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ROBERT MARSHALL

General Agent, Notary Public and Broker.

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Sheriff's Sale.

THERE WILL BE SOLD at public auction, on Monday, the Twenty-eighth day of February next, at Chubb's Corner, (so called), in the City of Saint John, between the hours of twelve o'clock, noon, and five o'clock in the afternoon, all the right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever, either at law or in Equity of, into, out of or upon

"ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Sydney Ward in the said City of Saint John, bounded and described in a deed from Thomas McAvity and others, to said Joseph D. McAvity, as follows: Beginning on the Westerly side line of Charlotte street at a point distant sixty-two (62) feet Southerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the said Westerly side line of Charlotte street aforesaid, and the Southerly side line of Britain street, the said point of beginning being the South-easterly corner or angle of a lot conveyed by the said Thomas McAvity, Executor and Trustee as aforesaid, to one Sarah E. K. Beverly, thence running along the said Westerly side line of said Charlotte street in a Southerly direction sixty (60) feet, or until it strikes the North-easterly corner of the lot now under lease from the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Saint John to the said Joseph D. McAvity, thence along the Northerly side line of said last mentioned lot and at right angles to the said Westerly side line of said Charlotte street forty (40) feet until it strikes the Easterly side line of the lot now owned by one Moran, thence along said last mentioned line in a northerly direction and parallel with the said Westerly side line of the said Charlotte street sixty (60) feet or to the Southerly side line of the lot now owned by the said Sarah E. K. Beverly, thence along said last mentioned line in an Easterly direction forty (40) feet to the place of beginning. The same having been seized under and by virtue of an execution issued out of the County Court of the City and County of Saint John at the suit of James Doherty and Sophia Doherty against the said Joseph D. McAvity. JAMES A. HARDING, Sheriff.

Sheriff's Office, City of Saint John, November 17th, A. D., 1880. nov27

WHO WANTS A NEW WAGON ?

WE have on hand at our Show Room adjoining the Factory a number of

VERY FINE CARRIAGES,

Which we will be happy to show to any one, and will sell at

BOTTOM PRICES,

We have Double and Single covered and open two seated Pianoes, covered and open single side bar Wagons, Concord and ordinary business Carriages in all kinds, and that much good has been done by the information concerning those affairs which has been diffused amongst the thousands who read the FREEMAN.

We have devoted much attention to Canadian politics, and endeavored to lay before our readers such information as would enable them to judge fairly of the working of what is called the National Policy, to determine whether the pledges made by the party now in power have been fulfilled, and to decide whether the men who are now the Government of Canada, and those by whom they are surrounded and influenced, have proved themselves deserving of the confidence of the people.

No paper published in the Provinces furnishes so much original, or so much carefully selected matter at so low a price.

In some parts of the Province the circulation increased considerably during the year. Much more may be done in all parts of the Province to extend its circulation. If every one of our subscribers who believe that the FREEMAN is a powerful agent for good made but a small effort, the circulation may be doubled, and the good it does doubled also.

The terms of subscription are as usual: ONE DOLLAR per annum, IN ADVANCE.

The people of Halifax have a right to aall upon the members of the present Government to fulfil the pledges they made at the late general election. But the Montreal *Gazette*, one of the principal organs of that Government, now coolly tells them :—

We fear our Halifax friends have not quite realized what is necessary to make their port a winter port. They are a good deal like the Quebec people in that respect, who are constantly assuming that the grain trade should go there, but are unwilling to risk a dollar to bring it. Montreal has been built up as a great ocean port by the enterprise of its merchants, in spite of some natural disadvantages under which it labors. This year some grain has come here and has been shipped on Western account, but this is a new phase of our trade. For years the only grain shipped from Montreal was on account of Montreal merchants, who took the full risk of purchasing it and shipping it. If the Halifax merchants are willing to do the same thing, if they will buy the grain and ship it, they can make their port a winter port. But the mere accident of a ship coming there will never accomplish that any more than it has accomplished it at Quebec, where any number of ships come. So far as the Government is concerned, it has done very much for Halifax towards building up its shipping trade. It has restored, to a large extent, the West India trade to that port, for which it possesses peculiar advantages. It has given rates of freight which enable a steamship company to carry goods from Liverpool to Toronto at as low a price as they can be carried by the American routes. It has compelled the Allan line to appropriate at least a weekly steamer to that port in order to land and receive the mails, instead of at Portland as formerly. Having done these three things, it is difficult to see what more a Government can do in relation to the matter. The rest must be left to the enterprise of the people at Halifax. There are physical difficulties in the way, just as there were physical difficulties in the way of Montreal; but if the merchants will only wake up and do their fair share towards making Halifax a winter port, a work that will undoubtedly involve some risk on their part, the thing we are satisfied may be accomplished.

