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DAILY HERALD

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KEPT HIS PROMISE.

Some weeks ago members of the city council and other prominent citizens laid a memorial before Hon. Dr. Pugsley, Minister of Public Works, requesting that the federal government extend aid for the construction of much needed wharf accommodation in this city.

It was pointed out at that time that parliament had recognized the principle of erecting wharves on navigable inland waters, and that Fredericton's claim was a just and reasonable one.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley, in his reply to the memorialists, admitted the justice of the claim, and promised that his department would look into the matter, with a view to meeting the citizens' request, and he is keeping his promise.

Today an engineer from Dr. Pugsley's department, is here investigating, and if his report is favorable, as is anticipated, Fredericton will soon reap the benefit of the memorialists' move of a few weeks ago, and the sympathetic, practical interest of the Minister of Public Works.

The citizens made a request for \$20,000 from the government, and it is quite probable that Dr. Pugsley at the next session of parliament will ask for an appropriation to cover the cost of the proposed new wharves.

NOT A PLEASANT GATHERING.

The gentlemen who compose the local government are here today to discuss their differences and incidentally to give some consideration to the public business.

The meeting is not likely to be a harmonious one, nor is it likely that public questions will receive as much attention as the bickerings which have arisen between members of the executive over certain conditions which arose in Northumberland within the past few weeks.

It is well known that a certain section of the cabinet backed by friends outside, including the leading Tory newspapers, are demanding the dismissal of one member of the government for reasons which had their origin prior to the late unpleasantness on the North Shore, but which were accentuated by what has happened there, and if they can force the Premier's hand there will soon be a vacant portfolio, towards which a supporter of the government in the legislature is casting a longing eye.

Mr. Hazen himself would like to take action along that line, but for his own political safety he dare not do it.

Mr. Morrissey is in a position to dictate terms to his leader, for without his support the government would fall to pieces, and unless the Chief Commissioner voluntarily retires from the executive, and casts in his lot with the Liberal party, Mr. Hazen will continue to present the pretence of a coalition government until the electors get their hands on that wonderful combination.

A government member who comes back to his executive duties shorn of his power in his own constituency, is the provincial secretary, who is humiliated by the election of an opposition candidate in Carleton. Mr. Fleming thought he was supreme there, but the electors have shown him that he was living in a fool's paradise, and that short though the government's record has been, it has merited and received public condemnation in one of the most intelligent constituencies of the province.

MR. BURCHILL'S RETURN.

Hon. J. P. Burchill, M. P. P., is home from his health seeking trip to the United States, and is reported in good physical shape. Mr. Burchill, however, has turned down the interviewer who wanted him to talk politics, observing that he would shortly make his position known.

Several things have happened in Northumberland during Mr. Burchill's absence from his home, and one of them affects him personally.

His political friends took a notion to elect him to the legislature, and they had little trouble in bringing about that desirable condition.

Mr. Burchill will learn, however, in talking over the latest news with his neighbors and friends that various misrepresentations of his political attitude were made by those who sought his defeat, and that new alliances have been formed and old ones dissolved as the result of the contest from which he emerged victorious, without any effort on his own part.

It was a great compliment to Mr. Burchill's reputation and standing in his constituency that he could stay out of the country and yet defeat a strong political opponent, backed by a party that only a few months ago reckoned its majority in Northumberland by many hundreds.

No doubt Mr. Burchill appreciates

the official honor, but he may not relish the efforts that some of the campaigners made to misrepresent his position. Primarily Mr. Burchill is a Liberal—the head of that party's organization in Northumberland, and he is not likely to stand for any party or government, whose chief aim is to pull down and destroy the Liberal party. In addition to that Mr. Burchill is a fair minded man—one who looks on political questions in a common sense, level headed, practical manner, and while he may not present a factious opposition to the powers that be in provincial politics, there is no likelihood that he is going to desert his party friends to give aid and comfort to the Conservatives, either in the legislature or out of it.

Northumberland is lucky to again secure Mr. Burchill's services in a representative capacity, and it may be taken for granted that he will exercise a wise discretion and mature judgment on the floors of the House, in which he has already had an extended experience.

THE FACTORY INSPECTOR.

The St. John Globe says Mr. Hazen has decided to dismiss Capt. McMullen, factory inspector, although, as the Globe observes, "no fault is found with the way he has discharged his duties." The Globe adds that some of the St. John members are not satisfied to have Capt. McMullen continued in office, and that they have recommended Mr. John Kenney for the position. If Capt. McMullen is dismissed it will be because he is a Liberal, appointed by the late government, and thus will Mr. Morrissey be able to observe the beauties of a coalition government, from which only Tories receive consideration, and by which only Liberals are punished.

There is no charge of partizanship against Capt. McMullen, there is no suggestion that he has not faithfully discharged his duties, but he is a Liberal, his office is wanted for a Tory and these are sufficient reasons for the exercise of Mr. Hazen's official axe. It would seem only reasonable that the factory inspector should not be sacrificed without an enquiry, and perhaps one higher in authority than the government itself will feel called upon to invite the executive to give some plausible excuse for cutting off the head of a capable official before agreeing to that proposition.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Mr. Burchill's official majority in Northumberland was 192, and Mr. Uphim's in Carleton 98.

It does look queer to see such a good Liberal as Mr. Morrissey in his present political company.

The Hindoos who have taken up their homes in British Columbia absolutely refuse deportation to Honduras, and who would blame them.

There will be more Liberal official heads dropped into the Tory basket during the local government's present meeting if Mr. Hazen can manage it.

Chatham World, (Tory): What Mr. Morrissey has shown Mr. Hazen, is his ability to defeat a government supporter and elect the candidate of the opposition.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley is a gentleman who keeps his promises, and Fredericton has every reason to believe that he intends securing the grant for wharves in this city.

Commodore Stewart is still discussing the Northumberland bye-election, and he seems to feel very sore over the result, especially directing his pen against Mr. Morrissey.

Mr. Hazen has made the Kentucky race horse purchase without the authority of the legislature, and without even the recommendation of the agricultural committee of that body. It was a bold step for even so bold a statesman as Mr. Hazen.

Premier Hazen has not been known to publicly open his mouth since the recent local bye-elections. The same with Mr. Fleming. There are circumstances under which silence is golden, and Messrs. Hazen and Fleming recognize the force of that truth.

While the local government is in session, no doubt the members of that body will send a message of sympathy to the spindle legged Kentucky race horses, cruelly detained in the blue grass state, when they are eager to reach their adopted home in New Brunswick.

The Sydney Post, referring to Rev. Dr. Smith's removal from that city to Fredericton, observes: "He has gone to a country of zero weather and 18 inches of snow." Yes, but he has left a country of eternal fog and ice cakes from the frozen north, blocking the coast waters until the end of June.

Fredericton will cordially welcome Mr. Boyd, the new American Consular agent, to residence here, although regretting that the regulation of the State department of the Republic rendered necessary the retirement of Mr. James T. Sharkey, who for many years faithfully discharged the duties of that office.

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