

The Review.

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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., JAN. 9, 1896.

THE SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament is again in session and for weeks to come its deliberations and resolves will form subjects of deep interest for the intelligent electors of the dominion. The one extraordinary feature of the session distinguishing it from all others that have passed, will be the proposed bill to remedy the grievances of the Catholic minority of Manitoba. That is, indeed, the prime object of calling the session at this early date. It will be remembered that during the last session the government pledged themselves to this course if Manitoba did not in the meantime amend its school law in certain important particulars. Though the recent by-elections in both Ontario and Quebec do not indicate that the proposed interference in the affairs of Manitoba is generally received with favor, the remedial bill has been promised in the speech from the throne.

The vital questions that at the moment arise in the minds of thinking persons are, (1) What will be the scope of the remedial bill? (2) How far will it receive the general support of the ministerial party? (3) What will be the attitude of the regular opposition toward the bill? And finally, (4) Will the remedial measure be adopted by parliament? These are all somewhat difficult problems, and THE REVIEW will not venture to do more than sketch the probabilities.

In regard to the first question it seems highly probable that the remedial bill will be of an exceedingly moderate character. It will be doubtless much more moderate than the terms of the first remedial order addressed from Ottawa to the Manitoba government. We take this much for granted because of the opposition developed within the ministerial party, as shown in the Conservative press of Ontario, in the retirement of Hon. Clarke Wallace from the government and in the results of the by-elections. It is now hinted, semi-officially, that not only will the bill be exceedingly mild in its proposals but that it will also be conditional and not to go into operation earlier than January, 1897, and then only, if Manitoba still refuses to grant fair redress to the minority.

If we are right in our forecast of the bill the second question above set down will be easy to answer. It will receive the general support of the ministerial party, though doubtless Clarke Wallace, Dalton McCarthy, Col. O'Brien, Mr. Stubbs, the newly elected member for Cardwell and perhaps Mr. Weldon, of Albert, will vote against it. The Quebec French Conservatives will not be fully satisfied, as the bill will not go far enough to meet their wishes, but they will accept it as the best that is available under the circumstances.

In regard to the third question we anticipate that the regular opposition will oppose the bill, Mr. Laurier's Quebec supporters falling back upon his alternative proposition of a commission of inquiry. There will, of course, be some exceptions, Mr. McIsaac, of Antigonish, and some other Liberals will probably vote for the government bill, so that it may be the government will gain as much in this way as they will lose of their own usual support. Mr. McCarthy has announced his intention to fight the bill, line by line at all its stages, and if he does so its passage will be delayed for weeks, but opposition from that quarter is not likely to result in its defeat.

If we are right in these forecasts thus far it follows that the bill will be passed successfully, after which the other business of the session, the voting of supplies, etc., will be proceeded with in the usual course.

But it is within the bounds of possibility—at least some persons think so—that a considerable body of Ontario and western Conservatives may oppose the bill and defeat it. If they do so it will be because their constituents hold strong objections against interfering in the affairs of a province, and also because the by-elections appear to show that remedial legislation will not prove the drawing card in Quebec that had been anticipated.

ing and the bill failing to pass, the government would be defeated and compelled either to resign or to ask for an immediate dissolution of parliament. While this is extremely improbable it is yet within the bounds of possibility. The ministry have undertaken to deal with a question of the greatest delicacy, and in regard to which the course of events is doubly difficult to anticipate. Hence we conclude that while the session will probably continue till April, it may be cut short. In any case it promises to be a fighting session, as the last meeting of parliament before a dissolution almost always is. Some recent opposition successes, the more conspicuous because of their rarity in the past, have raised the hopes of the Liberal leaders and they will no doubt put forward their utmost efforts to make an impression through the country by spirited attacks in parliament. They will be met by men not less able, fearless and resourceful, and with a strong majority at their back.

