

LOCAL MATTERS.

THIS IS THE FORTY SEVENTH DAY FOR HIM.

To Correspondents.

The letter of the three "F's." Quebec, we hold over till next issue—unavoidably.

The Press.

The *Moniteur Acadien*, having taken the report of the Gloucester Municipal Council from the *Star*, might have made the usual acknowledgments.

Advertisements.

Mr F Pallens advertisement appears. Mr Pallens has a well stocked saddlery.

A. & R. Loggie of Black Brook, advertise also today.

"A Winter Spring."

This exquisite little fragment by B. McG. so well known for her beautiful little poems published in the *Telegraph*, we commend to our readers, in another column.

Trout.

Trout just now are very plentiful at the head of Dunganon. A man from Chatham lumbering up there, took three or four dozen in a short time on Sunday last.

Accident.

The friends of a young man named McKinnon who left here in the fall for the Pennsylvania lumber woods have just heard that while working a couple of logs rolled over him, and he is seriously hurt.

Seizure.

Last Tuesday week, four smelt nets were seized by Warden Russell, between Oak Point and Sheldrake Island for violation of the Fishery Act. The nets belonged to Phineas Gunn, and from what we have heard of the matter the case is distressing enough on Mr. Gunn. When we learn the particulars correctly we shall refer to the matter again.

Cleared away.

Before the close of the fishing season, Overseer Wyse pretty generally informed the fishermen that they would be required to be prompt in clearing their nets &c., off the ice, within 48 hours of the closing time. The Warden visited the fishing grounds on Saturday evening, and found everything removed, and nothing of the disagreeableness of vindictive duty to perform.

Sudden Death.

Mr R. T. Millar of Douglastown, died suddenly at his residence Saturday last. The news of his death was the more startling here because he had been seen in town the day before, active as usual. His remains were interred in Newcastle Monday, and a large number of people from Chatham, Newcastle, Douglastown, and adjoining parts followed the remains to the grave. Deceased was universally respected.

STAR BRIEFS.

—Mr James Buckley lost a fine horse on Saturday last by the destemper.

—The roads to Black River are perfectly impassable.

—Some of our smelt fishers intend going to the Northwest to fish bass.

—Messrs. Shank and Burbridge are manufacturing 125,000 lobster cans for next seasons operations.

—Daisy ball which came off last night in Nelson, was well attended, principally by parties from Chatham.

—A man named Robins on who lumbers up river had his foot badly injured by coming in contact with a sled loaded with provisions, at Morrison's bridge, yesterday.

DIED.

Suddenly, at Newcastle, on Monday, 14th February, KATE, beloved wife of Hon. M. Adams, aged 33 years, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends.

Funeral to-morrow, Thursday at 11 a.m.

A BRITISH DEFEAT IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Late accounts from Durban describe the British defeat. The enemy were on horseback when first shot was fired, but upon a shell taking effect among them at about 1,500 yards distance, they rode off, and having dismounted under cover behind the hills, opened fire. From 12 o'clock until dusk it was a rifle duel under cover. The British guns from time to time took part in it, but the enemy's fire was so severe that it was impossible to work the guns continually, the men falling almost as soon as they stood up. With the sole exception of Lieut Parsons, who was wounded late in the day, every officer, driver, gunner and horse in the battery was hit. Shortly after the action began the guns were completely silenced for an hour. Some of the infantry then assisted. One piece was thus kept in action throughout the day, and it was a dangerous duty, and those serving it had to be continually replaced. The guns were actually whitened all over with the marks of bullets, and for anybody to stand up beside them was certain death. The enemy occasionally crept up to within 200 yards of the position, but never attempted a rush. The greater portion of the fight was at a distance of six or seven hundred yards. The tactics of the Boers are described as admirable. They moved from flank to flank, opening fire time after time from unexpected positions. For the British to advance and charge at the point of the bayonet was quite impossible, for they would all have been shot down before reaching the enemy. The fight was with rifles, where the Boers were vastly superior to the British troops.

OUR LOCAL LEGISLATURE IN SESSION.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

SATURDAY'S AFTERNOON SESSION.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 12.

