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THE HERALD.
 FREDERICTON, JUNE 3, 1893.

THE STAR AND MR. BLAIR.
 The Montreal Daily Star in its issue of May 31st in a long article on "the popularity of British connection," goes on to the way to make an article on hon. A. G. Blair, the premier of the province. The Star takes as its text a short paragraph from a condensed report of Mr. Blair's speech at the liberal convention in St. John, published in one of the St. John papers, which reads as follows:

"He would like to see the Ottawa convention show itself in favor of the maintenance of British connection. He would be extremely sorry to see any member of the party declare otherwise. The speaker did not see any fiscal policy that might be adopted in Canada which would have that effect. In the best interests of Canada we should take a course that would ultimately lead to the severance of British connection, then it should be done for our first duty is to our own land."

While in this paragraph as it stands, there is nothing to justify the remarks of the Star, it is only fair to Mr. Blair to say that the report hardly does him justice. In his speech at St. John Mr. Blair referred to the charges of disloyalty that were often made against the liberal party and while denying that there was any foundation in fact for them, referred to what in his opinion were some of the causes which led them open to the taunt. He then went on to state what the first duty of the delegates to the liberal convention at Ottawa should be, which was, in brief, to insist on such a reform of the tariff as would open up to Canada the best and most available markets for her products, and to formulate a trade policy that would remove the existing burdens from off the people, and bring to Canada that era of prosperity to which she was entitled, and for which her natural resources so eminently qualified her. In referring to these matters Mr. Blair made a strong appeal for the maintenance of our connection with the mother country, the severance from which he would view with feelings of regret and sorrow, but which he did not believe would or could result from the coming into power of the liberal party of Canada. He would go so far, however, as to say that the relations between Canada and the mother country as they now exist should be maintained at all hazards and at all costs. If in the course of time circumstances and the necessity of self preservation necessitated a change in that relationship, the people of this country should remember that their first duty was to their own land.

It is difficult to understand how the Star, or any other paper, could find fault with these words, much less make them the text of an attack on the speaker. The Star pretends to think that it reads between the lines of Mr. Blair's speech that the policy of the liberal party, and that this policy is the severance of our connection with the mother land, and our ultimate union with the United States.

The Star need not take the trouble to read between the lines to find the policy of the Liberal party; it will find it in the lines as they are printed. It is because it realizes that it is a policy that will commend itself to the people of Canada, that the Star is anxious to draw the attention of the public away from the real issue, by pretending to believe that there is something left unsaid which is to be taken as the policy of the party, rather than what has really been said.

The Star, which depends for its daily bread upon the maintenance in power of the Tory party, is also, doubtless, very much afraid that Mr. Blair is looking towards Ottawa, and it is desirous of taking the earliest opportunity of preventing such an event. In its anxiety to injure Mr. Blair, and to prevent, if possible, his advent into the arena of federal politics, the Star does not hesitate to grossly misrepresent him and the party of which he is a recognized leader. Such tactics, however, will not deceive the people, nor will they prevent the leading liberals of the Dominion from meeting in general convention at Ottawa on the twentieth of the present month, and there formulating and adopting a policy that the people of this country will demand to have carried into effect at the next general election.

THE BATHURST INQUIRY.

Testimony of Bishop Rogers and Rev. Thomas Barry.

[First day's proceedings on first page.]
 BATHURST, May 31.—J. R. O'Brien continuing in his evidence, spoke of the cost of schools before and since the introduction of sisters of charity. No rent had ever been paid or asked for convent buildings, but an appropriation had been voted at last school meeting of \$30. There are four rooms in the grammar school building, of 25 feet square, with 13 feet ceilings, one of which had never been occupied; one room in convent building does not come up to requirements of law as regards ventilation; did not know until told so about six weeks ago that each room should contain 150 cubic feet of air for each sitting. I do not transact school business of any importance without a meeting of trustees. We do not spend any money on convent buildings for keeping in repair; the proprietors do that; no complaints were ever made to me as to the inferiority of teachers. The board of education refused to grant a permit to my son to teach a Grammar school; he was a Roman catholic. I believe if he had been a protestant he would not have been opposed. Witness here read a letter from Dr. Inch, concerning the average attendance in the Grammar school and convent buildings in which he wanted an average attendance of 75 in each building. The protestants opened a separate school and scholars in consequence left the Grammar school; a private school was organized about the time my son gave up teaching in the Grammar school; as a trustee I have entered into no agreement about renting the convent building and never so far paid one cent of rent.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lawlor—He said the Convent building is large with an ell to the back where children are taught, and they never come in contact with the main building where the sisters reside; it is as much a public school as the Grammar school in consequence of engaging the sisters. I think the trouble originated with the employment of my son. Father Barry, parish priest, and K. F. Burns and other catholics opposed the appointment of Ed. L. O'Brien because they thought in justice the Grammar school teacher should be a protestant. In my capacity as a trustee I never had any conversation or understanding with any catholic bishop, priest or laymen as to what would be required of the sisters of charity, nor did any of these persons approach me or attempt to influence in any way to do for the sisters what I would not do for other teachers outside of religious orders. Grammar school was abolished to lessen taxation, and not from any understanding between trustees and other parties, and not for the purpose of bringing the schools under control of catholic teachers; it was opposed to the abolition of the Grammar school. When the Grammar school was re-constituted made efforts to get a protestant teacher in order to meet the desire expressed by catholics at a special meeting, and having failed to get one a catholic was engaged. When the sisters of Notre Dame left Bathurst in 1890 there were 104 additional children, for which the trustees had to provide rooms and teachers. The Grammar school could not contain them all. We rented the Convent building, and we employed the same number of teachers as it had previously taken to teach these children. During the day of the sisters of the Notre Dame sisters, the catholics paid their salary by private subscription and paid the public school tax in addition. So when the sisters of charity came under the law, additional taxes had to be put on the district to provide for the extra 104 pupils who education had been previously paid for by the private subscription of catholics. The extra cost for the three sisters amounts to about \$380; the amount assessed in the district is \$3,480, of which \$300 goes for interest; the amount of salaries paid is about \$1,100. The principal of the Grammar school was dismissed by a resolution adopted at the annual meeting of the ratepayers; no catholic clergyman or layman ever asked me to put out the protestant teachers and to take on catholics, and even if asked I would not do so. I consider the trustees have full control of the sisters as public school teachers, and could put them out of any building suitable outside the convent building. If this had to be done, and they would not consent, we would dismiss them.

