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Lindsay, March 23rd, 1878. 958

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The subscriber has just received a Second supply of

NEW YORK CLUB SKATES,

Fair, light, and quality unsurpassed. Prices lower than any other house.

Highest Price paid in exchange for Old Stock.

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Comprising Cake Baskets, Cream Pitchers, Pickle Stands, Butter Coolers, Fruit Stands, Cake Stands, Napkin Rings, Cups, Pie Knives, Butter Knives, Sugar Shovels, &c. Quality of the goods will be guaranteed and only a small advance in manufacturers' cost.

Having received

Five Hundred Tons of Coal,

Intend keeping the market well supplied during the ensuing season, the Stock of

Iron, Steel, Axes, Heavy and Shelf Hardware

Is large and well assorted.

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Lindsay, April 5th, 1878. 958

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Amounts of $4 and upwards received on Deposit at current rates. Interest allowed half yearly. Interest compound on amounts of $500 and upwards. Drafts on all parts of Europe and Ireland, Britain and Canada, for sale. Collections promptly attended to. Money to Loan on Mortgages. Sterling Exchange bought and sold. Gold and Silver Bought. Interest allowed on Deposits. Wm. Ross, Agent of Bank of Montreal, Lindsay, Agent for Mutual Life Assurance Co. of Canada. Office, Kent Street, Lindsay.

Reform Nominations.

SOUTH VICTORIA

Ontario Legislature Hon S. C. Wood.
House of Commons John Connolly, Reeve of Ops.

NORTH VICTORIA

House of Commons Jas. Macnamara, Q. C., Toronto.
Ontario Legislature James Dickson, E. S. Peneion Falls.

Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, APR 19, 1878.

"A TYPE OF PROTECTION."

We have been afforded some entertainment by the frothing and raging efforts of the Protectionist Peterboro *Review* to disprove the well grounded charge of a western cotemporary that in procuring a new "dress" it did fel oniously to the cause of Protection and with malice aforethought to the depressed industries of this country pass by the Canadian type maker and patronize the "foreigner," otherwise the "pauper labour" of England. Previous to this daring act of inconsistency our western cotemporary was in the innocence of its heart firmly persuaded that your average Canadian Protectionist was ready not "simply to give his means, but, if necessary to shed his life's blood in the interest of Canadian manufactures," but this impression has been rudely dissipated by the *Review*'s two trade practices. The *Review*, like a good many other Tory organs and politicians, is a living demonstration of the hollowness of its professions of patriotism and protection, as well as the weakness of the cause it preaches for the benefit of other consumers than itself. Our Peterboro cotemporary essays to twist the charge into "another illustration of the necessity for protection for our native industries," but it would have been more to its credit if it had imitated the candour of a certain American newspaper publisher who, having done precisely what the *Review* has done, was asked how he could reconcile his practice with his profession. "Wal'al," said the Colonel, "he held high rank in his party and would soon be promoted to a Brigadier General, shu." "Wal'al, the *Star Spangled Banner* has always advocated Protection to our native industries and our party has always supported that policy, but you see although I am a Protectionist in principle (*I have a free trade pocket*), slapping that capacious receptacle wherein good gold or honest silver coin had not jingled for many a long year."

The *Review* has evidently a *free trade pocket* and does not scruple to violate the principles it preaches for the guidance of other industries. We do not blame the *Review* for obtaining from the celebrated Miller & Richard foundry perhaps the best and cheapest and most durable type made in the world, but as it has done this we call upon it to abandon the advocacy of Protection or stand convicted before the world of inconsistency and selfishness.

Even as a Protectionist it cannot advocate the imposition of a duty upon foreign type for type is the equivalent of raw material for a very large native industry, and it is we believe claimed to be a principle of protection to encourage or facilitate the importation of all such articles. Therefore the *Review* should devote its energies to advocating the abolition of the duty on type. Shall the thousands of printers and publishers in the Dominion be taxed heavily in order to secure enormous or large profits for one or two small concerns giving employment to no more than are employed in the Lindsay and Peterboro printing offices alone. This would be the result if the Tory Protectionists had their way.

