

country interested preferential trade, inevitable. "I say any other conclusion gives what he means the reason for the reason from a pledged

minister of customs further, and Mr. Charles to order, that Sir Charles was by of the chair, Sir at he was only in the minister had us to hear the speaker of course, and Mr. Foster, remark to the effect of hearing the remarks the house with Mr. Patterson, calling order, per hurling across minister of customs, statement, which he the day: "You Charles took occasion to Patterson his minister was the minister and Sir Richard of whom had de the leader of the action to restore the trade. The in last year's discussion between Mr. Fielding, which in the chair a quarter his usual dinner

general has behaved rather than last. He in his treatment ask for information, but is still a ally. Yesterday he Mr. Taylor, who to some questions postmaster. The per and were asked. But Mr. Mulock them categorically for to move for a the first place, the turn could not be, and the answer thooming till next by an hour after ed-in of Prince Ed out that several year had not been Besides, Mr. Taye simple ones, re- of yes or no. How- iver whip consented a Mr. Mulock said, would promise to own without delay, make no promises, as on with the busi- and Mr. McMullen

ministers struck a calmly observed oppose to be bluffed that he would the promise of the business would be on his part said it with his own self- threats. So he ved in a discussion. on was that of the postmaster, pre- for the business, re- sult that most of illage had petition- age, which was convenience of the took occasion to had information ices, which show- of the staff member for Leeds everything he knew he people in the ould not be neces- to discharge part ists' critics in their these disclosures, took the postmas- ad, discussing his d his interview to sters during discussion led up to the appointment of ster general, who r. Mulock's riding of the voters' lists ment. This ac- ct, was his prin- The other reason was said to be represent the dis- Mr. Mulock out- to the service at ring the efficient llowance, and was it home.

became so personal danger in it. It up to Mr. Mulock's e, as demonstrated of the Farmer's id as Mr. Mulock support from him like to see him while, he suddenly thin an hour and a refused to answer one he had taken another, answering than the consor- possibly have ex- place. Mr. Taylor his complacency, good deal of time ved if the minister is told in the first S. D. S.

16.—The budget four this morn- from Dr. Roche of were other mem- bers had gradu- about a dozen, if he called listeners, them were asleep, of the cleverest house, but in the day's debate it- expected that min- to bed would get he was addressing a thousand miles him just as well hills are turning orly, Sir Richard orly, though with to allow the debate there day. He said pper and Mr. Fos-

ter on one side, with himself and Sir Wilfrid on the other, had agreed that the discussion should end this week, and he thought that opposition mem- bers should respect the agreements made by their leaders, even though the leaders themselves should be at home and asleep. Dr. Roche is of the opinion that he and his party do not re- quire any instruction as to the way they should treat their leaders, as they and the leaders get along very well together. Charles Wallace ob- jects altogether to the binding of the house by leaders of either or both sides, unless it is done openly in the chamber, where members can object at the time. Mr. Taylor, the whip, admits that Sir Charles had made the premier that the opposition speak- ers would probably get through what they wanted to say by Friday night, but pointed out that they did not count on a larger part of the time be- ing taken by the McMullens, McMil- lans, Lemieux, to say nothing of the Frosts, which nip these agreements in the bud.

It came to a point when Mr. Davin had to speak, "speak now," as Mr. Blake would say, or not speak at all. He did speak for three hours. The worst of it was from the minister's point of view, that whenever a good liberal got comfortably asleep Mr. Davin began to say things about him until everybody looked his way, with the usual result that the sleeper awoke. How could Mr. McMullen slumber peacefully with a speaker calling him "an emaciated tape-worm" and a "vermicular ossification"? Mr. Davin got a copy of a comic French paper of Montreal which publishes clever letters from an anti-Tarte cor- respondent here, and tells the inside secrets of the Greenfielders. Mr. Davin, in greater secrecy, reads in French, translating as he goes, after the style of a lad construing in a Latin class. Some of the French members offered critical remarks about his accent, but Mr. Davin re- proached them with a departure from the high courtesies of their national- ity. He thought they should allow an Englishman to speak Par- liamentary French in the house when the French members were permitted to use very corrupt English, and ex- pressed some doubts as to whether the original French politeness had been mitigated by a strain of aborigi- nal blood. However, Mr. Davin car- ried on a discussion until three o'clock in the morning, when Dr. Roche wound it up.