Why did not the *Gazette* say this in 1878 when its friends were making the promises which it now argues can not be kept ?

—During Christmas week the ladies of St. Gertrude's Church, Woodstock, are to hold a fancy fair. It will open on Monday evening next.

Freeman Job Printing Office,

54 GERMAIN STREET,

St. John, N. B.

CARDS,
CIRCULARS,
POSTERS,
PROGRAMMES
—AND—
JOB PRINTING OF ALL KINDS

executed on the most reasonable terms.

Orders from the country will receive prompt attention.

P. TOLE, Proprietor.

THE

FREEMAN

FOR 1881.

WE BELIEVE that we have fulfilled the promises we made to our readers at the opening of the present year, and that in the FREEMAN they have been furnished with full and reliable information respecting all that has taken place in the old world and in the new. As far as the space at our command permitted, we have endeavored not only to let them know what was done by the governments and peoples of the chief countries in Europe, but, as far as possible, what was the policy of the governments of those countries, and what was sought by the parties in power and those who sought to obtain power.

We are now greatly dependant on the telegraph for news, and it appears to be the settled purpose of those who control it, and of those who prepare the telegrams, to malign the heads of the Catholic Church, especially the Pope; to misrepresent what they do, and to fabricate the most absurd or the most atrocious falsehoods when the perversion of the truth is not sufficient to keep alive that dread and hatred of Pope and Popery which fill the minds of millions only because they have been systematically misinformed. The FREEMAN has been careful to mark and expose those falsehoods, and misrepresentations, and in this way, we believe, it has done much good.

Newspaper correspondents and the makers of telegrams have labored assiduously during the year to misrepresent the purposes, objects and motives of those who seek to effect a change in the Irish land laws, and to create the impression that they incite the people to violate the laws in order that they may rob the landowners of their property. Sensational stories and reports of outrages never committed have been so numerous and circumstantial that many well-meaning persons have been led to regard the whole Irish people as the turbulent, lawless, bloodthirsty people their enemies love to represent them. The FREEMAN has endeavored to make the truth known—the truth as to the objects of the Land League and the means by which they seek to attain these objects; the truth as to the manner in which Catholic bishops and priests, the men who were prominent in other agitations, and the people generally, regard the purposes and proceedings of the League, and the truth also as to the

[illegible] repairing done promptly, by experienced hands.

Bring along your wagon and exchange it for a new one.

☞Remember the place.

KELLY & MURPHY,

CARRIAGE FACTORY, Main St. Portland.

aug7

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agent for sale of

L. Black & Co.'s Celebrated Spectacles and Eye Glasses,

has received a complete assortment of all the styles made by that firm,—Gold, Fine Steel and Hard Rubber Frames. Persons in want of a Reliable article in Spectacles will please remember that those of L. Black & Co. are justly celebrated for excellence. They have received medal and diploma from Centennial Exhibition.

We have the Patent Indicators by which we can properly measure the eye and give the exact Glass to suit

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HAVING manufactured our Fall and Winter Goods, before the rise in Leather, we are prepared to offer for sale our entire Stock cheaper than any other House in the trade,

RETAIL AT WHOLESALE PRICES,

CONSISTING IN PART OF

Mens, Boys and Youths WELLINGTON BOOTS;
Mens, Boys and Youths' TAP SOLED, Calf, Split, Grain and Buff BALMORALS and CONGRESS;
Mens, Boys and Youths' D. S. Calf, Split, Grain and Buff BALMORALS and CONGRESS;
Men's Felt and Felt Foxed BALMORALS and CONGRESS;
Men's French Calf (hand made) BALMORALS and CONGRESS;
Men's Felt, Plush, Hand Worked and Split SLIPPERS;
Ladies' French Kid Button and Side Lace BOOTS;
Ladies' American Kid Button and Side Lace BOOTS;
Ladies' Oil Goat Button and Side Lace BOOTS;
Ladies' Grain, Calf Button and Side Lace BOOTS;
Ladies Felt and Felt Foxed Button and Balmoral BOOTS;
Ladies Serge Congress and Balmoral BOOTS;
CHILDREN'S BOOTS in Great Variety;
Mens, Boys, Youths, Ladies, Misses and Children RUBBERS and OVERSHOES;
A Large Stock of our celebrated OIL TANNED LARRIGANS and SHOE PACKS always on hand.

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NEW FALL GOODS

Now Opening.

1 CASE White Flannel;
1 Case Scarlet Flannel;
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1 " Swanadowns;
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2 " Comfortables;
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Towels, Shirtings, Hosiery, Gray and White Cottons, Ticks, Prints, &c., &c.

JOHN ARMSTRONG & CO.,

No. 16 KING STREET,

sep25

The Weekly Freeman.