This, too, is the question that is agitating the printing business of the United States. It is not the "thin edge of the Protectionist wedge" that is being driven in there. To such a pass have things come that the eleven type founders already enormously protected have formed a ring and by lobby influence at Washington have secured in the Wood Tariff Bill now before Congress an advance that will make the duty from 30 per cent. to 120 per cent. according to the size and style of the type! A considerable quantity of Miller & Richard type has been sold across the border by the Toronto agency, and an agency was recently opened at San Francisco; but the new tariff would be completely prohibitory; and up would go the price of American type from 25 to 50 per cent. in spite of the fact that improved machinery for casting and lower wages and expenses should make it cheaper. Of the eleven foundries all are wealthy and long established with one or two exceptions, where there has been mismanagement, inefficiency or over-production. American newspapers irrespective of party or economic lines are vigorously protesting against the proposed extortion, and protesting in a way that will be felt at Washington and in the constituencies. They have organized not merely to oppose the advance but to get the duty abolished altogether on the ground, briefly, that "cheap" in other words, free trade in type means cheap books, "cheap papers and the education of "the masses," and that the fewness of the manufacturers would make combination an easy matter. The present almost prohibitory tax of 25 per cent. benefits a dozen men at the expense of twenty thousand master-printers; what benefit would not the greedy monopolists receive if the duty were to be advanced to 50 and 120 per cent. Quite a number of American newspapers point out a fact not less important than the duty, viz, that the American type is inferior, soft and short-lived as compared with the hard, clear, Scotch type, while the latter gives a larger quantity to the pound, an item worth considering especially in the requirements of the larger offices.

The lesson Canadians can derive from the costly experience of our neighbours is not to allow monopolists to secure control of legislatures and make or unmake tariffs at their own will, but to maintain a revenue tariff, at the same time affording in the imposition of duties reasonable encouragement and assistance to our manufacturing industries.

"THE CONSTITUTIONAL" DEBATE.

Never was debate opened with the mock dramatic solemnity Sir John Macdonald so well knows how to assume, brought to a conclusion so inglorious and disgraceful in so far as mere speaking is concerned as that upon the great Quebec "constitutional question." It was a party dodge of the Opposition and not to an honest desire for full discussion is mainly owing the contest of endurance and speaking against time which occurred last Friday night and Saturday, the object being to prevent the result of the vote reaching the Quebec meetings held after mass on Sunday. By Friday midnight the subject was apparently exhausted, and nothing of any value or sense was after that time contributed to the discussion, and although "a little nonsense now and then is relished by the best of men" the spectacle presented by the House is not one that the people can contemplate with approval, aside altogether from the "drunkenness and disorderly conduct" that was painfully prevalent. We hope for the credit of country and Parliament that such proceedings will not occur again.

The proposition offered by Sir John Macdonald, from which such great results were expected, betrayed that wily politician's characteristic unwillingness to state his idea in plain, unmistakeable terms. The resolution declared "that the recent dismissal by "the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Quebec of his Ministry was, "under the circumstances, unwise and "subversive of the position accorded to "the advisor of the Crown since the "concession of the principle of Responsible Government to the British "North American Colonies." If Sir John had been desirous of crystallizing into proper parliamentary form the fiery speeches of Tory stump orators and the frantic articles of Tory organs he would have declared the dismissal "unconstitutional, tyrannical, "and fraught with dire consequences "to the liberties of the people." But instead he proposed the foregoing milk and water amendment, the absurdity of which is apparent to every intelligent and unpartisan reader. Sir John's speech is rather interesting reading, thanks to his liberal extracts from Freeman, Bagehot, and other authorities in support of his contention. He drew a nice and proper distinction between acts of the crown that might be legal but not constitutional, and once got to the point of declaring what his resolution does not affirm that the conduct of Governor Letellier was "unwise and unconstitutional." We observe, too, that the phrase is "quoted" in the Tory reports and will probably soon do duty in those organs as the exact text of the resolution in question.

The position of the Government is quite clear and proper. The question is one which is now before the people of Quebec and should be pronounced upon by them uninfluenced in the least by the censure or approval of the Dominion Parliament. Such an expression at the present stage of affairs would prove a serious injury to our federal system, and a greater outrage upon popular freedom than the most partisan Tory can torture out of Governor Letellier's conduct. This is not the period of the question when the House could be properly called upon to review the case, and taking this position the Ministerialists were estopped from further exposition of the question. If the Opposition leader had no party object in view he should have waited until after the provincial elections, and at the next session he could have laid down the constitutional principles which he affects warmly to cherish. Under the circumstances the House very properly rejected the amendment by a majority of forty-two on a strict party vote.

Peterboro *Examiner*:—While the Peterboro *Review* strongly advocates the imposition of a duty on coal, this is the way the Port Hope *Times*, another "national policy" paper, talks of it: "A deceptive howl has been raised over the one item of coal, which is admitted free, and there is no doubt it will continue to be so admitted, at least into this province, for as we do not produce the article, and as we must necessarily buy our supply from the Americans, *there is no doubt Sir John Macdonald is too much of a statesman to collect his revenue upon such an indispensable article.*" This is but one instance among many that arises among Opposition papers, and Opposition members in the House too when any article is singled out whereon to base a "readjustment of the tariff" on what Sir John Macdonald so very humbly calls a "scientific and artistic basis." The fact is no material change could be made in the present tariff without disastrous consequences to the already depressed commercial world of Canada.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—Prorogation is expected by the second week in May.

—The Imperial Parliament has adjourned for the Easter holidays—the Commons to the 6th and the Lords to the 13th May.