THE TROUBLE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A most unusual difficulty has arisen in South Africa where a filibustering expedition, setting out from British territory, has invaded the Transvaal Republic. The ruling class in the republic are the Boers, descendants of the original Dutch settlers. They have proved themselves redoubtable fighters, and in days past at the battle of Majuba Hill gained a decisive victory over a British and Colonial force. The Boers have pursued the questionable course of excluding all immigrants from the privilege of voting, and this has caused great resentment among what is now the larger half of the population, most of the large body thus shut out from the ordinary rights of citizenship and from all share in the government of the republic are, or were formerly British subjects, and would be pleased to see the Transvaal again brought under British rule.

Dr. Jameson, who headed the invading force, appears to have counted confidently but mistakenly upon an uprising in his favor within the republic. The British authorities have peremptorily ordered him to return, and the Boers made ready to fight with their usual dogged courage. There was for a time a talk of German interference on the Boer side, but it is not likely that the trouble will extend so far. It seems not unlikely that the British government will feel obliged to pay an indemnity to the republic for the hostile invasion of its soil, though it was wholly unauthorized and even forbidden. In the end the Transvaal country will probably be absorbed into British territory, but when that is done it must be done "decently and in order"—not by a filibustering band of free-booters.

Progress points out that somebody has played rather an annoying trick upon the editor of the Telegraph. Before the present editor came to have charge of the latter journal, and while conducting the Gazette, it was an almost daily occurrence that "the silly Telegraph" was therein referred to. The other day the Telegraph published a New Year's poem purporting to be written by M. Smith, of St. John. The poetry, so called, is quite commonplace, but has the merit of brevity, there being only seventeen lines in all. It turns out, however, to be a double acrostic in which the initial letters of the lines call the editor a "donkey," while the concluding letters of the lines make the words "the silly Telegraph." The laugh is against the historical editor, who has dabbled a little in poetry in his time and has sometimes reproved his contemporaries for not being sufficiently careful in allotting the privilege of the poet's corner to effusions devoid of merit.

Col. Domville has opened his campaign in Kings with a meeting in Sussex at which Hon. Messrs Davies, Longley and Fraser, of P. E. Island and Nova Scotia were principal speakers, while Hon. A. G. Blair, J. V. Ellis, of the Globe and other prominent Liberals graced the platform. This evidence of activity in the Liberal camp may afford a hint to the New Brunswick Conservatives that they should prepare for the coming fight.

The Venezuelan war scare has lost something of its first alarming features but the danger of international trouble is by no means removed. The President of the United States has abated none of his pretensions and Lord Salisbury is not likely to recede from the position he and his government have taken. Under the circumstances the government of Canada will have undivided support in providing modern arms for our militia and improving the defences of the country. These preparations for defence are only such as ordinary prudence would demand even if there were no grave troubles in immediate prospect. The temper of both the British and Canadian people has so far been admirably calm and free from bluster or bragadocio throughout the rather exciting episode.

It is difficult to see why there should be so much angry feeling in the great republic to the south of us against the mother country. There is a kindly feeling in Britain toward the United States. The two nations are closely related in blood, they speak a common language, they are each the best commercial customers of the other, and there are many

hundreds of millions of British capital invested in American enterprises. They have enjoyed eighty years of peace since the last war, and it seems inconceivable that they should now be plunged into a destructive struggle over so small a matter as a few square miles of territory in South America. The inevitable result of a war between Great Britain and the United States would be the death of many brave men, the destruction of enormous wealth, and an alarming check upon the material and moral advancement of the world.

TROUBLE IN THE TORY CAMP.

Affairs at Ottawa which were in a somewhat muddled condition last week reached a crisis Saturday evening when resignations were handed in to the premier by the following ministers: Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, minister of justice, Hon. G. E. Foster, minister of finance, Hon. John Haggart, minister of railways and canals, Hon. W. H. Montague, minister of agriculture, Hon. W. B. Ives, minister of trade and commerce, Hon. A. R. Dickey, minister of militia and defence, Hon. J. F. Wood, controller of customs.

The reason for the bolting of the ministers is somewhat difficult to get at as up to the present writing neither Sir Mackenzie nor any of his late colleagues have made any statement on the matter, but as they are all protestants remedial legislation is doubtless responsible for their defection.

