

THE HERALD
EVERY SATURDAY
CORNER QUEEN AND REGENT STREETS,
BY
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FREDERICTON, MARCH 12, 1892.

THE OPPOSITION.

The loyal opposition in the house of assembly are not covering themselves with glory this session. They are expected to be under the leadership of Mr. Hanington, which in itself, is a sufficient intimation to operate against any political party. In addition to this, however, the opposition are composed of various kinds of factions, each of which, attempts, at times, to assume the leadership, or direct the party tactics, and as a consequence they are characterized by a sad want of statesmanship and preconcerted and united action in public questions. They do not seem to be under the guidance of any responsible leader upon whose ability and good judgment they can rely with confidence. In place of dealing with public questions in a dignified and statesmanlike manner, they seem unable to rise above the level of schoolboy dissertations, the retelling of old campaign speeches, and chronic fault finding at every act however insignificant, for which the government can be made responsible. All they need to start on, is the one fact, that "the government did it," then they commence firing at random. They evidently believe everything they hear, and jumping blindfold at absurd conclusions, often find themselves in foolish or humiliating predicaments. One can hardly imagine anything of the comic stage so ridiculous as the position in which the leader of the opposition and his first lieutenant placed themselves, during the first hours of the debate on the address, when confronted by their followers and the whole house, by the chief commissioner, with the facts and correspondence, relating to the Rockland bridge contract. They make as much noise over the price of a turkey or a few thousand of bricks as they would or possibly could make over a question involving the fate of the great charter. They don't seem to realize that over frequent speech and inopportune speech, and long speeches about nothing weary the house and the country and destroy the effect of an important speech upon an important question. We do not call the attention of the leaders of the opposition and their followers to these points because we are particularly interested in their welfare, but because they are a part, and often an important part, of an institution which to be useful must be respected, and because they do not seem to have anyone in their confidence who takes sufficient interest in them to lead them when they are making "a show" of themselves.

THE QUEBEC ELECTIONS.

The people of the province of Quebec went to the polls on Tuesday and recorded their votes almost unanimously against ex-premier Mercier and his party. The result of the elections leaves no doubt as to the attitude of the people of the old French province towards their late hero. The natural assumption is that the people of Quebec were satisfied that the charges made against Mr. Mercier were essentially true, and this being the fact they no uncertainly stand by their credit. The constitutional questions involved in the issue was no doubt left end of in the battle at the polls, and the result of the conflict will of course justify the means. The people themselves, the highest tribunal in the land, have said that governor Angers was right in dismissing the Mercier government and the forces that inspired him, and the motives that prompted him will be merged in the greater issue.

It would seem from the upper province papers that when the people of the province were called on to decide upon Mercier, they acted in what they considered to be the best interests of the province irrespective of party. The Montreal Daily Star says editorially:

It is hardly necessary in the face of the returns to point out that the liberal party have a most striking share in this triumph. The moral effect of their support during the campaign is also clearly estimated; but the figures show most clearly in what immense numbers they went to the polls in vindication of true liberal principles.

If the overthrow of Mercier is to be regarded as a condign punishment for wickedness in high places, we fall to see where the conservative party of Canada, who took unto themselves so much glory for the result, can find any great amount of consolation or comfort.

The charges were made against Mercier in the extremity of their own desperation, for the purpose of drawing the attention of Canada and the world away from the scandals that were daily being unearthed against the tory leader at Ottawa. For a selfish and wicked purpose—the shielding of their own corruption from public view—they used the power their position gave them to bring Mercier's corruption to public light, and now that the people of Quebec have pronounced upon him, and have said that by his maladministration of public office and trust, he must suffer political death, we fall to see, in the result, any grains of comfort or consolation for the tory party, unless indeed they can find it in the contemplation of the fact that their scheme has succeeded for the time being. The Quebec incident has its moral, but the tory people have not heard of it yet.

Since this defeat Mr. Mercier announces that he will retire from public life. It would be difficult and perhaps unwise to put any construction upon his decision at the present time, but if he is what he has all along professed to be, his present decision is unwise and undesirable.

