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J. W. WELDON, Agent for New Brunswick. St. John, N. B., 12th Feb., 1863.—wvi

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Water Street, St. John, N. B. Central Fire Insurance Company Agent at St. John. COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

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The Furniture and Apparatus are all of the most impro ved modern style; the School Rooms and premises are in-ferior to none in the City; the system is Catecherical and Explanatory. Call and see.

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ings, Liverpool.

Chairman of the London Board.—Samuel Baker, Esq. Chairman in Liverpoot.—Charles Turner, Esq. The Royal Insurance Company is one of the largest

At the Annual Meeting held in August 1859, the following highly satisfactory results were shown:

FIRE DEPARTMENT. The most gratifying proof of the expansion of the busi ness is exhibited in the one following fact—that the increase alone of the last three years exceeds the entire business of

some of the existing and of many of the recently defunct fire insurance companies of this kingdom. The Premiums for the year 1855 being.....£130,060 While the Premiums for the year 1555 are.... 196,148 Showing an actual increase of 66,088

or upwards of 50 per cent. in three years. The recent returns of duty made by Government for this latter year (1858) again show the "Royal" as more than maintaining the ratio of its increase as stated in former years. Only one among the London insurance others exhibits an advance to the extent of one-half the increase of the Company, while all the others respectively fall far short of the moiety of its advance.

LIFE DEPARTMENT. The amount of new Life Premiums received this year is by far the largest received in any similar period since the commencement of the business, and must far exceed the average of amount received by the most successful offices was 83%, the sum assured £387.752 os. 8d., and the prem £12,854 3s. 4d. These figures show a very rapid extension

of business during the last ten years. Thus:— Years. No. of Policies. Sums Assured. New Premiums. £48,764 17 0 £1,880 9 1 2,627 4 7 *** 95,650 9 11 161,848 13 4 4,694 16 6 297,560 16 8 887,752 6 8 8,850 8 11 12,854 8 4 1858 ... 832 887,752 6 8 12,854 8 4
The remarkable increase in the business of the last four years is mainly consequent upon the large bonus declared in 1855, which amounted to no less than £2 per cent. per

num on the sums assured, and averaged 80 per cent. upon the premiums paid.
PERCY M. DOVE, Manager and Actuary. JOHN M. JOHNSTON, Secretary to the London Board All descriptions of property taken at fair rates, and Fire losses paid promptly on reasonable proof of loss—without reference to the head Establishment.

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Half Premium System, without deot or interest. Endowment Assurances.

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BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Prayer Book. This we transcribe entire :-

Christian Visitor.

Hold fast the form of sound words:"-2d Timothy, i. 13.

New Series, Vol. II., No. 46.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1864.

REV. C. H. SPURGEON'S SERMON ON THE The controversy engendered by Mr. Spurgeon's startling sermon on baptismal regeneration, has induced him to deliver in his Tabernacle a discourse on the "Book of Common Prayer." The severe criticism of his opponents, instead of daunting his courage, only tends to nerve him for the conflict, which he feels himself called upon by God to pursue to the end. The text chosen as his theme is Ezekiel xt. 5-" Thus saith the Lord." The first part of the sermon refers espein general. The second part deals with the "II. Dear friends, the second part of our sub-

ject may be very displeasing to some who have strayed in here, but that I cannot help. I do not remember ever asking anyone to come and hear me, and therefore, as you come of your own wills, when I have any truth to speak, I shall not conceal it because you choose to be present. At the present crisis I feel that it is woe unto me if I do not lift up my voice like a trumpet and urge with all my might the necessity of reformation in our State Church. I have moreover an excellent excuse for the enquiry I am about to make; for as I am publicly charged with ignorance, it is at once my duty and my privilege to seek instruction of those who claim authority to teach. When one is known to be profoundly ignorant, and there are certain fathers in the faith who have the power to instruct, the least thing that can be allowed us is to ask questions, and the smallest boon we can expect is to have them answered by men expressly ordained to instruct the