The following bills were read a second time: A bill to establish Liens in certain cases, a bill to abolish the Legislative Council, a bill relating to expenditure on Government House, and a bill to amend the constitution of New Brunswick by abolishing the Legislative Council and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

Mr Sayre introduced a bill to reduce the number of members to serve in the House of Assembly, which was read a first time. The bill provides that hereafter at any general election to be held for the Province thirty-six members shall be returned, as follows: Restigouche, two; Gloucester, two; Northumberland, three; Kent, two; Westmorland, three; Albert, two; Kings, three; St. John, three; Queens, two; Sunbury, two; Charlotte, three; York, three; Carleton, two; Victoria, one; Madawaska, one; City of St. John, two.

Mr Barberie submitted a bill to amend sec. 24, chap. 65 Consol. Stat., relating to schools, which was read a first time. The bill provides that the school tax on non-resident property shall be paid to the school districts in which the property lies instead of in the district where the owner lives.

The Speaker finished the reading of the rules. Considerable discussion was had on some of the sections, largely by way of eliciting exactly what was meant. Any section upon which there seemed to be much difference of opinion was passed over to be considered afterwards.

Mr White moved an amendment to the section which provides that a committee of five members to be named by the mover, shall be appointed on motion of the leader or other member of the Government, early in each session, which committee shall nominate the members of all standing and general committees. The amendment was intended to leave the appointment of these committees in the hands of the Speaker as at present, and was lost.

Further discussion was then had on the rule which declares that no member shall vote upon any question in which he has a direct pecuniary interest. Attempts were made to define "direct pecuniary interest" but it was generally admitted that it was not intended to interfere with the rights of any member, but would have a liberal construction. The section passed.

The section fixing speeches at half hour was considered and on motion of Mr Hill an amendment was moved fixing it at one hour. The amendment was lost, as it was considered that the House would always grant further time for discussion if required, and the Speaker would only enforce the rule if he found a member speaking against time or obstructing the business of the House.

The section providing that no amendment to an amendment shall be entertained, was amended so as to admit of an amendment to an amendment, motion to that effect having been made by Mr Sayre and supported by the Attorney General and Mr Ritchie.

On motion of Mr Elder, the section providing that the rules, usages and forms of House of Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain be followed, was so amended as to read: "House of Commons of Dominion of Canada," instead. All the rules having now been passed but two which are to be considered on Monday.

On motion of Provincial Secretary it was ordered that the rules as adopted be the rules of the House.

Adjourned till Monday morning.

Feb. 14.

The bills to reduce the number of members to serve in the House of Assembly of New Brunswick and to amend section 24, chapter 65 of the Consolidated Statutes of Schools were each read a second time.

Mr Sayre introduced a bill to prevent persons holding situations in the Public Departments of the Province of New Brunswick from acting as agents for or on behalf of any person having business transactions with any public department in the said Province.

Mr Johnson gave notice of the following resolution:—

Whereas, a very large portion of the French people of the Province are engaged in agricultural pursuits, and it is desirable that they have the full benefit of the information contained in the annual report on Agriculture, which they can only do by reading it in their own language.

Therefore Resolved, that the Government be recommended to take the foregoing preamble into consideration.

Mr McLellan gave notice of a resolution for copies of all agreements or arrangements made or entered into by the Government with Thomas Potts in the year 1872, 1873, 1874 and 1875, or either of them in connection with immigration from Great Britain to New Brunswick and a statement of all amounts paid to him on account thereof at any time, and any claim made by him for further payment or remuneration in that behalf, and all correspondence, copies of minutes of Council and other papers relating thereto.

The consideration of the rules not yet disposed of was laid over until tomorrow morning at 10.30 o'clock.

Dr Vail gave notice of a motion for Thursday, for papers and correspondence in relation to an application made by David Rouse, Ebenezer Stockton and Samuel C. Thorne, to the Government, for the amount of costs incurred in a suit brought against them as Commissioners of Highways in the Parish of Havelock, in the execution of their duty as such commissioners.

The House took a recess.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 15.

The Speaker being indisposed, Mr. Davidson, Deputy Speaker, occupied the chair.

The bill to prevent persons holding situations in public departments from acting as agents, of conducting business for persons having transactions with the departments, was read a second time.

Mr McMann introduced a bill to amend section 99 of the consolidated statutes, so far as the same relates to the election of councillors, which was read a first time.