Dr. Colter and Major Vince will cross swords on April 6th, the date fixed for the Carleton county election. Friday's Sentinel contains statements under oath by N. R. Colter, M. D., Messrs. Drysdale, Phillips and Carvell to the effect that an agreement was made between the candidates, prior to the late election, that no protest should be entered. The doctor's statement seems to be in the ascendant just at present, but it is believed that the contest will be a close one.

The report of Chief Superintendent Inch, respecting the schools of New Brunswick shows that for the second term, 1891, there was an increase of 69 pupils over the previous year, a total roll of 68,992. The average attendance was a little over fifty-three per cent. In 1872 there was one pupil in seven attending school, in 1881, one in five and in 1891 one in four and a half. It is also interesting to note the number of pupils now receiving instruction in studies that were comparatively unknown in the schools of twenty years ago. The study of mineral, plant and animal life was pursued during 1891 by 33,524 children.

The death of Hon. Judge Wetmore robs the bench of one of its most brilliant ornaments, one whose judgments were sound, clear and accepted without comment. As a man and a citizen he was held in great respect by all. Born in New Brunswick he has added a bright leaf to her laurels and has gone down to the grave sorrowed not only by his native province but by the sister provinces as well.

James Trow was defeated in South Perth on Thursday, the conservative candidate carrying the election by twenty votes. Mr. Trow represented South Perth from 1867 until 1871 when he was defeated. He was, however, elected in 1872 and held office till the present. Every effort was made to defeat him, the constituency being under the manipulating process for five months before the election was declared.

The Behring sea difficulty is apparently as far from an amicable settlement as ever. President Harrison declines the thirty mile limit and asks for a modus vivendi. He says that he cannot allow such a great respect by the world to be a way for their preservation. The senate were unanimous that the position taken by the British government was untenable and not justified by the condition of the sealing industry. The situation is a grave one at present.

PROMINENT JUDGE DIES.

His Life History and his Funeral.

The death of hon. Justice Wetmore, on Monday morning last, was a surprise to all, although it was known that he was seriously ill. The deceased was a man of marked ability. He received his education here, and chose the profession of law. In 1836 he entered as a student in the office of hon. E. B. Chandler at Dorchester, and completed his studies in this city in the office of Geo. J. Dibble. He practised law at Sunbury for a time and then removed to St. John, where his talents soon called him to the bench. When the burning question of confederate came up he ranged himself on the anti-confederate side and as a candidate of that party was elected for St. John in 1865. He, however, changed his views and in the following election was elected by the dominant party. He held the position of attorney general when the local government was fully organized. On the death of hon. N. Parker he left politics and accepted a position on the bench. In December, 1880, he was appointed divorce court judge for New Brunswick, which position he resigned but a few weeks ago. He passed away in this city in 1892, and was seventy-one years old in August last. He married Louisa, daughter of Thos. Lansdowne, sheriff of Kent, who with four daughters and three sons survive him.

The funeral ceremonies took place on Wednesday afternoon at half-past two, from his late residence, corner Brunswick and Church streets. People of all ranks of life were present to do honor to the prominent deceased. Many beautiful floral tributes had been sent by those who had known and respected him, among others by Judge and Mrs. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Padlock, Dr. and Mrs. Holden, Mr. and Mrs. John Black, Mr. Otty, Dixon Otty.

The services were held at the Cathedral and were of the most impressive nature, conducted by the metropolitan, assisted by Rev. Mr. Alexander. The music was conducted by prof. Bristowe. Rev. Canon Roberts conducted the burial service at the grave.

Gibson and St. Marys.

The P. C. Baptists are talking about the construction of a church at this place for their denomination. It is thought the construction of one will be begun in May. The Baptist church was the scene on Tuesday evening of a very enjoyable musical and literary entertainment. We have space for but a brief outline. The chair was occupied by A. D. Yerxa. There were soloists, Miss Tina, Mrs. Bridges, Miss Edith Porter, Miss Mammie Yerxa, Mrs. Havelock Coy, organ recitals by Miss Ida White, banjo solos by Miss Tweedie, violin solos by Mr. Dobson, recitations by the Misses Edith Henack, Edna Hohen, Annie Rabbit and Master Chas. Logan, reading by Miss Nellie Hohen. There was a large attendance, all of whom were delighted. M. S. Hall, of Fredericton, who took an active part in the preparation of the entertainment, deserves much praise.

