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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., DEC. 2, 1897.

THE MANITOBA MINORITY.

Latest reports from the Prairie Province give little ground for hope that the school settlement will be accepted by the Roman Catholic minority. Active efforts, it is said, have been made to induce the French settlements to organize and secure the benefits of the Public School System, but without result. At one time 35 or 36 of the separate school districts had come under the act, but it is doubtful if there are now fifteen. The influence of the clergy has been actively and unitedly thrown against the acceptance, by their parishioners of the provisions of the Manitoba law, which sought to give effect to the Laurier settlement, and there can be no doubt that so far as the church can influence the people, the present law will not be accepted by them. The returns and petitions laid before parliament at the last session showed that a large number of the French districts were opposed to the compromise and protested against it in strong terms; but many were led to entertain the hope that this feeling would soon die out and all would accept the national school system. This evidently is not the case, and in view of the decision of the Supreme Pontiff approving of the action of the Bishops there is very little probability of any compromise being effected unless the Manitoba Government make concessions much wider than those hitherto granted. This, Mr. Greenway positively asserts he will not do. The question will therefore probably continue to agitate the Western province. It may again engage the attention of parliament, though it is to be hoped it will not again assume its former proportions as a political issue. It is doubtful if any party will now be found to assume the responsibility of it. The Conservatives did not receive such political support from the minority in the former contest as to induce the leaders to again grapple with the question as a party one, while Mr. Laurier will no doubt insist that so far as the Liberal administration is concerned, a fair trial shall be given to the compromise. It is said that the people are themselves tired of the continued agitation and if left to their own wishes, would readily accept the existing educational system—but it may be doubted if this is generally the case. The probability is that a very large minority, if not a majority of them accept the advice and instructions of their religious leaders in a matter of this nature. The question is yet surrounded with considerable difficulty.

THE I. C. R. AND THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS.

Whatever may be the result of Mr. Blair's efforts to improve the

management and efficiency of the Government Railway, there is no doubt that he is addressing himself to the task with his accustomed energy and persistency in carrying out his plans. The fair presumption is that the road will, if at all possible, be placed on a business basis, by which the taxpayers will be relieved of the annual deficit which has hitherto resulted from its operation. The extension from Levis to Montreal, which it is now announced will be opened for traffic about the fifteenth of this month, must necessarily increase the business and enable the road to compete with its rivals on much more favorable terms for the Western trade. Already the shippers and business men of Ontario are making enquiries for the rates from Montreal to St. John and Halifax. Another change just introduced by the Minister is the establishment of the general freight Superintendent with an efficient staff at Montreal, whose duty it shall be in addition to the general management of that department to look after all freight arrangements with connecting roads, canvass for business and generally to look sharply after the interests of the road. Recent movements also indicate that Mr. Blair is desirous of securing the Canada Eastern Railway and possibly other connecting roads, which under government management would prove valuable feeders for the Intercolonial. It is to be hoped that he will be given sufficient support in the cabinet and parliament to enable him to carry this into effect. It was the policy announced by Sir Charles Tupper, as leader of the Conservative party, and there is much in it to recommend it for favourable consideration at the hands of the present Government. The I. C. R. is now operating the Dalhousie and Indian town branches in this Province, and if the Canada Eastern is acquired, as we believe it will be, there will be no reason why the Kent Northern, the Buctouche & Moncton and other paying roads and valuable feeders should not be taken over and operated by the Government. The districts interested in these roads would no doubt derive great benefit from their management under government control, and we will be pleased to learn that any suitable scheme with a view to such a transfer can be proposed by the present energetic Minister.

CENTRE TORONTO.

The contest for the vacant seat in this constituency between Mr. Pertram the Liberal standard bearer and Mr. Howland the Conservative candidate grows more interesting as the canvass develops the views of these party leaders. Both are strong men and the election affords a fair opportunity to test political opinion in that important centre. Toronto has hitherto been regarded as a conservative stronghold and the Opposition express great confidence in the result of the present fight. The Liberal candidate does not stand on the Free Trade platform of his party, or what is alleged to be the platform, but is disposed to take a practical view of the trade requirements of the country and adapt his theories to the present situation. In this he will probably have the sympathy, if not the active support of a number of former conservatives as well as of his liberal friends. The conservative press however expresses considerable confidence in Mr. Howland's success. One Journal says: He goes into the fight with none of the entanglements led to the defeat of the conservatives at the last election—(referring, we presume, to the school question.) It adds: "There is not a conservative in the city who can find a single objec-

tion to Mr. Howland. This is one of the main sources of strength at the present moment. Toronto is unmistakably conservative, and the conservatives only seek an opportunity of reasserting their strength by united action. Mr. Howland will unite all the forces."