Mr Turner gave notice of the following motion for Friday: For copies of all papers and correspondence received by the Executive Government or the Board of Education, or any department in connection with the division of Revised School District, in the Parish of Hope well, and all orders and minutes of council relating thereto.

Hon Mr Fraser thought that the 218th rule, which allows a minority report to be submitted, should be changed as it was introducing an entirely new practice in relation to reports. The question of a right of the minority to submit a report had come up before and it had been decided to be wrong. A question is sent to a committee to report upon, that committee is pervaded by votes of the majority just as the house is. The minority may move a resolution expressive of their opinion and it will appear in the records, and they have an opportunity of stating their views to the House. The minority report contains sometimes evidence, conclusions and argument which are outside the question altogether.

He considered it would be better to adhere to the practice that hitherto prevailed, of submitting only one report, and it would not be at all wise to adopt the latter part of the section, as it would be adopting a course not pursued in any of the legislatures. He moved that the words "and the minority may also report" be struck out.

Mr Marshall seconded the motion.

Mr Gillespie thought the minority had a right to report. He was sorry that the last speaker had referred to the committee he was on, as it was the one in the Chatham Bench. If a committee have three Government and two opposition members the majority can do as they like.

Mr Butler said he was on a committee twelve years ago and differed from all his colleagues. He was told by the Speaker that he might submit a minority report, and the practice had continued down to the present time. He thought the powers and duties of committees would be circumscribed if they could not report opinions.

Mr Hill would not consider himself bound to go for the rules as they are, simply because he was on the committee. He did not think that the Attorney General gave good and sufficient reasons for altering the section. His friend from Northumberland, who was chairman of the committee last year, had to bring in a report with which he did not altogether coincide. He believed strongly in protecting the rights of minorities in elections. There is a degree of justice and wisdom in the scheme to let a person give his four votes for the one man.

Zon Mr Wedderburn thought that there was no doubt that the right of minority reports existed in the United States. The fact that the Opposition have a way to place their views before the House is an argument in favor of a minority report. It is simply the alteration of a mode of procedure to which a great deal of importance need not attach.

When Speaker he had acted on ruling of Speaker Johnson, but had subsequently informed the House that he was of the opinion that minority reports should not be introduced. A committee is only to present facts from which the House draws its conclusions.

The motion was lost and the rule stood as reported by the committee.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Hon Mr Fraser said that after an interview with the leader of the Opposition he would move that the order of the day stand over in view of the announcement which the House had heard of the melancholy bereavement upon his colleague in the Government, and he and other members of the Government did not feel like going on with the debate, and hoped that the House would indulge them by not continuing today. The debate could be resumed tomorrow and no time lost as the Government were willing to make up by holding night sessions. He and all who had the pleasure of the personal acquaintance of the deceased lady must feel that the Surveyor General had sustained a sad loss indeed. He moved that the debate stand over till tomorrow at 2.30.

Mr Blair said he concurred with the Attorney General that the debate had better stand over, and he fully appreciated the feelings of the members of the Government in the matter. He thought himself that the debate had better be postponed for any one felt a delicacy in referring to public matters today, more especially to matters under the supervision of the Surveyor General. He seconded the motion to adjourn the debate.

The motion was carried.

The House adjourned till tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

(Special to Star from Fredericton.)

Feb. 16.

The debate on the address was continued yesterday afternoon by Mr Ritchie. He objected at some length to the state of the laws as present existed and said that some measure should be introduced to take the place of the garnishee and attachment act. In reference to the seat of Government question he said that unless certain honorable members had been seduced at the last minute the buildings would have been taken to St. John.

Mr McMann challenged anyone to show that he had voted wrongly in connection with the Parliament Buildings. If it was shown that he did he would resign his seat and never show his nose in public again. Some gentlemen who had no right to do so were always talking about inconsistency. He considered it inconsistent for a man to oppose a great question, say the National Policy, and then as soon as it was adopted turn round and do all they could by writing in its favor.

Mr White criticised the Government in the way they had entertained the English Duke and was surprised that there was to be no change in the School Law as the people were crying out for one. The intention of the school law was to furnish a foundation of an education and not instruction in the higher branches.