—The Supreme Court has decided the Jacques-Cartier election case in favour of Mr. Laflamme, and dismissed the appeal against the decision in favour of Mr. Langevin in the Charlevoix case.

—Ottawa correspondents mention that the Hon. A. J. Smith has been offered and has accepted the honour of Knighthood, in recognition of his services in connection with the Halifax Fishery Commission.

—Mr. W. R. Aylesworth, Warden of Hastings, has been chosen the Reform candidate for the East Riding of that county. Mr. John Burnham, Warden of Peterboro, is the Conservative candidate for East Peterboro. Mr. C. W. Bunting, the proprietor of the *Mail*, has been appointed the Tory candidate for Welland by the U. E. Club, and the appointment has been ratified by a convention.

—Oshawa *Reformer*: "What a beautiful thing is Tory protection. They wish to put a duty on iron to help the smelting industry, and another on coal to help the miners. Iron and coal are the raw material for nearly every manufacture in the province, and a duty on these articles would inevitably lead to an increase in prices, a reduction of sales, and a consequent lessening of production and discharge of workmen."

—A cable despatch received by Mr. Mackenzie states that the British Government have agreed to relax the clause of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon's Cattle Disease Bill, which requires Canadian cattle to be slaughtered at the port of entry. Cattle from the Dominion will be admitted on the same conditions as Irish cattle. This satisfactory result has been brought about by the prompt and effective action of the Canadian Government. Farmers should not forget this when called upon to vote.

—For political purposes a rumour has been started by the enemy to the effect that Hon. S. C. Wood is to be appointed Auditor General of the Dominion. Mr. Wood is fully competent to discharge the duties of this responsible office, but we have no doubt the position of Treasurer of Ontario, which is nearly as permanent as the Ottawa office, will claim him for many years to come, and will afford a more congenial field for the exercise of his financial and parliamentary abilities.

Mr. D. MacRae, M. P. P., has been in town this week, and we are pleased to observe that his health has greatly improved under the treatment received in London. Mr. MacRae takes, of course, a deep interest in politics just now, and it was noticeable that he was enquiring affectionately after the health of the North Riding people, and if "the cars" was well, and if the roads were good, and so on. This was natural, under the circumstances, for Mr. MacRae expects to be a candidate for re-election, and he certainly has very strong claims for the position.

Woodstock *Sentinel*: "Mr. John Leys, of Toronto, one of the witnesses before the Senate Kaministiquia Committee, took the starch out of Senator Aikens *et al* the other day when he informed them that he had invested in lands at Nepigon because he had discovered in the Crown Lands office numerous applications for lands in that district from the relatives of Sir Hugh Allan, Senator Aikens and other prominent Tories who were likely to be well informed of the late Government's intentions about the location of the Pacific Railway line and terminus. This put him on the scent and hence his investments in that district."

The *Wanderer* ridicules the nomination of a Catholic by the Reform party, and endeavours to strengthen its contention by this elegant way of calling the South Victoria Reformers a set of thieves and criminals: "No man who has been prevented from committing a sin because of physical incapacity, and no thief who has been prevented from filching a purse because he has had his hands held in check by what are known in police circles as 'the darbies' can very well boast, without being laughed at, of either his excessive virtue or his remarkable honesty." This is one gem out of a dozen that could be picked out of the *Wanderer* this week.

Properly, from their standpoint, the Tories of the North Riding in Convention at Fenelon Falls, responded last Monday, by a nomination to Mr. Hector Cameron's gentle hint that "in the event of their again honouring him with the confidence of the party as their candidate for the House of Commons they could rely upon his strenuous exertions to retain the seat he now occupies in the House of Commons." It was well that Mr. Cameron put in the clause about "strenuous exertions," for he will require a good deal of that material and even then he may expect to be beaten again. The convention ought to have passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Cameron for his "strenuous efforts" to secure "protection" for our lumbering interests.

We print on our first page an interesting and timely paper on the "Benefit and Necessity of Teachers' Associations," read by Mr. J. Shaw, of Omemee, before the Teachers' Convention recently held here. We may assume that all will admit the great benefit of associations of teachers; the question is to make the Victoria Associations active and useful. This is a matter to which the teaching profession and those immediately interested in education should give some attention for without the requisite vitality the associations that have been formed will not achieve much. Mr. Shaw has collected some figures from the official reports with regard to the numbers in the IVth and Vth classes in the county. The accuracy of the basis or rather the applicability of these figures, it will be remembered, was challenged at the convention by both Inspectors and by some teachers.