It was thought by some that the resignation took place because Sir Mackenzie was not considered strong enough to control the party, that he should retire from the leadership and his place be taken by Sir Charles Tupper.

When asked if it was true that he had resigned on account of the Premier, the ex-finance minister said, "You will see how little truth there is in that report when the House meets."

The vacancies have been temporarily assigned as follows: The premier takes the finance minister's place, Sir Adolphe Caron that of minister of militia, Hon. John Cotigan, trade and commerce, Hon. T. M. Daly, Justice, Hon. J. A. Ouimet, railways and canals, and Sir Donald Ferguson, that of agriculture.

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Diamond Dyes are the simplest, strongest and fastest colors for home dyeing. Every package of each color is warranted to do the best work when the directions are followed. The manufacturers of Diamond Dyes prepare special dyes for wool, silk, cotton and mixed goods, that give the most brilliant and lasting colors. Ask for the Diamond; refuse all others.

Wary of Self-Made Men's Brags.

Mr. Moody has a popular and very telling way of 'hitting' the errors which are so rife in the theological thinking of many persons to-day. Speaking of salvation by grace, he says, "it is well that a man can't save himself; for if a man could only work his own way to heaven, you never would hear the last of it. Why, down here in this world, if a man happens to get a little ahead of his fellows, and scrapes a few thousand dollars together, you'll hear him bragging about his being a self-made man, and telling how he began as a poor boy and worked his way up in the world. I've heard so much of this sort of thing that I'm sick and tired of the whole business and I'm glad we shan't have men bragging through all eternity how they worked their way to heaven."

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One on the Lawyer.

Some time ago he had under cross-examination a youth from the country who rejoiced in the name of Samson, and whose replies were provocative of much laughter in the court. "And so" questioned the barrister, "you wish the court to believe that you are a peaceably disposed and inoffensive kind of person?" "Yes," "And that you have no desire to follow in the steps of your illustrious namesake and smite Philistines?" "No; I've not," answered the witness. "And if I had the desire I ain't got the power at present." "Then you think you would be unable to cope successfully with a thousand enemies and utterly rout them with the jawbone of an ass?" "Well," answered the ruffled Samson, "I might have a try when you have done with the weapon."

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Kingston Notes.

Mr. Charles Main left for Dorchester on Saturday.

Miss McDonald visited Newcastle last week.

Miss Orr and Miss Stothart returned to St. John on Saturday.

Miss Maggie Graham has resumed her studies at Sackville.

Miss Maggie Gifford spent a few days last week in Bathurst.

Mr. Dobson returned on Friday.

Miss McPherson and Mr. Fraser left for their homes on Friday.

Miss Sinclair, of Newcastle, visited her sister, Mrs. Dr. Ferguson, last week.

Mrs. Mason left for home on Tuesday, accompanied a short distance by her sister, Mrs. H. M. Ferguson.

Some of our teachers are still at home. We understand that Miss L. Forster intends remaining at home for a few months.

No one need fear now about the enforcement of the law and the keeping of the peace under our new legal light and we extend our hearty congratulations to our friend H. M. Ferguson, Notary Public.

We are pleased to hear that Miss Minnie Hannah continues to improve and is now able to be up about the house.

Service was held in the Presbyterian church both morning and evening last Sunday, and we understand that it is the intention to hold them that way the first Sunday in each month.

In attempting to cross the river on the ice on Sunday morning from church, Mr. Edward Wilson broke through, but with the exception of a wetting no harm was done.

During the gale of last week the kitchen chimney of the Hall was blown down but no great damage was done.

The annual meeting of the Kingston Agricultural Society was held at the store of Wm. Brait, Esq., on Saturday afternoon.

The latest fad is a leap-year dance for Friday evening.

Some of the gentlemen have gone so far as to suggest a leap-year evening so that the young ladies may have an idea of the palpitations of the heart and the many trying ordeals through which the gentlemen have to pass on ordinary occasions. But we would like to drop the hint that some of the young gentlemen might feel slighted after all was over if they had to walk home alone as oftentimes the ladies do.