"The Rev. W. Goode, the Dean of Ripon, appears to be much better acquainted with the extent of my reading and mental acquirements than am myself. He speaks with all the positiveness of a personal acquaintance concerning my reputed ignorance, and for my own part I am not at all anxious to question so very reverend an authority. He writes: 'As to that young minister who is now raving against the Evangelical clergy on this point, it is to be regretted that so much notice has been taken of his railings. He is to be pitied, because his entire want of acquaintance with theological literature leaves him utterly unfit for the determination of such a question, which is a question, not of mere doctrine, but of what may be called historical theology; and his charges are just a parallel to those which the Romanists would bring against himself as well as others for the interpretation of the words, "This is My body." But were he a wiser man than he is, he would know better what his qualifications are for passing judgment on such a point, and be willing to learn from such facts, among others, as the Gorham Judgment and the cases of Mr. Maskell and Mr. Mozley, what ground there is for his charges against the Evangelical clergy. Let him hold and enforce his own view of doctrine as he pleases; but when he undertakes to determine what is the exclusive meaning of the Book of Common Prayer, and brings a charge of dishonesty against those who take a different view of that meaning from what he does, he only shows the presumptuous self-confidence with which he is prepared to pronounce judgment upon matters of which he is profoundly ignorant. To hold a controversy with him upon the subject would be to as little purpose as to attempt to hold a logically-constructed argument with a child unacquainted with logical terms.' "When this paragraph caught my eye, my

heart leaped with joy, for I knew that the sinners

in Zion were afraid; and I thought I heard a

voice crying from the Word, 'Not many wise

men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many

noble, are called; but God hath chosen the fool

ish things of the world to confound the wise:

and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty: and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to saught things that are; that no flesh should giory in this presence.' My mind flew back to the valley of Elah, and I remembered the words of the old record: 'And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David. he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.' My spirit kindled at these words of the boastful champion of yore, and at their modern reproduction by the vainglorious divine of Ripon, and the answer of David was in my heart as it is even now upon my tongue: Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands.' Admitting the witness of the venerable dean to be correct, and that the young minister' is inexpert in logic, I am not therefore ashained; far otherwise I will the rather glory in mine infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me, 'for when I am weak, then am 1 strong. Take, O ye great ones of the earth, every profit that can be made out of your belief in my utter total ignorance, and your own profound and extensive learning, and then go your ways, and learn what this meaneth- 'Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none cise beside me. Therefore shall evil come upon thee; thou shalt not know from whence it riseth.' And now at this hour having been condemned as intolerably ignorant, I feel 1 have the liberty to ask just a few explanations of those reverend divines who do know or ought to

"r. I open this book-the Prayer Book, of whose occasional services, the more I know, the less I approve-and I find in the Baptismal Ser-THE "City of Glasgow Life Assurance Company" was established in 1838, by special Act of Parliament. It has now been conducted with much success for 25 years, which is attributable not only to the perfect security which is attributable not only to the perfect security which is affords for the due fulfilment of every contract, but likewise to the Company's extensive and influential connexions and to the liberarity of its dealings.

The Premiums are equitably graduated. The Profits are distributed with a due regard to the claims of all classes of vice, that when little children are brought to be in the same all the days of their life. To me it Poncy-notders.

The last declaration of Bonus was made 20th January, 1864, which is the close of the Company's financial year, when a Bonus at the rate of one and a hair per cent. on the sums assured was declared for the past year. In place of the surplus being annually divided, the profits will in future be ascertained and allocated quinque annually. Policies participate from the date of their issue, but the Bonuses do not vest until they have been live years in existence. Rates of Assurance and all other information may be learned from the Agent, WILIAM MACKAY, july 18.—wpv by Custom House Bubling.