Saturday, December 18, 1880

The Week.

The telegrams leave room to doubt whether the Turks have given to the Montenegrins all the territory awarded them by the Berlin Conference. The Greek question now begins to assume more importance. The Greeks, it is said, have refused to accept the advice to wait patiently, and the Turks refuse absolutely to give up Ianina and some other important places. Greece, alone, can do little, but probably she believes that if she and the Turks come to blows some of the great powers must do more than give her moral support. There is talk of creating a great European tribunal for settling all international disputes, but it would be found difficult to enforce its decisions in all cases.

In France the extreme party now demand what they call the separation of Church and State. By this they mean the robbery of the Church, and making it absolutely subject to the State in all things. The State robbed the Church in the great revolution of all its property and resources, and afterwards agreed to pay to the bishops and priests, by way of compensation, stipends which in most cases are beggarly. A bishop gets about four hundred pounds a year, a cure about forty pounds. To the religious orders no compensation was made for their many magnificent abbeys and convents, and the property attached to them. The ultra-radicals now demand that the miserable stipends of the clergy be no longer paid, and that no money be expended in maintaining the cathedrals and churches which are treated as national property. They demand, too, that the walls of the Church of the Sacred Heart, which are rising on Montmartre—built by subscription—be levelled, because they say this church is an insult to them, and a provocation to tumult. The Government do not seem prepared to go this whole length, but they have resolved to pass a law to make non-religious primary education compulsory. This, could it be put in full operation, would prove more effectual for the overthrow of Christianity than the more violent measures proposed by the infidel rabble. Strange to say, the Paris Municipal Government have refused to give a place for a monument to the Communists who were killed in the last siege and taking of Paris.

Germany is in a bad state. The persecution of the Catholic Church continues, and many hundreds of parishes are without priests. The Socialists have become so numerous and dangerous that active means are employed to keep them quiet, or to drive them out of the country, and the agitation for anti-Jewish legislation continues. Bismarck made a great blunder when the quarrelled with the Jews, whose influence in Europe is now very great.

The newspapers and the writers of telegrams continue their efforts to create the impression that lawlessness prevails in nearly all parts of Ireland, and that an insurrection is imminent. Threatening letters have been sent to some of the judges, and it is at once assumed that these are genuine, although it is notorious that whenever excitement ran high in Ireland the manufacture of bogus threatening letters was a favorite weapon in the hands of the ascendancy faction, as indeed were also bogus shooting at landlords and agents, and the houses of landlords and others supposed to be obnoxious to the people. The judges themselves appear to regard those letters as genuine threats; but it must be supposed that the members of any organization existing in the country, and suspected of sending such letters, are the greatest idiots in the world. The only effect of sending such letters would be to afford a pretext for placing the country in "a state of siege," and the probability is that they were written precisely for that purpose. The speech made by Mr. Parnell at Waterford, although it was but the wildest vaporing—such as he was supposed incapable of—does really afford a much more specious pretext for a resort to coercion than the sending of any number of threatening letters. By that speech he did give to the enemies of the people the opportunity of alleging that the Land League is really a revolutionary organization, and of terrorising the people as if that were true, and the most desperate measures were necessary. Some members of the Gladstone Government, unfortunately, appear to be misled by the reports of the Irish police, which was instigated, trained, and worked to malign the people and keep them down.

The contract made between the Canadian Government and the much talked of syndicate was laid on the table of the House of Commons on the Friday of last week, and every one who reads it carefully will see why it was withheld from the people in whose name it was made, and why Parliament was called a few days before Christmas, and why the Government insist on having it passed before the people have had time to understand all its provisions thoroughly, and to express their opinion. Sir John A. Macdonald made the ridiculous plea that the dignity of Parliament prevented the publication of the contract, or of its terms, until Parliament had met, and the address in reply to the speech had passed. In modern British practice there is nothing, whatever, to sustain such a position. When Mr. Cobden was negotiating the commercial treaty with France, the progress made was reported almost daily. The conclusions arrived at by the Berlin Conference were not kept secret, and it is now taken as a matter of course that at the annual installation of the London Lord Mayor the Prime Minister explains the policy of the Government in respect to all matters of importance then engaging public attention. The day has long passed when there was any good reason for pretending that the dignity of Parliament or the welfare of the country required that what the Government has done, or what it intends to do in domestic matters, should be kept secret until it can be formally submitted to Parliament. In this very case the dignity of Parliament did not prevent the Ministers from revealing in several speeches such portions of the bargain as they believed would be acceptable, or from making statements which now prove to have been misleading; but the dignity of Parliament, if we are to believe them, prevented their placing before the people those terms which impose such onerous burdens on the people of the old Provinces, and which create in the new the most hideous monopoly ever dreamt of in modern times.

