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DAILY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1903.

A GROWL FROM FOSTER.

Somebody has dug Mr. Foster out of the landslide which obliterated him in North Ontario last week, and he is able to articulate once more. Mr. Foster has had himself interviewed and tries to tell how it all happened. The men in the lumber woods, he says, were not permitted to come out and vote for him as they desired. Liberal bosses put down their feet and Mr. Foster was defeated. The ex-finance minister also raises the cry of corruption, forgetting that in every campaign in which he was a candidate the Tory barrel was freely opened to secure his election.

Mr. Foster has also some observations to make respecting the result of the local elections in this province, and blames that bad man Blair for the opposition defeat. Mr. Foster says that \$100,000 was spent to save the local government, and of course having been confined to a sick room at Toronto during the contest he had unrivalled means of keeping in close touch with the situation. He declares that \$20,000 was spent in Westmorland, by whom he does not aver, but as the information was furnished by Senator Wood the inference is natural that the amount was put up to elect the opposition ticket in that constituency. This information agrees exactly with the Herald's advice from Westmorland. Just before the election Mr. Powell was here, and boasted that unitedly the Westmorland opposition team represented \$400,000, and could scarcely be beaten, so that they could easily put up \$5,000 a piece.

Mr. Foster is feeling sore, hence his growl. He is a man whose political ambitions have been blighted, and he is grumpy. He does not forgive Mr. Blair for wiping him out in St. John, and he is vindictive against the minister. He thought he would walk into parliament through North Ontario but a mere boy, a political novice, defeated him, and he is despairing. Poor Foster, a dignified silence would become him better than a bilious growl over his hard luck. He should hide his envy of more successful men, rather than exhibit his malice and untruthfulness before a non-appreciative people. Mr. Foster is politically dead for the present at least; he may be resurrected some day, but in the meantime, Canada is getting along finely without his assistance, and will continue to flourish during his enforced retirement.

FIGHTING LEGISLATORS.

If the legislators continue to warm up to their work as they have been doing recently, it will be necessary for political aspirants to first become proficient in the manly art of self defence. The Herald has already mentioned an exciting incident in the Ontario legislature, in which Mr. Whitney, opposition leader, shook his clenched fist threateningly at Premier Ross, and now the scene of sanguinary conflict is transferred to the Quebec assembly, where Premier Parent came into physical collision with Mr. Pelletier of the opposition. It appears that a Quebec city bill was up before the house in committee. Just as adjournment was being made Pelletier was pleading for a pause providing for the election of the mayor by popular vote. In the confusion of members departing, Pelletier went up to the speaker and presented a motion to that effect, when Premier Parent rushed at him, thrust him aside forcibly, and would have struck him with his fist but for the intervention of another member, who forcibly restrained him. Pelletier preferred a charge against the premier and it was referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

One of the hottest times ever witnessed in the House of Commons at Ottawa was the wordy collision between Sir John Macdonald and Sir Chas. Tupper on the one side, and the present Lord Strathcona then Donald Smith on the other. It occurred just before prorogation, and the epithets exchanged were of a most emphatic character. "That fellow Smith is the biggest liar I ever knew," was Sir John's parting shot as Black Rod summoned the commoners to the senate chamber for prorogation.

We sincerely trust that none of the New Brunswick legislators are coming to Fredericton next week in a belligerent frame of mind. We have had some hot fights in the New Brunswick house, but in recent years at least, no personal assaults.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

Any satisfaction which certain extreme Tories were taking out of the alleged continued ill health of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, has been dispelled by the Premier's appearance and activity in parliament. The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe says: "Everybody is delighted with the speech made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in reply to the opposition leader, during the debate on the address. The Prime Minister spoke for an hour, and when he finished was as fresh and free from fatigue as at the starting, which proved him to be in excellent health."

The correspondent of the Montreal Herald says:—"The most interesting feature of the debate was the certificate of physical fitness given the Premier by the leader of the opposition and by his first lieutenant Mr. Monk. The heartiest congratulations on return to health were extended to Sir Wilfrid Laurier by both Mr. Borden and Mr. Monk. It is evident Sir Wilfrid has still many years left to lead and to live. Today, if ever before in his life, he looked and spoke like a man at the zenith of physical and mental powers."

Sir Wilfrid has delivered two energetic speeches in the house since the debate on the address, and gave evidence of his old time vigor, repelling in eloquent terms the attacks which Mr. McLean made on Governor Mowatt of Ontario. The member for East York is very much concerned lest Sir Oliver's feeble condition may in some way interfere with the Tory effort to seize the government of that province as a result of the Gamey charges, but Sir Wilfrid declared that the governor's mental faculties are strong and active, and that it would be unwise to make a charge, for the very reason that a political crisis exists in Ontario.

The premier's vigor delights his friends and confounds his enemies, some of whom are mean enough to desire political profit from Sir Wilfrid's alleged physical weakness, which however is abundantly

disproved by the events of the past week in Parliament.

THE SENATE IS LIBERAL.

The Conservatives no longer rule the Senate of Canada, and Sir Mackenzie Bowell's day of dictation has passed. The red chamber is composed of 43 Liberals and 38 Conservatives, divided according to provinces as follows:

	CON.	LIB.
Ontario.....	11	13
Quebec.....	11	13
New Brunswick.....	3	7
Nova Scotia.....	5	5
Prince Edward Island.....	2	3
British Columbia.....	2	1
Manitoba.....	2	2
North-West Territories.....	2	..
Total.....	38	43

In addition to the above the seat of Senator Mason, Conservative, of Quebec, who has not attended for two sessions will be declared vacant and a Liberal successor appointed, so that in a full house the government majority would be seven. It will be larger than that however, for four Conservative senators, O'Brien, Dickey, Gowan and Aikens will be unable to take their seats because of the infirmities of age, so that the government majority in a full house will be eleven.

During the first few sessions after the advent of the Liberal government some of its most important measures were blocked by the Conservative majority in the Senate, but that will no longer be possible. The Liberals predominate by strong majorities in both chambers of parliament, and will execute the will of the majority of the Canadian people.

Hon. James R. Stratton, provincial secretary in the Ontario government, at present under a cloud, is by profession a journalist, and owns the Peterboro Review, a flourishing daily newspaper. Few people believe that he would fall such an easy victim to a man of Gamey's stamp, and although the circumstances appear suspicious, Mr. Stratton's friends express the conviction that he will emerge unscathed from his present trials. As for Gamey he is a self convicted pimp, informer and betrayer.

The steamers Minto and Stanley, imprisoned for several weeks in the ice of the Northumberland straits, are at last free, and regular communication between the main land and P. E. Island will be re-established. The time is not very distant when a tunnel under the straits will be a commercial necessity.

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Cash Prizes

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\$7 for best collection vegetables,
\$3 for second best collection Vegetables,
\$3 for best and largest exhibit Sweet Peas,
\$2 for second best and largest exhibit of Sweet Peas.

Seeds to be purchased direct from W. Atlee Burpee, Philadelphia, or from Burpee's Fredericton Agent,

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