After adjournment the debate was continued at 7.40 p.m. by Mr McLellan who said he would consider himself inconsistent if he opposed the Government now because they were lawyers when he had not done so in the past two Sessions. He was perfectly independent, had never been offered an office and would not take the best one in the Government to vote against his conscience.

Mr Elder would not vote for the amendment. To be composed of lawyers he thought it was not the normal condition of the Government. The Province would soon want to incur additional expense in connection with the parliament buildings and for other purposes and the Government should endeavor to save so as to provide for these expenditures.

Mr Kenny closed the debate.

The vote on the amendment stood, yeas—Willis, Blair, White [?] Covert, Killam, LeBarrie, Cotterall, Ritchie, Thomson, Gillespie Ryan, Hutchison, Vail—13 Nays—Fraser, Wedderburn, Landry, Perley, Hannington, Marshall, Colter, Black, Theriault, Johnson, Beveridge, McLellan, Leighton, Woods, Morten, Hill, Lynott, Elder, Sayre, McMann, Lewis, Butler, Turner, Kenny—24

This morning Mr Gillespie gave notice of a motion for an account of all sums paid for printing in the different Departments and the parties to whom paid and Mr Willis of a motion for a statement of the land advertised to be sold on the first Tuesday in November 1880, the amounts realized from sales, the commission paid to agents and the quantity of land disposed of.

Communications.

THE IRISH TROUBLES.

To the Editor of the Star:—

Sir,—Notwithstanding the persistent efforts of a local paper to misrepresent Irish affairs, and to insult the intelligence of the Irish people by unjust insinuations, the course of Parnell and his associates in the House of Commons is deserving of commendation. They have fought a gallant battle in favor of freedom. The have been defeated but not conquered. The great boast of England, a free parliament, is no more, and a House of Commons, in their intense hatred of Ireland, have voted themselves slaves. As to Parnell he is "paying the progressive tax which envy punctually levies on eminence in being constantly maligned."

But sir what are the simple facts? Last year the Government admitted solemnly that there was great evils in Irish land legislation which required immediate remedy. They pledged themselves to remove Irish grievances. They brought in a temporary measure of relief called the "Disturbance Act." It was thrown out by the House of Lords. Gladstone and others then told the Lords that their Lordships must take the consequences of this Act, and bear the responsibility on their own shoulders. Yet now the Government turn round, and without having done a single act in mitigation of the grievances of the tenantry, they say, we will enforce the edicts of the landlords against you, at the point of the bayonet, and with all the strength of the empire.

It is this putting coercion before reform, the cart before the horse, that the Irish members resisted, and their resistance was a duty failure in which would be a crime. The experience of a hundred years shows what justice the Irish people may expect from a British parliament. The union was to set all wrongs forever right. But as Sir Charles Gavan Duffy in his work "Young Ireland" says—"How far it set them right no one is ignorant." Therefore the Irish people sent representatives to the great senate of the Empire and were in full enjoyment of British liberty; if British liberty consists in being heard with visible impatience, and peremptorily outvoted on every national question, by a majority who do not trouble themselves to listen to the debate.

As to the advice of the Pope to the Irish Bishops it is easily understood. It is an advice such as has often issued from the same quarter. It does not condemn the agitation. It counsels the people to preserve charity, and not for get in their struggles for freedom, the great christian virtues. Most of the Bishops of Ireland are either members of or sympathizers with, the Land League; and nearly all the priests, the *soggarth aroons*, are actively engaged in the organization.

The effort to misrepresent the Popes letter is a miserable failure.

Yours, etc.,

A PARNELLITE.

P. S.—In my letter on the Franchise, owing I presume to my bad writing, some of the figures had been mistaken. The chief errors were: the population of Dublin county should be 140,000 instead of 14,000, and of St. John City 29,000 instead of 2,900.

As Bright has been named, it may be well to quote a few sentences from his celebrated Manchester speech for the information of your readers.

Monarchs and Statesmen:—

"For my share," he said, "I don't learn from history that every thing has been wisely done that has been done by monarchs and statesmen." On the contrary, almost all the greatest calamities in history have been brought upon mankind through the instrumentality of monarchs and statesmen. The monarch and the statesman within the past two centuries have done a great deal to consolate the soil of Ireland."

