POOR COPY

Communicated.

FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.

MR. EDITOR,—"N. B. C." is out again and with a vengence; but a more silly and ridiculous piece of composition I have seldom seen. I will now try to overhaul his pile of hard words, assertions, and untruths, and see if I can find anything worthy of a few remarks. He admits that the Catholics "prefer the christian religion, and hold the doctrine of the Holy Trinity," in one part of his letter, which is quite an admission, and in another part, he insinuates that they are Pagans. I wonder does "N. B. C." account himself answerable to God or the Catholics for breaking the commandment which says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Or, probably, he does not consider the Catholics his neighbors at all, which is very likely or he would not write in the way he does.

He makes charges against the Catholic Church without the least particle of proof to support them. He says "history, tells a most harrowing tale against them," (the Catholics). I hope he will not be offended if I say I doubt the truth of this assertion; for a truthful history cannot tell such a tale and I believe "N. B. C." has never read one. He has read the writings of some one as uncharitable as himself, only a little more capable and not quite so clumsy in doing it, and there is his history for you. Or likely he has been reading some novels of the sensational kind, about the rascality of priests, the inquisition, &c., which he considers good enough, for the sentiments contained in them correspond with his own mind, and they *must* be true.

"A christian warrior attended by a Roman priest" &c. Now what proofs has he given for the truth of that assestion? Does he give names or dates? Does he give anything but his bare word, and it not the most reliable? Nothing. What person of common sense will pay heed to such nonsensical ravings? Dreadfully sounding but nothing more. His next sentence is hard to make anything out of. "The brigandage around Rome—the Fenian developments—the poverty and crime peculiar to Ireland" &c., "points to the same cause." What cause does all this point to? That is a sentence without sense and not worth notice. That "Old England has been ruined by Romanism" is something new, or that it is the cause of the poverty and distress in "Old Ireland" that "Emerald Isle" with its "noble race of men" is as untruthful as can be.

I am much obliged to "N. B. C." for making "common sense" of the quotation. He tries hard to impress it on my mind that he is a wonderfully well learned man—a man of extensive reading and deep thought by his allusions to history and his correction of my phraseology; but I don't think it, and if I may speak my mind, I will say he is a conceited pedant, an educated know-nothing, and if instead of "amending" my expressions, he would try to write common sense, himself, he would appear to greater advantage.

In his attacks on the Catholic Church, "N. B. C." acts like a drunken man, who is striking at an imaginary something or somebody, but hardly ever hitting at all. He imagines he has been pounding the Catholic Church right sorely, but he is mistaken. An assertion or allegation, to have force, must be accompanied with proof in the shape of facts or reasonable arguments, of which there was not one in all his communication.

I thought "N. B. C." in his second letter showed signs of being ashamed of the ill feeling displayed in his first; but I see he has slid back into the old place and his last is even worse than his first. If he continues in such a strain, I beg leave to drop him; for there is neither pleasure nor profit in reviewing or answering his effusions. When he can write sensibly, reason soundly, and argue truthfully on any subject, I shall be glad to hear from him. If this expression is wrong my dear "N. B. C." mend it, and make common sense of it. I make no pretentions of being smart or educated; so if my grammar is faulty or my style not pleasing to your critical taste please excuse it.

My dear "N. B. C." I can't help thinking of that "harrowing tale." It must be a wonderful animal that has a harrow for a tail. Isn't it? I think you must be that "critter;" for the way you try to harrow up the Catholic Church is awful. May be you would like to have your name famous in the country. If so, we will have you in a proverb, so that when a man tells a hard story, we will say he is like N. B. C. How will that suit you. You must excuse me for "slightly amending" your "N. B." Here it is, "To the froward I *will* behave myself froward." Hoping, Mr. Editor, you will pardon me for asking you to insert this, I subscribe myself,

Yours truly,
FACTORUM.

May 25, 1874.

FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.

To Mrs. Cromwell and family.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,—We, the members of "People's Renfrew" Lodge, British Templars, beg leave to offer you our heartfelt sympathies, on the occasion of the death of your husband, son, and brother. You have lost a kind and dutiful son, a faithful affectionate husband, a fond and cherished brother; rest assured then when we gather in our circle, we miss his familiar countenance and feel our own loss. We cannot comprehend to what extent your hearts have been riven by this sad bereavment, but He who wounds can heal, His omnipotent hand will ever be seen in these sad, inevitable events. The exemplary life which our brother led is a source of great gratification to us, and must be to you. Beloved and respected by all who knew him, our mutual friend has been called upon to fill a happier position in a heavenly home. It is our unanimous prayer that God may bless and comfort you in your affliction.

D. J. HOLDER,
R. W. GROVER, } Committee.

Upper Woodstock, May 25, 1874.

TERMS OF THE SENTINEL.