Of the 100 Lowellord wolf, Bas

know the grounds of their faith and practice.

other form of Scriptural precept, or precedent, from all thy sins, in the name of the Father, and for the use of proxies in baptism. True religion of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.' Sir Priest, is a personal matter—is its first manifestations in I want you to give me a plain warrant from God's Regeneration to be connected with the impossible | Word for your absolving my dying neighbor at this promises of others? Plain proof texts are re- rate. Who are you that you should use such words? juested for godfathers and godmothers; and such The season is solemn, it is the hour of death; important persons deserve to be defended by the and the matter is weighty, for it concerns the lergy, if exts of Scripture can be discovered. eternal interests of the dying man, and may, nay, As I cannot imagine where the texts will be will, if you be found to be acting presumptuously found, I must pause till the learned shall pro- in this matter, involve your own soul in eternal duce them. Further, I find that these children ruin. Whence did you derive your right to forenter into a covenant by proxy, of which we are give that sick man? Might he not raise his wiassured that the promise our Lord Jesus will for thered hands and return the compliment by ab-His part most surely keep and perform; but the solving you? Are you quite sure as to the comchildren are bound to do their part, that part mittal of divine authority to you: then show me the being something more than the gigantic task of deed of gift, and let it be clearly of divine origin. keeping all the commandments of God. Now I | The apostles were empowered to do many things, ask for a 'Thus saith the Lord' for such a coven- but who are you? Do you claim to be their ant as this. I find two covenants in the Word | successors? Then work miracles similar to theirs; of God, one is the covenant of works, 'This do, take up serpents and drink deadly things withand thou shalt live': I find another, the covenant out being harmed thereby; prove to us that you of grace, which runs only in this wise, 'I will be have seen the Lord, or even that cloven tongues their God, and they shall be my people.' I find of fire have sat upon each of you. 'You Evanit expressly declared that there cannot be a mix- gelical clergy, dare you claim to be successors of ture of works and grace, for says Paul, 'If by the apostles, and to have power to forgive sins? grace, then it is no more of works: otherwise Your Puseyite brethren go to the whole length grace is no more grace; but if it be of works, of superstitious pretensions, but you have too hen is it no more grace: otherwise work is no much light to be so superstitious, and yet you do more work; and I ask a 'Thus saith the Lord' what is quite as wicked, you solemnly subscribe or this baptismal covenant, which is nominally of that this absolution is not contrary to the Word grace, but really of works, or at best an unnatu- of God, when you know it is! Gorham case say al conglomerate of grace and works. I ask you; I care nothing for your Gorham case, I those who have searched Scripture through, to want a 'Thus saith the Lord,' warranting you to find me the form or the command for any bap- swear to what you know to be false and dangerismal covenant whatever. It is idle to say that ous. Mr. Mozley and Mr. Maskell may give you such a covenant was allowed among the early all the comfort they can afford, but one word of Christians; their witness is not early enough for Peter and of Paul would be of more weight in us-we want a 'Thus saith the Lord,' and noth- this matter than a thousand words from either of ing but this will justify this pretended covenant. them.