There was some very good speaking earlier in the day, including an ad- mirable address by Mr. Clancy, one of the most thoughtful members of the opposition party. He subjected Mr. Patterson's claim of reduced taxation on English goods to a severe exami- nation, mentioning an article after article which were not of English pro- duction and never could be. It was not worth while for a minister to tell the country that the farmers were going to get their axes and shovels and wire nails and other articles cheap from England, and that they knew, and they knew that they never get them from England at all. He took thirty or more articles from Mr. Pat- erson's list and showed that the total imports of them all from England were only \$150,000, while from the United States was imported over \$2,000,000 of these same goods. This showed the fallacy of the claim that the purchasers of these articles would gain by the preferred scale of duties.

Mr. Taylor gave some valuable in- formation concerning the result of the change of duty on binder twine. The twine had been made free on the plea that the farmers should be allowed to get it as cheap as possible. We were to be relieved of monopoly by the free admission of the American goods. There is a great deal of breaking twine in the market, and it is made in the Kingston penitentiary, and in the Toronto central prison, and in the governments can bring down the price whenever they like. What they did do was to offer the Kingston product for sale by tender. The lowest tend- ers were Coll Bros. of St. John, but one Hobbs, an Ontario politician, was the government favorite. For an ordi- nary twine Hobbs offered four dol- lars, while Coll's offer was \$4.40. This ought to have settled it, but Hobbs was given a chance to melt another tender. He was allowed to break twine, and was given a third chance, and appar- ently having received a tip, he made his price the same as theirs. But the returns showed the goods were ac- tually delivered to him at his first tender. Worse than that, he was him- self putting the price up to the govern- ment to \$5.75, so that the farmers would have to pay 50 cents more for the twine than they did last year, when the duty was on. As for the Ameri- can competition, Mr. Hobbs regulates that too, for he has formed himself into another company, which has the agency for the United States, and controls their business in Canada. Under three or four differ- ent firm names this Mr. Hobbs ap- pears to be a combine of his own, with the government as a backer and the farmers as unwilling contributors.

Mr. Frost, M. P., is another friend of the government. The statement has been made that Sir Wilfrid is in power as "the accident of an accident," whatever that may mean, and Dr. Spruille suggests that the phrase is particularly applicable to Mr. Frost. He was counted in and escaped re- count by the action of the returning officer, who got the papers out of his hands before the proper time and before action could be taken. Mr. Frost makes heavy farm machinery and en- joys the name of a protective tariff that had under the late government, with the duty reduced on his raw material. There is nothing lacking in the warmth of his support to the ministry and he cheerfully remarked yesterday that as a business man he greatly re- joiced over the victory of tariff re- form. It is not observed that Mr. Frost has given the farmers much benefit from his own increased pros- perity, and Dr. Spruille did not hesi- tate to tell the member so to his face.

Mr. Frost does his duty by his min- isters and was kind enough to expos-

tulate with Mr. Bennett for having suggested that Mr. Tarte got some money for himself or his sons from Mr. Greenfield. Mr. Bennett cheer- fully observed that he only referred to Mr. Tarte's own confession in the courts and in the house, and Mr. Tarte, with some fury, broke in shout- ing that Mr. Bennett had made a statement that he knew to be untrue. About the time Mr. Frost was getting in his work again, Mr. Davin sug- gested that the deputy speaker was neglecting his duty. It was not per- mitted a member of the house, even a great man like Mr. Tarte, to ac- cuse another of stating a falsehood knowingly. Mr. Fielding spoke once and tried to speak again, urging that the point could not be raised after the discussion had been resumed. The finance minister was himself sup- posing with the statement that he could not speak twice on the same point of order. There was ten min- utes of uproar over points and sub- points, which about half the house were trying to take at once. Mr. Brodeur, the deputy speaker, is not a man of decision, and he neither de- cided the points of order nor decided who had the floor. He did manage to hear some sarcastic commendation of his dignified and firm manner of ruling, and finally proceeded to rule that almost everybody had been doing wrong. Being an unusually tall and portly man, he was not treated with the highest urbanity, and had himself gone too far. It resulted in Mr. Tarte tak- ing it back, and Mr. Frost dropping the subject. Mr. Tarte is a fine subject to take up, but his own friends usually drop him with the remark that is sometimes shown in dropping a hot potato.

