

THE REVIEW.

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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., AUGUST 13, 1891.

AN IMPORTANT SESSION.

The Imperial Parliament was prorogued a few days ago. The session thus ended was a memorable one. It was remarkable for its length. Its two leading portions were separated by a vacation of some weeks. Altogether it was one of the longest on record. Its earlier portion was noted for the severity of the struggle between contending factions. As a whole, it was distinguished by the measures passed into law. The most remarkable of these, perhaps, was the land purchase act by which nearly a hundred and seventy million dollars were provided to enable tenant farmers in Ireland to purchase their holding on easy terms. Great things are expected from the operation of this act. It must multiply immensely the number of peasant proprietors in Ireland, and have a deep and wide effect on the condition of things in the Emerald Isle.

Another important measure passed was that for greatly advancing the interests of free education. And other valuable measures were inscribed on the British statute book. This session was also signified by the occurrence and operation of the Parnell trouble.

EFFICIENT BUT MENACED.

The present British House of Commons cannot last much longer. In the course of a year or two, it is permitted to exist that long, it must die by lapse of time. It is passing rapidly through the second of its natural term of existence. But its dissolution may be only a few months in the distance. The result is not absolutely certain. The general impression however seems to be that the Salisbury Government will be defeated in the coming general election. This impression has grown out of the many defeats inflicted on the government in bye elections.

It is not easy to account for these defeats. The one thing certain is that they have not been due to feebleness, folly or failure on the part of the government. It is a long time since Great Britain has had as generally efficient a government as that headed by Salisbury. Success has attended it on almost every side. Salisbury has proved a most vigorous and prudent guide in foreign affairs. Goschen has won some fine successes as finance minister. The navy under the Salisbury regime has been strengthened vastly. The departments generally have been well administered, and Balfour is probably the chief secretary for Ireland known to British parliamentary history. In that capacity he has won a tremendous success. Six years ago, he was scarcely known to the general British public. Since then he has drawn to himself universal attention. He has shown himself possessed of almost every quality fitted to achieve success in public life. He has developed into a great orator—a powerful debater in parliament—a masterly swayer of masses on the stump. His working powers are on a par with his speaking capacity. His energy is intense. He is keen of eye and quick of hand, and has the best sort of common sense. Sharp and short as is his mode of dealing with opponents, he yet has sympathy with people who differ from him. The British people have been delighted with the fearless courage displayed by him in trying situations. Not long ago he was possibly in Ireland the most thoroughly hated man alive. Now, in what was formerly Ireland's most turbulent sections, he is hailed in a series of ovations as a public benefactor. He is undoubtedly in Great Britain the coming man. Let the fate of the Salisbury government be what it will in the coming election, Balfour seems predestined to play a great part in British public life.

PROGRESS OF THE SCANDAL.

Scandal matters continue to move in a lively manner at Ottawa. In the Tarte-McGreavy case, the chief feature during the past ten days has been the evidence given by Thomas McGreavy. He has sworn point blank to the falseness of the chief charges against him, and, with the aid of other witnesses, has apparently disproved some of the worst of them. But at some points charges have been fastened on him, as, for instance, the ownership of a steam boat under contract with the government, he being meanwhile member of parliament, and the use of contract money for political purposes. But in the course of the enquiry the chief witnesses against Thomas McGreavy, his brother Robert and Murphy, have been placed in a most despicable light.

Before this, Sir Hector Langevin will probably have given testimony in the case. Up to the time of writing, Sir Hector has not been seriously implicated by the evidence given. One or two matters seem to require explanation from him. This he has likely given. If so, we trust it is of a satisfactory character.

The extra work and pay matter has not proved a very serious business. Irregular proceedings have been indulged in. Repetition should be prevented, but absurd regulations should be abolished. Extra work should be fairly divided among regular clerks, and extra pay granted in a straightforward manner.

The new scandal enquiry started in the senate is a sensational matter. Reform members of the senate have violently opposed enquiry. Their contention is that the money misapplied in the case was granted to Baie de Chaleurs railroad by the Quebec government, and that, therefore, enquiry in the matter is the right of that government. There is some probability in this contention. But there is also at the same time a certainty that no searching enquiry would be made by that government. The dominion government has invested money in this road, and seems to have a right to enquire into the expenditure thereon. At the moment of writing, there seems to be some doubt as to whether the senate can get witnesses to testify in the case.

SIR HECTOR RESIGNS.

Sir Hector Langevin, Minister of Public Works, has resigned his position. Sir Hector said "I intend to meet the accusations with the most positive denials, and I felt bound at once to lay my resignation in the hands of the Prime Minister, so that my colleagues in the government and in the House of Commons may be able to judge freely of my conduct. I begin by declaring that in all the departmental works mentioned before this committee I feel that I have fulfilled my duty conscientiously in accordance with my knowledge and ability without being influenced by anyone."

Moncton.