The Peterboro *Review* is deeply agitated over the repair of the locks at Young's Point by Mr. Thomas Walters, of Lindsay, who, as it says, is "foreman in the employ of the Ontario Public Works Department." The *Review* is not satisfied with attempting to excite sectional jealousy by declaring that this arrangement casts "a slur upon the men of Peterboro," but goes on to exhibit unpardonable ignorance of the facts and general policy by stating that this is "another instance of Provincial expenditure on these navigable waters without authorization." The *Review*'s editor has been in the Legislature and ought to know that there is always a vote of a couple of thousand dollars or more for repairs, and that the work in question comes under that head. It was undertaken after proper inspection and report by the Chief Engineer of the Department, Mr. F. N. Molesworth. The statements of the *Review* must therefore be ascribed to something less creditable than even unpardonable ignorance. Our contemporary evidently hopes by attacks of this kind to secure the luxury of being "walloped" once more for one of the Peterboro Ridings for the Local, and no doubt Conservatives will be foolish enough to give him every facility for the coveted indulgence as Reformers will undoubtedly be active and determined enough to make a sure thing of it for him.

A LINDSAY IMPOSTOR IN MANVERS.

(*To the Editor of* THE CANADIAN POST.)

SIR, As I do not often trouble you with long letters or take up much room in the columns of your very valuable paper I beg the insertion of the following in your next issue in which I believe I not only express my own but the feelings of most of my fellow citizens of the township of Manvers.

A few weeks ago a resident of Lindsay passed through our township with a horse and buggy professing to be in deep sympathy with the poor and telling a very pitiful story about the sad condition of those who cry in vain for bread. The large-hearted, generous people deeply effected by the touching story, delivered with such remarkable pathos and affection sufficient to melt the hardest heart into tenderness, gave largely of their abundance and even those who had scarcely enough for themselves were willing to divide the last loaf in order to contribute something toward supplying the wants of the needy and providing the hungry with bread. During his mission among us and having received largely from the good people upon whom no doubt he silently invoked the Divine blessing, he made store-houses of different dwellings until such times as he found himself at liberty to ship the results of his efforts to Omemee and other markets and if I am rightly informed put the money in his pocket and doubtless will use it in the advancement of his own selfish interests.

Now is this not (like refusing to take newspapers or periodicals out of the post office, or leaving them uncalled for) "*prima facie* evidence of deliberate, intentional fraud" and should in some way be immediately stopped. We do not claim to be an exception to others or to be more generous in the way of giving than our neighbouring townships, but we do say that Manvers has always been noted for its liberality in the support of benevolent institutions and its willingness to contribute toward relieving those who are in want, but when such men as the above-mentioned are suffered to pass through the country unmolested how can we feel safe or even disposed to give of our hard earnings to such worthless, abominable rogues. I do not wish to say anything disparagingly of that spirit of sympathy which actuates a great many good people in deeds of generosity but rather encourage it, but I do say, and I believe I express the sentiment of all, that it will be utterless useless for any person or persons to succeed any longer in this line of business without giving us some assurance that that which we give will be directly brought to those for whom it is given.

I am not sufficiently acquainted with the power vested in our municipal councils to know what all their duty is, but I would suggest that such authorities, if possible, adopt some means by which we could feel justified in withholding or safe in contributing to those who solicit our aid for such purposes.

Or again, cannot those committees appointed to look after impecunious or we now that such there are) provide those whom they send out on such expeditions with a letter of recommendation signed by three or four of the principal men of the place and thus give us a guarantee that our gifts are made to honest men and not to rogues. If such can be done send on your solicitors and we will turn none empty away.

By the way since I commenced writing I have heard that the "gentleman" or one of a similar character has been detected, arrested, tried, and sent on his way rejoicing down to Cobourg jail there to await his trial by the higher authorities whom we trust will pay him his lawful wages. I am, yours,

ONE WHO SAW THE GENTLEMAN.

[Our correspondent should have given the name of the person alluded to and it would have been published. It is not necessary to say that the people of Lindsay would not countenance such an impostor, and will do all in their power to secure his exposure and punishment. The people in the country should on no account give anything to persons who may be collecting for the benefit of the poor in towns unless they are perfectly satisfied as to the good faith of the collector. We have not heard of any person being sent into the country on such a mission. ED. POST.

ECHOES FROM THE CAPITAL.

THE QUEBEC CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION.

The "great debate" on the dismissal of M. DeBoucherville was opened Thursday afternoon by Sir John Macdonald in a long speech. His resolution and argument are elsewhere referred to. The position which Mr. Mackenzie took was a very simple one, and is thus summarized by the *Witness* correspondent: Fully admitting the right of the House to discuss and criticise the action of the Lieutenant-Governor, he contended that it was not right to pass upon it when appeal to the people had been made, and an election was in progress. Only under very extreme circumstances should the Dominion Parliament interfere in provincial affairs, and not while there was a remedy within the province. He pertinently asked what position Parliament would be in if it condemned the conduct of the Lieutenant-Governor, and the people of the province sustained it at the elections. The resolution was dangerous to the autonomy of the provinces, contrary to the principles of the constitutional system, and a reflection on the people of Quebec. This position is a strong one, both in itself and in offsetting in the election the action of the Conservatives in offering the resolution. The Premier's stand that the Dominion Parliament should not take any part in a political struggle in one of the provinces will be generally accepted as sound doctrine. Any expression of its opinion in regard to the Lieutenant-Governor's action would affect that election. The debate was carried on to a late hour and resumed Friday afternoon.

