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Miramichi Advance, CHATHAM, N. B., DECEMBER 9, 1880. The Intercolonial Railway. It has been the custom of the papers supporting the Macdonald Government, whenever complaints were made of Intercolonial mismanagement, to declare that there was no cause for anything but the most favorable criticism, and that the grumblers were simply Grits, a part of whose tactics it was to abuse Sir Charles Tupper and his assistants. As a matter of fact the whole business community has been put to great inconvenience on account of the way in which freight is forwarded. Conservatives and Liberals were served alike, both being subjected to Intercolonialism. Conservatives, as well as Liberals, however, are beginning to learn that something better is required to compensate them for their losses of the oft-repeated assurances that Sir Charles is wiping out the Intercolonial deficit. They realize that every dollar forwarded to Ottawa that ought to be spent in renewing or repairing rolling stock, is misappropriated. It is no satisfaction for them to wait whole weeks for freight delayed because freights cars are out of repair or engines broken down, and they vote Sir Charles' starvation policy a delusion and humbug. The organs have fought their friends off as long as possible when they made complaints against the Railway management. We have frequently observed some timid editorial suggestions looking towards reform, but they were evidently published with many party misgivings and only to silence some outraged political friend. On Thursday last, however, the Star gave evidence that it could no longer stand between the Railway management and the business community. Among the matter on the subject we find the following:— "Can you give us some explanation about the following facts connected with the I. C. R.?" A case of goods delivered on board cars in Montreal on the 20th November has not yet arrived in St. John—after 12 days. Why, it takes less time from Liverpool! We received a notice today to return goods from the I. C. R. station. We sent a telegram, but the goods had not arrived. Why send us the notice to return goods? We would still apply to refund carriage money? We paid \$26.22 freight on an order to Buctonco (25 miles from Shediac) on through bill of lading. The freight from Toronto to St. John (six times the distance) would have been about one-half that amount. How is that? For whose benefit is the I. C. R. run, anyway? Certainly not for Lower Province people, as exorbitant charges are made up. And even Ontario and Quebec, who are favored with low rates, are at a disadvantage, inasmuch as it takes longer to get goods from Toronto and Montreal than from England. If an express train can run from Montreal to St. John in 22 days, it is perfectly ridiculous that freight should take nine times as long—12 days, Montreal to St. John. —Yours truly, LANSBRY & Co. St. John, N. B., Dec. 1, 1880. In the same paper we find the following among the proceedings of the Common Council of St. John:— Ald. Skinner, on behalf of the Committee appointed to consider the question of freight upon the Inter Colonial Railway, submitted the following preliminary report:— "Your Committee had made inquiry of several merchants and business men upon the subject given them to consider, and find that the following are the main objections:— 1. Merchants and traders doing business with the railway and delays because there is no resident office in St. John with power to settle or adjust any dispute or transact any but routine business. Any disputed matter between the business men patronizing the road and the department has to be submitted to an officer of the department at Moncton, whereby business is greatly hampered and persons delayed and annoyed. There is now no sufficient warehouse for receiving flour and heavy goods imported into the city, so that trains may be unloaded into such warehouse. Flour, &c., are now given to the consignees at sidings and other inconvenient places, and when so received by the consignees, cannot be taken away with advantage, thereby in many cases leading to the charges and expenses being made. No doubt so long as the department are made aware of the necessity of a warehouse being provided, steps will be taken to meet the want, at the expense of it will not be large. "Your committee have still under consideration the question of differential freight rates and other matters connected with the subject given them to consider, and they expect to be able to make a final report at the next sitting of the Council. Respectfully Submitted, &c. Ald. Skinner, who is now a good Conservative (though once a good Tilly Liberal) ought to remember that it costs money to pay an officer to properly transact business, and if the officer required by the railway's business at St. John were stationed there, his salary would have to be deducted from the earnings of the road. This would lessen Sir Charles' economical Railway savings quite as much as the cost of repairing rolling stock, and would, therefore, never do. It is equally preposterous for Ald. Skinner and the other gentlemen of the Corporation Committee to ask that proper warehousing accommodation be provided, for that would also increase the charges against the Intercolonial. It is only such inexperienced Railway managers as Mr. Brydges, who would spend money for the repairs of rolling stock and efficient maintenance of the road, and who would seek to remove causes of complaint. Mr. Brydges seemed to prefer a creditable railway management and a satisfied mercantile community to dilapidated rolling stock and dissatisfied patrons of the road, who can be counted by the thousand, and it is still believed by a great many persons that Mr. Brydges' policy was the correct one. PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLIES at Ottawa today. The chief business before the holidays will be consideration of the proposed bill to hand over the construction of the Pacific Railway to a Syndicate. If the Dominion is not to be asked to guarantee the bonds or other financial undertakings of the new Company it is probable that the "yeas" will be largely in favor of the Government's proposition. The ADVANCE will obtain all the points of interest in the proceed-

