

DID NOT BELIEVE SALISBURY.

Labouchere on the Cleveland Street Scandals.

A SCENE AND A SUSPENSION.

A last (Friday) night's London cable says: In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Labouchere spoke in his motion of inquiry into the Cleveland street scandal. He alleged that the case presented an official attempt to defeat justice. He detailed the facts of the scandal, and contended that the sentence of nine months' imprisonment for Veck was itself a scandal, because of the inadequacy of the punishment. The Treasury officials, having full knowledge of the whole affair, had refrained from prosecuting Newlove and Veck until Sir Stevenson Blackwood, Secretary of the Post-office, had insisted upon taking action against his own subordinates, the postal employees involved. Then, finding themselves compelled to prosecute these two men, the Treasury officials determined to prevent the exposure from going any further, and tried to hush it all up. When Hammond fled the police proposed to secure his extradition from Belgium, where they had him watched. Both the Chief of Police and the Secretary of the Post office urged the Government to obtain his extradition. The extradition could have readily been obtained. But Lord Salisbury, through a Treasury official, wrote that he could not ask for the extradition. Lord Salisbury certainly knew the treaty with Belgium covered the offences alleged against Hammond. Hammond learned he was watched in Belgium and hurried to America, and in all this as to information and otherwise he was assisted by Mr. Newton, the solicitor of Lord Arthur Somerset. The object of the Government was obviously to hunt Hammond beyond the range of extradition, that being regarded as the best plan for preventing revelations affecting certain personages. (Opposition cheers.) When Monroe, Chief of Police, reported to the Treasury the evidence in the hands of the police, involving Lord Somerset and others, the Treasury ordered the police to desist from watching the case, and Lord Somerset obtained at the Horse Guards four months' leave of absence to enable him to quit the country. But he did not quit the country. He appeared at the funeral of his grandmother, the Dowager Duchess of Beaufort. Lieut.-General Sir Dighton Probyn, a prominent member of the household of the Prince of Wales, informed Lord Salisbury of this. Lord Salisbury stated that a warrant to take him into custody would be issued, but he caused this decision to become known to Lord Somerset's commanding officer, through whom this information was conveyed to Somerset. Thereupon Somerset fled. Somerset was not only allowed to resign and leave the army honorably, but he is still a magistrate for two counties. (Laughter.) Moreover he did not hide himself. He went to Paris openly and asked for a place at the court of the Sultan. Two men are now in prison for their part in these scandalous occurrences. But they are poor and obscure; their highly-placed confederate is un molested. The Government took care that the warrant for his apprehension should not be issued till he was out of the country. (Cheers and Ministerial "oh's!") Mr. Labouchere said his charge was plain enough. It was that Lord Salisbury and others criminally conspired to defeat the ends of justice. Therefore he asked that the committee inquire into his allegations. (Laughter and cheers.) He trusted that the Government, whatever their defence, would not put up a lawyer with a brief in his hand to defend them by special pleading and evasive chicanery. Mr. Labouchere then withdrew his motion.

Attorney General Webster said he believed the House would agree there was not a shadow of foundation for these disgraceful charges. It was absurd to suppose that Lord Salisbury or the Treasury officials could have any interest in regarding the prosecution in this case. The procedure in fact took the usual course. When the evidence was all in, it was first collated with a view to the case against Somerset. The opinion of the Lord Chancellor was then taken, and this opinion was that the evidence was insufficient to justify prosecution. Subsequently additional evidence was obtained, and this rendered the issue of a warrant advisable, but he had authority to state that Sir Dighton Probyn, after his interview with Lord Salisbury on this subject, neither saw nor communicated with Somerset, either directly or indirectly. Neither had Lord Salisbury any knowledge of Somerset's movements to avoid the service of the warrant. Mr. Labouchere's story that Lord Salisbury informed Sir Dighton Probyn that a warrant was about to be issued was mere gossip.

Mr. Labouchere, interrupting, offered to write the name of his informant on a slip of paper and put the slip of paper into the hand of Sir Richard Webster, leaving to Sir Richard the choice of disclosing or not disclosing the name to the House.

Sir Richard Webster said Mr. Labouchere could adopt what course he chose. He himself had direct authority to contradict the allegation that Lord Salisbury had spoken to any one regarding the issue of the warrant.

Mr. Labouchere said he could not accept Sir Richard Webster's assurances, nor did he believe Lord Salisbury, whose denials were obviously untrue.

The Chairman here requested the gentleman to withdraw the words calling into question the veracity of the Premier.

Mr. Labouchere, declined to withdraw the words and the Premier named him for suspension, and called upon the House to adjudge upon the conduct of the member.

Upon division the suspension was carried by 177 to 96.

Mr. Labouchere, in leaving the House, said he regretted the fact, but his conscience would not allow him to say that he believed Lord Salisbury's denials. (Cheers from the Parnell party.)

Mr. Morley suggested that this subject be dropped, and the House proceeded to other business.

Mr. W. H. Smith demanded that the House should express an opinion on the motion notwithstanding its withdrawal, and should say the motion was improper and the charge false.

The vote against Mr. Labouchere's motion was 163 to 80.

The Chairman then put Mr. Labouchere's amendment proposing the reduction of the

credit, and Mr. W. H. Smith moved the closure.

This the Chairman declined to put. The discussion was continued, and finally, under the closure proposed by another member, Mr. Labouchere's amendment was rejected by 206 to 66.

