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LINDSAY, FRIDAY, NOV. 22, 1878

EDWARD BLAKE.

The public will learn with gratification, and Reformers with a stronger feeling, that Mr. Blake has returned from his half year's holiday with his health fully restored. It was at one time feared that the long and sustained strain of severe political and professional work had undermined his constitution; but we rejoice to learn that his physical condition is such that he can take once more an active and a leading part in Canadian politics. We are confident he will devote his whole energies to public matters, and in the present crisis it is of high importance to have him in the present Parliament from the beginning. He is the one man in public life who has lifted politics out of the ordinary groove, and presented them in their nobler aspect of advancing statesmanship. We are about to have another era of Tory rule, with its corruption, jobbery, sectionalism, appeals to prejudice and class interests; and all true lovers of their country will welcome heartily the appearance of Mr. Blake once more in the political arena. If a resignation could open a constituency for Mr. Blake we have not the least doubt he would at once have his choice of a dozen; but there may be a technical difficulty in the way as there is no Speaker. We are not clear that a provincial appointment would not necessarily disqualify a member of the House of Commons, and in that event the proper steps in the premises should be taken without delay. We notice that all our Reform exchanges are strongly urging the importance of Mr Blake being in the new House, and the call is so general and hearty that it cannot be misunderstood or declined.

TOWN MATTERS AND MUNICIPAL REFORMS.

A timely and suggestive communication on town matters and municipal reforms from Mr. W. McDonnell, jr., appears in other columns this week. The necessity of greater care and economy in town expenditure is obvious to all, but it is almost hopeless to expect proper management with such men as compose the majority of our Town Council and Board of Education. Unless our best men consent to the sacrifice of devoting their time to the somewhat thankless task of managing our local affairs we may expect men of little character and of less fitness either in point of ability or experience to go into municipal politics to make something out of the position or to become the willing or unsuspecting tools of some local Tweed or "Boss." A Property Owners' Association would have a good effect if it only served to keep a sharp look-out on men who might sink into municipal corruptionists, but it would be much better if the citizens likely to compose such association would take such active personal interest in municipal matters as would secure an efficient and honest Council. It is true it does not pay any business man to take an active part in municipal matters; he can better afford to pay higher taxes and get quit of the bother of looking after such questions; but the sacrifice is necessary and a community whose leading members are unwilling to make such sacrifice does not deserve to prosper. If our leading citizens have not sufficient public spirit to take the necessary action in reference to the reorganization of our Town Council and Board of Education the prospect is not promising. The questions are among those to which we propose devoting some considerable attention in the future—more especially in connection with our educational interests—and we welcome the contribution of Mr. McDonnell, and trust any other citizen who may have opinions on these matters will give them to the public, and for this purpose our columns are freely opened. The municipal reforms or amendments suggested by Mr. McDonnell are deserving serious attention and we trust some of them if not all will receive the early attention of the Ontario Government and Legislature with the view of having them embodied in our municipal

"NATIONAL P." PIE-CRUSTS.

Our good friends The Lindsay Post and the Peterborough *Examiner* had better "keep cool" about Messrs. McQuade and Hilliard not keeping their promises about the National Policy. They should not be so ready to judge these gentlemen by themselves and assume that their promises are only pie-crusts made to be broken. *Peterborough Review.*

When the *Review* was itself constrained to use very plain language in telling the "Chieftain" that for once in his life he must fulfil his election pledges and enact a thorough-going "National Policy" it is decidedly necessary to remind Mr. McQuade and Mr. Hilliard of their duty in the premises—namely, to keep their leader up to the scratch. Will they do this?

VICTORIA RAILWAY EXTENSION.

The extension of the Victoria Railway to Haliburton has been completed, the engine and first train having reached the station last Monday, and the formal opening is to take place next Tuesday, Nov. 26th. The occasion will be one of no little interest. A special train will leave Toronto at 7 in the morning with leading railway men, aldermen and capitalists, with several members of the Government, and will arrive at and depart from Lindsay about 10.30 ahead of the regular Whitby train. We understand His Honour the Lieut. Governor intended to be present but the arrangements for the reception of the Governor-General and the Princess Louise have prevented him from carrying out his intention. The train will arrive at Haliburton about one o'clock, and, after the presentation of an address, a luncheon or dinner will be served. Speeches will follow as a matter of course; and the special will leave at five or six to allow Toronto guests, desiring it, to get home that night. A ball and supper will be given in the evening by the people of Haliburton in honour of the event.