Aug. 11th 1891.—Little that is worth recalling has occurred during the week. A fire of incendiary origin Thursday night served to illustrate the efficiency of our fire service, and gave our fleet footed pedestrians, male and female, a seasonable opportunity to exhibit the celerity of their nethermost members. Monctonians have a wonderfully developed capacity for "getting there." Particularly is this true of our swarthy Marshal; who not only makes himself conspicuous at all out door gatherings but occasionally vests himself with glory within doors. The truth of this was exemplified Tuesday night when with two subordinate officers he visited a scene of illicit mirth, in a respectable neighbourhood too, and, with the methodicity that characterizes the work of a distinguished officer quickly devastated the surroundings and escorted the unfortunate inmates to less commodious quarters on Duke St. In the transformation scenes that occurred at intervals during the arrest it is said the Marshal displayed considerable of the McGinty tendency to go to the bottom, but his not "getting there" was the exception that proves the rule. More sap to thy marrow, Marshal Foster.

The new Y. M. C. A. building was formally dedicated Tuesday evening. The Oddfellows' hall in which the service was held was crowded to excess. Two immense caais, in which sat Governor Tilley and Mr. Griffith of New York were draped with the stars and stripes and union jack respectively. A judicious arrangement of potted plants, kindly loaned and arranged by Mrs. McAllister added much to the interior decorations. The addresses were ably delivered particularly those of the gentlemen mentioned above. The music was of a very high order, to attempt it without the aid of Mr. Wetmore would be like playing Hamlet with Hamlet left out. His solo, Calvary, was much appreciated, as was that of The Colossus of Bassos, Mr. Paul Lea. Messrs A. M. McKay and A. B. Sweezy were the ushers, and discharged their duties with marked efficiency.

The annual I. C. R. picnic was held at Point du Chene Saturday, fully four thousand persons attended, including all ages and almost every nationality. The day was very unpropitious; other outings of minor importance have been largely patronized, and still there's more to follow.

The second of a series of promenade concerts on the Athletic grounds was a success numerically and otherwise. Mr. J. V. Ellis, our bright juvenile journalist, who so successfully managed the programme at the opening concert was equally successful carrying off the majority of the prizes Wednesday night. The managers of whom Dr. McCully is a prominent head have announced another concert for Wednesday evening of this week.

The clerk of the weather will accept our thanks for system and regularity in his work, with the exception of Saturday we have had weeks of unusually fine weather. SILEY BILLY.

Terrible Accident to an Aeronaut and Equilibrist.

A balloon accident occurred at Leeds by which a balloonist and parachutist named Higgins was killed, and a Miss

Devoiy had a narrow escape from death. When the balloon was released it rapidly soared upward amid the cheers of the crowd. A crossbar was attached to the balloon, and it was the intention of the couple to give a trapeze performance, and afterwards to descend by means of a parachute.

After the balloon had risen a short distance it was caught in a current of air and struck a telegraph pole. The couple were sitting on the bar, and when the balloon struck the pole the bar swayed to and fro in a frightful manner.

Miss Devoiy, thinking it would be safer to drop from the bar rather than be thrown from it, lowered herself by her hands, hung for a moment, and then let go. The height from which she dropped was not great and she landed on the ground unhurt. Released from her weight the balloon swung upward, and, as it did so, Higgins, who still retained his place on the bar, became entangled in the telegraph wires, and in a flash he was swept off the bar and fell, twisting and turning, upon a fence, receiving such terrible injuries that he died, after suffering for a few moments the most intense agony.

The Dominion Illustrated.

The handsomely illustrated article on the Cuthberts, of Berthier, which appears in the last issue of The Dominion Illustrated, should be read by every one interested in the early history of Canada. In the same number is a delightful article by Miss McLeod on the Augustan Days of Edinburgh, recalling memories of Scott, Sydney Smith, Jeffrey, Brougham, Sir William Hamilton and a host of other great names. F. Blake Crofton contributes a charming illustrated poem. There are letters from London, Toronto and Halifax. The Sagamore gives his opinion of the recent Mercier demonstration. A full page portrait of the Emperor of Germany is reproduced, also views in St. John's Nfld., and other fine engravings. The number is a fine one.

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 FIVE SHROPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS. Address at once, J. B. OUELLET, St. Mary, Kent County, N. B. (July 30-41.)

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A so-called "wild man" has been captured near Tombstone, A. T. He wore no clothing, and his skin has become tanned to a very black. He talks rationally, says he is a Californian, and first began to discard clothing when he had a skin disease. He is about 35 years old, six foot tall, blue eyes, high forehead and high cheek bones. He seems to be very intelligent.

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First reward, \$1,500 in gold; 2nd, \$1,000; 3rd, \$500; 4th, \$750 Grand Piano; 5th, \$500 Organ; 6th, \$300 Team of Ponies and Carriage; 7th, \$150 Gent's Gold Watch; 8th, \$100 Ladies' Gold Watch; 50 prizes \$25 each, China Tea Set, 50 Hunting Case Silver Watches, 100 Boy's Silver Watches (all fully warranted), 25 prizes \$10 each, 100 prizes \$2 each, and 200 at \$1 each, making a total of 569 splendid rewards, ranging from \$1 up to \$1,500. All prizes delivered free in U. S. and Canada.

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Foreign or obsolete words not allowed; neither will singular and plurals of same word be allowed.

The words must be numbered 1, 2, 3 and so on, to facilitate the awarding of prizes.

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