A "TWENTY SEVEN HOURS' SESSION EXTRAORDINARY SCENES.

The scenes which took place last Friday night and Saturday during the debate on Sir John A. Macdonald's amendment concerning the Quebec constitutional question were characterized by the *Witness* correspondent as simply indescribable, and only to be realized by those who have seen the Commons in their disorderly moods. It is nearly twenty years since a sitting lasted so long, 1859. The arrangement arrived at leaves no reasonable doubt of the truth of the opinion of the Liberals, that the obstructive policy was undertaken simply to prevent a vote being taken which would be announced at all the political meetings to take place on Sunday in Quebec. Although the Opposition speakers all insisted on the extreme importance of the debate, and the necessity for much discussion, there was not a word of opposition, after the understanding had been arrived at with Sir John Macdonald to take the vote on Monday at ten o'clock, after the arrival of the evening train, without any debate. Mr. Bowell willingly surrendered his two hours' speech. The other gentlemen whom he said were to follow him never demurred, and Sir John Macdonald said the subject had been fully discussed. The action of the Opposition was quite fair in a party sense, and as it turned out no time was lost, for the debate would have taken two days under any circumstances. There is nothing to be added to the constitutional points of the debate. The cases of dismissals of ministries in New Brunswick were discussed by Mr. Costigan and very briefly by Hon. Mr. Smith. Mr. Rouleau spoke in French, and then Mr. Haggart began, but did not pretend to talk anything but nonsense. There were some witty touches in the speech, as for instance when he said that Mr. DeBoucherville had not that power of concentration and crystallization in expressing himself which was possessed by his friend, the hon. member for Niagara. If there is anything Mr. Plumb is noted for it is the exact opposite of these qualities. Over and over again he quoted from Mr. Bagehot's work on constitutional government, every time reading the title in full, and giving in addition the information that it had been presented with the author's compliments to his friend, "and my friend," the member for Niagara, and was the only copy in the country. Lady Dufferin and other ladies appeared on the floor of the House, to the right of the speaker, about two p. m. Soon after a little circus which had been arranged for their benefit began.

SINGING SONGS—TRIBUTE TO LADY DUFFERIN.

When not talking to the Premier or one of the Ministers, Her Excellency apparently tried to follow Mr. Haggart, but song music from both the French and English members became decidedly the most attractive feature of the entertainment. There was a good deal of variety in the songs. One or two of the French ones were soft enough to be love songs. The "Marseillaise" and boat songs were also given. In English there was the "Red, White and Blue," "Auld Lang Syne," "John Brown," and "For he's a jolly good fellow." Desk thumping and screeching of all kinds with balloon, whistles, shouts of "order," "question," "call in the members," and so on were not wanted. Cheers greeted the songs and some passages in Mr. Haggart's remarks. Finally when Lady Dufferin was leaving nearly every member on both sides—and the House was pretty full came to his feet, and sang a verse of the national anthem. After this three hearty cheers were given, hats waved wildly round their owners heads, and the performance came to an end. The galleries were nearly all crowded, and of course the people came to their feet with the members, so that Lady Dufferin had at least a vice-regal leave-taking of the Canadian Commons in their own Chamber. Her Excellency seemed very much amused by the entertainment provided for her, which was little more than a repetition of what had taken place in the early morning hours. Both sides took things very good-naturedly all day. Sir John A. Macdonald went to bed in the morning, and did not appear until immediately after Lady Dufferin left, when he appeared much refreshed, and in much better humor.

A SCANDALOUS EXHIBITION.

The London *Advertiser's* correspondent thus describes the disgraceful conduct of Opposition leaders in the early hours of Saturday morning: McDougall (Three Rivers) again in his half drunken condition took the floor and rambled away till it was half past six. By this time the House exhibited a scene never paralleled in Canada. Frequent visits to the saloon had their effect upon the Opposition side. Domville turned up about 6 a. m., after having slept off a strong potation, and took his seat beside Plumb who had also slept a great part of the night in his place and looked as if he likewise had been afflicted with the prevalent complaint. The constant drip of Plumb's voice, as he continued to read from a book could be heard in the intervals of the confusing sounds. Now the climax was reached. Campbell, of Guysboro, known better as "Tupper's goose," staggered across the floor of the House in an almost helpless state of intoxication. Balancing himself in front of the Premier's desk and between it and the Speaker's chair, he commenced to shout and gesticulate like a madman. For a moment all other noises ceased and nothing but the drunken shouts of the old inebriate could be heard. Flourishing his hat over his head with one hand and stamping his foot in drunken fury on the floor, he was heard declaring his utter independence of Governments and Speakers and Parliaments, and every other power or person. The strange noise awakened Sir John, who had been sleeping at his desk with his head buried in his arms. Raising a flushed face, and staring in a half-dozed sort of way at the extraordinary figure of his faithful follower performing a war dance in front of the Speaker, a broad grin spread over his countenance his head dropped forward and he resumed his broken slumber, utterly indifferent, perhaps oblivious to the fact that one of his supporters was disgracing himself and the House in a way in that had never before been witnessed on the floor of Parliament. The leader's example—copied and improved upon by his followers—had inflicted upon the House a stain of disgrace that will be felt with shame across the whole Dominion. Nothing more scandalous or undignified could be imagined. The whole conduct of the Opposition after two a. m. was an outrage.