THE TORIES AND THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The frothy clamouring of a few of the bitterest Tory organs and politicians "after the battle" for the dismissal of a number of Reform officials and the practical introduction of the vicious American doctrine that "to the victors belong the spoils," is, we greatly regret to observe, to be carried out to an extent that cannot help but be disastrous to the civil service and to the best interests of the country. Lord Dufferin must have had a premonition of the impending danger when he delivered his wise and weighty address in Toronto, and dwelt with characteristic felicity and good sense on the importance of the principle that the civil service should not be affected by the political changes that may take place in a country; but his words have fallen on heedless ears, and we are to have the unseemly spectacle of the dismissal of officials who happen to be Reformers in order to make room for rapacious Tory office-seekers. The first victims are prominent ones. When Mr Buckingham was appointed Deputy-Minister of the Interior, there were threats from some quarters that he would soon receive the "bounce" to the slang expression of the day. The "Chieftain" has taken that department, and after addressing insulting remarks to the new Deputy Minister, has had him relegated to a first-class clerkship in the Public Works Department on the ostensible plea that thereby a saving of $3,200 could be effected by abolishing a Surveyor Generalship and appointing Col. Dennis to the office of Deputy Minister. But this is a flimsy excuse, and we have not the slightest doubt that the pretence of economy will soon be disregarded and that the office abolished will be re-established under another name. We did not anticipate Sir John Macdonald would yield to the clamour of his rapacious followers so far as to adopt a line of action so discreditable and fraught with such serious consequences. Mr. Buckingham has been known to him in common with all the public men of the country for the last twenty years as a man of honour and of marked ability; and as one who for the past five years discharged his responsible duties under Mr. Mackenzie with a tact, zeal and fidelity that fully deserved the promotion he received in filling up the vacancy in the Department of the Interior. It has been said by the Tories that it would not be "convenient" for Mr. Mackenzie's private secretary to be Sir John Macdonald's deputy-minister; but those who say that forget that Mr. Buckingham had simply the affairs of his department to manage and that for the other and necessarily private matters appertaining to the Premiership there are in any case special private secretaries. The Reform Ministers had as their deputies for years the Bernards and the Langevins and a number of other near relatives of Tory Ministers, and made no changes, except those that occurred in the ordinary course.

Mr. Brydges has had "warning" that he will have to go. A few Tory politicians in the Lower Provinces seem to be after him with special vindictiveness. Mr. Domville demanded his head in a charger as soon as the result of the elections was known. Mr. Brydges has probably snubbed Mr. Domville some time and frustrated his efforts to make political capital out of Intercolonial Railway matters. Hon. Mr. Mitchell thirsts for Mr. Brydges' blood not only because he now wants the position of railway manager for himself or for an intimate friend and tool, but because of the exposure and ridicule of his attempt to secure political capital by getting enormous damages for the killing of some cows on the track and that belonged to his constituents. The demands of the ring led by Messrs. Domville and Mitchell have at length been supported by the Toronto *Mail*, in very strong terms, and it is quite evident that the Intercolonial is to be handed over to a junta that will make it bleed extensively, as they did before the advent of the Reform administration. All these are very significant indications that the old Tory corruptionist regime is to have full swing in due course; and in the meanwhile the civil service is to be "purged" of Reform members wherever possible and the Tory rank and file suitably rewarded. The "honest yeomanry" who assisted bringing about this desirable state of things with the hope of getting Liverpool prices in Canada for their grain can now meditate upon the pleasant consequences of their trustfulness.

—The condition of affairs in Turkey is by no means satisfactory, though Russia has been giving fresh assurances that her intentions are honourable. Some fresh revelations may be expected shortly as to the Atrocities

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—It is understood the Ontario Legislature will meet early in January.

—Mr. A. Gunn's election expenses in Kingston foot up $614.38; Mr. J. V. Ferrie, Frontenac, $68.51; Mr. A. McQuade, in South Victoria, $378.30.

—The Dominion Government have appointed Wednesday, Dec. 4th, as a national day of thanksgiving, and the Provincial Governments will, it is expected, issue proclamations for the same day.

—The first week in February is mentioned as the time for the first session of Parliament. Mr. Tilley expects to get back from England by Christmas, and during January the new tariff will be arranged.

—Mr. Haney, M. P. P. for Monck, died on Monday at his residence, Wellandport, in the forty-third year of his age. He had represented Monck since 1872. He was a consistent Liberal and a highly respected member.

—Our intimation that Hon. Alex Morris would be chosen leader of the Ontario Opposition is strengthened by recent reports. There has been some hitch about it, however. Mr. Morris is mentioned as a likely candidate for East Toronto.

—The payment of the Halifax award has been effected by the United States Government under a kind of protest, which, however, will scarcely be maintained in the face of Lord Salisbury's temperate and conclusive reply to Mr. Evart's preposterous claims and illogical arguments.

—The *Warder* is an apt pupil in misrepresentation. The *Mail* stated, anent the recent fire on the Central Prison, that the Sandfield Macdonald Government proposed to construct the prison for $125,000,—the fact being that three prisons were to be built, each for about $125,000. But the *Warder* reduces this amount by a cool hundred thousand!