The Death Rate.

The mortality statistics for February show the entire absence of any contagious diseases in the city with the exception of a gripe. The death rate is as follows:

Paralysis.....	1
Old age.....	2
Grippe.....	3
Convolutions.....	1
Heart disease.....	2

SEVENTY-SIXTH YEAR.—The Methodist S. school will hold their anniversary to-morrow.

Rev. Mr. Weddall will preach the sermon. The morning will be especially for the children, the evening for teachers and parents. The exercises of the afternoon will be of a very interesting character and will consist of singing, recitations, addresses, distribution of prizes and annual reports.

MILLVILLE.

MILLVILLE, March 10. — Splendid weather we are having now. Fine for the lumbermen. My only fear is that the "gravy old clerk" will yet take ample revenge for his present ills.

Part of Valentine's last block crew from the upper camp have arrived to chip for E. H. Estey, who expects to put out about 200,000 blocks. Light Weight James is in charge.

The sick are all well and the stubborn refuse to get sick, much to the disgust of our worthy doctor.

P. Lockhard has returned from the woods. He was in for J. & R. Hallett. He reports lumber matters booming. Dunn, of the firm of Dunn & Dunlop, is in town. It is supposed that Tom is making a good winter's work, he looks so pleasant.

There is a faint tinkling of wedding bells yet in the air. We are patiently doing good consumption, when two happy hearts shall be as one.

Our dentist, Dr. Campbell, is in town on a professional visit. The Dr. has succeeded by his skill and gentlemanly manner in working up a splendid business here, and those who know say he stands among the foremost of his profession.

Tooth ache or no tooth ache we are always glad to see his genial countenance.

BROCKWAY.

BROCKWAY, Mar. 10.—Spring is coming and one more the place assumes the livelier appearance. The young people have already commenced to return from their winter situations. The young men who have been in the west the past five months are expected home any day.

Miss Hannah Cloney and Lizzie Little arrived from St. John on Tuesday. Miss Ida Campbell is home after a stay of five months in St. Stephen.

We had a flying visit from Arthur Moran, clerk for C. F. Todd & Sons, last Wednesday.

THE ESTIMATES.

Attorney General's Motion Respecting the Revenue.

Honorable Mr. Mitchell's Financial Statement.

Budget Discussion.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

On motion of hon. Mr. Blair, seconded by Mr. Hanington, it was resolved as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Justice Wetmore, that when this house adjourns stands adjourned until tomorrow at 4 o'clock.

The Estimates.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell submitted the estimates of sums required for the service of the province not otherwise provided for, for the current year:

Administration of justice—	
Equity chambers, St. John.....	\$ 50
Equity chambers, St. John (junior) 208	
Judges' chambers and law library, St. John.....	300
Total.....	\$658
Agriculture—	
Expenses imported horses.....	\$1,000
Blind asylum, Halifax.....	1,850
Contingencies—	
Legislature and public offices.....	12,500
Deaf and dumb institution, Fredericton, maintenance.....	1,500
Education—	
School houses, poor districts.....	1,000
Fire protection.....	1,000
Free grants act.....	5,000
Legislature—	
Librarian.....	500
Insurance on library.....	50
Total.....	\$550
Legislative council—	
Assistant clerk.....	\$ 500
Engrossing clerk.....	300
Chaplain.....	80
Usher black rod, \$4 per diem	140
Doorkeeper, \$2 per diem.....	70
Messengers, \$2 per diem.....	70
Messenger, \$1.50 per diem.....	52
Two pages.....	70
Total.....	\$1,212 50
House of Assembly—	
Assistant clerk.....	\$ 50
Two engrossing clerks, \$300	600
Chaplain.....	80
Sergeant at arms, \$4 per diem	140
Doorkeeper, \$2 per diem.....	70
Messengers, \$2 per diem.....	70
Five messengers, \$1.50 per diem.....	262 10
Two pages.....	70
Total.....	\$1,792 50
Lanark asylum maintenance	45,000
Natural history society.....	125
Public health, contingencies, etc.....	1,100
Public hospitals.....	4,200
Public printing.....	11,000
Public Works—	
Great roads and bridges.....	\$65,000
Steam navigation.....	6,300
Public buildings, etc.—	
Legislative buildings	8,500
and offices.....	8,500
Government house.....	300
Normal school.....	3,500
Lanark asylum.....	1,500
Miscellaneous expenses of department.....	\$2,850
Total.....	\$117,950
By roads.....	70,000
Refunds crown lands.....	200
Surveys and railway inspection.....	500
Unforeseen expenses.....	3,000
Grand total.....	\$280,658