But he had his hour of glory last night when the Kettle River Railway bill went into oblivion. This is an unfortunate and unexpected event for Mr. Corbin, who thought after the vote in the railway committee, where he had six of a majority, thanks to Mr. Blair's advocacy, and after a majority of some 25 in the committee of the whole, there could be no serious danger of failure to get the right to tap the Kootenay district with his Northern Pacific system. So Mr. Corbin went home, leaving in charge of Mr. Bodwell, his lawyer, with Mr. Wainwright of the Grand Trunk as director of the project, and the assistant manager of the Grand Trunk has a most successful record as an exporter among members of parlia- ment, and he has been camped down on the premises for some time. A large book with red covers and a smaller one dealing with Kettle River topics, have been issued, and a strong personal canvass has been carried on. Yet by Wednesday the opposition was getting in its work so well that the supporters of the charter thought it wiser to talk the bill out and so postpone it until Friday. All day Friday Mr. Wainwright was at work, and on the other side the whole available per- suasive forces of the C. P. R. were visible. The solicitor from Montreal, the solicitor from Ottawa, and even Mr. McMurrich of Toronto were ac- tively at work. Mr. Drinkwater and Mr. Tait put in the day here, and Mr. Shaughnessy issued a circular letter, with a m.p. showing how the pro- posed railway would turn the trade of the Kootenay district into United States channels. The bill is of a private nature, and neither Sir Wilfrid Laurier nor Sir Charles Tupper has taken any part in it. But Mr. Foster strongly opposed the charter and Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper was also ad- verse. Among the ministers Mr. Tarte alone spoke and canvassed against the measure, not so much perhaps from the patriotic interest in the affair as out of gratitude to the vice presi- dent of the C. P. R., who, as Mr. Tarte once testified, came to the rescue of himself and his boys. In view of Mr. Tarte's strong objection, and Mr. Blair's passionate support, there was some political interest in the vote of the opposition party. It is noted that the ministers were divided all the rest of the day, except on July. But the party itself voted 36 for the bill and 35 against it. The French members were almost to a man on the side of Tarte, though some of them evidently were not there be- cause of any lack of interest. For instance, Mr. Beausoleil, the con- servative voted against the bill, 28 to 1, and defending their position on the ground of Canada for the Canadians. They remembered that the country voted an immense sum of money last year to capture the trade of this very country which the Kettle River rail- way would take away.

But Mr. Ross Robertson and Mr. Maclean of Toronto take other views. Mr. Robertson says that the bill spoke for himself and he would be very glad if other ministers would speak for themselves and not for Sir William Van Horne. It grieves him to see the house responding when "Vice President" Shaughnessy holds the telegraph. But most of the members of parliament from Ontario and the lower provinces who voted against the bill were perfectly con- sistent with their whole record as Canada First men. Possibly Mr. Corbin will make an effort to get the bill back to the order paper, but the chances are now all against his suc- cess. Next year, or in a future time, he may do better, in case the Cana- dian Pacific either falls to give ac- commodation or makes the price of his service too high. It will always be possible to remedy the wrong if one has been done, but it would not be possible to rectify a mistake made the other way. For Mr. Corbin's rail- road, once in there, would stay.