What causes the trouble:

"It is not that the soil of Ireland is not green enough, or that the ocean is not prolific enough in fish, in fact, there is nothing in the geographical condition of Ireland that in the slightest degree accounts for the trouble which Ireland has been to itself and to the country with which it is now politically allied. But we find that, as a consequence of a policy which we all now regret and condemn, Irish patriotism, as apart from what is called patriotism in this country, has consisted in a large extent in hatred to landlords, and hatred of England."

"If," he says, "the Government had been merciful and just to Ireland, Ireland would be closely welded at this moment to England as Scotland is,—and it would be as difficult to raise the flag of insurrection or discontent in Ireland as it would be for Prince Charlie again to appeal with his flag in Scotland."

Ireland's demands:

"They—the Irish people—are demanding the overthrow of the system under which they assert that there is no adequate reward for their industry and no security for the homes of their families." Further on he says, "the man who insults Ireland, or insults her, or tramples upon her, who denies her just rights, is an enemy of England as much as an enemy of Ireland."

Who owns the land?

"One third of Ireland is owned by 292 persons, one half of Ireland is possessed by 744 persons, and two thirds of the whole of Ireland is in the possession of 1942 persons."

The tenants:

"On the other side there are 500,000 tenants. That is a great fact—500,000 families—being at least from two millions and a half to three millions of persons depending upon the soil, competing with each other for the possession of a farm, having no variety of occupations as there are in England, having only one course,—and that the way out of the country—to escape from the difficulties in which they find themselves." **** "What they want is this, that some way, by some mode, when a man has his house over his head, and his little farm around him, that he should not incessantly be taught that he may any day have notice to quit and be turned out of his farm and home, and that he should not be constantly added to the list of those going out of his farm is a loss evil than remaining on it."

The remedy:

"Is there any remedy for this state of things? Force is not a remedy. There are times when it may be necessary, and when its employment may be absolutely unavoidable, but for my part, I should rather regard, and rather discuss measures of relief, and measures of reform, than measures of force, whose influence is only temporary." **** "What they want is this, that some way, by some mode, when a man has his house over his head, and his little farm around him, that he should not incessantly be taught that he may any day have notice to quit and be turned out of his farm and home, and that he should not be constantly added to the list of those going out of his farm is a loss evil than remaining on it."

A PARNELLITE.

NOTES FROM MISCOU.

Venor if I mistake not predicted amongst other things, that we would have a very heavy fall of snow in January. If he has not been exactly correct as to the time, I think he has been correct as to quantity, for it has been snowing for the last few days and the roads are now impassable.

There is a considerable quantity of work done here this winter in connexion with the lobster factories in making traps and building new factories and cutting and hauling firewood. The poor people have a chance of earning their living this winter. At the rate lobsters are being fished I am much afraid if the Government do not make more stringent laws and appoint competent men to enforce them we will soon have no lobsters at all on the coast.

[We really do not know whether Mr. Pope intends looking into these matters or not. If he does not his responsibility will be great. A good deal has been written upon the alarming condition of our fisheries; we have written a good deal on the matter ourselves—and if Mr. Pope will not take warning the responsibility will be with him, and the ruin with the fisheries. There is a good deal of old fogeyism in Mr. Pope's office; too much latitude given to the under officers perhaps, who rather than see their own opinions set aside, and their prejudices overridden, would see the fisheries destroyed. The lobster question stares Mr. Pope in the face, and so does the whole fishery question. We have a good deal of admiration for Mr. Pope: then we require him to throw off the shackles of his subordinates, and face these questions with vigor.—Ed. Star]

I also hear that our Local member P. G. Ryan, Esq., came down as far as Shippegan, to see his constituents before leaving for Fredericton; but he did not think it worth his while to come and see us down here. Does Mr. Ryan think there are no votes down here, or does he think he can do without our votes? I think we have other men quite as able as Mr. Ryan if not more so; men who at least will not today vote one way and the next day vote quite the reverse. I think if such men as John Young or F. W. Alexandre could be induced to offer that either of them would take a large majority in the county, and they are men who would take a side in politics and stick to it. It has often been said that this county would never return a Protestant. Now in this age of Railroads and Telegraphs I think all question of religion should be set aside, and send the best men to represent us, and the County will be benefited by the change.