Subscription $1.50 a year in advance.

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The Carleton Sentinel.

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1874.

SENTINEL OFFICE, in Allan's Brick Building, up stairs

THE INSOLVENCY LAW.

At the time we write it is probable that the Insolvency law will be pressed through Parliament before its adjournment. For the information of our readers we group the following digest of the new bill:—

It is proposed to abolish all voluntary assignments, and to require that every assignment shall be made at the instance only of two creditors, each holding a claim on the insolvent for not less than $500.

The official assignee will be appointed by the Government and become officers of the Court. So far as it may be found practicable the Sheriff will be appointed official assignee.

There will be one official assignee for every County Court District, but in places where the business is too large to be discharged by one assignee, a larger number will be appointed to act as joint assignees

If at the first meeting the creditors do not elect an assignee, the official assignee will become the assignee of the estate.

Large powers are granted under the Act to the inspectors, who will be appointed by the Judge of the County Court if the creditors fail to appoint them. They may also be removed by the creditors at any meeting, and others appointed in their places.

No assignee is to be allowed to hold over one hundred dollars at a time in his hands. All moneys are to be paid into a bank in the name of the estate, and no cheque is to be drawn unless signed by the assignee and one inspector, except under a Judge's order.

In future the claims of creditors, if contested, are not to be determined by the assignee, but by the Judge summarily. Real estate is to bear only the expenses of its own sale, the mortgage creditor paying only the costs incidental to the sale. The proceeds will then be distributed among all who are mortgagees or assigns in law, and not go to the general estate.

A new feature of the law is that it will take cognizance of the insolvency of incorporated Companies. In case of a judgement being obtained against a Company, if the claim is not satisfied the official assignee is to have full surveillance over its estate. From the time the assignee assumes the duty, the Company can give no mortgage and make no preferential arrangement, or payments. If the Company attempts to do so, the assignee can apply at once to a Judge for an order or injunction to restrain any such proceedings. All receipts are to be deposited by the President or Manager in safe keeping, and under the inspection of the assignee. If at the end of six months the Company cannot show to the satisfaction of the Court that it is solvent, it is liable, like private traders, to the operation of the Insolvency Law. The Judge, however, may prolong the term at his discretion.

Thus the distinction between official and *interim* assignees will be virtually abolished.

The compensation for the services of the assignee will be fixed at 5 per cent. on estates yielding less than $400; 2½ per cent. on estates yielding more than $400 and less than $1,000 and 1½ or 1¼ per cent. on larger sums; this besides fees for holding meetings—not exceeding six in any case—and some other fees. Some other provisions are also made which it is hoped will reduce the costs and prevent estates from being wholly consumed in that way, as has been too often the case.

As will be observed from the Ottawa telegrams, the bill above referred to stands over.

Queen's Birth Day was observed here in the usual manner, on Monday. A salute was fired at noon by Capt. Donnell's Battery; the Band paraded and played; the bunting floated from the several flag staffs, and horse flesh suffered. Such were the usual demonstrations. In the list of "unusual" we note that on Sunday morning quite a large party arrived via "narrow guage," from Fredericton, accompanied by a Band and Dramatic Club. The former afforded the townspeople some music free, and the latter gave an entertainment in the evening, which was attended by as many as could crowd into the Institute and more. The dramatic skill of some members of this Club is very good.

Another Club, the "Dauntless" Base Ball Club, also came up from Fredericton and played a match with the "Acadians."

This being the first match of the season for the Acadians, and as they had lost, since last year, three of their playing nine, they and their friends felt rather dubious of the result, especially as they were to face the swift pitching of O'Brien, formerly of the famous "Trimountain" B. B. Club, supported as catcher by Morris, a celebrated cricketer.

Play was called at 2.10 o'clock, P. M., Acadians going to the bat, who were returned with a whitewash, which was returned, they whitewashing the Dauntless both in the third and fifth innings.

During the sixth innings the rain, which had been threatening for some time, fell in such quantities that it was impossible to carry on the game, and so the umpire was forced, at termination of innings, to call the game, declaring the Acadians winners by three runs.

The score is as follows:

DAUNTLESS.	O.	R.	1B.	P.O.	A.
Sharkey, 1 b.,	1	3	2	2	0
McLaughlin, s. s.,	1	3	2	1	0
O'Brien, p.,	4	1	0	2	3
Jarvis, l. f.,	3	0	0	0	1
Morris, c.,	1	1	0	8	1
Hanlon, r. f.,	2	1	0	0	0
Coulthard, 2 b.,	2	2	0	2	0
LaForest, c. f.,	2	2	1	2	0
O'Leary, 3 b.,	2	0	0	1	0
	18	13	5	18	5
ACADIANS.					
Lynch, c.,	4	1	1	6	0
Connell, p.,	1	2	1	2	3
Allingham, s. s.,	4	1	1	2	0
Rugan, l. f.,	0	3	1	0	0
Bridges, r. f.,	2	2	1	0	0
Atherton, 3 b.,	2	1	0	0	1
Lockwood, 2 b.,	2	2	0	3	0
Thibideau, l b.,	2	2	2	5	1
Donaldson, c. f.,	1	2	1	0	0
	18	16	8	18	5

By innings:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Dauntless,	2	1	0	2	0	8	—13
Acadians,	0	2	3	1	3	7	—16

Umpire, E. W. Norcross, of Houlton; scorers, J. Considine, for Dauntless, J. McLauchlan, for Acadians. Time, 2 hours, 40 minutes.