The temperance people are getting concerned about the plebiscite. Yes- terday's caucus showed Sir Wilfrid that his own party could not be drag- ged by the heels to accept a longer date for the plebiscite. The major- ity of the members want a straight issue and nothing else, and they told the premier so in very plain words. If there is any attempt to mix up the issue, Sir Wilfrid will have trouble getting his bill through. Meanwhile the petitions are pouring in from all parts of the country asking for a straight vote. Among those presented yester- day were one from the grand division (of Nova Scotia) Sons of Temperance, praying "that when the plebiscite vote be taken it be a straight vote of yes

for prohibition, or no against probi- bition." From Hampton, Annapolis county, came a similar petition. From the Royal Oak St. of T. Middleton, from the W. C. T. U. of Annapolis Royal, from the Rev. Mr. Langille, and others of Clementport, petitions to the same effect. These were all presented by Mr. Mills of Annapolis, who also submitted prayers from the W. C. T. U. of Middleton, Annapolis, and Lawrence, against the sale of liquor in the York district. This is the record of one county, and others are like unto it. The plebiscite bill, according to the latest promise of the premier, should be brought down before this letter gets to press. This promise, however, is presumptive evi- dence that the letter will be read be- fore the plebiscite bill appears.

MISS FLETCHER'S MUSICAL AU- TOMATONS. Another member of the fair sex has come forward to disprove the accusa- tion that woman is not original. Miss Evelyn Robinson Fletcher has evolved a new method of teaching the piano to children, beginning with the little tot not more than 3 or 4 years old. Miss Fletcher is a Canadian, her home be- ing in Toronto, and possessing a strong musical bent, she early in life began to teach herself to play the piano. After studying in her native country she went abroad and contin- ued her musical education under the finest masters in England, Belgium and Germany. She then decided to teach for a while, and among other pupils took under her charge a class of children. Being an unusually tal- lented young lady, she quickly made up her mind that there was something wrong in the existing method of teach- ing children music, for they made slow progress and plainly showed their distaste and lack of interest. The new method is a simple one, following natural lines. The prime of acquiring ideas by the sense of touch underlies Miss Fletcher's sys- tem. The notes, rests and musical signs, such as clefs, sharps, flats, forte, piano, etc., are cut out of wood- block, black, and are then named and played with wax dolls, soldiers, or other toys would be. Besides the mental training thus gained, the physical development of hands and wrists is provided for by extremely pretty exercises, some of which consist in the singing of songs. The method is so simple that it is not neglected, either, for the little ones are made to feel the music as well as to see it and think it. Some beautiful composition is played, and the recital they are taught to stand with eyes closed, listening in- tensely, and when they feel the rhythm, to begin to clap their hands, keeping time to the music and accenting the best and preserving silence on the unaccented notes.

Miss Fletcher's little pupils name during the recital their clever teacher notes as quickly as their clever teacher, many added lines above or below they are. They go to the blackboard and divide long lines of notes, and play with dots interspersed into cor- rect bars, after their teacher has chosen the time. They build quickly major and minor scales; they indicate the rhythm of compositions played to them by clap- ping their hands on the accented beat and swaying them down on the ones unaccented; in short, they climb with ease the thorny path bristling with sharps, flats, accidentals, minor thirds, augmented fifths and similar musical mysteries, and achieve in an earlier stage than any other ex- tending of music and harmony, which proves a lifelong pleasure and benefit—and all because one intelligent woman was thoughtful enough to per- ceive the faults of her predecessors.

THE BISHOP AND THE COSTER. (London Mail, April 6.) The good people of Brentford on Sunday afternoon had the unique ex- perience of seeing a high dignitary of the church being driven through their streets on a coster's donkey barrow. The Lord Bishop of Marlborough, it appears, on his arrival at the station in the afternoon in order to conduct a confirmation service at St. Lawrence church, found to his dismay that there was no cab or vehicle to convey him to his destination. Just as he was debating how he could cover the distance in time for the service, a humble coster with his donkey and barrow came along, and the bishop, seeing the opportunity of a lift of any sort, mounted beside the driver and rode through the main street of the quaint old town, causing no little astonish- ment on this remarkable proof of ec- clesiastical humility.

RISKS OF LADY NURSES. Today, for the first time in his mem- ory, the Englishman in Bombay, in taking his morning ride, meets Eng- lish ladies on their way home from a night's nursing duty, under the es- cort of an armed guard. We are sure that we shall have many with us when we say that on the day on which an Englishwoman who has come out to nurse the poor of Bombay has to pass through the streets behind a loaded rifle her mission should be brought to an abrupt end. Now that the violence of the people whom they have come to tend and to care for has come in as a supplement to the risks of pestilence, and the strain of labor, it is not only to be expected that the time has come to tell the poor of Bombay that English nurses no longer trust themselves upon their indulgence. Advocate of India (Bombay).