—It will be seen from the official statement in our advertising columns that the election expenses of Mr. John Connolly in the recent contest amounted to the moderate sum of $412.47. We are gratified to be able to state that a few of the Reformers of the riding have come forward and subscribed sufficient to cover this expenditure.

—War with Afghanistan has been practically decided upon. The Ameer has made no reply to the English ultimatum, the days of grace have passed, and troops have been ordered forward in three columns to occupy passes and threaten Candahar, Cabul and Herat. The undertaking is a serious and costly one, and war might, to all appearances, have been avoided.

—Mr. Geo. Eyvel, of the *Globe*, and Mr. Henry Gorman, of the London *Advertiser*, have purchased the Sarnia *Observer*. Both are energetic and experienced journalists and will make the *Observer* one of the most enterprising and popular journals of Western Ontario, as it has long been one of the ablest. We join many others in congratulating our genial friends on their new departure and trust they will have abundant success.

—A poverty-stricken cook named Passonte, "nourishing a hatred toward kings," as he afterward stated, attempted to stab the young King of Italy at Naples on Sunday while the latter was receiving a petition in his carriage. The king was slightly wounded in the arm but drew his sword and struck the would-be assassin, who was secured by a captain of cuirassiers. The attempt excited great popular indignation and enthusiastic demonstrations of loyalty.

—Mr. Tilley sailed in the "Peruvian" for London to negotiate a loan for over twenty millions to retire maturing liabilities and to cover a deficit of a million and a half for all of which "Cartwright" is duly responsible. Sir A. T. Galt accompanied Mr. Tilley, some say to act as a sort of "wet nurse" to him; others to advise with the Imperial Government anent the Fisheries. It is also stated that he is to remain as Agent-General of Canada; and, if so, the appointment is an excellent one. We trust Mr. Tilley will be successful in his mission in every respect.

We trust there is something in the following from the Ottawa *Free Press*, and that it may succeed:—"It is reported that the Government has authorized Messrs. Tilley and Galt to press upon the notice of the Imperial authorities the importance of aiding the Canada Pacific Railway with a grant of six millions sterling, on the ground that the work is one of Imperial concern. It is understood that Lord Beaconsfield is not indisposed to help the undertaking under certain conditions—one being that the amount contributed by Great Britain shall be employed west of the Rocky Mountains.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

General Notes.

The N. P.
Elected we
I rather doubt
'Twill put us out.

—[Poetic Editor-in-Chief of the London Free Press.

Mr. Hilliard, the honest yeomanry of this county have their eye upon you, and are anxiously awaiting the advent of the National Policy, so hurry up and don't keep them in suspense.—[Peterboro Examiner.

If Sir John A. Macdonald is under the impression that his return to power is a virtual acquittal of the charges made against him for the Pacific Scandal, he is very much mistaken. The country gave its verdict upon the Pacific Scandal before; the present verdict is in favor of Protection—nothing more. [Montreal Post.

The Toronto *Mail* points with pride to the fact that the elections of only three Conservative members in New Brunswick have been protested. When it is recollected that there were but four Conservative members returned for that Province the cackling of the *Mail* seems wonderfully out of place.—[London Advertiser.

Mr. Mackenzie Bowell's shoes do not appear to fit him. When an M. P. he was generally sociable, but now he hardly knows any one. He was the first Minister to make dismissals and has continued to make himself obnoxious to representatives of the Liberal press. This is but an evidence of the whole policy of the present Administration. A *Free Press* reporter was told to-day by a subordinate, when asking for the result of the examination of candidates for Dominion Land Surveyors, that he would have to see further before giving any information to the *Free Press*. It was generally supposed that the Board of Examiners was a public body.—[Ottawa cor. London Advertiser.

—There is no doubt of the ability of Mr. Blake, and when it is remembered that all the abuse hurled at him by his opponents has not in the least damaged his reputation—that he stands to-day as high and as pure as the day he entered Parliament, the importance of securing his services may not well be over estimated.—[St. Catharines Daily News.

The Tariff and Retail Merchants.

["A Trader" in the Peterboro Examiner

What is Sir John A. about? We merchants are in despair. Soon many of us have to take orders for spring importations. At what price are we to take them? Are we to calculate on 17½ per cent. duty, or on 25, 35, or 50 per cent.? Ah! that some prophet would foretell. The manufacturers have been jobbing our stocks at lower prices than ever, tempting customers to speculate by overbuying themselves in anticipation of the tariff being cut all round over

somewhat in shoving off their load to the shoulders of the merchants. Anything is better than uncertainty. Better a round with, with no buttons therewith, than a hesitancy to buy either or both, lest we should pay in anticipation too high a price.