THE St. John *Tribune* has the following, on a frequently mooted question. For years the *Sentinel*, with the press of the Province generally, has urged reform in the direction indicated, but the lumber interest in the Legislature has so controlled affairs that a system has been maintained most unjust to the revenues and hurtful to the prosperity of the country:

Candidates for the House of Assembly ought to be pledged to work for a revolution in the managen.ent of the Crown Lands.—Everybody knows that the timber on the public lands is fast being destroyed—that it is given away, in accordance with the custom handed down by our fathers, instead of being made a source of large and increasing income. If the lands were sold at fifty cents an acre and the proceeds invested the interest would amount to many times more than the income now obtained. And not only that, but the timber would be farmed instead of being destroyed, and an industry that is threatened with extinction would be preserved. The land abuse is deep-rooted, has much political power, and only a strong movement can sweep it away. Every constituency that is not controlled by those who profit by the present timber system should pledge candidates for its suffrages to work for an early and thorough timber lands reform. Atty Gen'l King should seek to add a measure of this kind to the long list of reforms he has introduced and carried into effect. An expression of opinion from his constituents would strengthen any good intentions he may have in reference to the matter. No man is more eager to effect the change than the chief of the Crown Lands Department.

Queen's Birth Day came on Sunday, on which day Her Majesty completed her fifty-fifth year, during thirty-seven of which she has occupied the throne. She has survived all who were her contemporary monarchs at the time of her accession to the crown, and has seen, during the period of her reign, nearly every one of the great nations disturbed, and in many cases revolutionized, by internal commotions. History will record her reign as one of unexampled prosperity, and her life as having been notable for the still increasing respect, love, devotion of her subjects from the time when, a fair haired girl she was called from the quiet seclusion of unostentatious life to the most prominent position in the world. The anniversary of her birth coming on Sunday of course the more noisy demonstrations had to be reserved for the following day; but so much the more general and earnest, devout and affectionate, from millions of hearts went up the prayer, on last Sunday, "God bless the Queen."

A HARNESS RAID.—We caution our readers to provide against the visits of a band of thieves who are at present scouring the country, their chief aim, apparently, being to steal all the harness they can lay their hands upon. Last week we recorded the fact that Mr. Sherwood had been a loser in the way just spoken of, since that time we learn that a large number of barns have been entered and harness stolen therefrom. Among these we learn that on the night of the 22nd the barns of Messrs. Alex. Martin and James Kirkpatrick, Richmond, was entered, and from the former, 2 sets single and 1 set double harness, and from the latter 1 set each of double and single harness carried off. The same parties, so it is supposed, on Sunday evening last, entered and carried away from the barn of G. Tracy, Waterville, eight bushels of grass seed; from George Good's, 1 set single harness; from Chas. Good's, 1 set single harness, 3 fleeces of wool, a buffalo and a cloth robe; and from Jas. McGrath's, every particle of harness he owned. It is sincerely to be hoped that these strolling vagabonds may be detected and amply rewarded.

BEFORE the Public Accounts Committee, the investigation into the Intercolonial Railway construction, has brought to light facts that are highly disreputable. Passing by the main object of the investigation, which is to ascertain whether the contractors have only been paid for work actually done according to contract, and whether the work so paid for has been done properly, it has been developed that there was collusion between Mr. Gough, one of the contractors, and Mr. Fitzgerald, one of the engineers.

The latter, in his examination, gave evidence tending to depreciate the character of the work done by Mr. Gough, and the latter, in evidence, stated that he had promised Fitzgerald large sums of money, part of which he had paid, as a consideration for the latter favoring him in his reports upon the work performed. The tendency of the whole enquiry is to excite suspicion of rottenness in connection with this great public work of a very demoralizing character.

THE following data is from the report of the Post Master General of the Dominion for 1873:

In January, 1874, the Post Office establishments of the Dominion comprised 4,518 post offices and way offices; 258 clerks and letter carriers, &c., in the city post offices; 137 railway mail clerks; 7 ocean mail clerks; 2,118 mail contractors; 10 post office inspectors; 34 clerks, in inspectors' offices: 2 local superintendents of money orders. In Prince Edward Island, on its entrance into Confederation, there were 180 post offices on the Island, served by about 98 miles of mail route by land and water, with a postal revenue of $12,000, and an expenditure of $28,000 per annum.