We have also heard gentle whispers concerning a Masquerade Ball to be given in the near future and we welcome the idea.

The holiday times were much enlivened by social gatherings and skating parties. Miss Main, of Galloway, entertained a few of her friends on New Year's Eve, as did also the Misses Dickinson. Miss Smith entertained the first evening of the year, Miss Mitchell entertained on Monday evening. Those who attended the dance in town reported a good time. "Mrs Tucker" and her suite were with us on the ice, and although the pressure of the ice was of times felt and the ice often cleaned, yet the time passed too soon. The skating on the river was all that could be desired and we trembled with fear as we saw it slowly moving out on Tuesday of last week. "Jack Frost" has returned from his holidays and with renewed strength closed the channel on Saturday night. The fishermen are pleased and now look forward to some good hauls. The quantity of smelts on hand at the beginning of the thaw was not a total loss as one cent per pound was realized.

Hood's Sarsaparilla, taken at this season,

will make you feel strong and vigorous and keep you from sickness later on.

The Westminster Gazette says that the Queen has written a letter to the Emperor of Germany rebuking him for his attitude in regard to the Transvaal, especially in the matter of the congratulatory message which his majesty sent to President Kruger.

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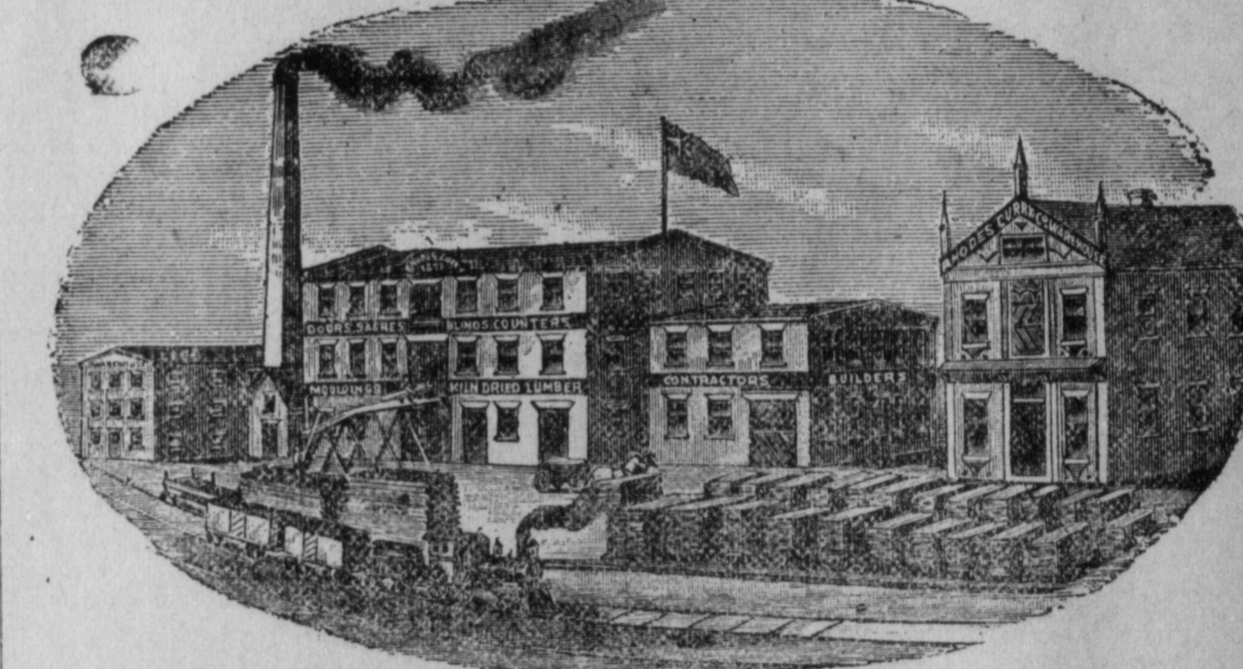
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