The parties with whom the contract was made are Messrs. George Stephen and Duncan McIntyre, of Canada, John S. Kennedy, of New York, R. B. Angus (formerly manager of the Bank of Montreal) and J. J. Hill, of Minnesota, Morton, Rose & Co., of London, and Kohn, Keinach & Co., of Paris. Amongst them are none of the great British or German capitalists of whom we have heard so much. Of Kohn, Reinach & Co., we know little. Perhaps their house has a branch in Germany, or that the Paris house is a branch of the German; but the idea which captivated so many—that great capitalists are to pour many millions of their own capital into Canada—can no longer be entertained by any one of common sense. In the first place they have not so many millions to invest in this project, and in the next neither the contract nor the charter (also now published) is based upon the assumption that they are to furnish many millions. The nominal capital of the company is to be twenty-five million dollars, but they are to be empowered to organise when five millions has been subscribed, and thirty per cent. of that amount has been paid in, and they are not required to have paid up at any time more than the five millions. Of that five millions, as must be evident to any one reading the contract, a very small portion, indeed, need be taken out of any capital the parties now possess. They are required to deposit as security one million in cash, or securities, or both, as a security that they will build the road according to contract. This is to be paid back when the road has been completed. We need hardly tell our readers that this is small security for the fulfilment of such a contract. We know that in the case of the Sir [illegible] Allen contract the paper accepted as a milliondollars security was actually worthless. What will be required in this case is yet to be seen.

The line is divided by this contract into four sections; that round Lake Superior is called the Eastern section; that from Lake Superior to the Red River is called the Lake Superior section; that from Red River across the Prairies and up the Rocky Mountains is called the Central section, and from Kamloops in the Rocky Mountains to Port Moody on the Pacific is called the Western section.

The Government undertake to complete the sections now under contract between Lake Superior and the Red River—a very difficult and expensive part of the work—according to the contracts as they now exist in their modified form; also the 127 miles from Kamloops to Yale, now under contract. This is the most difficult portion of the whole work. The estimated cost of it is over nine million dollars, but, in all probability, it will cost very much more. This, also, is to be completed according to contract. Not satisfied with this, they bind themselves to build, in like manner, the section from Yale to Port Moody, about ninety miles of a most difficult character, the estimated cost of which is five million dollars; the actual cost of which will, no doubt, be much more; and all these sections, when completed, will be handed over to the company, and become absolutely its property.

This agreement to build the extension to Port Moody is a part of the bargain which their regard for what they call the dignity of Parliament caused the Government to keep profoundly secret. No one, even among the Government supporters, we believe, suspected that so monstrous an agreement as this was made. Certainly, no minister, in any article, ever intimated in the faintest or most remote manner that the Government had entered into such an undertaking as this. No one who now understands its enormity will wonder that the Government have been so careful to prevent an expression of public opinion. But this is not all.

The cost of the work which the Government thus pledged the country to complete is variously estimated. The lowest estimate is thirty-six millions dollars. The probability is that it will be nearly, if not quite, forty-six millions, but let us take it at the lowest estimate.

In addition to this the company, who are to build only the difficult Eastern section of some 620 miles, and the Central section, which for 900 miles is across the prairie, and for some 350 miles across a not extremely difficult route through the Rocky Mountain passes to Kamloops, are to receive twenty-five million dollars in cash as the work progresses, and twenty-five million acres of land in like manner. So that the Dominion will pay in actual cash at least sixty-one millions of dollars towards the cost of a work which is to be the absolute property of this company, and if the land be worth even two dollars an acre, which for land along the railway is far below the lowest estimate, the Dominion will give in money sixty-five millions, and in land fifty millions, or a total of 115 millions, equal to about $45,000 per mile for the whole length.

Besides this, in utter disregard of the N. P., and of all the fine expectations that the building of this road would develop our iron mines and lead to the establishment of rolling mills for making rails, they are to be permitted to import all their rails, fastenings, bolts, nuts and spikes duty free.

The other rights, privileges, and franchises they are to obtain, if not so valuable—and no one can now fairly estimate their value—are certainly quite as objectionable. They are to get all the twenty-five million acres in the fertile belt. They get alternate sections in a belt along the railway of twenty-four miles on each side, but they are not to take any inferior land, nor is the land covered by rivers, lakes, marshes, etc., to be counted, or that covered by the railroad or its stations, termini., etc., for all this is to be granted them by the Dominion, in addition to the twenty-five millions. The land along the line, therefore—for the 900 miles—will yield little little more than half. The other half they select where they please in the fertile belt, and along any branch line of railway they may take a breadth of twenty-four miles on each side. They are to have the right to build branch lines where they please, merely depositing plans in the office of the minister.

