

Now, Mr. Editor, I ask you and the people of this province whether there is no remedy for this disgraceful attempt at bribery, and whether these miscreants cannot be punished. Here I must apologize to you if I am compelled to make use of strong language. Is this ill-bred, corrupt man, Tupper, because he happens to be among the upper political ten of the Dominion, to be permitted to play his game of roguery with impunity?

Of Dr. Parker, I have nothing further to say, than that he has hitherto borne a reputation for honesty and morality, but his signature to the above document speaks for itself, and the Government will no doubt indignantly expel him from his seat in the Council. Of the Hon. (so-called) James McDonald, who is a comparative stranger in Halifax, I know nothing further than that the ignorance he displayed upon a recent public occasion, at Temperance Hall, has made him the laughing stock of the community. Of the other two compromised by and implicated in this heinous transaction, Mr. P. C. Hill and Mr. M. B. Daly, the former has just been dismissed from the House of Assembly charged with bribery; the latter is too little known, and too insignificant to be worthy of special notice.

These five persons, then, Mr. Editor, are the parties most implicated in this vile affair, and I leave the public to make their own comments on the facts; warning my countrymen that if they do not return men pledged to direct antagonism to the corruptionists of the Dominion at the coming election, the little political liberty remaining to us poor Nova Scotians must be taken away for ever.

I regret, Mr. Editor, if I have been compelled to use harsh language in this letter. It took some moral courage, situated as I am, to bring this diabolical outrage and insult to the notice of the public. The originals of the documents, framed and glazed, will be exhibited early next week in the window of a prominent shop in Granville Street.

It is well known I never took any part in politics and I have no wish to do so now.

PETER McNAB.

The same day the subject was alluded to in the Legislative Council. Hon. Dr. Parker, was absent at the time, but subsequently stated what he knew of the affair, and presented the following Affidavits:

Having observed in this morning's "Chronicle" a communication over the signature of Peter McNab, on the subject of an offer to himself of an office, I beg to state the exact facts of the case.

Mr. Peter McNab has been an applicant for an office under the Dominion for several months past. Before Dr. Tupper last left for Ottawa, he several times called on the Doctor and solicited his interest for an appointment—he also requested me to use my influence with the Doctor in his favor. We were then on intimate terms, and I declare that all my conduct in this matter was then and has since been actuated by a sincere desire to forward his interests and to enable him to pursue the course of life which I honestly believed he had determined on. Matters were in this condition when a few days ago, Mr. P. McNab informed me that Mr. Annand and Mr. McHeffey had visited his father and they had solicited him to resign, in order that they might be able to fill up the Council, and carry their Government measures; and that to induce his father to do this, Mr. Annand had offered him (Peter) an office worth, at least, \$800 per annum. In conversation with him at this time, I enquired if he had heard anything from Ottawa in reference to his application for office; he replied that he had not, and immediately commenced to find fault with Dr. Tupper for not having procured him the office, adding that if he had done so his father would have voted with the opposition, both on the question of the Public Building and the disfranchising and disqualifying Bills. I asked him if his father was committed to vote for the Government on these latter bills; he said he was not, although Mr. Annand had pressed him on the subject. He said, of his own accord, that he would much prefer an office under the Dominion; and that if he could procure a guarantee to that effect his father would vote against the Government, and add he had hated Annand, and would do anything he could to defeat them, especially if it was for his own pecuniary interest. He spoke of two vacancies in the Customs Department, either of which would suit him.

Mr. McNab declared to me repeatedly that his father had no desire to vote for the Government, and no reason why he should vote for the bill, and only desired to forward his—Peter's—personal interest, and that both he and his father were desirous to be relieved from the pressure of the Local Government, and their officers of office. It was under these circumstances that the negotiation took place, and the papers referred to were signed, and these latter were left with him on his pledged word of honor to be returned after having been shown to his father. On Saturday, and after he had received these papers, Mr. Peter McNab communicated to me that he was apprehensive that Mr. Annand would succeed in getting his father's vote, but that he, Peter, was determined to prevent it, as he was resolved to further his own interests, and his father would assist him. The connection of the Hon. Messrs. Parker, McDonald, and Mr. Daly with this matter, arose through me, and upon my representing to them that Mr. Peter McNab had, himself, opened negotiations and made the proposition before referred to, and with the knowledge that they were only required to guarantee the performance by Mr. Hill of any promises made by Mr. Daly.