manner which we think needs also a Thus saith to pronounce this absolution. A person called a the Lord' to justify it, it is publicly declared that 'deacon' is, I am informed, allowed to preach beloved brethren, that this child is regenerate the Book of Common Prayer in the daily service | miership. and grafted into the body of Christ's Church, let he must not grant absolution—there is a supernaus give thanks unto Almighty God for these be- tural something which the man has not yet renefits, and with one accord make our prayers | ceived, for he has only once felt the episcopal imunto Him, that this child may lead the rest of position of hands. We shall see by-and-bye his life according to this beginning.' And, again, where absolving power comes from. The deacon We yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful has attained to one grade of priestcraft, but the Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate full vigour of mystic influence rests not upon him. this infant with thy Holy Spirit, to receive him | Another touch, another subscription, and the for thine own child by adoption, and to incorpoliceys of St. Peter will swing at his girdle, but his rate him into thy holy Church,' &c. We are time is not yet. I ask him, whether he calls himtold we do not understand the meaning of 'Re- self a deacon or a priest, where he gets a 'Thus generation' as it is used in the Services of the saith the Lord' for this absolution? which, if it Anglican Church; the meaning of this passage be not of God, is a piece of impertinence, superis historical, hypothetical, ecclesiastical, and we stition, blasphemy, and falsehood. know not what. The words 'To be born again' did not formerly seem to us to be so very difficult to understand, nor did they appear so now as they stand in Scripture, for we find in them the one regeneration which has renewed us in the spirit of our mind, and we cannot consent to use those words in any other sense. Well, whether regeneration be or be not a very equivocal word, we simply ask, is there a 'Thus saith the Lord: for the assertion that a sprinkled infant is therefore regenerate in any sense in the world? Will any person find us a text of Scripture !- He shall have large rewards from clergymen with uneasy consciences? We put our inquiry again in plain terms; will some one oblige us with a plain Thus saith the Lord,' proving that water baptism n any one instance makes an unconscious babe member of Christ and a child of God, in any sense which any sane person chooses to attach to those words? Where is the passage? where? Echo answers 'where?' But this subject you have been considering for some time, and are vell convinced that the process of regenerating babies by occult influences conveyed by water is a pure, no, an impure invention of priestcraft; there is therefore no necessity that I enlarge upon

a point so well understood. "2. I have a second question to ask. There s prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, a peculiar ceremony called Confirmation. I do not would like to have a 'Thus saith' the Lord' for that rite. As I am ready to yield as far as possible, suppose we take it for granted that this ceremony is defensible from Holy Writ, I would like to know whether there is any 'Thus saith the Lord' allowing a person called a bishop to give to the assembled youths an assurance of divine favour by laying his hands on their heads? The bishop having laid his hands on every head presented to him, whether it be gracious or graceess, talks thus in the collect, 'Almighty and everliving God, who makest us both to will and to do those things that be good and acceptable unto Thy Divine Majesty; we make our humble supplications unto Thee for these Thy servants upon whom (after the example of thy holy apostles) we have now laid our hands to certify them (by this sign) of Thy favour and gracious goodness towards them.' Does this mean that the bishop's hand certifies the person touched thereby of special divine favour? so it seems to teach, as far as I can see. We want, then, a 'Thus saith the Lord,' authorizing this individual in lawn to exercise the office of an apostle? We then desire Scriptural warrant permitting him to certify these kneeling youths of the enjoyment or possession of any particular Divine favour by putting his hands on their heads. If this means the common goodness of God, the bishop's hands are not needed to certify them of that; but as he has already declared in prayer that they were regenerated by water and the Spirit, and had been forgiven all their sins, it is clear that special favour is intended; we inquire, therefore, for his authority for giving these young people a further certificate of special Divine favour by the imposition of his hands. Why his hands? Who is he that he can certify these persons of God's favour more than any other man? Where is his Scriptural warrant to confer by his hands a certificate of grace upon young people who in innumerable cases are thoughtless and unconverted, if not profane? We want a 'Thus saith the Lord' for the whole thing, and then for each item the honest Churchman. "3. Another matter needs a little clearing up,

and, as this Book was set forth by learned divines and bishops, I would like a lucid explanation. The priest visits a sick man, sits down by his bed-side, reads certain prayers, bids the patient enemies and making his will, moves him to make the whole are completed, beginning with the science troubled with any weighty matter; after which confession the rubric says, 'The priest shall absolve him (if he humbly and heartily de-

words, I ask for apostolical, prophetic, or any by His authority committed to me, I absolve thee

"We then find that after this covenant has "You are aware, perhaps, that it is not every been made, and the water has been applied in a man who is permitted by the Established religion

(Conclusion next week.)

THE LATE CONFERENCE AT QUEBEC.