And to give them an absolute monopoly of the carrying trade, the Dominion pledges itself not to permit, for twenty years, the construction of any road south of the company's line, unless such roads run south-west or west of south-west, such lines not to approach nearer than fifteen miles to the American frontier. Thus all connection with American railroads, and all competition, is to be prevented, and a belt along the frontier, fifteen miles in width, is to be excluded for at least twenty years from the right of railway communication.

Moreover, the railroad, its branches, their stations, rolling stock, etc., are to be exempt from taxation for all time, except within the limits of what is now Manitoba, and no Province to be hereafter created shall have the power to impose any tax on them. Any of the lands remaining in possession of the company are also to be exempt from taxation for twenty years. This will render it necessary for the Dominion to subsidize the new Provinces largely should the inflow of population in a country so tied up, and made so completely subject to so extraordinary a monopoly require the organisation of new Provinces.

Protected thus against all competition, the company can charge what rates they please. In their charter it is provided that the Governor-in-Council may from time to time reduce rates so that the annual profits shall not exceed ten per cent. on the capital actually expended. This literally includes the sixty-one million dollars the Dominion is to pay; but even if it did not the proviso would afford no real protection to the people of the North West.

It is provided that the company may issue bonds based upon the cash subsidy, or based upon the land subsidy, and, although it is provided that the proceeds of the sales of such bonds—or, as some think, part of the proceeds—shall be lodged with the Government to be paid out to the company as the work progresses, it is said by those familiar with such operations that those provisions favor the company greatly by enabling them, if they can get a good price for such bonds, to obtain the immediate control of much money. The Government undertakes to pay four per cent. interest on all such money placed in their hands, although they can not always invest such money so as to be worth four per cent. to the country.

The security for the company's running the road for ten years after completion, which has been so often said to be sufficient, is merely, that of the twenty-five million acres the Government retain five millions, or of the money obtained by the sale of those lands, or of the land grant bonds they retain five millions (without interest). Any one can easily perceive what that security is worth.

Now what do the company engage to do in return for all this money and all those sections of the railroad built by the Government, which cost so much money, and all those lands and all those franchises and privileges and that twenty years monopoly of the carrying trade of all the North-West?

They engage to build within ten years, commencing in May, 1881, the Eastern Section (round Lake Superior) and the Central Section, three-fourths of which is over the level prairie. They are to have the right to locate the line where they please between the Callender Station near Lake Nipissing and the eastern terminus of the Lake Superior section, now under contract, and between the Red River and Kamloops, so that the interests of the company may in all cases of location be preferred to the interests of the public—should they clash—and the road they build is to be of the same character as the "Union Pacific of the United States as the same was when first constructed." It is difficult to find now what sort of road exactly that was when constructed about twenty years ago, but there is little doubt that it was as cheap a road as could be built, and that it was far, very far indeed inferior to the class of road which, until last session all parties expected to see built as the great continental and intercontinental highway.

We have tried to place the main features of this extraordinary contract fairly before our readers. We ask them to read the contract carefully for themselves. They will see that we have nothing extenuated nor aught set down in malice. They will see that the Government or its leader, infatuated by the insane desire to connect their name with a completed Canadian Pacific Railroad, recklessly seek to plunge the country into debt and difficulty, and to create in the North West a monopoly in some respects as bad and as odious as that of the Hudson Bay Company, in some respects even worse.

We have omitted to say that one of the terms is that the company are to pay for the work done on the sections west of Winnipeg, or to allow the Government to finish those sections and to pay what they cost. The amount so far expended is small, but the country would save some hundreds of thousands of dollars if they finished those two hundred miles, and made a present of them to the company rather than pay the company for them in money and land as proposed.

The contract for the grading and masonry of those two hundred miles was under seven thousand dollars a mile, yet now, for a road across the prairie, probably not as good, certainly not better, the Government promise to give the company $10,000 a mile cash, and 12,500 acres of picked land, or, if the land is worth $2 an acre, the enormous sum of $35,000 a mile.

For the western section of the central part, which is difficult for several miles, although not for all, they propose to give $13,333 cash, and 16,666 acres of land, or at $2 per acre for the land, $46,665 per mile.

It is remarkable that for the Eastern section, which is believed to be very difficult, and which will contribute nothing to the traffic of the road, they propose to give only 9,615 acres of land, and $15,384, or in all $14,614 per mile. Some think that this indicates an intention of abandoning or postponing the construction of that section.

The merchants of St. John, according to the report of the committee of the Common Council, have reason to complain, not only of differential rates of freight, which are said to work injury to the trade of the city, but also because:

Merchants and traders doing business with the railway are subjected to great annoyances and delays because there is no resident officer in St. John with power to settle or adjust any dispute or transact any but routine business. Any disputed matter between the business men patronizing the road and the department has to be submitted to an officer of the department at Moncton, whereby business is greatly hampered and persons delayed and annoyed. The business of the city has outgrown this state of affairs, and now requires that power be given one of the resident officials to examine at once and on the spot, a discretion that to be beneficial must be so exercised, otherwise it ceases to be of a remedial character.