On motion of hon. Mr. Mitchell, seconded by hon. Mr. Blair, it was resolved that the estimates be referred to the committee of supply.

Hon. Mr. Blair gave notice of the following motion:

"Whereas, The expectations with which the government and legislature of this province have looked forward to an increase in the provincial revenue, of a sufficient yield to at least \$300,000 additional annual revenue, by way of abate from the dominion government, have not been realized; and

"Whereas, The additions of that amount to the provincial revenue at the present time, without imposing direct taxation upon the people of the province, would meet with public favor and would enable the legislature not only to preserve the equilibrium between income and expenditure and provide for the increasing demands of the various services, but would also be a desirable, if not a necessary and substantial effort being made for the encouragement throughout the several counties of the province of dairy and other agricultural industries, and would also enable the legislature, if deemed advisable, to co-operate with the local authorities in constructing, at the port of St. John, terminal railway facilities and deep water accommodation for ocean steamers, with a view to secure a market in the mother country for the surplus agricultural products of our people; and

"Whereas, It is the opinion of this house it would be practicable, without resorting to direct taxation upon the people of this province, to realize such additional revenue by requiring insurance companies, banks, telegraph, telephone, express and street railway companies, doing business within the province and enjoying therein special corporate privileges and also license under the New Brunswick liquor license act to contribute to the revenue of the province; therefore

"Resolved, That it is expedient to provide for the payment by each of the above companies of an annual sum to the receiver general of the province, the amount payable in each case to be fixed upon such just and equitable basis as the legislature may by act of assembly provide, and also by exacting a license fee from licensees under the New Brunswick liquor license act (in addition to the municipal license fee) of such amount as the legislature may prescribe.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell's financial statement was a brilliant effort and although closely watched by the opposition, yet no vulnerable point of attack could be found, affording a basis for a charge of needless expenditure.

We have only space to quote the last paragraph of his speech as follows: It was the shrewdest abridgment of talk about the payment by each of the above companies of an annual sum to the receiver general of the province, the amount payable in each case to be fixed upon such just and equitable basis as the legislature may by act of assembly provide, and also by exacting a license fee from licensees under the New Brunswick liquor license act (in addition to the municipal license fee) of such amount as the legislature may prescribe.

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We have a hardy, law-abiding people, composed of English, Irish, Scotch, French and even a sprinkling of the hardy Scandinavian—a virtuous and hospitable population of which any country should be proud. We possess the boon of civil and religious freedom; we belong to the mightiest empire which the world has ever seen. Wherever we go over the world we see the British flag waving, and are proud to know that flag is ours. We have in common with the motherland the heritage of Greek and Roman literature. With such a glorious heritage as we possess in this province, if we prove true to our God, our country and ourselves, we need have no fear for the future. (Applause.)

He followed by Dr. Stockton, who entered upon a criticism of the finances. After speeches by Messrs. Pugsley, Atkinson, Burchill and Alward, the debate was adjourned.

Hon. Mr. Blair submitted the report of the Finance Commission.

Mr. McQueen gave a notice of motion respecting amendment of the highway act.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. Wilson began the discussion on the budget after opening. He dealt very carefully with the charges advanced by the opposition, showing the position which they took in the question of railway subsidies. He said that last year the opposition had incubated a policy of subsidizing railways which they thought would hurt the government from power, but they failed to be of any effect.

He was followed by Mr. McKeown and then by hon. Mr. Blair.