I informed Dr. Parker that Mr. Peter McNab had distinctly stated to me that his father was in no way pledged to support the bill, and that he was desirous of relieving him from the pressure of the Local Government.

I may add that Peter McNab himself prepared and wrote out the paper which he desired to be signed; the which said paper in his own handwriting was left with me in my possession.

W. N. WICKWIRE.

I swear that the foregoing statement is true and correct in every particular.

W. N. WICKWIRE.

Sworn before me at Halifax; this third day of April, A. D. 1871.

WM. COMPTON, J. P.

HALIFAX, S. S.

I, Walter McFarlane, of the City of Halifax Merchant, make oath and say, that on the morning of—I think—Friday last, Mr. Peter McNab, son of the Hon. James McNab, of Halifax, came into my office, and in the course of conversation stated that he was now sure to get an appointment from either the Local Government or the Dominion Government, through the influence which he could exercise on his father, whose vote, owing to the closeness of parties in the Legislative Council, was of vital importance in reference to certain bills passing through that branch. He stated that Hon. Mr. Annand had assured him of an office worth about \$800 per year, but that he preferred to get an office under the Dominion Government, as he could not trust Annand or the Local Government; and besides a Dominion appointment would be more remunerative and more permanent, and that Dr. Tupper had long previously promised to do something for him. He stated that Hon. Mr. McHeffey and Hon. Mr. Annand had been pressing his father, but that he did not mind that; and he added, "At any rate I am now sure of an appointment under either one Government or the other, and I shall take the best office. He did not intimate that Dr. Wickwire or any other person had attempted to bribe or influence his father.

I am induced to make this statement, without any solicitation from my knowledge of the fact that for months past Dr. Wickwire, through his friendship for Mr. McNab, has been endeavoring to obtain for the latter an appointment from the Dominion Government.

WALTER McFARLANE.

Sworn to at Halifax this 3rd day of April, A. D. 1871. Before me,

WM. COMPTON, J. P.

The letter signed by Mr. Peter McNab was telegraphed to Mr. Jones in the Ottawa House of Commons on the day of its publication, and a vote of censure moved by Mr. McKenzie. Dr. Tupper read the telegram he had received from Dr. Wickwire as follows:

"McNab votes to-day for disfranchising bill. Can you guarantee Peter an office if his father is put right."

The speaking on the subject was of an exciting character. On division there appeared for the motion 51, against it 93.

The following letter from Hon. Dr. Parker, appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* of Monday:

HALIFAX, April 6th, 1871.

To the Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*:

Sir,—Having most unfairly, and unjustly, as I think, dealt with my name in several recent issues of your paper, may I ask the admission into your columns of the following statement of facts, having reference to my connexion with the McNab matter—now so prominently before the public. I had hoped that the affidavits of Messrs. Wickwire and McFarlane, and the letter of the Hon. James McDonald in relation to this case, would have appeared, ere this, in the *Chronicle*.

As you are aware, I brought the matter to the notice of the Legislative Council on Monday, but as the report of that day's proceedings will be long in reaching the public, I think justice to myself and others demands that an early insertion should be given to the documents in question.

Shortly after Dr. Tupper entered the Dominion Government—now many months since—Dr. Wickwire solicited my influence to obtain for Mr. Peter McNab an office under that Government. I declined to write to Dr. Tupper on the subject, stating as my reason, that I feared Mr. Peter McNab's appointment to office might not prove satisfactory to the public interests, while, it would interfere with the stronger claims of other parties, who were seeking employment in the Civil service of Canada.

Dr. Wickwire was very anxious that Mr. McNab's case, and its attending circumstances, should be presented by me to Dr. Tupper, giving as a reason that he firmly believed an entire reformation had taken place in his character and habits, and he only required occupation "to make a man of him again."