The postal revenue was as follows:—Ontario and Quebec, $1,192,530; New Brunswick, $82,136; Nova Scotia, $109,750; Manitoba, $5,050; British Columbia, $17,517.—Total for the year ending June 30th, 1873, $1,406,984. The increase over the preceding year was about 14 per cent; expenditure, $1,553, 604.

The number of registered letters was nearly doubled since 1868. The total in the last fiscal year were 1,377,000, of which 1,034,000 were in Ontario and Quebec.

Increase, a little over one million over 1872. Post Office Savings Bank depositors, 24,902, being an increase of 1,889 over the previous. No losses by fraud or otherwise have been sustained since the Post Office Savings Bank commenced operation.

The number of miles of post route are 35,588. Number of miles travelled 13,266,593; number of letters and post cards carried, 34,579,000; number of newspapers 25,480,000; number of free letters 1,091,000.

WE learn from the *Freeman* that provision has been made for the increase of the salaries of the Judges of New Brunswick, which was omitted in a general act passed last year. The *Freeman* says:

The Chief Justice of P. E. Island has been appointed Lieut.-Governor of that Province, but he wisely refused to resign the office of Chief Justice until provision was made for giving him a pensin as Judge when his term of office as Lieut.-Governor should expire. When the Bill was before the Committee of the whole House, Dr. Tupper suggested that provision should be made for giving a Judge's pension to Mr. Wilmot, who resigned a Judgeship to become Lieut.-Governor of New Brunswick. Many members of the House were surprised to learn from the Minister of Justice, not only that this case had received the consideration of the Government, but that he was of opinion that the provisions of the Act of 1868 were applicaple to Mr. Wilmot's case, and that an order in Council has passed, granting him a pension proportionate to the salary he had at the time of his resignation: that is two thirds of $2,400 a year.

The *Freeman* then goes on to argue that the Attorney General is wrong in his conclusions and against the provision for ex-Governor Wilmot. We think the people of New Brunswick, pretty generally, will assent to the justice of the proposed pension, even though it should not be strictly in accordance with the terms of the act referred to.

POLITICAL MEETING AT JACKSONVILLE.—We are asked to make the announcement that a meeting of the rate-payers will be held in Emery's Hall, Jacksonville, on Monday evening next, at half-past seven o'clock. A full meeting is desirable, as the present political issues are to be considered.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. — "Chandler," your communication reached us too late for last issue, and the news would now be stale. We are much obliged for your thoughtfulness.

Report of the doings at Lakeville, on the 25th, received too late for insertion this week.

The *Freeman* will scarcely assist his case against the Government and the School Law, by assailing clergymen and laymen who are zealously laboring in Scotland, or elsewhere, for the salvation and happiness of mankind.

Conductor Charles Cowperthwaite, to whose case we referred last week, died at Northampton, on Saturday. He was conscious until a short time before his death.

E. R. Burpee, G. K. Jewett and H. Osburn, Esquires, came up on Monday to confer, we believe, about the Bridge over the river and connection of the N. B. with the N. B. & C. railroad.

Mr. E. M. McDonald, Collector of Customs, Halifax, for many years connected with the press of that city, and at one time a member of the House of Commons, died very suddenly on the 25th.

Rev. I. E. Bill has left for a trip to Europe for rest and recuperation. Satisfactory arrangements it is announced have been made for the editorial and financial management of the *Visitor* during Mr. Bill's absence.

The protest against the return of A. H. Gillmore, at the last Dominion election, will be tried in Fredericton on Tuesday, 30th June.

It is rumored, and the rumor bears probability, owing to the source whence it originates that A. H. Hayward, Esq., Warden of the County, will be a candidate at the coming election.

The Secretary of the Treasury of the United States has been implicated, by a Congressional Committee, with the Sanborn contracts, and will, probably, have to resign.

Candidates are increasing in St. John. Messrs. Armstrong, of the *Globe*, Gilbert and Montgomery are out in opposition to the Government.

York is being pretty thoroughly canvassed by the "ticket" candidates *en masse*, and the independent candidates separately.

Parliament was prorogued on Tuesday. The session has been productive of some very important measures, and which are likely to have a strong influence on our future history.

A convention has been held in Queen's County, and nominated as candidates W. S. Butler and Francis Woods.

Two hundred and fifty-eight immigrants have arrived at their settlement, Balmoral, Restigouche.

S. B. Appleby, Esq., M. P., arrived home on Tuesday evening; he looks hale and hearty.

Strong efforts are still being made to secure an amnesty for Riel.