THE TRANSCRIPT AND ITS CRITICS.

The Moncton Transcript took occasion a few days ago to offer some rather pointed comments upon the working of the Liberal party in this Province and the alleged recognition by the party leaders of former opponents to the disregard of old and tried supporters. As a result of its freely expressed opinions, our contemporary has brought down upon its head the sharp, and in some instances, bitter criticism of many of its old time friends of the liberal press, and the not-less-to-be-desired sympathy of conservative journals. The Transcript however stands its ground and hits back effectively in the face of its critics, some of whom have thought proper to accuse Mr. Hawke of very discreditable political motives, and to assert that he is a crank and disappointed office seeker. THE REVIEW has no desire to interfere in the quarrel that has thus arisen between the Transcript and its former friends. The Moncton organ is able to take care of itself. But we believe that independent criticism and frankly expressed opinion by the party press is often of more practical service to the Government, than tame and subservient approval of all the acts of an administration. We are not prepared to say that the complaint made by the transcript in this instance is justified by the facts, but the Editor evidently believes it to be and has the independence to say so.

We cannot, however, understand the ground upon which a party organ can reasonably object to the accession to the Liberal ranks of new supporters, even though they have hitherto been enrolled under the Conservative banners. The object and aim of every administration should be to so conduct the affairs of the country, along proper lines, as to win the favour and support of all voters of independent judgment and honest mind, and if the policy of the Liberal government in its practical working disarms former opposition and invites approval and new supporters, the Transcript, instead of complaining, should be amongst the first to rejoice over the party success and to claim for itself some portion of the credit, as a result of its own missionary work as a party organ.

HARCOURT NOTES.

Some time ago, Mr. Geo. H. Perry, removing a barrel from the depot here, slipped on the ice and fell in such a manner that the barrel of oil rolled on his right arm hurting it quite severely.

Mrs. G. L. Freebern, accompanied by her little daughters, Ruth and Miriam, returned last week from a lengthy visit to the home of her parents, near Kingston, Ontario.

Mr. I. B. Humphry went to Moncton Tuesday afternoon, returning the same evening.

Mr. Campbell, representing Mr. R. S. Pridham, photographer, of Sackville is at present paying this place a professional visit, having set up a temporary photograph studio in the vacant Fawcett hotel building. He has now nearly completed the third week of his stay here, and intends leaving shortly, to return to Sackville. Quite a number of our population have patronized his camera.

Mr. E. B. Buckerfield returned Friday night from a brief visit to St. John.

Mr. Benj. McLeod returned Saturday night from a three months' tour of the Northwest Territories.

Last Thursday night while a party of friends at the house of Thomas Beers, Coal Branch, were engaged in raffling for some turkeys, some evilly disposed persons entered the adjoining outhouse where the fowl were kept, and purloined the turkeys. Mr. Beers determined to have the offenders punished and lodged a complaint against them on Friday last before Stipendiary Magistrate Bailey, of this place.

Last week an Indian, who called himself Peter Mitchell, was taken to Dorchester penitentiary to serve a two years' sentence for stealing three dollars from Mrs. Thomas Beers at Coal Branch. Today Mr. and Mrs. Beers interviewed Stipendiary Magistrate Bailey and lodged complaints against two Agnew boys, Robert Bryant and Nathan Ward. It appears a raffle was held in Beers's house last night, and when Beers went to make a distribution of the game he found the heads of six turkeys. The aforesaid quartette are suspected of being the guilty parties, hence the complaint. In this connection it may be stated that at a "chiravari" one evening last week on the Harley Road the aforesaid Bryant assaulted Constable John H. Wilson by inflicting serious injury to his right eye.

It has rained here all day, leaving the roads in a bad state.

Harcourt, Nov. 26, 1897.

Pitcher's Castoria. Children Cry for

FROM GOLD FIELDS.

ARRIVAL OF A PARTY OF TWENTY-FIVE AT SEATTLE.

SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 28.—Twenty-five men arrived here to-day on the City of Seattle, direct from Dawson City. They were divided into two parties, the last one of which left Dawson October 16. The party consisted of Thomas Magee, sr., Thomas Magee, jr., of San Francisco; "Swiftwater Bill" Gates, Joe Boyle, Win. Haskins, F. Eckert, H. Robertson, H. Raymond, Bert Nason, John W. Brauer, W. H. Pond, E. Ash, J. Gillespie, Thomas Wilson, P. McGaw, Jack Dalton, Wm. Leak, Arthur Coline, Jos Fairburn, J. Smith, T. Warren and Jim Stephenson. They came out over the Dalton trail. They are reported to have between them sixty thousand dollars. All tell stories of a food shortage in Dawson that is almost a famine. The last person to leave Dawson was Jack Dalton. When he left, the steamers Alice and Bella had reached there loaded light.

It is said that the Bell's cargo consisted of whiskey and billiard balls. She brought no provisions. The Canadian government mounted police chartered the Bella and gave all who wished a free pass to the Yukon. The Bella is reported to have left about October 12 with two hundred men.

According to the statements made by members of the Dalton party, there is liable to be trouble of the most serious kind this winter in Dawson.

"Billy" Leak told one of the men in the party ahead of him whom he met at Dyea that all the people talk about at Dawson is the food famine. Men were gathering in groups and cursing with might and main the new comers that were constantly arriving in the Klondyke loaded with scarcely any provisions. The mounted police were offering free transportation to the grub places further down the Yukon to Fort Yukon, but to the countless hundreds who had labored hard all through the summer accumulating a grub stake, the prospect was uninviting to say the least.

The men argued that it would take all their earnings in gold to pay their living expenses at Fort Yukon during the winter and that in the spring they would have not even enough left to pay passage money back to Dawson, to say nothing of purchasing enough food until they could start again. To these poor fellows the offer of the mounted police was no better than the prospect at Dawson.

John W. Brauer, the United States mail carrier, who left Dawson Sept. 27th, said: "There is only one salvation for the miners now at Dawson city, and that is for them to undertake the awful winter trip from Dawson to Fort Yukon, a distance of 400 miles. There is no food at Fort Yukon, there is none at Dawson and just as sure as the stars shine, terrible suffering will occur at Dawson unless the men leave there before spring. I will make my statement that when I left Dawson the men who were there had on an average four months food supply. Some did not have a month's supply, and some had four or five. The restaurant closed the night I left. It had been selling nothing but beefsteak, for which the hungry paid \$2.50.

"When the people realized that the boats would be unable to get up the river they knew that starvation threatened them and the great stampede began.

ANOTHER CHICAGO WIFE MURDER.

CHICAGO, Nov. 28.—The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. Pauline Merry from her home was solved today by the confession of Thomas Hickey, who was arrested on suspicion, and who told how Christopher Merry a week ago last Friday in the presence of Hickey and James Smith, beat and choked her into unconsciousness. The three men tried to restore her. On Saturday Merry decided to kill his wife, which he did by beating out her brains with a poker. This afternoon Hickey and a party of police went to where Mrs. Merry's body was found buried beneath a few inches of loose dirt. Merry has not been arrested yet.

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Read what people are writing to us about it.—Mrs. Robinson, Hopewell corner, writes.—Dear Sir, I have used your British Liniment for one year and must say it surpasses all the Liniments I have ever used for Sore Throats, Lame Back, Pain in the Side, and all complaints for which a Liniment is needed. I had had a pain in my side, so bad that I had to give up work. I give my side a good bathing with your Liniment and it gave me immediate relief, so that in twenty minutes I was able to go about my work.

Mrs. A. Hamilton, Brookfield, writes.—Dear Sir, I cannot speak too highly of your excellent Liniment. There was a lump growing on the inside of my eye for nearly two years; it grew as large as the end of my finger. I tried to drive it away with iodine, to no purpose; the doctor said that their were no remedy but to cut it out. I told him that was the last alternative, as it would destroy my eye. I then tried the British Liniment; after applying it one month the lump entirely disappeared, so my eye is as well as ever. I have found it to surpass anything for cramps and diarrhoea.

Captain Bishop, Hopewell, writes.—Dear Sir, I have suffered with a constant pain in my breast day and night for nine months. I tried every Liniment I could get, to no purpose. By three applications it was perfectly cured.

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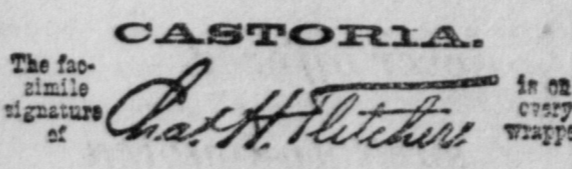
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