Adhering, however, to my original objections I took no action in the matter, but my attention having been thus called to him, I had subsequently frequent opportunities of noticing his deportment, more especially in the filial relation, and of hearing from others their impressions concerning him—all of which were satisfactory.

Some days previous to the division which took place in the Legislative Council, on the Act to disfranchise those electors who are in the employment of the General Government, Dr. Wickwire mentioned to me, as we met on the street, that he did not think from a conversation or conversations, he had had with his son, (Peter McNab), that the Hon. James McNab would support the Government on this question, but he entered into no details.

On Saturday last, Dr. Wickwire called at my office, and informed me that he had been in communication with Dr. Tupper in reference to Mr. McNab and showed me a telegram from him. I was not aware, previous to that day, that Dr. Wickwire intended to telegraph, or had telegraphed to Dr. Tupper on the subject; and in fact, had not been consulted at all in reference to his negotiations with Mr. McNab, Junior—and have not since learned that Dr. Wickwire advised with any person previous to the day above named. This is to my mind corroborated testimony of what Dr. Wickwire publicly states, viz:—that

his primary object in dealing with the matter was, to secure employment for the young man. Had his intention been purely or primarily political, he doubtless would in the very commencement of their negotiations several months since, have placed himself in communication with some of the leading political opponents of the Local Government, resident in the city.

After reading the telegram from Dr. Tupper, and learning the principal facts of the case as given at length in his (Dr. Wickwire's) affidavit, I put this question to him: Is the Hon. Mr. McNab in any way compromised in reference to this vote, or has he promised to sustain the Government on the Bill? Because if he has, I added, I can be no party to the transaction. Dr. Wickwire's reply was promptly given in the negative. He said:—Peter tells me his father desires to vote with the Opposition on this question, that Hon. Messrs. Annand and McHeffey have been urging him to resign his seat in the Council, and at the same time soliciting Peter to assist in effecting this object—promising the latter an office worth \$600 per annum. I was led to suppose that the father was anxious, at this juncture, to be relieved from all pressure from the Local Government, and desirous at the same time to see his son permanently settled in an office under the Dominion Government.

Mr. Peter McNab had been shown Dr. Tupper's telegram before Dr. Wickwire waited on me, and as Mr. Hill was absent, and could not act in the matter, he desired an assurance from one or two of Mr. Hill's friends—that, on his return to the city, that gentleman would concur in the arrangement which Dr. Wickwire had negotiated, and Mr. Daly had assumed for Mr. Hill.

Mr. Jas. McDonald and myself, considering the transaction as perfectly legitimate, affixed our signatures to the document, or assurance above referred to, which has already been published in your columns. I may add that I was influenced in part, by the creditable and persistent efforts of Dr. Wickwire, to assist a man in regaining a lost social position, and also, to relieve, a member of the Legislative Council from a pressure which I had been led to believe, by the representations of Dr. Wickwire, had been placed upon him by members of the Local Government to vote contrary to his judgment and wishes. I felt that I was assisting to place an aged Councillor in a position to give free and independent votes on questions of vital importance to the people of Nova Scotia, one of which was the Disfranchisement Bill, a measure which, if carried, would destroy one of the most highly prized rights of citizenship, of a very large number of educated and intelligent men in the Province; and also, as I hoped to prevent the Crown Land Bill (giving to the Province another head of a department) from passing without legislative provision being made, as was contended for in the House of Assembly by the Provincial Secretary and Attorney General,—for Mr. Fairbanks, the present Commissioner of Crown Lands, an old and faithful public servant who (the act being now consummated) has been legislated out of office, and thus left without any provision other than that which may depend on the will or caprice of subsequent governments, or rather majorities in succeeding and ever changing Houses of Assembly.

In closing this communication, I may say I deeply regret having to refer to matters which must necessarily cause pain to the innocent relatives and friends of Mr. Peter McNab, but a sense of duty compels me to do so now, as it did a few days since in my place in the Legislature.