ings of the session. A long adjournment will be had for the Holidays—probably for a month. About Newspapers. The St. John Globe very properly deprecates the practice of referring to individuals connected with the press of the Province which is indulged in by some of our journals. It says:— "The press in the Province is greatly injured and its influence for good is materially affected by the items which are continually about respecting individuals who are connected with the press. It is not the province press itself to praise of its own workers to the extent that is done in Canada, and in no part of Canada is the work of each man or woman engaged upon it, fitting in properly into its place, and all so harmonized that men should remark upon it for its completeness and appropriateness. No doubt, the spirit of 'mutual admiration' is strong among writers for provincial newspapers, but this is a provincialism that ought to be carefully guarded against. In the editor's position of the press on this continent, it would be far better if the impersonality of journalism could be closely preserved. The names of the editors, reporters, and correspondents should be omitted, unless in cases when it is impossible to avoid it. It is quite as easy to speak of the Post or the Times, as of the editor of the Post, &c., and, indeed, only so many words said, but the impersonality allows greater freedom of discussion whilst keeping the discussion free of personality, or individualism. We fear that it will be difficult to make some of the so-called newspapers understand and act upon the lessons enunciated in the above. The ethics of journalism are so imperfectly understood, especially by the country press, and the encouragement to learn and observe there is so slender, that the process of reaching even a respectable impersonality is necessarily slow. It is to be regretted that far too many newspaper readers are of the class who encourage personalities in the papers they patronize, who admire nothing so much as invective and even abuse of each other, not only by editors, but also of every man who happens to rise above the common level of unnoteworthy citizenship. It is satisfactory to know that there are newspapers in the Province which decline to cater to the tastes of the hot polloi in this respect, and whose editors possess the self-respect which leads them to respect the personality of others. An editor is not public property in any greater degree than is a clergyman or a school teacher. An editor may make himself a public nuisance, however, by disregarding the ethics of his profession, and do it in a greater degree than either a pedagogue or a preacher. "Endymion." The last great work of the Earl of Beaconsfield, Endymion, is being eagerly sought for everywhere. The Quebec Chronicle says of it:—"The new story added materially to the literature of the age. Its author is now a very old man, and it is perhaps the last novel which will come to us from his pen. We are almost inclined to regard it as the crowning literary event of his life. He has done nothing in the way of fiction, that is likely to surpass it. It has plenty of 'go,' is not so cynical that it cannot be heartily enjoyed, hits off characters that have really lived and exerted great influence on the politics of their time, and is sufficiently real to be striking and interesting from the first page to the last. It would not be fair to the public, nor to the author, for us to outline the plot of Endymion. It is a story, which everybody wants to read for himself. We may say, however, that in London the impression is, that the career of Endymion, as limned in the pages of this romance, illustrates a portion of the political and social career of the author himself. Mr. Jennings, the London correspondent of the New York World, and a gentleman who has access to the current gossip of the day, and a large acquaintance with noted club men, telegraphs to his paper this interesting key to the story which our readers will be glad to see, doubtless." "You will be receiving 'Endymion' in a day or two, and I may as well, therefore, send your readers at once the recognized key to passages of the novel, which are in its pages, as they are described in the clubs of the capital to-day. The action of the novel begins with the throes of the Reform movement at the time when George Canning is on his death-bed, and the Duke is the hope of Conservative England. Sidney Wilson—who represents Sidney Herbert, afterwards Lord Herbert of Lea—the well-known friend of the Duke of Penbrooke and Montgomery, opens the novel, emerging from White's Club, and coming at once into conversation with a friend, Mr. Ferris, an imaginary character, is made to do duty as the father of Endymion Ferris. Under the last name, the Earl of Beaconsfield has clearly undertaken to describe the career of the career of the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli. Endymion Ferris has a twin sister, Myra, another figure of the brain, who strikes the key-note of her brother's character and career when she says to him: "Power, and power alone, should be your absorbing object, and all the accidents and incidents of your life should be considered with reference to that main result. The boy himself, when he is first introduced as a disreputable lad, seven years old, in a velvet jacket with silver buttons, announces that, after going to Eton, he is to go to Christ Church, and then into Parliament. "Queen Hortense comes into the novel early under the rather severe name of Agrippina, and the Emperor Napoleon III., her son, as Prince Florestan, with this grand old lady, the Empress Eugenie. He sets forth from England in a yacht, and conquers his kingdom in ten days, after writing a pretty little note to Lady Palmerston, who is his aunt. "Lord Beaconsfield makes nothing of anachronisms in this curious production. He points the Eglington Monument, and makes Prince Bismark figure in the Count of Ferris, Baron Lionel Rothschild appears as Baron Venetia. The tailor, figures as Vic, Cardinal Manning plays a part as Penruddock, a prophet ordained in Mayfair, who regarded Lord John Russell with a certain awe, "Sandy Sam" W. Herford, Bishop of Oxford, appears under the pseudonym of Dr. Comely. Lord Stratford is introduced, first as Mr. and then as Lord Wal-