FOUND LUCK AT SEA. Seven Little Mascots Aboard the Staunch Ship Sweet Alice. (Philadelphia Times.) A strange story is told by Capt. Bennett of the British steamer Sweet Alice, which reached Philadelphia from London on April 3. Capt. Ben- nett says that when in mid-ocean on the morning of March 29 an object resembling a boat was sighted about two points off the starboard bow. The steamer bore down on it, and the captain was astonished to find that it was an ordinary dog house lashed to a piece of ice. A boat was launched to contain a large quantity of food, meats, in another corner was a vessel of fresh water. The piece of ice to which the house was lashed was a perfect cube, measuring about three feet each way, and on one of the sides was carved in large Elizabethan let- ters, which were still discernible, the Latin phrase "Festo Perpetuo" an ob- ject of the house floated a tiny American flag, and nailed to the roof was a card, six inches by three, upon which was written in a woman's hand: "The fittest place for man to die is where he dies for man."

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RAINY RIVER DISTRICT. Extract from Toronto Globe, April 15: "Several gold bricks, valued at \$2,500, were received here today from the Olive mine, located near Mine Centre, Ont." This is the mine of which Hon. G. E. Foster is pres- ident, and in which several St. John people are interested.

TWO CHESS CHAMPIONS.

J. E. Narraway, Late of St. John, and A. T. Stephenson, of Orilla, Winners.

Next Year the Meeting of the Association Will be Held in Montreal.

TORONTO, April 18.—The last games of the Canadian Chess association's tournament were played on Saturday, when the first class cham- pionship and prize, for a second time, was captured by J. E. Narraway (a native of St. John) of Orilla, while A. T. Stephenson of Orilla won the similar honors in the second class. On Saturday afternoon, after the games had been concluded, President J. Ridley Davies presented the prizes, cupped the chair, named the prizes, and in happy terms congratulated the prize winners. The presentation meeting was largely attended, and a most enthusiastic one. Next year the meeting will be held during the Easter vacation in Montreal, when it is ex- pected the prizes, named by the many chessmen in attendance as there were there.

Saturday's prizes were presented by Messrs. Cross, Blythe, Hill, Eddis, Dr. Kennedy, Dr. Stark, and Dr. Watson. The results and scores of the final games were as follows: FIRST-CLASS, FINAL. Narraway..... 4 Gold medal..... 20 Jones..... 1 " "..... 0 SECOND-CLASS, FINAL. Beynon..... 2 Shillgrove..... 2 Stephenson..... 1 Hill..... 1 Kennedy..... 1 Brown..... 1 G. Campbell..... 1 Toronto..... 0

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OUR TURN NOW.

(London Mail, April 4.) At last the ravens will cease their croaking. England has demanded, and, anticipating formalities, we may say has obtained, a lease of Wei-Hai-Wei, on its forthcoming evacuation by Japan, for the same period as Russia leased Port Arthur. This step has been forced on us by Russia's action in establishing a fortified naval base at the northern entrance of the Gulf of Pechili. It was necessary that we should protect our commerce by a strong coaling station in the same region, and in asking for the port, at the southern entrance to the gulf, al- most immediately facing Port Arthur, we get the very best possible situation for the purpose. But our action must not be inter- preted as in any sense hostile. It is not hostile to Russia, who is finally, possibly object to an ordinary course of precaution necessitated by her own action. It is not hostile to Japan, whose own tenancy of Wei-Hai-Wei has almost expired; indeed, we be- lieve, in spite of recent telegrams, and in happy terms congratulated the prize winners. The presentation meeting was largely attended, and a most enthusiastic one. Next year the meeting will be held during the Easter vacation in Montreal, when it is ex- pected the prizes, named by the many chessmen in attendance as there were there.

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TALMAGE WILL VOLUNTEER.

He Expects to be Chaplain of a Divi- sion and Thinks the War Will Be Brief.