I am, Sir,

Yours, &c.,

D. McN. Parker.

P. S.—May I still further use your columns to ask the "*Acadian Recorder*", and any other newspapers in which similar liberties have been taken with my character, to give publicity to this letter, as well as the affidavits of Messrs. Wickwire and McFarlane, and the letter of the Hon. James McDonald.

We have no desire to enter into the discussion of this affair, or to characterize the persons or parties concerned in the transaction, but have felt that our readers are entitled to the facts of the case; and they will be able to exercise their own independent opinion in this matter.

The *Morning Chronicle* will please accept our thanks for the compliment paid us by the caution it was thought necessary to give its readers respecting what political intelligence they supposed we were going to give. It will be seen that the editor's statement that "it (the *Christian Messenger*) suppresses everything calculated to damage that party, such matters for instance as the letter of Mr. Peter McNab," &c., is not true.

We reckon upon our readers being intelligent men and women. We have taken more space for this matter than we think it would demand at our hands under other circumstances; but thinking it would be more satisfactory to our readers to have both sides, we have thought it well to present it thus fully before them.

FIRE AT NAPAN.—TWENTY-TWO CATTLE BURNED.—The *Amherst "Gazette"* reports that on Saturday, 1st inst., a large barn at Napan, owned by Mr. James Ripley, son of Thomas, was destroyed by fire with nearly all its contents, including twenty-two cattle. Loss \$1200; no insurance. The fire was caused by Mr. Ripley's son, seven years old, playing with matches in the barn.

P. E. ISLAND.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—The House of Assembly has decided to adopt a system of decimal currency, which will go into operation Feb. 1, 1872.

A second concert given in Charlottetown in aid of the French realized the sum of £30. It is said that the legislature intend to appropriate £300 for this charitable object, making in all a contribution of about £400 currency.

The cost of telegraphing from Charlottetown to Sackville has been reduced from 110 cents a message to 75 cents, at the petition of many of the merchants.

Sir Chas. Fox & Co., of London, have offered to build the Island railroad for £4, 500 Island currency per mile.

UNITED STATES.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 7.—An extensive conflagration occurred here this morning.—A fire broke out in the large printing house of Weed & Parsons, on Columbia Street, and nearly an entire block of small buildings on Broadway was destroyed. Total loss five hundred thousand dollars.—*Chron.*

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

Fighting still continues in and around Paris, between the government troops and the Communes or insurgents. Telegraph lines are cut by the rebels. It is said that they have an army of a hundred thousand men. It was stated that in one battle last week, twelve thousand men were killed. Other telegrams say, the slaughter on both sides was fearful. Terror reigns, and the prisons are crowded, Churches and houses of aristocrats are pillaged, and all the priests imprisoned. It was officially announced on Saturday, that the Government forces, after a hard struggle—lasting two days—Thursday and Friday, had obtained complete success. The losses of the troops were serious, and General Besson was killed.

German intervention is regarded as the only hope of a restoration of order.

The telegram of Monday said:—Terrible work continues in Paris. The Cathedral of Notre Dame has been sacked, Rochefort vainly endeavored to save it from pillage. Nearly all valuables were plundered. The Archbishop of Paris has been transferred from the Conciergerie to the Mazes prison. Gen. Cluser has been arrested, charged with misappropriation of public funds.

A Versailles despatch says the Government has resolved to enter Paris by storm, at any cost, rather than bombard the city.

Fort Valerien fires mainly to clear ramparts and prevent the artillery from being used to repel an attack.

Partial breach has been effected in the fortifications.

On Sunday there was cannonading all day. The Champs Elysees were completely deserted. The National Guards were hiding in the cross streets, seeking protection from the shells falling in every direction.

The result was that the Versailles troops crossed the Seine and occupied Sabonville and Longchamps.

Veterinary Surgeons all over the country are recommending *Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders* for the following troubles in horses: loss of appetite, roughness of the hair, stoppage of bowels or water, thick water, coughs and colds, swelling of the gland, worms, horse ail, thick winds, and heaves.