From whatever stand-point we contemplate this convocation, it must be regarded as far exceeding in importance any political convention ever held in British America. Think of the mighty interests at stake. A nation born! An empire called into existence! embracing three. millions and a quarter of people, containing a territory more extensive than all the North American States, and having resources of wealth and of progress as exhaustless as the ocean. The thought is grand; it is more, it is sublime. The political phases are all pregnant with momentous results, and its moral and religious aspects are stamped with awful solemnity. Nothing less than a bloodless revolution, changing all the currents of thought, relationship and interest, is contemplated. In the achievement of this sublime purpose scripture will be literally fulfilled-" a

nation born in a day." What does all this mean? Simply that these Provinces are no longer babies, or only "big boys," but grown up men prepared to take care remember to have read of that in Scripture, I of themselves; that is the plain English of it. This is a fast age. Steam not only acts upon the locomotive to hurry it forward with rapid strides, but it pushes on the mind. Electricity not only gives the despatch lightning wings, but it quickens thought, originates ideas, and imparts a stimulus to all the springs of human action. Our American cousins, inspired with these powerful agencies, lived so fast that they formed new combinations, and rushed into a fratricidal war, which may be in full blast for half a century to come. Provincials, powerfully affected by the same agencies, instead of dividing and sub-dividing, rushed into each other's embrace. Are they acting wisely? Time only can furnish the answer. Some see nothing but ruin inscribed upon this scheme, and denounce it as the work of aspiring politicians seeking their own aggrandizement, and if they succeed that intolerable taxation must fellow. We hope for better things. So far as the maritime Provinces are concerned, the most of the gentlemen who are engaged in inaugurating this important movement, are well known to be men of financial ability and of moral integrity. Their present position proves that they have the confidence, at least of a large majority of the people they represent; and they have as large a stake in the country as any of us. The Canadian representatives, who are performing so well their part, are, for the most part, unknown to our people. In the prospect of becoming so closely allied to them, it is certainly desirable that full information should be given regarding them. We purpose, therefore, in several successive numbers of the Visitor to furnish sketches of these representative gentlemen, as supplied by the Leader of the 31st ult., a highly respectable and popular political in detail. Endless is the task thus proposed to journal published in the city of Toronto. These sketches embrace all the delegates of the conference, and we presume are generally reliable. We see a few errors of trivial import in some of the portraits, which we shall correct, and others being too long for our columns we shall have to conremember his baptism, questions him as to his dense. There are some thirty sketches in all, and ereed, gives him good advice about forgiving his we shall furnish from four to six per issue until

> Canadian Delegates. SIR ETIENNE PASCHAL TACHE, ET. Sir E. P. Tache was chosen President of the

and del Act what tone profital 130 february

disappeared from the political arena at the epoch | administration started with a majority of two or of the rebellion, that Dr. Tache came upon the three. Mr. Macdonald did not become a member stage. The chief public capacity in which he of the Draper-Viger government till within about had previously served was that of an officer of ten months of its demise. He first held the office the Canadian Chasseurs in the war of 1812. It of Receiver General for the brief period from May is only since the union of the Canadas that he to December, 1847, and then that of Commissionhas played a part among the active politicians of er of Crown Lands till March, 1848, when the the country. His experience in the Legislative | Draper administration fell on a direct vote of notappointed Chief Commissioner of Public Works, ally changed their relative strength. He exchanged this office for that of Receiver | After the resignation of the Draper govern-General, in November, 1849. At this period, on ment Mr. Macdonald was six years and a half in the reconstruction consequent on the resignation opposition. On the formation of the Coalition.

Old Series

Vol. XVII., No. 46.

ber of the board of education of Lower Canada.