The demurrage question is now productive of a large amount of annoyance to persons transacting business with the road. The department requires greater facility in the handling of flour and heavy freight at the station from incoming trains. There is now no sufficient warehouse for receiving flour and heavy goods imported into the city, so that trains may be unloaded into such warehouse. Flour, etc., are now given to the consignees at sidings and other inconvenient places, and when so received by the consignees cannot be taken away with advantage, thereby in many cases leading to the charge of demurrage being made. No doubt so soon as the departments are made aware of the necessity of a warehouse being provided, steps will be taken to meet the want, as the expense of doing it will not be large.

The Liberal leaders at Ottawa have prepared a manifesto to the people of the Dominion, setting forth its principles and reviewing the present political situation. It will probably be issued to-day.

The Government in opposing the motion of the Mr. Mackenzie for copies of all tenders made for the construction of the Pacific Railway and of all correspondence relating thereto, did much to confirm the suspicion that they have much to conceal. The pretention of Sir John A. Macdonald that it would not be fair to make known to the world the names of parties who, desiring to assist this country, proposed to build the road, and who afterwards withdrew their tenders because they found themselves unable to carry out such an undertaking, was utterly absurd. In the first place it is not at all probable that any persons who voluntarily tendered did afterwards admit that they lacked means to do what they proposed to do, because no such admission was necessary, and because, as the scheme now before the public shows, no very great amount of capital was necessary. Sir John's statement that many of the offers were made verbally and were not put in writing, cannot be accepted. Were it proved true it would show that the Ministers conducted this important business in a most slovenly, stupid manner. It may be that as Sir Charles Tupper said, the Government approached some parties, and others approached the Government, but no one will agree with him that Parliament and the people should accept as sufficient in such a case, and under such circumstances, his assertion that the tenders now submitted are the best ever offered. Rumor tells a different tale, but, at all events, the public are entitled to all the information sought, and it is the duty of members of Parliament, who are not the mere slaves of a party, or puppets controlled by party leaders, to judge for themselves whether the terms are the best attainable, as well as whether, being the best attainable, they are essentially acceptable. It was monstrous that the man who one day pretended that a due regard for the dignity of Parliament required that he should withhold at least some of the terms of the bargain from the public, should assert on the next that a due regard for the interests or the feelings of individuals required that he should withhold from Parliament the information necessary to enable it to judge whether these terms now proposed for approval are the best that were offered, and whether the members of the Government appointed to negotiate this bargain did their duty. The men who made proposals must have supposed that they were treating with Ministers accountable to a Parliament which would require a full account of their whole conduct, of all they did and why they did it, and they could not have imagined, in truth they never did imagine, that any communication or proposal made by them was in any sense confidential, as the Ministers now so improperly pretend. It is to render more palpable the difficulty they experienced in finding a pretext for withholding from the people evidences of their own incompetency, stupidity and bungling, and of their great failure, one of their supporters was put up to argue that because tenders were not in this case invited formally by advertisement, that ordinary tenders did not demand as all other tenders and should be regarded as confidential. This same gentlemen was so forgetful of what is due to Parliament and of principle and precedent as to argue that to demand the papers called for ought to be regarded and treated as a declaration of want of confidence in the Government, and so the partizan majority, regardless alike of their reputation and their duty, did treat it, not perceiving that the ministry in opposing such a motion did really and in the most marked manner admit that their conduct would not bear the light of day, and that they in voting as they were directed declared that they felt that exposure would succeed, and the country that the Ministry is not worthy of confidence. They love the darkness because their works are works of darkness, and they know that they would not bear the light.

Scarcely less damaging to the Government and their supporters was the opposition to Mr. Blake's motion to defer the going into committee on the resolutions respecting the money and land to be provided until a day early in January, so that the members of Parliament and the people may have time for the consideration of a subject of so much importance. The Government do not want that either members of Parliament or the people should have time for consideration or reflection. They want to force their measure through before public opinion has been formed, and before it can have any influence on any of their followers. Sir John A. Macdonald asserted that even then the terms of this bargain were fully known throughout the Dominion, and fully understood, and that what Parliament and people now want to know is the reasons which induced the Government to make such a bargain. It is well that few, indeed, of the people had then seen the terms, that fewer understood them, and that it is now of much more importance to the public that they should be permitted to determine for themselves, and through their representatives, whether the terms are such as should be accepted, than that they should hear what the Government choose to say as to the reasons which led them to enter into such an agreement. Again their supporters, with one or two exceptions, voted as the Government wished, voted against giving the members of Parliament time for consideration, and the people time to form and express an opinion on a question of the most momentous importance.

APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. T. B. Hannington has resigned the Ticket Agency of the Intercolonial Railway in this city, to accept the position of Chief of the Census Staff in this district. Mr. Oliver T. Stone takes the position vacated by Mr. Hannington. Mr. Johnston Wilkins was the successful one among scores of applicants for the position of Government Wharfinger at Lower Cove, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Robt. C. Frost.

The *Globe* of Wednesday last, in an article on the late appointment to the Judiciary, recals one incident in his political career which will furnish a pretty good idea of the character of the man who has been called to the Supreme Court Bench of this Province. The *Globe* says :—

The speech which he made on the hustings in 1874 was probably the vilest speech ever delivered by any public man in New Brunswick. It was calculated and intended to stir up the worst passions and excite the deepest prejudice of the people. He conceded nothing to his opponents. He saw no principle in their efforts to make religion the handmaid of education. All that the Catholic Church wanted, he told the people, was to have its arms up to the elbow in the Treasury of the Province. When the people dissented from his statements he shouted to them to stop their "ignorant clamor and noise and listen to the truth," and the truth which he asked them to listen to was that "the clergy have been the foes of education the world over," and so throughout he aroused the dread spectre of sectarianism, evoking with a seeming malignity that might have been terrible in their consequences those dreadful passions which agitate men when they quarrel over religious beliefs.

While so much noise is made about the few actual and the numberless imaginary outrages in Ireland, the following statement passes almost without comment: "The number of coroner's inquests held in England and Wales in 1879 was 27,056. Their total cost was $430,000. Verdicts of wilful murder were returned in 153 cases; 78 of the victims were women. The suicides were 1,941; 480 of them women. In 9,776 cases the jury found the cause of death undeterminable."

—The I. C. Railway Station, at Rimouski, had a narrow escape from being burned a few nights ago; cause, explosion of a lamp setting fire to the floor, etc.

In the debate on the address, and before the monstrous character of the railway contract was even suspected, Mr. Blake complained of the wrong done to the people, and the insult given them by withholding from them the terms of a bargain which was to bind them and their children, and the country. He said:—

So long as the Government were doing the work, so long as from session to session we could control the expenditure, the question was altogether a different one from that which we now have to consider. But now everything is changed. Now the matter is to be regulated and arranged by a private or corporate interest, introducing these new elements of difficulty, these new conditions in regard to which we have not as yet sufficient information to enable us to practically address our minds to them. The prospect of finality, therefore, together with the creation of a company and the rights of that company, are important to this question—elements of the utmost importance and of practical novelty in this discussion. The First Minister is reported to have said in a speech which he made shortly after his landing in this country on his return from the English mission that a contract had been made with a firm, and that the contractors would go on at once in any case whether the Parliament met in November or in February—that the meeting of Parliament in fact made no difference whatever. This hardly coincides with the statement which the First Minister put into the lips of His Excellency. It is of course, for the hon. gentleman to reconcile these statements, and to explain how it is that his first, and as I believe his only, public announcement of the character of this contract and the nature of the arrangements with these contractors should vary in so material a degree with the statement now made to us. How is it that whereas then it was so immaterial when Parliament was summonad, now it is said that the public interest not merely requires our being called on the 9th of December, but our proceeding immediately with the discussion of this important question, and coming to an immediate conclusion on it. Sir, the public interest requires above all things that this tremendous question should not be too hurriedly disposed of. The public interest requires, and public rights demand, that some time should be taken after the information not yet before the House is brought before the country for consideration, for reflection, and for communication amongthe people themselves as well as among the people's representatives before we are called upon to give our verdict upon a question of this magnitude. It has been suggested in certain Ministerial organs that the dignity of Parliament required that no communication of this matter should be made to the people until we had assembled here. Well, Sir, I am not sure that there is not more than one member of Parliament who would have been willing to put his dignity in his pocket and allow his constituents to become acquainted with the contents of the document which is to be submitted to us for the purpose of full consideration of the subject before the meeting of Parliament, particularly if it would have produced the result of a little later meeting of Parliament. If, however, such an unusual course was to be adopted I would have preferred, as more consistent with the present idea of popular government, that the people should have been given an opportunity of pronouncing on the question at the polls, than that they should only be made acquainted with the terms of this bargain after the whole matter was disposed of. Time is essential, time is due to us and to the people for the consideration of this subject. I have no doubt those of us who felt we had duties to discharge to the people whom we represent have considered this matter conjecturally on such dim, scattered, and unauthenticated statements as have from time to time been made to us. But all that is very unsatisfactory, and one desires, before coming to a conclusion, to know upon what grounds the conclusion is to be arrived at, and the mass of the people can have formed no conclusion whatever on the subject, when the papers have been laid on the table and no time has been allowed for their consideration. On the contrary, the rumour is, that if we are good boys and say our lesson we shall have a Christmas holiday, but if we do not say our lessons to the satisfaction of our masters on the other side we shall be kept at work until they see fit to let us go. Well, we are willing to work, to work earnestly, and to continue at work if the public interests require that we should. But there should be deliberation, consultation, and work after there has been an opportunity for the consideration of the matter by the country, and not before. And if it is intended to force the question through Parliament by the 23rd of this month, the vast majority of the people of Canada will not have read the terms of the bargain before you have made them law.