Beauties of Protection.

Who would not like to be a protected American farmer? From a letter received from Adel, Iowa, it is learned that corn brings the magnificent sum of twelve and a half cents per bushel; oats can be had for seven cents per bushel, and hogs for $2 per cwt.

Doesn't Care a "Continental."

[Chatham Banner.]

Having secured office they care nothing for the country and its suffering industries. As the Tory "poet Laureate" sang of Sir John in a prize poem some years ago,—

"He sits and smokes his pipe,
And doesn't care a—continental."

The "Political Emigrant."

The *Pall Mall Gazette*, speaking of the new ministry of Sir John Macdonald, who, it says, may be regarded as a "political emigrant to Manitoba," remarks that Sir John "will find it impossible to satisfy all the claims that will be pressed upon him. Yet unless he can do so his majority, great as it is, will soon be honeycombed with mutinies and undermined by schismatic ambition."

An Apt Comparison.

At one of the recent campaign meetings in Huron the irrepressible J. Jay Hawkins, after a lengthy harangue, put the query: "Is there a single Grit present?" "Aye," shouted a sturdy Reformer from amongst the crowd. "Well, how do you feel now?" queried Hawkins, meaning, of course, after the castigation he had given the party. "Like a grain of wheat in a bushel of mouse dirt," replied the quick-witted Reformer. The laugh was against Hawkins and he subsided.

LINDSAY'S BUILDING PROGRESS.

SOME NOTES OF THE SEASON'S WORK—A MODERATE BUT SUBSTANTIAL RECORD.

For the past two or three years Lindsay's progress in new buildings has not been showy, but it has been steady and substantial, and though the record for the season now closing is not a large one it still presents the same satisfactory characteristics. We anticipate much more decided progress within the next lustre, should the promised large harvests and good times set in, as we earnestly trust they may. In addition to the private building operations noted below there has been a considerable expenditure of public money on renewal and extension of sidewalks, in gravelling and grading a number of our leading streets, and in the extension of the water-works. The appearance of the town has been considerably improved, and the addition of a few more blocks on Kent-st. to fill up the vacancies on the south side will make our main thoroughfare unsurpassed by any country town in Canada. This improvement will no doubt soon take place, and the construction of a suitable town hall and market building will ere long have to be undertaken.

A most important industry in the town is the pork-packing business, providing as it does a capital market for hogs, which form a large proportion of the product of the surrounding country. Therefore we commence with

MR. GEO. MATTHEW'S PACKING HOUSE

at the head of Kent-st., on the southern part of the grounds of that gentleman's handsome residence. The establishment is not as large and costly as that with which Mr. Matthews was formerly connected but the facilities afforded for curing meats are equally good. The building is one-and-a-half storeys, 80x40 ft., double boarded and lined with concrete. Being in a small hollow, fully three-fourths of the building is protected to the roof with natural "earth-work" on each side and rear. This makes it completely frost-proof in winter and, what is likewise to be desired, cool in summer. In the front is the cutting-room and to the right of this is the engine-room, which contains a "Doty" engine of ample power. Adjacent is the sausage department, which is supplied with a chopping machine of the most improved pattern, capable of cutting 2,000 pounds of meat per diem. Though in operation only a few weeks this branch of the business has already reached goodly proportions. Large quantities are shipped daily by trains for Whitby and various points on the Midland and Victoria Railways. The steaming room for thawing frozen hogs is in the rear of this, and in a large room at the extreme end the packing is done. No provision has yet been made for killing, but when business will warrant the increase this department will be added. A smoke house is now in course of erection at the back of the packing house which will be in operation shortly. A specialty will be made of the various grades of bacon and hams. Mr. Matthews's long experience in the packing business and his sterling business qualities warrant us in anticipating a successful venture.

THE LINDSAY BREWERY,

William-st., owned by Mr. C. H. Lloyd, and situated on the banks of the river, has recently been enlarged by the addition of a brick building 68x30 ft., to be used as a malt house. It has ample capacity and is furnished with every requisite for malting purposes. The entire building is now 170x30 ft., two storeys, and has a capacity of twenty barrels a day, employment being given to from six to nine men. Previous to the erection of the addition Mr. Lloyd had to purchase his malt and, as is reasonable to suppose, it was not always just what it ought to be, and therefore the manufacture of a really first-class ale was not at all times possible, but now that his facilities are increased and the entire manufacture is under his personal supervision he is better able to compete in quality with the more extensive brewers. He is a thorough practical business man and has in Mr. Goldie an assistant of like qualifications.

LOVELL'S BLOCK.

During the year west Kent-st. has been much improved by a handsome two-storey block erected by Mr. James Lovell. It adjoins the Hamilton block and is occupied by Messrs. Milne & Graham, dry goods, and Mr. A. M. Reekie, musical instruments. The front is ornamented with stone facings and embellished with plate glass windows. It cost about $5,000.

