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DAILY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1904.

DUNDONALD DISMISSED.

The government has passed an order in council cancelling the appointment of Lord Dundonald, commander-in-chief of the Canadian militia for "a grave act of indiscretion and insubordination," and everybody not blinded by partizan prejudice will applaud Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues in the course they have taken.

To have retained the commander-in-chief after his gross attack on a leading member of the government, who in the discharge of his responsible duties to the country, found it necessary to interfere in an important matter of administration, would have been incompatible with the enjoyment of privileges and prerogatives with which the government as representative of the people is clothed under the constitution. The administration for the time being is charged with the making of all appointments to the federal service of Canada, whether civil or military, and to have abdicated that authority for a moment, would have been to dodge the responsibility committed to them.

The power of recommending officers for the militia force rests with the commander-in-chief, but their appointment is only within the authority of the ministers of the crown. Lord Dundonald, is seeking to officer a new regiment with untrained and unqualified men selected evidently for partizan purposes, showed an utter lack of judgment and discretion, and in attempting to force these appointments on the government against the expressed opinion of the acting minister of militia, displayed discourtesy and insubordination that cannot be excused. His subsequent action in delivering an abusive harangue against Mr. Fisher before a gathering of the commander's subordinates, was equally inexcusable and in itself constituted sufficient reason for his dismissal, and to add to his offences the commander placed whatever explanation he had to make in the hands of an opponent of the ministry instead of sending it to parliament through the medium of the minister of militia.

With these facts in view then, there was no other course open to the government but to end Lord Dundonald's connection with the Canadian militia, and the government would not have done its duty to itself and this country had they failed to give the commander his discharge. The question resolved itself to this, who shall rule in military matters, the government responsible to the people for every act of administration, or its servant temporarily employed in the management of the militia service.

An attempt is being made to make a martyr of Lord Dundonald, but it will fail. The weight of testimony is overwhelmingly against the course he has pursued, and public opinion in the mother country as well as in Canada, supports the government in its action. Such influential newspapers as the London Times and the London Daily News, strongly condemn Lord Dundonald and sustain the government, and he will find little sympathy when he returns to England.

It is a thousand pities that Lord Dundonald's dismissal became imperative. He has proved himself an

excellent officer, and enjoyed a large degree of popularity in the force which he so efficiently commanded. Nobody attempts to detract either from his brilliant war record or the splendid manner in which he has performed his duties in Canada, but when he attempted to rule the roost in this free country which made many sacrifices and suffered many ills in its efforts to secure responsible government, he usurped functions not his, pursuing a course that in more than one province of Canada resulted in the recall of governors, and predecessors of the noble Lord in the position of commander-in-chief. Canada glories in her British connection, but she has equal pride in her power of self-government, and long, long ago she passed the stage of being ruled by any titled official who might be temporarily exercising functions as a paid servant of the people, even though he came direct from Downing Street or some glorious battle field of the Empire.

The conclusion of Lord Dundonald's tenure of office will probably see the end of imported commanders for the Canadian militia. Parliament has given the ministry the power to select a Canadian to head the militia, and we have men in this country well qualified for the position.

AN ILL BRED SNEER.

In his Montreal harangue Lord Dundonald sneered at Hon. Sydney Fisher as a farmer, leaving the inference that farmers are not in it with soldiers. It is true that Mr. Fisher is a farmer and a very progressive one; it is also true that he is the best minister of agriculture Canada has ever had, and it is still further true that he is a graduate of the University of Cambridge, and in educational qualifications, is quite the equal, if not superior to Lord Dundonald, whose sneers at a farmer will not strengthen his case among that class of people in Canada.

Dundonald should stand his ground and let the government take the responsibility of demanding his recall, if it dare.—Moncton Times.

The Times will observe that both things have happened, Dundonald stood his ground and the government has dared to dismiss him. It would, however, have been much better for His Lordship to have taken the hint, resigned and saved himself the humiliation of dismissal.

The budget debate in parliament is drawing to a close and may be concluded this evening. The principal speakers at Tuesday's sitting were Mr. Borden and the premier. The former moved an amendment in favor of a thorough readjustment of the tariff, and was ably answered by Sir Wilfrid. It looks now as if prerogation may take place about the middle of July.

Fredericton is glad to welcome the members of the Methodist Conference. They visit us at a time when nature shows how prodigal she has been in showering this city with beauty and this condition coupled with the hospitality of our people will go far towards making the visitors' sojourn pleasant and profitable.

It is officially denied in London that Earl Grey has been appointed Governor General of Canada.

SAD FATALITY.

Frederick King of Magundy Crushed

BY THE WHEELS OF A CAR

While Loading Logs at Magaguadavic Siding.

DIED AT THE VICTORIA HOSPITAL AFTER AMPUTATION HAD BEEN PERFORMED.

Yesterday afternoon while Frederick King, of Magundy, York County, was engaged in loading logs on board a flat car at Magaguadavic Station for Coun. Thomas Robison, he received injuries which resulted fatally. The young fellow, by some mishap, fell in front of a moving car loaded with logs. John Alexander, a fellow worker, heroically jumped to his rescue but was unable to fully clear him from the track, owing to the siding being narrow and another car standing on the directly opposite track.

The wheels of two trucks passed over King's legs below the knee. Dr. Murray of Fredericton Junction, arrived on the scene as soon as possible and did all in his power to alleviate the sufferings of the injured man. He was brought to the Victoria Hospital by the late train last evening, and both limbs were amputated above the knee by Drs. Geo. J. McNally, J. W. Bridges and Marray. The unfortunate young man died an hour after surgery had unavailingly stretched out her arm to save him.

The victim of the accident was about twenty years of age and unmarried. He was known as an industrious young man and had a large circle of friends who mourn his sad and untimely death. The body was prepared for burial by Undertaker Hanlon, and will be taken to Magundy this evening for interment.

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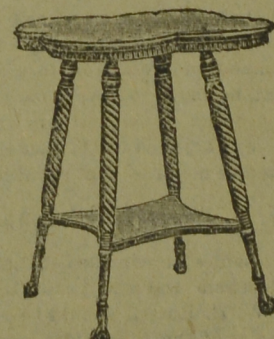
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