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CHRISTMAS. On hand, a fine assortment of Goods for the Holiday Season, consisting of Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, and Chickens. CANNED GOODS, comprising Peaches, Raspberries, Pine Apples, Blueberries, Tomatoes, Chickens, Turkey, Mackerel, Salmon, Lobsters, &c. Home Made Preserves of all Kinds.

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Miramichi Advance. CHATHAM, DECEMBER 30, 1880. Our Ottawa Letter. THE RECORD OF THE CONSERVATIVES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PACIFIC RAILWAY.—THEIR RECKLESS BARGAIN WITH BRITISH COLUMBIA.—THEIR CORRUPT SALE OF THE CHARTER IN 1872.—THEIR FALL AND PROVISION FOR THEMSELVES AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE.—THEIR PERSISTENT CONSPIRACY TO REPEAL THE CONTRACT OF 1880.—THEIR INDECENT HASTE IN ATTEMPTING TO FORCE IT THROUGH PARLIAMENT.—THE COUNTRY ALARMED.—SIR JOHN DRIVEN FROM POINT TO POINT.—PETITIONS AGAINST THE INTIQUITY.

Model Calculations. Dr. Tupper calculates that under the contract the Pacific Railway will only cost the country seventy eight millions, and twists the Opposition there with, comparing this bargain with the amount the late Government were prepared to pay, which he puts at the way from 102 to 127 millions. Dr. Tupper's memory is conveniently blank occasionally and he forgot in making his comparisons the altered state of things now and then in the North West. We know more about that grand country now than we did then. The late and present Governments have spent many millions in railways which have made it more easy of access. Then he forgot to mention that the railway to be built by the late Government was to be a thoroughly good road—not a tramway,—that is to say to remain in the possession of the country, not to be handed over to an irresponsible Syndicate. In order to make his own side of the picture so very bright he estimates the land to be given (the pick of the North West) at \$1 per acre, whilst the Department of the Interior, of which Sir John A. Macdonald is the head, estimates some of the same land at \$5 and none at less than \$2.50 per acre. Will some good Conservative rise and explain just where the "colored gentlemen" is in this estimate business.

Making Both Ends Meet. Dr. Tupper claimed in his last speech on the Pacific Railway Contract that it would cost the country \$78,000,000. In October last the leading organ of the Government in Montreal, the Montreal Gazette, figured our Northwest lands at \$2.50 per acre, which would have made the cost of the railway under the terms of the contract, as translated by Ministers, \$115,500,000. Clearly a readjustment was necessary and, consequently, in December, the Gazette discovers that our lands in the North West are only worth \$1 per acre, and things are made sweet all round. A good head for arithmetic is a valuable thing now-a-days.

The Irish Question. We extract the following from a private letter received in the last English mail from the manager of a bank in one of the agricultural districts of Ireland. It gives a business man's views of the Irish question and contains information respecting the "true inwardness" of the agitation and its effects upon the country which would be vainly looked for in many of the press letters and political speeches we have from different sources:—"This country is in a very unsatisfactory state—unsettled, uneasy—expecting something, but scarcely able to show what the hope or expectation is for, in my opinion, the very good reason that the people's condition is simply the result of this lawless agitation, and the people, themselves—beyond some trifling concessions—don't know what they want. The conclusion of the whole matter is that, in fair play, they really want very little. In the meantime, the country is going to the dogs. Capital is either being locked up or leaving it, business is suffering, people are not trying to make money and there is a universal tendency to hold off paying their debts—particularly rents. Tenants won't even come in to say what they propose to do, or what arrangements will satisfy them. The evil genius of repudiation seems to be abroad, with all its attending miseries. I am really sick of contemplating the whole position, and although I would be disposed to improve the tenants' position yet in doing so it would have no connection with this agitation, because I do not attribute the state of the people's finances to the rent question at all."