derdash. Miller Gibson appears as Mr. Jarricks, and Lord Melbourne as Lord Montford. "One of the best pen pictures in the book is that of Richard Colden as Job Thornbury, whose thin, clear voice was only less clear than his statements. Neither this, be it remembered, nor any other portrait in the book, can be regarded as a full length, and the times, places and persons are so tossed and tumbled together that the very continuity they any given likeness to be the likeness of the person who sat for it in his mind. But the names I have sent you may be relied upon, for my readers will see this for themselves." The London Times offered a thousand pounds, we are told, for proofs of the work, as it was leaving the press, in order to be the first in the field with its review of the story. The Longmans refused however, and the London Standard had the honor of publishing the first extended notice of it, from actual inspection of the contents. "Although the novel is a remarkable production in more respects than one. Our readers must get the book. It will form the chief staple of conversation at parties and literary clubs for several weeks at least, and not to be posted in Endymion would be an unpardonable offence, against the law of light literature in general, and of political novels in particular." A Nut for Our Fishermen to Crack. It seems a small thing for a man who holds the position of a Dominion Minister, to lend himself to the business of depriving people of equal rights and privileges with others, simply to please political friends who are incapable of being actuated by other than the smallest of motives. We are glad that the editor of the Post has met a political opponent openly, and if the parties are nearly equal in strength, the conflict is all the more creditable, especially if it is carried on within its legitimate limits. The contests of political parties, if conducted in a similar manner have their attractions for men of culture and courage. These are "battles of the gods" as compared with the warfare waged by the creatures of the present Dominion Government upon their neighbors and fellow citizens who are not of their political creed. The majority of Northumberland's electors do not admire the present Government. That body is aware of the fact that our chief industries are lumbering and fishing. Having placed under a tariff that operates with particular hardship upon the lumber and fishery, and delivered over to the tender mercies of Mr. Pope of the Fisheries Department, and his emissaries, who have proved themselves congenial partners in the work. Word is sent up from the Miramichi, that our fishermen are to be discriminated against in every possible way, and when they complain they will be told that it is because they do not elect a tool of the Government—such as Kent has, for instance. An illustration of this policy came up the other day. We are told that by the advice of Hon. Senator Muirhead, Hon. M. Adams, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Venning, and a few other distinguished brethren of the "Great Conservative Party" an order was issued by which the Miramichi fishermen were to be prevented from taking smelt before the first of December and after the 31st January. Let the reader contemplate this all-powerful combination of talent and general culture, deliberating in solemn council on ways and means to convert the little smelt into an engine of political oppression. In the adjoining county, where there is a M. P., who, though elected as a Liberal, has become a simple automaton in the hands of the Government, the fishermen were permitted to enjoy their usual November fishing and the markets which Messrs. Muirhead, Hogan & Co. were pleased to prevent their fellow citizens from enjoying. Our fish dealers wondered why smelts were not bringing a higher price when they forwarded their first lots to the American market, but they did not know that Mr. Minister Pope has lent himself to the little plans of the parties we have named against those engaged in their industry, which, while all the Miramichi fishermen's commitments to fish away, forestall the Miramichi fishermen, and bring down prices. It was had enough that the Kent fishermen should be accorded these fishing privileges which had been taken from the fishermen of the Miramichi, and that the former should by a discriminating order, be allowed to send their catch away by rail via Welford, but it was overdoing the thing when smelts were handed by the ton from Kent County to Chatham Station to be shipped before our own people, who are taxpayers and as good citizens as the outsiders, were permitted to do the same thing. When this was attempted the Chatham fisherman in management keeps up a name, exports are checked. But there was also a fourth result. The being an overplus of money, everybody becoming a buyer, and merchants finding they can sell imported goods at a large profit, importation increases. Lastly, if these causes do not correct the abnormal condition, the rate of interest being lower here than in other countries, we sell our gold to other countries and ship it away for gold, when it becomes a commodity, naturally flows to the highest market. If the rate of interest is the fraction of a cent lower here than it is in London or Paris, then our gold will flow thence until it becomes so scarce here that it commands as high a rate of interest with us as them. Then the outflow stops. The lecturer went on to show that there must be an equal exchange of commodities between nations, and that the more any nation imports the more it necessarily exports. But, said he, supposing we could stop on exporting gold, and not importing to a corresponding extent the exports of other nations, we would, instead of their commodities, receive in payment bullion or specie. Now supposing it were possible for us to retain those millions of bullion specie, we should not be any richer for it, because money is not wealth of itself, but only because we can buy with it the things we need. If two dollars can buy no more than one dollar, then two dollars is worth no more than one to any man living. Now my third proposition is this: That any artificial limit of imports, such as a high tariff, nullifies the benefits of labor and directs labor and capital from productive into unproductive channels of employment. By artificial limits of exports, I mean any legislative enactment on the part of congress in the form of duty imposed upon any foreign product which prevents the importation of that product to this country, or restricts the amount imported within the popular demand for it. Free trade is a natural right, for in nature a man has a right to buy and sell whenever, wherever and of whosoever he chooses. I object, therefore, to any limitations put upon free trading by any government as a palpable infringement on the rights of man. Taxes can be imposed

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