A friend of ours who is chief clerk in the Government Dispensary, says that no medicine chest is now complete without *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment*. We always supposed it was prescribed by law; if it is not, it ought to be, for certainly there is nothing in the whole material medica of so much importance to the soldier and the sailor as "*Johnson's Anodyne Liniment*."

Marriages.

At South Berwick, on the 6th inst., by the Rev. E. O. Read, Mr. Kinsman Brown, of Ayleford, to Miss Lavinia Beckwith, of Cornwallis.

Deaths.

At Dartmouth, on Monday, the 3rd inst. Abigail D. wife of Edmund H. Bayers aged 50 years.

At Port Hood, C. B., on the 29th of March, Euphemia, relict of the late James Turnbull, esq., M. P. P. in the 71st year of her age.

On the 3rd inst., after a short illness, Richard Hutchins, aged 38 years.

At Waterville, on the 18th April, Frances Agnes, daughter of Simon Donovan, Esq., March 1871, Mrs. Mary widow of the late Mr. James Webber of Chester, Windsor Road, departed this life in glorious hope for a better life above. Deceased was baptized by Rev. Joseph Dimock, and remained a constant and worthy member of the church till death closed her earthly career at the age of 71 years. She was remarkably calm and peaceful on her death-bed. The text Ps. xxxi 5; and hymns to be used at her funeral, were selected by herself, weeks before her departure. "They

rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

Of diphtheria, at Upper Onslow, County of Colchester, on Wednesday, the 8th ult., Bessie Blair, aged 9 years; also on the same day, Ida Bair, aged 15 years. These two little girls were taken ill on Sunday the 5th inst., but not supposing their illness anything more than a severe cold, medical aid was not sought until Monday, when it was found that the fearful malady had made such rapid progress that the Physician expressed strong doubts of recovery especially of the younger. They lingered together until about 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning, when the younger passed through the dark valley and shadow of death. The eldest had a hope of recovery until about 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning when she told her friends that a soft still voice had whispered in her ear telling her that she would soon follow her sister; after which she wished to converse about Heaven. She also wished to see her teacher and school-mates. It was most affecting to hear the words of advice uttered by her dying lips as she reached out her hand already cold with death, and shook hands with her school-mates bidding them good-bye for the last time. She seemed very sorry to leave her father and mother and sister and brothers, but would comfort herself by a passage of scripture which she said her Saviour repeated while on earth and which she repeated several times during the day of her death, viz: "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." Her separation from one of her brothers was of short duration, for on the following Sabbath her little brother who was suffering from the same disease at the time of her death, the two little sisters and brother sleep in one grave. May the Lord abundantly comfort and bless the bereaved parents and family, the Lord who gave and the Lord hath taken away, and may this bereavement by the power of God be the means of contributing to their eternal good.

At Manchester, 20th March, Lydia, relict of the late Wm. Simpson, aged 96 years. Sister Simpson was one of the pioneers of the Baptist Church in this place and for many years bore the burthen and heat of the day. She has now been gathered into the heavenly garner as a shock of corn fully ripe, a large number of relatives are left behind, but not to sorrow as those without hope. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

At New Ross, Feb. 12th, 1871, George Alex. Elliott, in the 46th year of his age, of inflammation. He bore all his sufferings with patience. His wife has lost a kind husband and children an affectionate father, his friends all mourn but not as those without hope. Although our dear friend never made a profession of religion, he loved his Bible, the precious word of God was his delight. He prayed that God would have mercy upon him, make him a trophy of the Saviour's grace. May God comfort the bereaved ones—the sorrowing widow and ten children. His funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. J. J. Skinner, from Job xxiii. 10, the occasion was a solemn one.

The tears of affection shall water thy tomb And long the fair flowers of memory bloom, Nor will we regret thou hast reached the blest sphere.

Where mourning and sorrow can never appear. On the 8th inst., Mary Hogan, beloved wife of David Hogan, and daughter of the late Anthony O'Donnell, in the 48th year of her age.

At Shubenacadie, on the 6th inst., at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Annie Ross, aged 76 years, widow of the late George Ross.

At Dartmouth, on the 7th inst., Mr. Wm. Gresham Simpson, aged 34 years.