DOMINION PARLIAMENT. MONDAY, Dec. 20th. Sir Chas. Tupper, in reply to Sir A. J. Smith, said the Government had not yet decided to make provision this session for the construction of the Cape Tormentine Railway. In reply to Mr. Charleton, Sir Leonard Tilley said the increase of the public debt for the last fiscal year would be about \$9,453,000. Sir John said the question of subsidizing a line of steamers between St. John and Liverpool was occupying the attention of the Government. Mr. Wallace, in the absence of Mr. Donville inquired whether it is the intention of the government to place a sum of money in the estimates to assist a line of steam communication between the port of St. John, N. B., and England? Sir John said the matter was now engaging the attention of the government. The Halifax winter port question having been brought up by Mr. Daly of Halifax, whose remarks in favor of the erection of that city of grain elevators, etc., by the Government, were endorsed by several other Nova Scotia members.— Sir Chas. Tupper said that when the papers called for were brought down and the estimates subsequently submitted, the House would have an opportunity of dealing with the winter port question in all its bearings. Mr. Anglin said he would willingly give Halifax the proper share of Canadian trade, but St. John had equal promises of being the great Canadian port with elevators and warehouses, etc. These promises were peculiarly binding upon the party now in power. St. John had articles of export which Halifax had not, and, owing to the great decadence of the port, something should be done as asked for by the City Council, to assist a line of trans-Atlantic steamers. Halifax had the advantage of being the outlet of the Canadian mails. If it were right to compel Canada to receive its sugar through Halifax or St. John, it was equally fair to compel them to receive all foreign goods the same way. It should not be cotton lords and sugar lords who should have protection. He held that all that had been done for Halifax had been done by the late Government extending the railroad towards the city. They built fine railway stations, and compelled the Allen line to land the mails there. It was Mr. Mackenzie's Government that first volunteered to make up trial cargoes. Since they went out nothing had been done. After some routine business had been transacted, the House adjourned until 4th January.

The Presbyterian College Halifax. There are two colleges in Halifax in which the Presbyterians have a deep interest—Dalhousie College, and the Presbyterian College. The former, strictly speaking, is a Provincial University; the Presbyterian College has no control over it. It is a stone building, and is in the very centre of the city. It has an invested fund, the interest of which supports two Professors. It receives a Government grant of \$2,000 a year. The Presbyterian church supports three Professors in it, paying each a salary of \$1,500 a year. It collected, years ago, the sum of \$75,000. The interest of this sum supports the three Professors. There are at present seven Professors and a tutor in Modern Languages in connection with Dalhousie College. There is no theology taught in it. The subjects taught are such as Latin, Greek, French, German, Logic and Metaphysics, Mathematics, Natural Science, Chemistry, History and Rhetoric, Ethics and Political Economy. Mr. George Munro, a wealthy physician in New York, has lately given the sum of \$130,000 to Dalhousie College. Mr. Munro is a native of Pictou, Nova Scotia, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He was at one time a teacher in the Free Church Academy in Halifax. With thorough loyalty to his native Province he sent his own son to Dalhousie College to receive his education. The Presbyterian College, Halifax—commonly spoken of as the Theological Hall—is about two miles and a quarter from the centre of the city. It has no connection with Dalhousie College. It belongs entirely to the Presbyterian Church. The building is quite magnificent, and beautifully situated. Its original cost was about \$75,000. The man who owned it failed, and it had to be sold to pay his debts. The College Board purchased it for \$25,000. It cost about \$5,000 more to fit it up properly for the purposes of a college. The Principal of the College, Dr. McKnight, lives in it and takes charge of it. The students board in it. They have very comfortable quarters. They pay no tuition fees, and their board costs them only two dollars and a half a week. There are three Professors in the Hall, Dr. McKnight, Dr. Piddock, and Prof. Currie. Each receives a salary of \$1,750 a year. The current expenses of the College, in connection with fire and light, come to about \$750 a year. The whole expenses of the College come to something like \$6,000 a year. It would require an invested fund of \$100,000 to yield this amount of interest. Apart from the \$75,000 invested for the support of the Professors in Dalhousie College, the Presbyterians had previously to the union the sum of \$5,000 invested for the support of the Theological Hall. At the first meeting of the United Synod it was unanimously resolved to raise an additional sum of at least \$100,000. There was a full meeting of Synod. Representatives were present from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, P. E. Island, and Newfoundland. The sum which would actually require to be raised to put the college in a thorough independent position, would be about \$125,000. This sum, together with the \$5,000 previously invested would make \$130,000. Deducting from this sum the cost of the building, \$30,000, there would be left for the purpose of supporting the Professors and paying the running expenses of the college, \$100,000. Already the sum of \$102,000 has been subscribed, and the congregations have not yet been paid. Of this sum \$58,000 have been paid to the Board, the Rev. A. McLean, St. John's, being the agent for the collection. The Rev. A. McLean, St. John's, being the agent for the collection. The Rev. A. McLean, St. John's, being the agent for the collection. The Rev. A. McLean, St. John's, being the agent for the collection.

General Business. 1880. GRAND CHRISTMAS SALE. GARMICHAEL BROS. TEA, TEA, TEA. SUGARS, SUGARS. MOLASSES. TOBACCOS. RAISINS. HARD BREAD. FANCY BISCUIT. CONFECTIONERY. APPLES! APPLES! DRIED FRUIT. SOAPS. WASHING PREP. CANNED GOODS. CIGARS, CIGARS. POWDERED HERBS. SUNDRIES. DAIINTIES. PORK, BEEF, HERRING, CODFISH, FLOUR & MEAT. CARMICHAEL EROS.