Small-pox is reported to prevail to a fearful extent at Hull, opposite Ottawa.

In York County nomination is on 11th June, polling 16th.

The *Maritime Monthly* for June has been received. This No. ends a volume. The contents are "Josiah Garth," (continued) Sonnets (by the Editor), "Beauty;" "The Question;" "Man Ching's Boots;" "The Night Cometh" "Maurice Wentworth's Charge;" "My Friend's Chronicles of Punch Bowl;" "Travels and Adventures in the South;" "Scrapiana." So that it will be seen the table is well spread with varied condiments. H. L. Spencer (Enylla Allyne) is announced as the Editor. $3 per annum. J. & A. McMillan, Printers.

The Toronto *Globe* thus treats on the proposed Union of the Maritime Provinces:—

"We are pleased to see a movement commenced in N. S. for the union of the Maritime Provinces of the Confederation. The idea of having all these under one Lieutenant-Governor, and one Local Legislature, is so reasonable, that the wonder is not that it has now been suggested, but that it had not been carried long ago. There may be difficulties in the way of such a union being accomplished, though we fail to see that they can be either very many or very formidable; but the good to be thereby secured is so manifest that it will at once occur to every intelligent observer. The expense of local Government and legislation would be very much reduced, while there would be a greater likelihood of a higher class of men being selected for the Local Legislature, as the number required would be much smaller, and the range of selection more varied. As things are at present, these Provinces are very small, and their local expenses consequently unfairly heavy. While Ontario has about 180,000 square miles of territory, and Quebec a great deal more, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island have only 49,494 square miles among them all. Ontario has a population of a million and a half, while all the Canadian Provinces on the seaboard have not 700,000 all told. Yet each of the three has to keep up a local executive and legislature at an expense which is formidable to all populations, and which yields no commensurate advantage in return for the very considerable outlay. If these Provinces were united, the one formed, though not to be called large, would be respectable in size, and strong in a numerous, energetic, and intelligent population. This new Province would from the very first occupy such a position of influence and power as its separate component parts could never secure. The money saved from the support of local legislatures, and the different paraphernalia connected with local rule could be employed to develop the great and varied resources of the united Province, to bring into it a continuous stream of settlers, and to accomplish many other useful improvements, which are now either not thought of, or thought of only to be rejected as impracticable. Large as the business of these Provinces is at present, we have no doubt it would be immensely and speedily increased as soon as the union spoken of had been completed; while if there is any truth in the homely illustration of the late Mr. Howe, that 'the narrower the pit, the fiercer the rats fight," we might also expect that there might be an improvement in their mode of conducting public business, though truth to tell, the amount of dignity displayed by the 'locals' of our large Provinces is not such as to justify any of them in casting a stone at their smaller brethern."

RECIPROCITY.

We find below opinions from two American papers on this important question. The "New York *World*" says:—

For a period extending from September to within a week or so the country was threatened with inflation, with a plethora of money that was to be manufactured by a printing press. This danger is happily now averted. With the defeat of inflation and prospects of a sounder policy we have still an immense amount of capital seeking investment. At no period since the war has loanable capital been so cheap; yet at no time since 1857 has trade been duller than now. It is a simple question of imports of manufactures and commodities are now, and have for six months been, lower than for years past, why is it that home commodities do not step in and supply the usual demand? We have not imported iron rails in large quantities since October, still the iron rail trade never was worse; we ceased to import iron bars, yet the iron rollers are in a deplorable state. We have given up all for the fiscal year of 1873-4 to come within 40 per cent. of the importation of 1873-4 of wollen and cotton fabrics. Yet our own manufactures languish. We need not seek far for the cause. Protection sits astride of the industry, commerce, and trade of the country. We have it from official record that many thousand artisans are returning to their native lands; while those remaining are full of complaints, are kept idle, are out on strikes, and become a burden to society.

At such a time it is made known that a reciprocity treaty with the Dominion of Canada, now containing 4,000,000 of people is under discussion. We could hardly have chosen a moment more opportune. Anything that will give an impulse to trade would be as great a blessing as showers after a drought. Commercial reciprocity with the Dominion means an increase of trade, an increase of manufactures, and an increase of land and water carrying trade. It further extends to us the boon of cheap raw material. Is it possible to deny that if we give ship builders cheaper timber, we not only benefit the community in general but the artisans and laborers who work in building in particular.

Reciprocity with Canada means cheaper coal, cheaper vegetables, and other necessaries of life to operatives in our Eastern States. And while we withhold this great benefit by tariff from millions in these very States, our own farmers are not in the least benefitted, because the Eastern States, having ceased in a great measure to be producers of farm products, are employing their labor more profitably in manufactures. The Western farm products are even now precluded by distance from competing with Canada.