Hon. Mr. Blair said he would have thought, considering the length of time the lieutenant of the opposition had occupied his present position, that he would have been prepared to submit some financial propositions as a substitute for those of the government which he so strongly condemned. But the hon. gentleman had been unable to grapple with any questions of moment; he had

of the contingencies, telegraphing and traveling expenses of the administration. He (Stockton) had condemned the government for bringing on supply at such an early date in the session, and said that the government had been unprepared to submit some financial propositions as a substitute for those of the government which he so strongly condemned. But the hon. gentleman had been unable to grapple with any questions of moment; he had

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precisely the same course had been pursued as the opposition now denounced. Not only had the financial crisis of the opposition been postponed from criticism to the government, but he had heaped upon them terms of the warmest commendation. He dealt with the deficit, showing that the late government had had greater deficits with far less necessary public works. He also took up the public printing and the cost of the stampage commission.

The discussion is being continued.

LUMBER COMMISSION.

Recommendation as to New Brunswick Timber Lands.

The report of the lumber commission was submitted to the legislature Tuesday. After reading the terms of appointment and instructions, the report mentions the method taken of obtaining information by correspondence through a series of questions addressed to persons engaged in or having knowledge of the lumber industry. Replies were received from thirty-seven leading individuals or firms. The commissioners, with this information before them, secured further testimony from eleven prominent persons who were called before them.

The evidence is not reported, but the report of the commissioners thereon are given at length. As to the question between short and long leases they find it would be both to the interest of the crown and the lessee that the tenure should be permanent as possible. They find that the owners of large tracts of timber lands, in Maine as well as in New Brunswick, do not encourage the introduction of the speculative element in the administration of their properties. They practically guarantee permanency of tenure, but reserve the right to cancel leases at pleasure. The report proceeds:

"We therefore recommend that at the expiration of the term for which existing leases are held the lumber lands of the province be leased at public auction, to be held by the lessee thereof by yearly lease, renewable from year to year during the pleasure of the government under conditions of compliance with all regulations made, or to be made by the governor in council."

After reviewing the condition of the lumber market and the number of New Brunswick's competitors therein, the following observations and recommendations are made:

"We are firmly of the opinion that the present value of the timber upon the crown lands is considerably in excess of the rate or price of stumpage now obtained therefor, and if we were husbanded, a rate of stumpage very much larger, perhaps double the present rate, would be realized within a few years."

The reasons for this conclusion are given followed by strong recommendations for a strict enforcement of the law against cutting unauthorized trees for pulp wood as well as piling. To correct this prevailing abuse the commissioners advise that in all such cases double stumpage be charged. They did not at present advise discriminating rates of stumpage in different sections of the province, but advise that stumpage on cedar be made the same as on spruce and pine logs. As to the matter of government aid in clearing streams not now navigable the commissioners find that with the exception of the granting of leases under conditions recommended, together with legal protection to persons or companies constructing driving implements would be equivalent to granting of such aid under the present tenure of crown lands. They have prepared a bill in furtherance of this view.

The report next deals with the virgin timber lands on the Renous and Duganriver rivers, and favors improvements at public cost to make them accessible. They further recommend the permanent employment of men of experience and character to act as scalars, rangers, fire police, fishery and game wardens, assistants in surveying, etc., at fixed yearly salaries, to be paid out of the crown land revenues. They would have these appointments non-political. They find that at present the scaling is not uniform, and that while in many cases operators have had their logs over scaled, yet on the whole there has been a loss of stumpage to the province of perhaps twenty per cent.

The report concludes with the opinion that no reasonable expenditure should be considered great for the protection of timber lands from fire, and that a clause should be inserted in all leases requiring lessees to use every reasonable precaution to protect them against fire.

They would have an appropriation made annually to be expended in retracing and making established lines of survey, and would like to have all the timber lands of the province surveyed into blocks of not more than five miles square, and the quantity of lumber thereon approximately ascertained, when the expense is warranted. In the meantime they would have such surveys and explorations made as would show approximately the quantity of timber owned by the province, where it most abounds and what lands should be allowed to remain in the hands of the private owners. They direct attention to the injury done to the lumbering interest as well as to the reputation of the province as an agricultural district by permitting settlers to locate on timber lands which are unfit for tillage. They also direct attention to the waste of hemlock timber when cut for the purpose of obtaining bark, and logs being left to rot in the woods.