In conclusion I would say we are very glad to see the action our Councillors have taken in reference to the Syndicate, and hope the day is not far distant when we will be able to say "Anglin! O Yes! he used to represent this County in Parliament;" the man we will vote for at the next election is Onesiphore Turgeon, and I believe that is the way seven-eighths of the County will go. There was also some talk of K. F. Burns, Esq., going to offer, but just now I do not think he has any chance. He has made himself too unpopular lately and besides he sold the Conservative party in 1878, and therefore is not to be trusted. The men above alluded to are active and intelligent men and would be an acquisition to any County or Government.

Yours, etc.,

SAM.

Misco, Feb 6, 1880.

FROM RATE-PAYER, ALNWICK.

MR EDITOR.—In answer to a Justice of the Peace of Alnwick, I must say that an entirely fails to clear himself and his co justices of neglect of duty by saying that he did not buy or drink liquor in places where it is sold without license; for by his own admission he knows who is selling without license, because he says that perhaps not one of them would be able to pay the fine, as if that were a reason for violating the law, that it is his duty to vindicate. When I said the Magistrates of Alnwick were in the knowledge of parties selling liquor without license and drinking in such places, I said what was true and did not make a charge against any one of them in particular, although I could against more than one; therefore, I said Magistrates. That complaints have been made to some of them is also true. "Justice of the peace" thinks that by fining the parties it would be an expense on the County, but I fail to see it in that light, as there are many of them able to pay. If I had as many vindicators of the law as Justice claims beside me, I would not be ashamed to put my name in print as he is, for in the first of his answer to Rate payer he claims that all the magistrates do not know the law was violated; but later on he leaves one or two of them overboard: so I will leave him just now to haul them on board again.

I remain, etc.,

RATE-PAYER OF ALNWICK.

"TRUTH" DEFENDS THE HOME RULERS.

Mr Labouchere publishes the following paragraphs in "Truth":—"I am convinced that the present arbitrary power in Parliament will be short lived as Jingoism. From Philip drunk I appeal to Philip sober." It has been found necessary to suspend the liberties of the House of Commons in order to suspend those of the Irish people. Comment is unnecessary. Regarding the tactics of the Irish members, never was obstruction more justifiable. The fault was in the standing orders of the House, not the Irish members making use of them. The tactical mistake of the Irish members was to allow so many to be suspended at once. The fact was that they were in such a state of excitement about Mr Davitt being confined as a convict that they threw tactics to the winds. I confess I shared their indignation. Mr Davitt may or may not be a dangerous person, but the inhuman shout of exultation which greeted the announcement that he had been restored to a convict prison, was more worthy of the Roman arena than the British House of Commons. I really believe that the prominent officials in Ireland and the Castle are in so difficult a position in regard to the Coercion Bill, on account of all outrages having ceased, that this difficulty, coupled with the panic into which they have fallen, has been the cause of Mr. Davitt's arrest. When Mr. Davitt arrived in Ireland he protested publicly, and since he has often publicly protested against all outrages. Probably no man in Ireland has saved more lives and more property than he. To have arrested him, therefore, is a piece of braulging stupidity. One of the leading counsel of England asked Mr. Davitt, after his condemnation, why he, who had lived so long out of Ireland, should be so eager to redress grievances? He replied, "When I was three years old the roof was taken off my mother's house and we were then placed in an open cart, and taken through the snow to a spot where we took ship for America. I have never forgotten this, and have vowed to devote my life to putting an end to a system which subjects others to a like fate." Curiously enough, one of the first speeches Mr Davitt made on behalf of the Land League, was from a platform erected on the exact spot where his mother's house used to stand. It is strange that the Government refuses to understand the position of the Fenians in regard to the Land League. The Land League stands between the Fenians and the Government, and if suppressed the danger is that the Fenians will again come to the front, for they will be able to say that passive resistance is useless. The Fenian panic continues in military circles. Really how people can be gulled by transparent hoaxes is a perfect marvel."

Charles Williams, an engineer while offing a shaft at Newk on Weehaw, fell upon a drive wheel and was forced through a six inch aperture, crushing him to a jelly.