The foremost man in public life in Canada is

JOHN ALEXANDER MACDONALD.

the Hon. John Alexander McDonald. Since the formation of the Coalition government, in 1854, he has, with the exception of a brief period, practically been at the head of the official public men in his own section of the Province, although during that time he occupied the position of Premier for but a short period. Had it fallen to him to play a part in the politics of the mother country, instead of these of Canada, there can be no doubt he would have taken a leading position even there. One of the most striking characteristics of his mental constitution is the quickness with which he perceives all the bearings of a subject presented to him. Since Mr. Hinks left the Legisative Assembly he has had no equal there as a debater. His greatest strength lies in his review of a debate after every one else has spoken; and when the subject permits of it he enlivens his discourse with flashes of wit, a seasoning of sarcasm and a fund of amusing anecdote, but he can be serious when the subject requires graver treatment, and in fact he possesses all the most necessary arts of a successful debater. It will scarcely be credited by any person now listening to one of his best efforts that his first essay in the House was a failure, and that he was afterwards restrained by a doubt of his powers from again attempting to address the House for two entire sessions. As an administrator, he occasionally shows too great a foundess for the doubtful policy of delay, and by this means it can hardly be doubted he has made more enemies than friends. But still, in spite of this failing, for such we must regard it, he can count a longer list of friends than any other public man in Upper Canada. If an office falls vacant there are always sure to be numerous applications for it, and the longer it remains unfilled the more protentious the list becomes. As only one can get it, all the others must be disappointed; and it must make a great deal of difference whether the office be filled before the number of applicants become large, or allowed to remain vacant until it increases tenold. But when Mr. Macdonald has difficult and complicated questions to deal with, he brings a sound unbiassed judgment and a clear intellect to bear upon them: and if he does not always give satisfaction, it is generally because the decision nevitably involves disappointment to some one.

Mr. Macdonald is the eldest son of the late Hugh Macdonald, of Kingston, and formerly of Sutherlandshire, Scotland. He was educated at the Royal Grammar School of Kingston, under Dr. Wilson, fellow of Oxford, and subsequently by Mr. Baxter. Studying for the law, he was called to the bar in 1836, appointed Q. C. in 1846, and afterwards a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada. As an advocate, he first made his mark by his defence of Von Shultz, who was accused of treason at the time of the rebellion, although the evidence was so strong that his eloquence was unable to save his client from condemnation and the gallows. When he entered politics in 1844, called a rich man. Mr. Macdonald entered the political arena at a

critical and in some respects an unfortunate for Vercheres in April, 1848. period of our Provincial history. It was critical shall absolve him (if he humbly and heartily desire it), after this sort.' Here is the absolution, and I humbly and heartily desire a 'Thus saith age, experience and position as first Minister of the Lord' for it. 'Our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath left power to His Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in Him, of His great mercy forgive thee thine offences t and shows a few who counselled to the Lafontaine-Baldwin administration, which took place on the 28th of November, 1843. Conference in virtue, it may be presumed, of his which took place on the 28th of November, 1843. For nine months he ruled the country with no other constitutional adviser than Mr. Secretary hath left power to His Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in Him, of His great mercy forgive thee thine offences and position as first Minister of the Country with no other constitutional adviser than Mr. Secretary hath left power to His Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in Him, of His great mercy forgive thee thine offences and position as first Minister of the Country with no other constitutional adviser than Mr. Secretary believe than Mr. Secretary hath left power to His Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in Him, of His political life has not been so long as that of the Country with no other constitutional adviser than Mr. Secretary believe than Mr. Macdonald was first who, in the prolonged exile of M. Papineau, had placed a firm hand on the leadership of the Lower constitutional adviser than Mr. Macdonald was first who, in the prolonged exile of M. Papineau, had placed a firm hand on the leadership of the Lower constitutional adviser than Mr. Macdonald was first who, in the prolonged exile of M. Papineau, had placed a firm hand on the leadership of the Lower constitutional adviser than Mr. Secretary below that the country with no other constitutional adviser than Mr. Secretary below to the country with the country with a placed a firm hand on the leadership

THE OFFICE OF THE

Corner of Prince William and Church Streets

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

REV. I. E. BILL. Editor and Proprietor. Address all Communications and Business Letters to the Editor, Box 194, St. John, N. B.