PRIVATE RESIDENCES.

Mr. Wm. Grace has erected a handsome white brick residence on the corner of St. Lawrence and Melbourne-sts. It is two storeys and cottage-roof; the main building is 34x34; the wing 18x36; kitchen 18x28. There are four large rooms downstairs and six bedrooms upstairs. Estimated cost about $3,500. The wood work was done by Mr. Geo. Moore and the brick work by Mr. Jas. Growden.

A two-storey white brick residence of handsome design has been erected by Mr. S. Perrin, druggist, on his property, corner of Kent and Albert-sts. The main is 22x36; wing 20x28; frame kitchen and woodshed. The building will be heated by hot air from a furnace patented by Beecher Bros., London, and put in by Messrs. Woods & Son, Lindsay. The wood work was done by Mr. Benj. Cook; mason work, Mr. T. Williams; painting, H. Harris. Estimated cost, $2,000.

Mr. W. L. Russell, Warden of the County, has just completed an elegant white brick residence on the corner of Lindsay and Glenelg-sts., and will move thither in a few days. The main building is 26x36, with a handsome bay window on east side, handsomely ornamented on the outside with patent freestone; and a wing 18x36. On the ground floor are the drawing-room, parlour and sitting-room, the latter two being connected with folding doors. Upstairs are four bedrooms, bath-room, dressing-room and servant's apartments. The ceilings are high, the rooms of goodly proportions, and highly finished. The entire building is heated by Stephenson's hot air system. Over the front entrance is a handsome stained glass bearing a design which shows Mr. Russell's taste and patriotism. It is a beaver encircled by maple leaves and surmounted by the shamrock, rose and thistle. Connected with buildings and a driving-house 20x45 have been erected. The grounds have been enclosed by a handsome fence and a beautiful green lawn made around the front by careful sodding. Mr. Russell has a residence fit to entertain a prince—or the county council. Perhaps the latter will have an opportunity of judging for themselves. The buildings were designed and superintended by Mr. J. C. Redden; the brick work was done by Mr. Jas. Growden; the wood work by Mr. Robt. Bell and Messrs. Ingle & Co.; painting by Messrs. Hall Bros.; and painting by Mr. Skinner. The cost is estimated at $9,000.

Mr. James Lovell, having sold his handsome villa on Waverly avenue to Mr. A. McAlpine, has erected a white brick residence on the corner of Peel and Sussex-sts., which though not as large is even more tastefully designed. The main building is 26x36; with kitchen 17 ft. x 36, and a wing in all ten rooms, fitted up throughout with Stephenson's hot air system. The stable and

brick work was done by Mr. Growden and the wood work by Mr. Tucker, who superintended the construction throughout. The cost is estimated at $2,000.

COOPERAGE.

Mr. David Dunsen has put up a cooper's shop on the site of that burned last summer. The dimensions of the building are just as large as the old one but every facility is afforded for carrying on the extensive business he has established both in Lindsay and towns along the front. He has just shipped a number of large tanks to Port Hope for the Highland Spring Brewery.

THE NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL.

THE DEPARTURE—PREPARATIONS FOR THE RECEPTION.

The departure of the Governor-General and the Princess Louise took place "under the most favorable auspices." His Excellency made an eloquent and sensible reply to the address of the Liverpool authorities, and acquitted himself equally well in a similar ordeal at Londonderry. By the time he has received and answered all the addresses in readiness for him on this side of the Atlantic he will have earned his salary. The prospect before him in this respect is absolutely fearful to contemplate, but "England expects every man to do his duty," and this "addressing" ordeal must be gone through. On leaving Moville rather rough weather prevailed, but a telegram states that the self-levelling berths are acting so satisfactorily that all sea-sickness on the part of the Princess Louise and the ladies accompanying her is avoided. The "Sarmatian" is expected to arrive at Halifax to-morrow.

ARRIVAL OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

H. M. S. Black Prince (Captain, the Duke of Edinburgh) came to anchor off the dockyard shortly after four o'clock Monday afternoon, when the Vice-Admiral's flag was saluted by the Black Prince, and immediately returned by H. M. S. Bellerophon. The Duke of Edinburgh shortly afterwards landed and drove to the Admiralty House. The wharves along the harbor were crowded with spectators as the ironclad passed up. The Duke is undecided as to whether he will accompany the vice-regal party to Ottawa.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE RAILWAY TRIP.