THE DIVISION.

The vote on Sir John's Quebec resolution, which was taken on Monday evening, stood as follows:—Yeas, 70; Nays, 112; Ministerialists unpaired, 9; Opposition, 4; Independents, 2; four pairs, 8; making, with the Speaker, 208. The pairs were Messrs. Masson, Cimon, Boldue, and McCarthy for Sir John Macdonald's resolution, with Messrs. Bain, Ross (P.E.I.) Malouin and Rymal against it. The Quebec vote in the division stood as follows:—For the resolution, 29; against it, 28; absent, 8. Of the absentees three usually vote with and five against the Government.

THE TACTICS OF THE OPPOSITION PRESS.

Mr. Palmer, who supported and voted for Sir John's protection resolution a few days ago, on Friday night made an out-and-out free trade speech, which ended with a general denunciation of protection as a fallacy, and the declaration that he would vote against the amendment asking for a duty on flour. It caused some talk here when Saturday's *Mail* arrived, and it was seen that the report of Mr. Palmer's speech had been so garbled or doctored that it did not truthfully represent what he said, and left out any reference to his opposition to the amendment. The same report appeared in the Montreal *Gazette*. As Mr. Palmer is the leading Tory from New Brunswick and intends to run again, the logical conclusion is that Sir John's "omnibus" national policy finds no rest in that Province for its weary feet.

PEACE OR WAR.

THE SITUATION STILL CRITICAL.

Russian Warlike Designs again Suspected.

Bismarck offers to Mediate.

The Roumanians determined to oppose Russian Aggression.

The news from St. Petersburg is not calculated to increase confidence. The fact that the Cabinets at London and St. Petersburg are reported to have had semi-official intercourse seems to indicate that official expressions would have intensified the difficulties. The result of the interchange of views is not hopeful, Russia substantially repeating her former answer, and England reaffirming the principle originally laid down.

The reports of an Austro-Russian agreement, under pressure from Prince Bismarck, are denied by Count Andrassy's friends, who declare Prince Bismarck's attitude has been one of entire neutrality, he well understanding that Austria urged the minimum not the maximum, of her objections against the treaty, and that the margin for mediation is exceedingly narrow. All the reports about Russia having sent a reply to Austria's objections are contradicted. In other circles in Vienna it is stated that the Emperor and the military party are stronger than Count Andrassy, and will not support his anti-Russian policy. Among large classes of Austrians the belief is said to prevail that Austria has nothing to gain by either peace or war, because Hungary would resist the annexation of the Slav countries, but that action will be forced on the Monarchy if the Russians attempt to disarm or occupy Roumania.

Pro-Russian advices from Constantinople say the situation is strained to the utmost. The Grand Duke Nicholas is much depressed, and the impression prevails that affairs are surely drifting into war.

SENSATIONAL RUMOURS.

In default of authentic news, it was rumoured yesterday that the Russians had made all preparations to occupy Constantinople, and the Bosphorus on the first signal of hostilities; that the Roumanian army, except the guards for Bucharest and Plojesti had retired upon the Austrian frontier, and that the Czar had sent an autograph letter to Prince Milan instructing him as to what Servia should do on the outbreak of war. These are probably all false.

THE SITUATION AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

Constantinople advices say the Turks have seventy thousand men around the city, and seventeen thousand at Gallipoli, and would resent any attempt to enter the capital, but the attitude of the Government is expectant, and the present disposition is to abide by the treaty of San Stefano, and observe neutrality, defending it if menaced. Prince Mireki and Generals Skobeloff and Gourko, and other officers, are at Pera. About eighty soldiers from the Guards and the Sixteenth Division visit Constantinople in uniform. Fever is prevalent in camp and city.

Sickness, inaction and disappointed expectation of going home have created great fretfulness among the Russians, and dissatisfaction with the present situation.

Pro-Russian advices state that in the event of war Russia's action will be governed by Austria's attitude. If Austria is neutral the Russians will undoubtedly seize the Bosphorus. If hostile, it is doubtful whether the Russians will try to hold the Bosphorus or anything south of Adrianople. She will, perhaps, even abandon Turkey entirely, except the fortresses, and attack Austria from Galicia and Roumania.