Hon. Geo. E. King has been appointed to the position on the Bench of the Supreme Court of this Province rendered vacant by the death of Judge Fisher. Mr. King and Mr. Palmer were defeated Tory candidates at the last general election for this County, and both have now been comfortably provided for. Beyond the fact that he once suffered defeat in their cause, Mr. King's claims on the party now in power were not as strong as those of some others who aspired to the office, and his position at the Bar of this Province was far from qualifying him for the place. He was not considered more than a second-class lawyer, and we fear it is too much to hope that he will ever make a first-class Judge.

The appointment of Mr. King to the vacant Judgeship is not so popular even among the Tories as the Government organs profess to believe. Fredericton people were very much disappointed that the indecent haste with which the office was filled—before the late Judge was buried—prevented them from pressing Mr. Fraser's claims, and the *Capital* says:—

We think it greatly to be regretted that the Dominion Government, in filling this important office, passed over a gentleman so eminently fitted for it as the Hon. Attorney General Fraser. By common consent of the legal profession, Mr. Fraser is one of its leaders. His reputation is unsullied. He did not seek politics as a means of perferment, but, in the full enjoyment of a lucrative practice, he was called by the people into active political life, and has served faithfully, and on the whole, well, for many years, and not without a large personal and pecuniary sacrifice. His extensive experience and honest fairmindedness qualified him better, we think, than any member of the Bar in New Brunswick for a seat on the Bench.

The Grand Jury in attendance at the present sitting of the Circuit Court made a presentment on Tuesday last, dealing with the recent killing of the young man McFarlane, the Judge's definition of the law in that case, and the necessity there is that, if the law is as has been stated by His Honor, policemen should be "men of the best obtainable stamp for the purpose—men intelligent, discriminating, fearless, sober, truthful, and honest—men who, self-possessed and directed by intelligence would not be likely to wield the full power entrusted to them in a trivial or unworthy case, and who, on the other hand, in times of real trial, knowing their authority, would dare to exercise it as a terror to evil doers." How many men on our police force, counting from the Chief down, would bear the test which the Jury would apply. The question of a Reformatory for juvenile offenders also occupied the attention of the Jury, but considering the matter so intimately connected with the old Penitentiary question, they refrained from making any suggestions that would be wanting in effect pending the settlement of that question. They also referred to the late failure of the water supply and the probable results if a fire had broken out at the time, and they suggested that an intelligent attempt should be made to prevent the occurrence of such stoppages in future.

An Ottawa telegram on Wednesday announced the death of Senator Christie. Mr. Christie was born in Scotland 62 years ago, and came to Canada in 1833. He was an extensive agriculturist, and from 1851 up to the date of the Union was a member of the Parliament of old Canada. He was called to the Senate in 1867, and was Speaker of that body during the term of the Mackenzie Government. In politics Mr. Christie was a staunch Liberal.

Speeches by Mr. Parnell and Mr. Dillon.

The first cable despatches only conveyed the briefest summaries of the speeches delivered by Messrs. Parnell and Dillon last week. Fuller reports have since come to hand.

Speaking at a banquet given to him at Waterford, Mr. Parnell said :—

In responding to the toast in his honor, he said the English Government had great resources, but he did not believe that her resources were adequate to perpetuate her Government in Ireland. I do not believe, he continued, that any amount of money or strength and power of even the greatest nation in the world can work impossibilities, and it is abundantly proved that governing Ireland outside of Ireland by a power and people who do not live in the country is impossible. We have gigantic forces arrayed against us, but we have more powerful forces on our side, namely, the forces of nature, the forces of nationality, forces of patriotism and true devotion. These are sufficient to break the yoke of English misgovernment and chase from the country that usurpation which has long had its heel upon our neck.

Look at what we have done to this pitiful government. In twelve months we have obliged them to reverse every principle, ever law, every tradition on which they built their position. We have made them eat their speeches—even Gladstone. I don't believe Gladstone can settle the Irish question without breaking up his cabinet. He could not even pass his miserable little compens