Extensive preparations are being made by the managers of the Intercolonial Railway for the transit of the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise from Halifax to River du Loup. The oldest and most experienced officials of the line are to be placed in charge of the trains. The royal train will probably consist of the following cars:—The private car of the Superintendent of the Intercolonial Railway, three Pullman sleeping cars, namely, the "North Star," "Athol," and "Rover," a commissary car, the "Breevoort," which will supply meals for about forty persons, one first-class car and one baggage car. All these cars have lately undergone a thorough repairing, painting and cleaning at Moncton, and the train, when on the road, will undoubtedly be the handsomest which has ever gone over the Intercolonial. A telegraph operator will carry telegraphic instruments on the train in case of need. All the officers of the train will be in full uniform, new suits of clothing being now in preparation for them. A special time-table will be prepared for the royal train. A magnificent dining-room car has been obtained by the Grand Trunk from the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway for the through trip, and is being specially fitted up.

THE DISEMBARKATION AT HALIFAX.

The programme of the reception of the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise is about completed. The official landing will not take place until the day after their arrival. On landing, the vice-regal party proceed in state to the Province Building, where the Marquis of Lorne will be sworn in as Governor General by Judge Ritchie, of the Supreme Court of Canada. The city address will be presented immediately afterwards. His Excellency and the Princess will then proceed to Admiralty House. On that evening they will dine with the Lieutenant-Governor, and at 9:30 p. m. a drawing-room will be held at Government House. Next day his Excellency and the Princess will visit objects of interest in and around the city. At 3:30 p. m. His Excellency will receive addresses and hold a levee immediately after at the Province Building. The Marquis and Princess will dine at Maple Wood, the residence of Lieutenant-General Sir Patrick Macdougall, at 8 p. m., being escorted there from Admiralty House by a torchlight procession of the Halifax firemen. At 11 a. m. next day the vice-regal party leave by Intercolonial Railway for Ottawa.

FROM HALIFAX TO OTTAWA.

The special train provided for the conveyance of the vice-regal party from Halifax to Ottawa left the station at Montreal Tuesday evening. It consists of the official car reserved exclusively for the Marquis and the Princess, a dining car, and three Pullman cars, a first-class carriage for the servants, and three baggage wagons. The whole is under the direction of Conductor McLeod, who has been especially appointed for the purpose of conducting the vice-regal party on their first trip through Canada. Hons. Dr. Tupper, Jas. Macdonald, Mackenzie Bowell and L. R. Masson, with Chief Justice Ritchie, Sir Selby Smyth and Mr. C. J. Brydges, occupied a private car attached to the train.

The vice-regal train will leave Halifax at eleven in the morning, and only stop to change engines on the way to Montreal. There will be five meals taken during the ride. The party will reach the Bonaventure depot about 7 p. m. next day. Mr. Hickson's car is not going to Halifax, for, as the greater part of the land trip will be over the Intercolonial, that railway claimed the honor of supplying the royal car, and got it. There is to be no transhipment in the entire journey, the train only changing locomotives. The inhabitants of the towns and villages along the route to be taken by the royal party are making preparations to welcome them. The places through which they will pass by night are to have bonfires, and the dwelling-houses and public buildings in view of the railway track will be illuminated as much as possible. Evergreens and flags are to be used for the decorations at the day stopping places. The Victoria Bridge is to have the lettering at both entrances renewed, and the Prince of Wales' feather in the centre, where His Royal Highness inserted the rivet at the time of the inauguration, is about to be ornamented and illuminated.

THEIR EXCELLENCIES' QUARTERS AT THE WINDSOR.

The Hon. Col. Littleton and the Hon. R. Moreton have secured twenty of the best rooms in the Windsor Hotel for the use of the vice-regal party during their short stay of two or three days. The suite of rooms to be occupied by the Marquis and Marchioness, their attendants and servants, will comprise the whole flat of the parlour rooms fronting on Dorchester-st.

THE MONTREAL BALL.

The ball to be given by the St. Andrew's Society in honor of the arrival of the distinguished visitors will take place in the grand dining hall of the hotel, and will be the grandest that has ever yet taken place in Canada. Prominent gentlemen, distinguished in literature, art, science and politics from all parts of Canada, and in some instances from the United States, have already signified their intention of being present. Judging from the preparations made on all sides the reception of our new Governor-General will, with the exception of that given to the Prince of Wales in 1860, be on the most extensive scale ever seen in Montreal. Great dissatisfaction is expressed at the Mayor and Council, who are taking almost no interest in the reception.

RECEPTION AT OTTAWA.

Preparations are in progress for a grand reception at Ottawa.

MILITARY HONORS.

In the Militia General Orders in Saturday's Gazette appeared the following, over the signature of Lieut.-General Sir Selby Smyth:—"It is directed with the concurrence of His Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commander-in-Chief, and of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that unless dispensed with by authority whenever Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, is present, the salute, if ordered to be fired, shall consist of twenty-one guns. The royal standard shall be hoisted on the fort or battery, and the guard of honor shall observe the usual military honors to royalty by dropping the color with the present. The Field Marshal Commander-in-Chief has further been pleased to signify Her Majesty's wish that the Royal Standard should be hoisted on Government House, Ottawa, whenever Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise is in residence.