At Greenwich, March 26th, Sarah Ann, infant daughter of John and Eunice Shube, aged 8 months.

At the Poors' Asylum on the 8th April, John Reid, aged 63 years.

Shipping List.

PORT OF HALIFAX.

ARRIVED.

TUESDAY, April 4th.—S. S. Cameron, Assvrian, Smith, Glasgow via Liverpool; Schrs. Abby Alice, Pickers, port Medway; Argo, Smith, Barrington.

WEDNESDAY, 5th.—Schrs. E. A. Annie, Keating, Guysboro; Garnet, Hadley, Guysboro; Wingarsheek, Hodgson, Gloucester, Mass., bound to the Western Banks; William Sutton, Wells, Gloucester, Mass., do.; Daisy, Beverly, Bell Rock; Margaret Ann, King, Gwennie Mines, C. B.; Zonobia, Pope, Gwennie Mines, C. B.

THURSDAY 6th.—R. M. S. City of Baltimore, Delamotte, Liverpool via Queenstown; R. M. S. City of Washington, Jones, New York.

FRIDAY, 7th.—Brigs. Atholaska, Langenburg, New York; E. McLeod, McLeod, Boston; Schrs. Lord of the Isles, Gamage, New York; Electric, Hyson, Porto Rico; Three Mastered Schrs. Hera, Kent, Hong Kong.

SATURDAY, 8th.—Schrs. Frowess, Dickson, Gwennie Mines, Cow Bay; Silver Belle, MacKay, Grand Manan, N. B.; America, Patten, New York; E. K. Brown, Clements, Liverpool, N. S.; Ocean Bird, Marks, Ship Harbor; J. W. Mullock, Mullock, LaHave; Baronet, Ernst, Mahone Bay; Dedafce, Corkum, Chester; Clear, Hatt, Mahone Bay; Young Nova Scotia, Mahone Bay.

SUNDAY, 9th.—Steamer M. A. Starr, Doane, Yarmouth via Shelburne, Liverpool and Lunenburg; schr. Ben. Killam, Durkee, Yarmouth.

MONDAY, 10th.—Steamer Chase, Mulligan, Portland; Brigs. Louise, Ham, Cienfuegos; Esk, Miller, Cienfuegos, 17 days; Sears, Herbert, Burke, St. Jago, 17 days; British Pearl, Hadley, Guysboro; Lark, Sheppard, Gwennie Mines; P. Walsh, C. B.; Gwennie Mines, Lucetta Lea, Gwennie Mines; Wm. Kandick, Matheson, Fowrie; Pettipas, Patrine, for Bay fish; Progress, Dickson, Cape Breton; Nimble, Bondrot, Arichat; Gipsey Bride, Watt, Sheet Harbor.

CLEARED.

TUESDAY, April 4th.—Schrs. A. C. Major, Greenwood, Cap. Negro; Sea Slipper, Hobbs, Mahone Bay.

WEDNESDAY, April 5th.—Steamer Carlotta, Colby, Portland; Brigs. Mayflower, Kenny, Boston; L. W. Eaton, Ross, Demerara; Mary, Fanning, Porto Rico; schr. Matchless, Johnston, St. Margaret's Bay.

THURSDAY, 6th.—R. M. S. City of Baltimore, Delamotte, New York; City of Halifax, Jamieson, St. John's, N. F.; Brig. Liberty, Steele, Portland; Schrs. Glad Tidings, Drake, Bay St. George, N. F.; Ago, Smith, Barrington.

FRIDAY, 7th.—No clearances at the Custom House.

SATURDAY, 8th.—Schrs. J. Morton, Smith, Portland; Vigilant, Wilson, Boston; Ninth of June, Bondrot, Cow Bay; M. & W. P. Atwood, Barrington; Atlanta, Armstrong, Port Medway.

MONDAY, 10th.—Schrs. S. G. Irwin, Bouche, Bay of Islands, N. F.; Winnie, Judge, Magdalen Islands; Mariner, Kisser, do.; Highlander, White, Arichat and Margaree.