PROTECTION FROM TORPEDOES.

For the protection of ships on the Mediterranean from torpedoes a number of steam launches have been sent to Malta and other stations. A supply of torpedo boats were sent to the Mediterranean yesterday. A chartered steamer is now landing a large number at the Victoria Docks, the intention being to supply each vessel of the fleet with at least two torpedo boats additional. Eighteen torpedo guns are also shipping for the Mediterranean.

BISMARCK'S MEDIATION.

A Berlin correspondent learns, on most trustworthy authority, that Bismarck offered his good offices with the view of bringing about an understanding between England, Austria and Russia. It is untrue that he suggested a preliminary conference at Berlin. It is hoped the result of his efforts will be known on Thursday. If they are successful; he will probably suggest holding a Congress there shortly.

A Vienna correspondent says, according to a well founded report, Bismarck is endeavouring to obtain the simultaneous withdrawal of the British fleet from the Sea of Marmora and the Russians from the neighborhood of Constantinople.

AMERICAN PRIVATEER SQUADRON.

The London *Globe* last evening says:—"Our Cronstadt correspondent writes that a scheme of fitting out privateer in America is making rapid progress. A large number of seamen belonging to the Baltic fleet are in readiness to proceed to the United States. It is rumoured that the Grand Duke Alexis will be appointed Admiral of a privateer squadron, and that during his recent visit to New York the project was thoroughly canvassed."

THE ROUMANIAN QUESTION.

PRINCE CHARLES THREATENS TO ABDICATE.

A Berlin despatch states the Prince of Roumania had notified the Emperors of Germany and Austria of his intention to abdicate if Russia is permitted to usurp the government of Roumania.

A correspondent hears that Russia will occupy Roumania and disarm the army as soon as an Anglo-Russian war is inevitable. If Count Andrassy's views prevail Austria will resist such a step.

A Turna Severin special reports 10,000 Roumanians there. Prince Charles is expected. The feeling of the troops against Russia is very bitter.

According to advices received in Paris from Bucharest, Prince Charles has started to join his army. Constant quarrels occur between the Russian and Roumanian officers and soldiers. The Russians prevented a train laden with ammunition from leaving Bucharest for the Roumanian army. The entire Roumanian militia has been called out.

A CRITICAL SITUATION.

The situation in Roumania seems becoming not less dangerous than at Stamboul. The Russians claim the military convention with Roumania, which gives them control of the communications, does not terminate until definite peace is established. The Roumanians, alarmed about the occupation of their country and the possibility of an attempt to disarm them, have withdrawn their army into Little Wallachi, where they boast they will make another Plevna if the Russians attack them. The Bucharest journals referring to the Russian seizure of ammunition, asks why the Government has not troops at the stations to protect its property. The Russians occupy the greater part of Roumanian Bessarabia, and are entrenching the line of the Russian frontier prior to 1856.

THE SITUATION IN TURKEY.

THE PORTE PREPARING TO MOVE.

A Constantinople despatch states that the Porte has been removing valuables, arms and munitions hence to Sentari, and is considering the transfer of Government to Scutari to avoid being forced into an alliance by one of the belligerents occupying Constantinople in the event of war. The Turkish commanders have been ordered to resist any attempt at occupancy of Constantinople. Achmet Pasha has been appointed commander of the fleet in place of Horbert Pasha, who will take furlough.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—The cost of the Kaffir war is already £100,000 a month.

—A joint stock company, with a capital of $2,500, is being started in Woxeter to run a butter factory.

—Judgment for twenty-two million dollars are on record against the late W. M. Tweed.

—A number of people who recently left New Brunswick for Kansas to settle, have returned disappointed.

—A woman in Dunfermline, Scotland, not long since died of drinking excessive quantities of very strong tea.

—Reports of the National banks in the United States show they hold more gold and silver at the present time than ever before.

The British Columbia Assembly has been dissolved. In the new elections, the anti-Chinese movement is expected to be felt.

—Late unseasonable rains have greatly damaged the plantations in Cuba, and in some districts serious floods have occurred.

—Five hundred French Canadians, who had been employed in various manufacturing cities in New England, left Nashua, N. H., last Monday night for Manitoba.

—"Yield everything we can part with but bring back Austria." Such, it is said, were the curt but significant instructions which General Ignatieff took with him to Vienna.

—Matilda O'Neill, a young woman of St. John, N. B., was to have been wedded on Saturday morning, but committed suicide by taking a dose of strychine. She previously stated to a friend her preference for death to marriage.

—The thirty-fifth race between Oxford and Cambridge took place Saturday morning on the Thames over the usual course from Putney to Mortlake, four miles and two furlongs, and resulted in an easy victory for Oxford in 23 min. 12 sec.