The report appears a valuable and important one, and is signed by the three commissioners, Messrs. A. F. Randolph, Frank Todd and Hon. Allan Ritchie.

AROUND THE WORLD.

The Week's Events in Brief—The Cream of our Exchanges.

Dr. Legere, M. P., is ill in the Ottawa hospital.

H. A. Connell, ex-mayor of Woodstock, was recently married at Boston to Mrs. Macdonald.

Sir Wm. Henry Gregory, K. C. M. G., member of the Privy Council of Ireland, is dead. The death is also announced of Louis Joseph Martel, the French statesman.

Grave fears are entertained for the safety of the British steamer Wymoffs which sailed from Cardiff Feb. 27th for Dieppe. She has not arrived at her destination and it is thought she had foundered. She had a crew of fourteen men.

L'Electeur protests against conservative brutality against Mercier, sending messages to his family that he had committed suicide, calling him up by telephone, etc. L'Electeur says the electorate will soon be sick of being ruled from Ottawa.

On March 12th, 400,000 English miners will simultaneously stop their objection, being to compel railways and other large corporations using fuel, together with the public generally, to pay better prices in order that the current rate of wages may be raised.

An I. C. R. Ironman named E. C. King, left Montreal rather too suddenly for his creditors. The young man boarded at the Globe House, and left a \$30 board bill there unpaid. It is understood that he also paid a number of other bills by skipping across the border.

It is said that petitions representing 1,250,000 members of various industrial organizations and thousands of other persons, in favor of arbitrating all disputes between Great Britain and the United States will be immediately presented to the imperial parliament.

Frank Martin killed a man in Pineville, Ky., on the 15th of February. He was arrested on the 17th, indicted on the 18th and convicted and sentenced on the 29th. This looks as if Judge Lynch's court was not the only place where justice was executed in Kentucky.

The latest invention in warlike weapons is that of a rifle for throwing vitriol, and it has been submitted to the French government. The inventor of this infernal machine hastens to say that it is "not intended to be used in civilized warfare," but in fighting savages.

John Cais, who lived a few miles down river from Welford, Northumberland county, had his house burned on Tuesday night. He was in the house and no one was at home but his wife and some children, who were turned out at midnight by the fire and were obliged to seek shelter from the intense cold at the nearest neighbor's.

The news from America is the absorbing topic of discussion in England as far as foreign affairs are concerned, and it is intimated strongly that should the American government attempt retaliation against Canada England will withdraw from arbitration and meet any issue the United States may choose to raise in Behring Sea with a plain assertion of the right of English subjects to hunt seals outside of the recognised limit of the United States jurisdiction. This position is urged by the Tories, who are desperate for an issue that would arouse jingoism and rally the country to the support of the government.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE OR TO RENT.

THE subscriber's house and barn, with garden attached, situated on corner of Bay and George Streets. Possession can be obtained on any day between 11 and 2 o'clock. Possession given on any day of May next, or at an earlier date if required. For further particulars apply to the undersigned or to Henry B. Balfour, Broker.

ROBERT H. BALSFORD,
Fredericton, February 24, 1892.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET.

FROM first of May next, the house on York Street, situated on corner of Bay and George Streets, will be let to the highest bidder, by Mr. Bruce Cummings, Broker of J. H. Balfour, Barrister.

TO RENT.

Possession given 1st of May.

WHAT desirable up state tenement, 6 rooms now occupied by G. W. MacIntyre, on Carlton street. Opposite the residence of Dr. Condit. Rent moderate. Apply to WILSON & WILSON.

TENDERS FOR DEBENTURES.

NOTICE is hereby given that offers will be received at the office of the Board of School Trustees of the City of Fredericton, until WEDNESDAY, the 30th day of March next, for the purchase of School Debentures to the amount of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) bearing interest at the rate of four and one-half (4 1/2) per cent per annum, payable half yearly. The debentures will be issued in denominations of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) each.

Each Debenture to provide the amount required. These Debentures are issued under authority of the Legislature as provided in Chapter 62 of the Consolidated Statutes of "Schools" and subsequent Amendments thereto; they are redeemable by the City of Fredericton in twenty-five years from the date of issue.