Che Christian Visitor

Is emphatically a Newspaper for the Family. It furnishes its readers with the latest intelligence,

after the once powerful Louis Joseph Papineau of the general election was so close that the new Assembly was confined to the five years from confidence, moved by Mr. Baldwin and carried 1841 to 1846. After this he remained out of by a large majority in a newly elected House. It public life till he was appointed a member of the is instructive to note the fact that from an even Legislative Council in May 1848. His appoint- balance of parties an overwhelming preponderance ment was one of the first acts of the Lafontaine- on the other side was produced by a general elec-Baldwin government, of which he was a member, tion—a fact in direct contradiction of the theory after its restoration to power in the spring of that of those who believe, or affect to believe, that beyear. Two months previously to his becoming a cause parties are equally balanced in the present member of the Legislative Council, he had been House a general election would not have materi-

of Sir Allan McNab. Dr. Tache attained the posi- September 11th, 1854, Mr. Macdonald was artion of Premier of the government. He resigned pointed Attorney General for Upper Canada -- an this post, together with the Commissionership of office which places its occupant in a position to Crown Lands and the Speakership of the Legisla- reach the bench if that be the object of his amtive Council, in November, 1857. His resignati- bition; but Mr. Macdonald has preferred not to on was announced as a final retirement from follow that somewhat beaten track. On the reactive public life. The sincerity of this intenti-signation of Sir Allan McNab in the spring of '56 on was attested by the desire he had for some the Tache-Macdonald government was formed : time previously shown to escape from the cares and in November, 1857, Mr. Macdonald obtained of office; and it was only at the urgent request of the highest position open to a Canadian Stateshis colleagues that he had been induced to re- man, that of First Minister of the Crown. He main so long. His case and that of Sir Allan continued in this position till the 1st of Au-McNab form instances which go to prove how gust, 1858, when the ministry resigned in con little public men are their own masters or know sequence of a vote of the House disapproving of their own final determinations. After a retire- the choice of Ottawa by the Queen as the perment from public life equally solemn and formal, maneut seat of government of United Canada. Sir Allan McNab voluntarily came back into the After the rejection by large majorities in both arena he had quitted with something of apparent houses of the Brown-Dorion ministry, which foldisgust; and Sir E. P. Tache, after an announced lowed this resignation, Mr. Macdonald with most withdrawal from the most active duties of politi- of his colleagues, came back to office on the 6th cal life, was again, in the spring of this year, by of the same month. For one day he held the the command of the Queen's representative and office of Postmaster General, and then fell back the babe is regenerated- Seeing now, dearly and do a great many things, but when he reads the voice of the country, called back to the Pre- upon the Attorney Generalship. This change of offices, which was common to all his colleagues in Sir E. P. Tache is not a man of showy qualities the Lower House who returned to power, was or brilliant talents, but he is the most loyal and made in compliance with the terms of a statute self-sacrificing of colleagues, and thoroughly de which authorizes ministers to change from one voted to the interests of England in America. office to another, provided it be done within a He is aide-de-camp to the Queen, holds the ho- month, without the necessity of a new appeal to norary rank of a Colonel in the Army, a Knight their constituents. The opposition, questioning of the Roman order of St. Gregory, has been the legality of these changes, brought the matter deputy adjutant-general of militia, member of the before the courts of Queen's Bench and Common board of railway Commissioners, Government Di- Pleas, in both of which the decisions upheld the rector of the Grand Trunk Railway, and a mem- course taken by ministers. Mr. Macdonald continued in the Attorney Generalship till the 21st He was born at St. Thomas, below Quebec, in of May, 1862, when ministers were defeated on 1795, and is now consequently in his seventieth a scheme of public defence in the shape of a militia bill, to the alleged over-costliness of which objection was made. From that time to this a large and influential section of the English press has never ceased to declare that Canada is, if not wholly indifferent, at least not sufficiently alive to the question of defence. From the January prior to his resignation Mr. Macdonald had, in addition to the Attorney Generalship, been Minister of Militia-an office which had not before existed in Canada. Towards the Macdonald-Sicotte administration.