—The instructions sent to Admiral Hornby were that he shall divide the fleet, and cover Constantinople with one part of it and Gallipoli with the other the moment he receives intimation, or has good reason for supposing, that the Russian troops are advancing in either quarter.

—It is proposed to substitute the "Moffett law of Virginia" for the New York State liquor law of 1857. The Moffet law imposes a tax of 2½c. on every glass of spirituous or alcoholic liquor that is drunk over the bar, and ½c. on every glass of ale, beer and porter. Government officers and inspectors enforce the law, and as a temperance measure it is said to work well in Virginia.

—An American crop report issued last Friday estimates that the increased wheat acreage over last year is 35 per cent. in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Dakota and Northern Iowa, and much larger south of Wisconsin. The acreage of oats is about the same as last year. Much barley was sown. Winter wheat looks exceptionally well. There is nearly 25 per cent. of last year's crop still in the hands of farmers and 60 per cent. in Wisconsin, 30 in Minnesota, 10 in Iowa and Illinois, 20 in Dakota and 14 in Nebraska.

—It is thought probable that Friday's scene in Parliament during the discussion of O'Donnell's motion declaring the Government's action in regard to Lord Leitrim's murder unconstitutional will lead to a split in the Home Rulers. Several Irish members have indignantly repudiated the attacks of Messrs. O'Donnell and Parnell on the late Lord. The episode has created much bitter feeling. It is said its instigators intend to raise a question of privilege in consequence of the publication of proceedings after the clearing of the galleries.

—A singular case occurred at the Asylum in London, on Saturday, while the patients were at dinner. One of them, as he was eating a dish of pudding, suddenly filled his mouth and throat with the food and immediately choked. The attendants at once called medical aid, but in less than five minutes death had occurred. The deceased came from the neighborhood of Watford and had only been in the institution a few days. This is one of the means of self-destruction against which it would be impossible to guard, even were the design suspected.

—Lieut.-Col. Stevenson, an officer at Malta, recently administered to Hon. D. Manson, Equerry to the Duke of Edinburgh, a sound horsewhipping. The cause of the castigation was an insult offered Mrs. Stevenson, wife of the Lieut.-Col., by the Equerry. A court-martial was called to investigate the case and notwithstanding all the influence of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh being brought to bear against the defendant, Col. Stevenson was triumphantly acquitted of any conduct unworthy an officer and a gentleman. The Duke became so much involved in the affair that he challenged Lieut.-Col. Stevenson, and though the latter declined at first R. H. R. insisted, and he was forced to accept. There was no meeting, however, the Duke being recalled.

—The farmers of Lucknow, Ontario, have resolved to establish a butter factory, similar to the one in the adjoining village of Teeswater. At a meeting held for this purpose, it was shown that a good factory could be established for about $1,000—that it takes twenty-two pounds of milk to make one pound of butter and that the farmers selling milk at 8c. per gallon receives exactly 18c. per pound for his butter, and is at no trouble or expense in either its manufacture or sale—that he receives cash for the product of his dairy monthly or quarterly. Arrangements are also nearly completed for the establishment of a creamery at St. Jacobs. The milk of four hundred cows is to be guaranteed and the farmers are promised 8c. a gallon for their milk. The product is to be shipped to England, where it is supposed extra high prices will be obtained.

—The Montreal *Star* says: "A little over a month ago a young man, 19 years of age, named Stewart Smith, boarding at 104 Prince-st. inflicted a slight wound on his foot while paring a corn. For several days he felt no inconvenience and went to work as usual, but afterwards his foot began to swell and got so painful that he was finally induced to go to the General Hospital, which he did on the 20th of March. Despite all efforts he got worse and died last evening at 10 o'clock. It appears that after his foot began to bleed the deceased, not fearing danger, put on a blue stocking, and it is supposed his blood was poisoned thereby."

—Some weeks ago, in view of what might be the deplorable results of a street celebration in Montreal of the coming twelfth of July a number of leading Protestant clergy of that city met and decided to use their influence with the Orange body in regard to the waiving of the latter's right to walk in procession on their anniversary day. Accordingly a petition was drawn asking the Orangemen not to have a procession on the ground that it would lead to no good results. This petition has been extensively signed, and includes nearly all the names of the Protestant clergymen in Montreal. Among them several Ultras are affixed. It has been sent to the Orange order and will come up for discussion at the next meeting of the county lodge.

—Last Saturday a young man representing himself to be a son of Mr. Lewis Shickluna, an extensive and well-known shipbuilder of high credit in St. Catharines, called at two banks in Montreal with drafts upon his father, which he wished to get cashed. Being personally unknown to the managers, he was informed he could not be accommodated unless he could get some responsible gentleman there to endorse the drafts. He asked if the endorsement of Mr. Alexander Milloy, of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company, would do, and was answered in the affirmative. He went away, and came back with the drafts endorsed with Mr. Milloy's name, such a perfect resemblance of that