EXTRAORDINARY GRAVE ROBBERY.

REMAINS OF A. T. STEWART STOLEN.

A profound sensation has been caused by the desecration of the vault and the stealing of the body of A. T. Stewart, the New York millionaire, which occurred last week. Heavy rewards have been offered, and the police and detective authorities have been putting forth extraordinary exertions to discover the robbers, but though the trail has been traced some distance and several arrests have been made, the body has not yet been recovered. A large number of persons have written letters offering to give information that will lead to the recovery of the body for a large sum of money, but without success. The affair was undoubtedly planned and carried out with the view of extorting money from the family of the deceased merchant prince.

Communications.

TOWN MATTERS AND MUNICIPAL REFORMS.

[To the Editor of THE CANADIAN POST.]

SIR,—As the time is approaching when the ratepayers will make their annual choice of Councillors, I ask space to make a suggestion or two.

It must be admitted that our financial status is anything but satisfactory. The rate in the dollar is excessive and is inadequate, high as it is, to meet our liabilities, a large balance being left unprovided for, which as usual will be carried over in the bank. Be the fault where it may, we cannot prosper while this state of things remains. I think that in the last month of the year the larger property holders and those most interested in the future welfare of the town should meet together and make a thorough inquiry into the past management and consider what steps should be taken to better our monetary condition. It would be well to form themselves into an association to meet annually or oftener if required. At present there are many things which might be discussed, such as the consolidation of our indebtedness, the separation of the town from the county—if upon investigation this would appear to be to our advantage—the selection of councillors for the next year, and the advisability of petitioning the Legislature to make some amendments to the municipal law.

As regards the last subject it seems to me the present law is imperfect in many ways. In the town thirteen councillors are more than we require, six or eight and a mayor would surely be enough.

Then the system of ward representation is, I think, unnecessary and undesirable. Its abolition and the introduction at the same time of cumulative or preferential voting would, without doubt, while giving every section as complete representation as before, cause a greater interest to be taken in our annual elections and insure the return of more competent and reliable men.

The cumulative vote though in use in some cases in England and the United States is in this country little understood. It gives every elector as many votes as there are candidates, which votes can be given all to one candidate or be distributed among them as the voter thinks fit.

The preferential vote is more elaborate. To be elected a candidate must receive a certain number or votes called the quota, which is ascertained by dividing the number of votes by the number of representatives to be elected. Each elector can vote for as many candidates as he pleases, placing their names on his ballot paper in the order of his preference; his vote, however, is only available for one candidate and if, when his ballot is counted, his first choice has received the quota the vote is applied to the second candidate he has named, or if the second has the quota then to the third, and so on.

It has also been suggested that the provisions requiring councillors to have a property qualification and prohibiting others who hold certain offices from being members of council should be abolished. The ratepayers should be free to choose any elector to represent them no matter what his rating may be, having regard entirely to his fitness for the position which they wish him to occupy. In place of these restrictions I would propose that each nomination be in writing and be accompanied with a small deposit of money—say $20—to guarantee its genuineness and to cover the expenses of the contest.

In Australian city or town municipalities property of a rental value of £50 entitles the ratepayer to one vote, if over £50 and less than £100, he has two votes, if £100 three votes, and so on. We certainly require a provision of this kind here, when so many money by-laws are before the people, and where the majority—owning perhaps one-fifth of the real estate—can place a heavy mortgage, lasting for twenty years (and practically for all time to come) upon the other four-fifths of the property belonging to the minority. There is neither reason nor justice in such a state of things.

In all cases where a woman is *sui juris* occupying a house or tenement, or possessed of a freehold, or is otherwise in a position which in the case of a man would amount to qualification, there is no sound reason for depriving her of a vote. In England the municipal franchise has been long since granted to her sex. Why should it not be done here?

There are many other amendments to municipal law which I think would be opportune, and the school law in so far as it concerns the election of trustees and their power to impose taxes is not altogether faultless; but I will say no more.

These opinions may just now be seed on stony soil, I only ask for them the consideration to which they may be entitled.—I am, Sir, etc.,

WM. MCDONNELL, JR.

Lindsay, Nov. 13th, 1878.

LOCAL MATTERS.

COBOURG.

A NARROW ESCAPE.—On Sunday night last, the family of Mr. Rose, of the "Leading House," had a narrow escape from suffocation by coal gas. The whole family were affected, but Mrs. Rose the most seriously, her case requiring the careful attention of a physician during Monday. The trouble was not observed until Monday, and would have been much more serious but for the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Rose being awakened early to care for a child. The cause of the accident is believed to have been a neglect to close the aperture in the top of the base-burner in the sitting-room. Those using coal should look well to the condition of their stoves at night, as coal gas is a deadly poison.—[World.

