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W. K. C. PARLEE, L. C. MACNUTT,
Manager. Editor.

DAILY HERALD.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1903.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

Mr. Gamey, the Ontario, M. P. P. who charges a member of the government of that province with having bought the former's support by a cash payment of \$4,000, is certainly the centre of political interest in Canada at the present moment.

Gamey tells a plausible story of the negotiations, and of the trap he laid to catch the government, but in the face of Hon. Mr. Stratton's denial the public will not believe the provincial secretary guilty unless in the investigation that is to follow there is evidence strongly corroborative of Gamey's allegations.

One can scarcely believe that a politician of Mr. Stratton's experience and sagacity would permit himself to be led into openly bargaining for Gamey's support much less paying the money over personally to the gentlemen who pretended he was for sale. While it may be true that Sullivan was trying to work the member for Manitoulin in the interests of the government, he may have proceeded to the business without the authorization of the government beyond an understanding that if Gamey supported the administration he would be permitted to distribute the patronage in his constituency. Mr. Stratton does not deny that he had dealings with Gamey in that direction, and there is nothing dishonorable in that, but it will take stronger evidence than has yet been offered to convince the fair minded people of the country that a minister of the crown was a party to the absolute purchase of a member of the legislature, paying over the money and taking delivery of the goods.

However the charges Gamey has made demand the most serious attention and thorough investigation, and it is to the credit of Premier Ross that he lost not an instant in providing the means for probing the matter to the bottom before a tribunal that is independent of party influences. The premier's example is in striking contrast to the course pursued by the Conservative leaders in the House of Commons when the late Mr. Hanington made the Canadian Pacific Railway charges, and when Mr. Tarte formulated his accusations against Sir Hector Langevin and his comrades in corruption. On those occasions every possible difficulty was thrown in the way of complete investigation of the charges.

If Stratton is guilty of the charge preferred against him he should be driven from public life, and in any case Gamey's political career should come to a speedy conclusion.

The country has been greatly shocked by the revelations, but is fair enough to suspend judgment until there is full and free investigation. Nearly twenty years ago the Ontario legislature furnished a similar sensation. Sir Oliver Mowatt then premier had a very narrow majority in the House, and a brazen attempt was made by Tory manipulators to purchase the support of two Liberal members. "The brawling brood of bribers" as they came to be called, were frustrated, their plot was exposed and the whole country wondered at their audacity.

We trust that no Liberal minister in that province has soiled his hands in fathering or executing such a disreputable business as is charged by Gamey of Manitoulin.

PARLIAMENT MAKES A START.

The first debate of the parliamentary session at Ottawa was marked by brevity and the best of good feeling. In a single sitting the address was passed after speeches by the mover, seconder, the opposition leader, the premier, an opposition lieutenant, and the two free lances Charlton and Bourassa. The speeches dealt with matters of national concern and appear to have been entirely free from cheap political banter which too frequently mark such occasions.

All Canadians will note with pleasure that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is apparently in good health, and was able to speak with his old time vigor and eloquence, and that Mr. Borden spoke in kindly terms of his great opponent's restoration.

Quite a number of things have happened in Canadian political circles since Sir Wilfrid and Mr. Borden faced each other in parliament. The Tarte incident, the effort to revive Mr. Foster's political career and other topics uppermost in the public mind were not touched on in the debate on the address, but are bound to crop up later when the parties get warmed up to their work. Sir Wilfrid has promised to explain the Tarte matter at an early date, and it is safe to say that the ex-minister, will put in some word of explanation as to the causes that led to his expulsion from the cabinet.

Parliament has most important questions to deal with during the present session, which according to some political prophets may be the last before another appeal to the people.

Mr. C. N. Skinner who is the solicitor for the company seeking legislative authority to acquire a number of railway charters and lines in this province, as outlined in yesterday's Herald, says that the object is to provide means for one of the great railway corporations of Canada to reach the Atlantic seaboard. A Montreal despatch intimates that the Grand Trunk is seeking to reach St. John, and piecing these statements together, it is possible to arrive at the conclusion that Fredericton and the St. John river valley generally, may yet enjoy the boon of a direct line of railway to the great centres of population and activity.

Friends of Mr. Rufus Curry of Windsor, N. S., who declines a senatorship, are making an effort to induce him to reconsider his decision. Mr. Curry has actually been appointed, and if he continues to decline the position it will be necessary for him to formally resign. Mr. Curry is an ex-mayor of Windsor, and is reported to be worth \$100,000. He is 48 years old, and much engrossed in private business matters. A couple of years ago he was a visitor in Fredericton on his wedding trip. Mr. Curry is a near relative of Rev. Willard Macdonald, pastor of St. Paul's church in this city.

Perhaps the Gamey charges against Mr. Stratton have no more real foundation than H. H. Cooke's allegation that the Liberals offered him a senatorship for \$10,000.

The announcement may be expected from Toronto any day now that Mr. Foster declares he is out of politics.

One Common Cause of Headache.

The most general cause of headache and pain across the eyes is nasal catarrh. The simplest cure is to inhale the medicated vapor of Catarrhzone which traverses every air cell and air passage of the throat lungs and nose. It kills myriads of germs at every breath, clears away mucous discharges, preserves and heals the membrane. Catarrhzone is just a splendid remedy for headache, and its action is certain and unfailing in diseases of the Throat and Lungs, Deafness, Bronchitis, Asthma and Catarrh. A trial will convince the most sceptical that Catarrhzone is all right. Large size, \$1.00; trial size 25c. Druggists, or Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

Dr. Hamilton's Pills cure Constipation.

John Kilburn expects to return to the headwaters of the St. John next week to look after his lumbering operations.

The New Coal Company.

Letters patent incorporating The Consolidated Coal Co., Ltd., were granted Thursday. This corporation are now operating the Crawford mines at Salmon Bay, Quebec Co., and propose to instal at once increased plant and facilities for handling their product. This coal is admitted to be the best bituminous yet discovered in the provinces and several large orders already received by the company for shipments of coal on the opening of navigation indicate a very prosperous career for this progressive corporation. A feature of the promotion of this company is the issue of its 7 per cent. gold bonds, with semi-annual coupons payable at the People's Bank, Fredericton. The promoters of the company apparently have looked well over the situation and their idea is issuing 7 per cent. gold bonds ought to appeal to the conservative investor.

H A Hilyard of St John is a guest at the Queen.

Don't You Miss It

Arctic Rink.

Monday Evening March 16

HOCKEY Trojans vs. B. & B.

Final game in the League Series. This will be the most sensational game of the season. Both Teams are determined to win the Silver Trophy. Who will get it?

Admission to all 25c



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Cash Prizes

W. Atlee Burpee, the Philadelphia seed house, offers the following cash prizes to be given at the Provincial Exhibition at Fredericton next fall:

\$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.

City Hall Geo. Y. Dibblee
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Carpet Remnants

We are showing some splendid bargains in remnants of Carpets in different lengths. See lower window for Prices. We are also showing a splendid line of Spring Carpets in

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