

Sir John Macdonald moved that Dr. Blanchet be paid the nominee a high compliment for his parliamentary experience and other qualifications, he having presided as Speaker over the Quebec Assembly.

Mr. Tilley seconded the nomination without remark.

Mr. Mackenzie expressed his astonishment at the nomination. In 1873, when Sir John proposed Mr. Cockburn, he laid down the principle that, when a member had served as Speaker it was usual, in England, to continue him as long as he was a member.

The mover, on this occasion, carried out his previous views. He had urged Speaker Inglis last session and now went back to him. (Laughter.) However no person besides the member for Gloucester would give greater satisfaction than Dr. Blanchet to members on this side of the House.

Dr. Blanchet was then escorted to the chair by Sir John Macdonald and Mr. Tilley. He returned thanks in the usual terms, in both languages, saying he would endeavor to preside with impartiality while occupying the high position in which he was placed.

Sir John congratulated the Speaker on his unanimous election and moved an adjournment.

The House then adjourned.

OTTAWA, FEB. 14.

Parliament was opened to-day, with the usual ceremony, at 10 o'clock p.m., and the scene in the Senate Chamber was a brilliant one. The crash was something fearful and several ladies fainted.

The affair was the most brilliant ever seen within the walls of the Senate Chamber. H. R. H. Princess Louise occupied a seat on the dias, and was dressed in mourning with diamond ornaments. She was loudly cheered as she drove up to the buildings as was the Governor-General arriving shortly after.

The usual message was delivered by Black Rod, and the Commons proceeded to the Senate Chamber where His Excellency delivered the Speech. It expressed the pleasure felt by the Queen in accepting the Government, and conveyed the thanks of the Queen to the people of Canada for their enthusiastic welcome to the Princess Louise. It referred to the Exhibition, and the valuable services rendered by the Canadian Commissioners by the Prince of Wales; the payment of the Fishery Award; the action of the Government in the matter of the cattle disease,

securing for the present at least, an advantage to the shippers of cattle from Canadian ports; the negotiations going to secure greater freedom of trade with France and Spain and their respective colonies; the recent opening of the Peninsular Branch Railroad, and the vigorous prosecution of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, with due regard to the financial circumstances of the country.

The chief measures for consideration are the Acts relating to Stamp and Weights and Measures; a bill to provide for the re-arrangement of some of the Departments; a bill vesting in Her Majesty for use of the Dominion, Orinac Islands in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; a bill relating to the census of 1881, and a bill providing Dominion security as a basis for Life Insurance.

On the matter of Finance and the Tariff the Speech contained the following paragraph:—

The estimates for the ensuing year will be made up at an early day. They have been prepared with the view to economy as is compatible with the efficiency of the public service. I regret that the receipts into the treasury from ordinary sources are not so large as to meet the charges against the consolidated revenue. You will, I don't doubt, be of the opinion that it is not desirable that our finances should remain in this condition. By the application of the strictest economy to the public expenditure, and by the re-adjustment of the tariff, with a view of increasing the revenue, and at the same time of developing and encouraging the various industries of Canada, you will, I trust, be enabled to restore the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, and aid in removing the commercial and financial depression which, unhappily, exists.

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Mr. McDougall is universally esteemed as an honorable citizen and conscientious officer, against whom no charge has been even hinted, and citizens of all classes will condemn Mr. Adams for all course he has pursued towards so respectable and blameless a gentleman.

OTTAWA, FEB. 12.

In the House of