BOWMANVILLE.

ANOTHER BRUIN.—Mr. Wm. Roger Cole, living on the 5th con. Darlington, last week shot a monster bear, which weighed 280 pounds. It is some time since Darlington has been favored with the presence of such an animal, and from the above and many others shot in other settled places, it is strong evidence that Mr. Bruin at large anticipates a long and severe confinement the approaching winter. Following this indication, the public ought to act accordingly.—[News....A bear of the gentler sex, weighing 196 lbs., was shot at Bethesda, Manvers.

THE DUNKIN ACT.—A public meeting to discuss the the Dunkin Act refused to adopt a resolution condemning it.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Geo. Piggott, Manager of the Dominion Organ Factory, has been presented by the employees with an elegant gold chain and locket and a complimentary address.

ORILLIA.

A FRAUD.—A few days ago a person went through town selling certain blank forms, or imitations of Division Court processes, the object of which is to deceive those to whom they may be sent and frighten them into a settlement of the accounts claimed. It may interest those who purchased them to learn that their use is contrary to law, and that any person who forges any process of court, or delivers any paper purporting to be a copy of a process, or acts in any way so as to deceive by a pretence of a process, shall be guilty of felony. This matter came under the notice of Judge Chadwick, of the county of Wellington, a few days ago, to which allusion is made by the Harrison Tribune:—At the sittings of the Division Court before Judge Chadwick to-day, His Honor said that his attention had been called to a paper which he understood was in use or coming into use among the lower class of shopkeepers, and which was so worded as to appear like a process of court. Such gross misconduct must be stopped. He remarked that probably the wrongdoers were not aware that they were committing a felony, but no doubt they would be warned if public attention was called to the matter, and he made his remarks hoping that they would be referred to by the newspapers. He further directed Mr. Baker to inform him if any came before his knowledge, as he should certainly feel it his duty to instruct the County Crown Attorney to prosecute.—[Times.

BELLEVILLE.

THE GRAND JUNCTION.—Work on the Grand Junction Railway is proceeding rapidly, the rails being now laid to a point seven miles beyond Stirling. Track laying goes on at the rate of about one mile per day.

DISTURBANCE AT A WEDDING.—There were some disgraceful proceedings at a wedding in St. John's Church last Thursday night. The ceremony was interrupted several times by shouting and other noises from the audience. One of the church-wardens was assaulted while trying to restore to order, and some of the church windows were broken. No cause is known for the disturbance.

RETURNED TO THE CHURCH.—Rev. J. R. Jones, of Belleville, whose letter resigning his pastorship and renouncing the Christian faith was published a few months ago and created some stir, has returned to the fold again. In a letter to the Bishop of Ontario, in whose diocese he was acting at the time of his fall, he says that when he arrived in Belleville two years ago he found it a "hot-bed" of scepticism, especially amongst the young men of the town, and that, determined to meet the sceptic on his own ground, he purchased several infidel books to post himself in their arguments. The result was the overthrow of his own faith. On giving up the ministry he commenced reading law, but meeting the Rev. Dr. Pearson, of Detroit, his doubts were dispelled, and he now seeks to re-enter the Church he had forsaken.—[Times.

SHIPPED FOR SCOTLAND.—Rathbun & Co., of Mill Point, have shipped a car load of manufactured doors to Scotland, in bond via Oswego and New York. If the experiment proves profitable more will follow.

GRAIN SHIPMENTS.—The grain exports to date (Nov. 16) exceed those of the whole of last season, and the imports of coal are in excess of those of last year.

BARN BURNED.—The barn and sheds of Adam Wilson, 8th con. of Hungerford, were burned on Thursday. Loss, $2,000; no insurance.

SEVERE ACCIDENT.—A brakesman named Bartley, whilst coupling cars on the Grand Trunk here Monday morning, had both his legs broken and narrowly escaped with his life.

ENGLISH CHURCH APPOINTMENT.—At a meeting of the vestry of Christ church, Belleville, on Friday night, it was resolved to memorialize the Bishop to nominate, the Rev. W. C. Clarke. The congregation had previously chosen the Rev. Mr. Dewdney, of Montreal, but the clergy had opposed it. Mr. Clarke is an M.B. Bishop's medalist.

—It has not become generally known that one very big fish was caught in the Glasgow Bank's net in the person of the Duke of Sutherland. In one of the unlucky hours which fall to the lot of even the luckiest of mortals, his Grace took four shares in this infamously conducted concern, and these four shares are likely, it is said, to cost him $500,000. It is now denied