OHIOGAO, April 18.—Rev. T. De- Witt Talmage told his son Frank that he proposed going to the front as an army chaplain. He may be placed over an entire division of the army, such as this gathering at New Orleans or Chickamauga. Dr. Talmage thinks his work as chaplain will not keep him long away from his regular congregation. "The war will be very short," he was heard to say. "Two weeks' hard fighting will be enough for the Span- lards, in my opinion. I hate war, and wish it could be avoided, but now we are in for it I want to see real hard fighting and quick decisive action. "If we only go as far as it is meant business we shall have Cuba freed be- fore we know it."

MUST HURRY UP.

No Vessels from the Lakes that Start Before War is Declared Will be Stopped by Canada.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The state department, it is learned on the best authority, has been given to under- stand that vessels now in transit through the St. Lawrence canal will not be prevented from proceeding to the Atlantic seaboard. No vessel that starts prior to a declaration of war will be stopped. The above statement is said to apply to the revenue cutters ordered to the Atlantic coast from the great lakes. All the locks on the St. Law- rence canal system are controlled by Canada. It was announced recently that the canal locks could not be used in time of war by vessels destined to be used on the Atlantic seaboard as war ships. The new ruling permits the govern- ment to move the vessels now en route to the ocean. It is expected, however, that all these vessels will reach the coast prior to hostilities.

PROPHESIES COMING TRUE.

It was about the close of the year 1894 that the Russian Novost started the world with his bold suggestion of a tripartite alliance of China, Russia, Great Britain, and France. A little later the British Na- tional Geographic, metropolitan organ of the new channel, with equal boldness gave a northern contemporary to understand that when the far eastern Poland came to be cut up, the Germans, indeed, would claim its also. "Germany," said the writer, "must be either a world-empire or a second-class power."—North China Herald.

APPREHENSIVE OF BRITAIN.

We do not understand the utility of increasing the torpedo boat flotilla of the German navy, seeing that the fear of a foreign attack does not exist. Has not the aggressiveness of Eng- land inspired the Germans to carry out this scheme?—Mezskovska Viedomost.

A MISUNDERSTANDING—BRIDGET (to across-eyed clerk)—Am' hoy vez any Irish eggs sor? Clerk—Plenty. Just look! This way, ma'am. Bridget (lout- ily)—Sure an O'!' never took that way of Ot' niver hoy any.—Judge.

SEED WHEAT.

The Department of Agriculture hav- ing imported a quantity of Seed Wheat of the following varieties—WHITE RUSSIAN, WHITE FIFE, RED FIFE, WELLMAN'S FIFE and CAMP- BELL'S WHITE CHAFF—have placed same in charge of D. J. Purdy, St. John, North End, to whom all orders should be addressed. As the stock is limited orders should be sent early. Five hundred pounds of "Swedish grown" purple top, Turnip Seed, which has been ordered and is expected here in time for this year's seeding, can also be had from Mr. Purdy.

CHAS. H. LABELLOIS, Commissioner of Agriculture, Fredericton, March 24, 1898.

SWAYNE'S OINTMENT. The simple application of SWAYNE'S OINTMENT without any internal medicine, cures all rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, sprains, contusions, burns, scalds, cuts, lacerations, insect bites, and all eruptions on the face, neck, arms, and hands. It is a sure cure for the itch, and is a valuable remedy for all skin diseases. Swaine & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. Ask your druggist for it.

LYMAN, BONS & CO., Montreal, Wholesale Agents.

J. H. MORRISON, M. D. PRACTICE LIMITED TO Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. 103 Germain Street, St. John. HOURS—10 to 12, 2 to 5 Daily. Evenings—Mon., Wed. and Fri., 7.30 to 9.30.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE. THE ESTABLISHED LONDON NEWS, of Sept. 6, 1885, says: "I was asked what single medicine I used in a case of cholera, and I replied, 'Browne's Chlorodyne.' It cured the patient in a few hours, and I am generally recommended to the point of a large number of simple attempts to cure cholera."

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE. THE ESTABLISHED LONDON NEWS, of Sept. 6, 1885, says: "I was asked what single medicine I used in a case of cholera, and I replied, 'Browne's Chlorodyne.' It cured the patient in a few hours, and I am generally recommended to the point of a large number of simple attempts to cure cholera."

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