The Chinese wall set up in 1866 by the abrogation of the treaty is an evil. Whatever harm it inflicts on Canada comes home to ourselves. Indeed it is questionable whether we alone are not the only sufferers by it. We have driven the Canadians and the Nova Scotians to seek the markets of Brazil, Chili, Peru and the West India Islands for the sale of their products, the trade of which—for timber, flour, provisions—we then had alone. We have not only driven them there, but we find them there our strong competitors,—The law of exchange is as certain as the law of gravitation. If, for instance, we import more timber from the Dominion we export more agricultural implements, more fabrics, more luxuries which we produce; if we make them seek other markets for their timber and products, they give us naturally the go-by and buy the articles they need elsewhere.

The total foreign trade of Canada exceeds $240,000,000 in gold annually, which is a per capita trade of $60 per head.

Our own foreign trade is, or was in 1873, 1,300 million dollars. This divided by 40 millions of people is only $32.50 per capita. Thus it seems that these Canadians, whom some would wish to treat as if they were a mere fag-end of creation, beat us by nearly 100 per cent. per capita in the foreign trade.

The *Scottish American Journal* says:—

The thirteen years during which reciprocity has been already tried show a record profitable indeed to Canada, but most obviously profitable to the United States. The aggregate of the import and export trade with the British Provinces during the period of reciprocity—1854-1866—was according to United States statistics about 720 millions of dollars. The annual amount of trade rose from the average of $14,230,762, which represents its yearly extent during the eight years preceding the last treaty, to $33,492,754 gold during the first year of its existence; to $42,942,754 in the second year; to $50,339,770 in the third year; and to $84,070,955 in its last year. During the entire thirteen years the commodities purchased by Canada from the United States are represented by a total value of $246,180,254; while those purchased from Canada by the United States reach the sum of only $325,726,520; showing that "the balance of trade" was to the amount of $20,454,246 on the side of the Union. Canadian statistics, which on this point are more trustworthy—not being affected by the inflated war values of exports place the imports from the United States during thirteen years of reciprocity, at $359,667,257—showing a balance in favor of the Republic of $95,796,989, gold. Nearly one-half of Canadian purchases from the United States were on manufactured goods; about one-third are represented by "breadstuffs;" while "animals and their products" account for rather more than one-tenth of the whole.

On the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, the value of the trade between the United States and the Provinces fell from an average of nearly $75,000,000 per annum during the last three years of the operation of the treaty, to an annual average of $57,000,000 during the first three years after its repeal. The first year after repeal made a reduction of twenty-one millions of dollars in the foreign trade of the Dominion; but by the fourth year after repeal, the difference was more than made up. The aggregate amount of Canadian exports and imports, was in 1866, about 160½ millions of dollars; by 1873, in spite of the cessation of reciprocal trade with the United States, it had reached the amount of 235½ millions of dollars. Of this foreign commerce of the Provinces, the trade with the United States accounted in 1866 for 52½ per cent.; in 1867 the proportion fell, with the repeal of the treaty to 42 per cent.; in 1868 to 41 per cent.; in 1869 to 40 per cent.; and so on till, in 1873, it reached 35 per cent. of the whole. In this latter year, the aggregate amount of traffic between Canada and the United States reached within two millions of dollars of the highest point touched during the term of the operation of the treaty; so that Canada's power of finding new markets has been more remarkable than the power of the United States to do without Canadian productions. For, it should be added, that it is of such articles of Canadian growth as lumber, fish, barley, wool, hides, &c., that the recent increased American imports from Canada are chiefly made up.

It is reasonable to assume that a trade which thrives in spite of Custom House barriers, would thrive much more were they removed altogether. It is, therefore, proposed to restore to the free list as between the two countries, the articles included under the treaty of 1854, which covered animals and animal products, farm products, forest products, stones, ores, slate and gypsum, fish, dye-stuffs and manures. At the suggestion of the United States Government, it has been proposed to add to the articles included under the former treaty, manufactures of iron or steel, manufactures of wood, mineral and other oils, bricks, salt, malt, agricultural implements, &c. The chief conditions of the new treaty will probably be that the coasting trade of Canada and the United States should be thrown open to the vessels of both countries on equal terms; that the Canadian canals, from Lake Erie to Montreal, should be enlarged at the expense of the Dominion Government, to admit of the passage of vessels 260 feet long, 45 feet beam, and with a depth equal to the capacity of the lake harbors; that the Canadian canals, and the Erie, Whitehall, Sault St. Maris and Lake St. Clair canals, of the United States, should be open on equal terms to either country; that the free navigation of Lake Michigan be made perpetual like the free navigation of the St. Lawrence; that there be a free interchange of ships, and of naval registry, between the citizens of both countries; and that of the waters jointly enjoyed by Canada and the United States, and such affairs as lighthouses, fish propagation, &c., be managed by joint commissioners.