which followed, Mr. Macdorald, as an opposition leader, showed great forbearance, claiming for them at the outset from his party a "fair trial." It was not till the ministry brought down its budget that the opposition opened its long reserved fire. The ministry being defeated on a motion of non-confidence, reconstructed and went to the country in the summer of 1863 and returned with a majority which barely sufficed to carry them through a short session held in the autumn of that year, and rendered necessary in order to procure supplies to carry on the government. When the next regular session fairly opened la t spring ministers retreated before the coming storm. and Mr. Macdonald with his party came back to power. But they found themselves constantly harassed in a House elected under the auspices of their opponents, and before the session was over they were left in a minority. Though their advice to disolve was accepted by the Governor General, they shared the feeling common to members on both sides of the House that it was desirable if possible to avoid a dissolution. The notion that an election would make very little difference in the relative strength of parties in the House, and the advances made Mr. Brown for an union with the ministers he had opposed led to the Coalition of 1864, with its programme of

Since he entered the government in 1854, Mr. Macdonald has taken a leading part in originating and carrying many of the most liberal measures ever passed by the legislature of this country, among which stand conspicuously the secularization of the clergy reserves and the abolition of feudal land-holding in Lower Canada. He has at the same time resisted many narrow, selfish and bigoted projects, which sprung up in the Legislative Assembly, and posterity will give him credit not the less for what he has prevented than for what he has done.

Without derogation to any of its other members it must be said, if we are to trust the concurring statements which reach us from every side, that Mr. Macdonald was the master-spirit of the late Conference; and to an unusual extent the responsibility of the proposed now constitution for British North America, for good or for evil. will rest upon him. His future fame must after all mainly depend upon the success of this

GEORGE ETIENNE CARTIER. Jacques Cartier, the discoverer of Canada, we

all know, died without issue, but the subject of this notice is a descendant of the family of the great Mr. Macdonald's practice was highly lucrative, navigator, whose brother was his progenitor. and if he had remained in private life he would Born at St. Antonie on the Chambly river in to-day have been what in this country would be 1814, he is of the same age as his colleague, Mr. J. A. Macdonald, but his parliamentary experience is not so long by four years. He was first elected

Previous to the Union of the Canadas, M. Carbecause the newly risen sun of responsible governitier took great interest in politics, but Lis activity ment had for some months appeared about to set | was excited altogether outside of Parliament, He in gloom. It was unfortunate because Sir Chas. was a staunch opponent of the oligarchical system Metcalfe, bringing with him those principles of which rendered representative government a nuladministration which he had been accustomed to lity, and his whole subsequent life is a proof of the apply to India, threatened by the force of iron sincerity with which he demanded for Canada will, a lavish personal expenditure with its varied the full benefits of the British constitution and seductions, to undo the work which his predecess- shows that he was impelled by no ulterior motive. or, the mild Sir Charles Bagot, had so well begun. such as a preference of republicanism, attributed. Scarcely had he arrived at Kingston, then the and not without justice, to a few of his leading capital of the Province, when, having listened to compatriots at that period. Against the Union the recital of silly tales affecting the reputation of of the Provinces, Lower Canada made a powerful his ministers, he determined to quarrel with them. | demonstration, inundating the Imperial Parlia-Having entered on the bold step of making appointments without their advice or knowledge, it had been accomplished, all the sensible men the new Governor General provoked the resigna- among them resolved to make the best of their tion of the Lafontaine-Baldwin administration, new position. There was a few who counselled

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