By Mr. White—I did not know it was contemplated to abolish the superior school in the village when the grammar school was abolished; it surprised all hands to learn that the superior school had been abolished. There are quite a number of protestants favorable to sisters. I remember they sent a memorial to the board of education in favor of them.

Mr. O'Brien gave the number of ratepayers in district No. 2 as follows: Including non-residents and corporations, 205; non-residents 20, corporations 12; Protestant ratepayers; valuation of 54 protestants \$45,600 for 1893; valuation of catholics, exclusive of the St. Lawrence Lumber Co., of which a catholic is the principal owner, \$43,800 valuation of corporations, exclusive of the last named, about \$5,000. The number of pupils at the public schools previous to the introduction of the sisters of charity in 1890 was as follows: Primary term, ending June, 70 enrolled, 36 average attendance. Term ending Dec. 31, 56 enrolled, 43 average. Grammar school proper for the terms, 53 and 46 enrolled, 34 and 25 average. Advanced department for the same period, 46 and 48 enrolled, and 33 and 25 average.

Mr. White read a statement from the school report showing the same result as Mr. O'Brien's statement, also that the number enrolled after the introduction of the sisters was 230, so that 80 were attending the sisters' schools. Mr. O'Brien thought there was at that time over 100. The extra cost of providing school accommodation and teachers for these extra pupils is now \$1, a per capita tax for each scholar of \$3.25, and \$1,100 had been assessed previously to provide schools and teachers for 150 pupils in the public schools previous to the opening of the sisters' school under law, making a per capita tax of \$7.20.

By Mr. Skinner—The additional salary was paid to the sisters after getting the regular license in 1891, and the total cost of now running the schools taught by the sisters is about \$450 annually for three teachers.

PENNIAC.

MAY 24th.—Rev. Mr. Lodge and family of Marysville, are having a holiday outing on the lake to-day.

Miss Almada Goodspeed's numerous friends are pleased to see her home again from Philadelphia. She will remain about two months.

Nearly all our men have returned from the drives, and all escaped accident except Isaac Lawson, who is now in Victoria hospital receiving treatment for a broken leg, which injury he sustained while working on Cain's River.

John Christie has been laid up with la-grippe, but is able to attend to his farming now.

Arbor day was duly observed in this and the neighboring district. In district No. 4, a picnic was held and much appreciated by the children; while in both districts the building and premises received a general clearing up.

A number of young people from Marysville attended our sewing circle last week. The society now has a membership of upwards of forty.

Mrs. Alex. Curceman has returned from a week's visit to Stanley, whither she went to see her sister, Mrs. Merrill, who is ill. She was accompanied by Mrs. Love, another sister.

Gordon Gilmore and wife have returned to Marysville. The school being very frightened made her escape through a window with the papoose. The negroes then having full possession, tore the house down and hauled the remains away. The Indians then pitched their tent near the Lunn bridge.

Mrs. Hattie Crosswell spent Sunday with her parents at French Lake.

DOAKTOWN.

MAY 30.—On Arbor day, the pupils of the school in District No. 4 did some very good work. The trustees hired women to clean the school building. The children cleaned up the grounds, planted about twenty trees and looked after the flower beds. Samuel Freeze kindly sent his team of three horses to haul the material for the kinders of R. Attridge, the children enjoyed a drive. There was a bonfire in the evening.

Rev. H. Montgomery held service in St. Andrew's church here on the 24th.

Miss Annie Holmes daughter of Samuel Holmes Esq. was married on Wednesday last to Jas. O'Donnell. Rev. T. G. Johnston was the officiating clergyman.

The many friends of Miss Bertha Boyce will be glad to hear that she is much better this week.

Rev. E. Bell and Mrs. Bell, visited the village last week.

Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Wm. Robinson on the arrival of a daughter.

G. W. Mereser has bought the house lately occupied by Rev. Jas. Porter and is now living in it. After dinner on Wednesday in Gilville on Sunday last. She has been ill for some time and her death was not unexpected.

Rev. A. Lucas held two very interesting services yesterday in connection with Sunday school work. Both services were well attended. At the services last evening the Blissett Sunday School Association was organized. The following officers were elected—R. Attridge, President; Wm. Cummings vice-President; and Miss Maggie McDonald, Secretary.

Our correspondent has heard some remarks about an item in the last "Herald" among the personal notes, it said that Robert Swin Esq., was going to Fredericton to live. The news was as much a surprise to Mr. Swin as to the other readers of the Herald.

SEEDS.

Our stock of Field, Flower and Garden Seeds, has been completed by late arrivals. We again have a supply of the Chantenay and Oxheart Carrot.

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