The number of signatures to petitions for a prohibitory liquor law presented to Parliament during the present session from the various Provinces have been as follows:—Ontario, 84,831; Quebec, 12,555; New Brunswick, 13,536; Nova Scotia, 13,437; Prince Edward Island, 3,340; British Columbia, 206—Total, 127,817. Besides these, petitions have been presented from municipal bodies and counties representing a population of 410,000. Petitions have also been presented from the Canada Presbyterian Church representing a membership of 206,000; the Presbytery of Manitoba; the Grand Division of Sons of Temperance of the Province of Nova Scotia; the Young Men's Christian Association of the City of Fredericton; the Free Christian Baptist Conference of New Brunswick; the Professors and Students of Knox College, Toronto; the Brockville and Ottawa Railway Co.; the Nairn Church, Strabane, Co., Wentworth; the Dundas Temperance Union; the Niagara Episcopal Church of Canada, in session at Strathroy; the faculty and students of Victoria College, Coburg; and the members of the New Brunswick Legislature.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.—In the Bill introduced by the Government and passed by the House of Commons there is a remarkable modification of the plan propounded in the resolutions previously submitted to the House. The resolutions, it is true, left much to the discretion of the Government and to the decision of Parliament to be pronounced from time to time, but the bill declares expressly that the expenditure in the work of construction is not to be so great as to increase the present rate of taxation in the Dominion, and the Premier, in reply to some of the British Columbians, who profess to regard the whole possible expenditure as the merest trifle, stated most distinctly and emphatically that while the Dominion will do all in its power to carry out the agreement with British Columbia in spirit it was folly to expect that it would ruin itself financially or plunge into difficulties from which it could not reasonably hope to escape. Dr. Tupper argued and produced a great array of figures in support of his argument, that by utilizing existing lines of railroad, and those lines sure to be completed, railroad communication from Montreal to Lake Nepissing and thence to Fort Garry could be secured for $2,800,000 more than the Government propose to expend in opening communication, partly by water, which could be used only for half the year, but he failed to convince the House.—*Freeman.*

PARLIAMENT OF CANADA.

Summarized from despatches to St. John papers.

OTTAWA, May 22.

A discussion took place in the Committee of Public Accounts to-day, on the items charged for purchase of the properties in Chatham and Newcastle, brought up by Mr. McLeod, of Kent.

Mr. Mitchell defended the purchases. He stated that the properties were cheap, and that he had no interest in their sale.

Mr. McLeod replied that it appeared by the public accounts $14,000 were paid for these two properties, which had been previously purchased for $4,000, being $10,000 in excess of their original cost, and that the property at Newcastle had been under lease to the Government, with privilege of purchase at $1,600. Government declined to adopt this privilege. Subsequently Mr. Tuck purchased the property for $1,520, and shortly after re-sold it to the Government for $4,000. If these properties were cheap, as Mr. Mitchell alleged, at $14,000, it appeared they had been previously purchased for $4,000. Mr. McLeod left the committee to draw their own conclusion from the facts he had mentioned, and stated that, to say the least, the transaction had a suspicious appearance.

It was stated in evidence before the public accounts committee that deductions amounting to about $90,000—nearly half of the whole contract— were made, and yet the contractors got paid the full contract price. According to schedule prices, the contractor's work came to $79,000, and he received payment to the extent of $164,000. To complete the section it will cost $60,000.

In the Commons to-day, Mr. Fournier presented the Report of Committee on private bills, in which it was recommended that the fees payable on private bills be $200 instead of $100.

Mr. Geoffrion presented the Report of Committee on north west difficulties, in which it was stated that they were unable to complete the evidence, as several important witnesses were absent in Europe and the north west. He left it to the House whether further steps should be taken for further investigation.

Mr. Costigan moved that the orders and notices published in the Canada *Gazette* and re-published in the New Brunswick newspapers, be so re-published by them in the French language.

Mr. Appleby said it was impossible for English papers to set up these notices in that language, and recommended that the suggestion of the public accounts committee be adopted and that these orders be published.

Mr. Costigan withdrew his motion.

A bill to amend the militia act was read a third time and passed.

May 23.

There were 300 cases of small pox in Hull (opposite Ottawa) to day. Thirty deaths have occurred already this week.

There were 14 deaths the day before yesterday.

It has been determined to survey the Valley of the Fraser River, with a view to making the terminus of the Pacific Railway at Burrard Inlet.

Sandford Fleming has received orders to proceed with the work at once.

The *Canada Gazette* to-day contains the appointment of James Barber, of St. John, N. B., to be Surveyor of Shipping for the port of St. John; Geo. Hattie, of Pictou, N. S., to be Surveyor of Shipping for port of Pictou.

Mr. Mousseau's motion for amnesty was ruled out of order in the Commons this evening.

In the Commons to-day on the second reading of the amendments made by the Senate to the Public Works Bill, Mr Mackenzie moved that this House disagrees with said amendments, because they gave power to all persons claiming lands to have an arbitration, altogether defeating the object of the bill.

The supply bill was read a first, second and third time, and passed.

The bill to continue the existing insolvency law for a limited period, was introduced.

Mr. Dorion consented to withdraw his insolvency bill for this session.

May 26.

Mr. Caron asked if it was the intention of the Government to apply for a general and complete amnesty for all offences committed in the Northwest.

In the absence of the Premier, Hon. Mr. Smith said he could not on such a weighty matter express the intentions of the Government, as the whole thing depended on the tenor of the report of the Northwest committee.

Mr. Caron again put the question concerning an amnesty.

Hon. Mr. Smith replied that it was the intention of the Government to consider these questions with a view to the best interests of the country.

Mr. Mitchell congratulated the Government on an answer which he thought was eminently proper.

The Usher of the Black Rod appeared, and on his summons the members attended at the bar of the Senate, when the Governor General prorogued Parliament. The following is the speech from the throne:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

I am glad that at a comparatively early period of the season I am able to relieve you from further attendance in Parliament, I thank you for the devotion you have shown to the public interest, in the earnest prosecution of the works of the session. I congratulate you on having passed an election law, adapted to the requirements of the respective provinces, and I trust that this law, with the amended act for the trial of controverted elections, will result in securing for the future pure and peaceable elections.

The measure you passed providing for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway will enable my Government to proceed as soon as practicable with such portions of the work as are necessary to secure communication with the interior and with British Columbia.

I hope that the law for the establishment of a military college will be found to fulfil its designs in securing a class of thoroughly educated officers of the militia service.

I trust that the other measures you have adopted with so much unanimity will likewise prove beneficial to the country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

I thank you for the readiness with which you have made provision for an anticipated deficiency and granted the supplies for the public service.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:—
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

I trust that measures I have caused to be taken for the preservation of the peace in the Northwest territories will be effectual in preventing the spirit of lawlessness, so much to be feared in these vast unsettled regions, and in maintaining friendly relations with the Indian tribes.

The negotiations in progress relative to the compensation due to Canada under the Treaty of Washington will, I hope, realize our just expectations.

We have reason to rejoice that within our borders are peace and prosperity, and I pray that the country may continually enjoy these invaluable blessings.

THE YORK ELECTION.—The *Farmer* says:—"The seeming probabilities are that Mr. G. Botsford will be a candidate at the approaching election. We have seen this gentleman's programme, which, among other things, is opposition to the present school law, on the grounds that it is excessive and oppressive in its taxation—its machinery needlessly and extravagantly expensive—the Bible is excluded from the schools, and that the high schools are unavailable to a large portion of the people of this Province. Mr. Botsford is in favor of free schools and practical education.

Prior to the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Union considerable quantities of goods were imported into that province, under the idea that these goods would be admitted free into the other provinces of Canada, where the duties were higher. To counteract this movement the Act 36, Vic., Cap. 40 was passed, which, by its third section, enacted that goods imported from Prince Edward Island, after the Union, into the other provinces should pay the difference in duty between the Island the Dominion impost. This section would have expired at the end of the then next session of Parliament, but we observe that it has been continued for another year, by an act passed this session.—*Telegraph.*

A lady was left in charge of a friend's family last week in Boston. In the night one of the children was taken sick, and on taking a prescription for an apothecary to the room of a servant woman she found her terribly frightened, as she was certain a burglar was concealed in her closet. The lady stepped straight to the door and said, "If there is anybody in this closet let him come out;" whereupon a big sinister-looking negro stepped forth. She then, with the utmost coolness, handed him the prescription saying: "Take this to the nearest apothecary and get it filled; there is a sick child in the house." A clerk soon came with the medicine, saying that a negro had brought the prescription and quickly disappeared.

Careful investigations by reporters of the Springfield *Republican* make the total number of victims by the Mill River disaster 138, of whom 57 lived in Williamsburg, 4 in Skinnersville, 26 in Haydenville and 51 in Leeds. Of these the bodies of all but 14 have been recovered and identified and the work of searching for the dead has been practically given up as it is believed that most of the remaining bodies were swept out into the Connecticut river, where one has already been seen, though not recovered. Friday's reported contributions to the relief fund swell the total to about $65,000, of which $18,413 has actually been received by the Central Committee at Northampton. The Relief Committee report about 150 families, comprised of about 700 people, utterly destitute, and think the exigencies of the case demand $100,000. The work of clearing up the debris and preparing for rebuilding is being actively prosecuted and the restoration of the desolated villages is already assured.

Mr. James T. Fields asks: "is it not amazing that since 1845 there has not graduated from any American college a man who has yet made any great mark either as a lawyer, an or