Mr. Balfour promised Mr. Sexton that he would consult the Earl of Zetland on the release of the persons incarcerated in consequence of the disturbance at Clongorey.

LET THE EAGLE SOAR.

Yankee Skippers Complain of Fresh Outrages by Canucks.

A Boston despatch of Saturday says Gloucester and the Massachusetts fishing towns generally are again up in arms at the Canadian fishery officials, at what they term a new outrage. This time they charge collusion between the pilots and Customs officials to blackmail Yankee skippers into paying what they think illegal fees. The complaints are numerous. Captain Pius McDonald, of the schooner William D. Daisey, arrived at Gloucester to-day. She got into hot water at Halifax, and the captain's experience is the same as the other complainants. He states that on his trip out to Newfoundland he became ill, and on January 24th was driven into Halifax for shelter. In the afternoon Captain Stewart, of the revenue cutter Argus, boarded the fisherman, and insisted on putting a ship's keeper on board, denying the right of the American fisherman to stay in the harbor twenty-four hours before reporting. Captain McDonald, to avoid trouble sent the mate to the Custom House to pay all the fines. After paying this, clearance papers were refused until pilotage was paid. The mate protested that the schooner had not been in the harbor proper, or seen any pilots, but he had to pay all the same, and was told that orders had been issued to all Canadian ports to detain a large number of named Yankee vessels, who it is alleged had avoided paying pilotage. Over fifty captains claim similar treatment, and declare it is a put up job between the officials and the pilots. An appeal to Congress is in preparation.

A KANSAS "SLICK 'UN"

Robs a Bank, Gives Himself Away and is Shot by the Officers.

A Meridan, Kas., despatch gives the following story: "I'm a slick 'un." Telegraph operator Taylor heard those words addressed to him by a stranger last night while he was receiving a message at the railway station. He paid no attention to the remark until he completed the message, which read as follows: "To the Sheriff Hicks & Cephart's bank at Valley Falls robbed this evening of \$3,000. Robber unknown; description as follows: Blonde hair and moustache, light blue eyes, 5 feet 11 inches, medium weight." The operator looked up and nearly lost his breath when he saw standing before him the man described in the despatch. He did not reveal the fact of the recognition, but merely agreed with the stranger that he was a "slick 'un." The stranger asked where he could put up for the night. The operator directed him to a hotel where the "slick 'un" took a room, requesting to be called in the morning in time for the train. Police officers were notified by the operator of the stranger's arrival. They went to the hotel, and the stranger was called out of his room and arrested. He attempted to get at his weapons, but the officers were too quick, and he was shot dead. The coroner's jury returned a verdict exonerating the officers. The outlaw was searched and the stolen money recovered.

Brothers in Misfortune.

A Windsor despatch of Thursday night says: Two brothers named Fleming, of Coteau, visited Windsor yesterday. They had Michigan Central railway tickets for Essex Centre, and were to have got on the train at Windsor station. One of them did so, but the other wandered around the yard till he walked off the dock into the river, from which he was recovered with considerable difficulty. The other on the train, not finding his brother, jumped off at Maidenstone station, and got struck by the train which he was attempting to board. Word was wired to his brother in Windsor, who was nearly dead from drowning at the time, or being medical assistance immediately, as the victim of the railway accident was bleeding to death.

Requiescat in Pace.

"Do you know, George, I wish you would stay at home to-morrow."

"Why, darling?"

"Oh, because this afternoon a terrible-looking tramp came here while you were away and ordered me to give him something to eat, so I had to give him all that sponge cake I made last Saturday, and, George, he says he is coming back to-morrow."

"Did he eat the cake, darling?"

"Yes, all of it, every bit."

"Well, then, set your mind at rest, dear, he will never come back."—New York Ledger.

They Give Liberally.

Jay Gould pays \$2,500 a year for his pew in Dr. Hall's Church, New York. Although feebly regular at the morning service, he never appears in the evening. Russell Sage, on the contrary, is in his slip at both services. The combined contributions of these financial Christians are estimated at \$10,000 a year, or \$1,000 a month. All nameless offerings of \$300 or more, which are by no means rare, are attributed to these gentlemen.

"Thank God! there is one man who never spoke a cross word to his wife," said Sam Jones at an Omaha meeting the other night, as a round faced, good-natured man rose, in response to Sam's question if such a man was present. The good natured man smiled a bland smile and said: "I haven't any wife. I'm a bachelor!"

The young Chinese Emperor appears to be developing into a reformer. He has insisted upon the closing of gambling establishments at Peking, and is trying to cut down expenses connected with the Government administration.

The sudden appearance of a mouse on the floor of the English House of Commons a few nights ago upset the dignity of the eminent gentleman near it and led to a little panic that made it necessary to drop business for a while.

THE DIVORCE MILL.

Senators Recommend the Cutting of Matrimonial Bonds.

A last (Wednesday) night's Ottawa despatch says: The Divorce Committee of the Senate met this morning, Senator Dickey presiding. Evidence was heard in two cases. The first was the application of Christina Pitman Glover, for divorce from her husband, Christopher Columbus Glover, on the ground of adultery. Mr. Gemmill, Ottawa, and Mr. Lasier, of Hamilton, appeared for the petitioner. The respondent was not present nor was he represented by counsel. The evidence showed that the petitioner was wronged by Glover before their marriage. The marriage took place in 1874, but Glover three days after sent her home to her parents with the statement that he could not afford to keep her. She never saw him again, and he never contributed towards her support. Soon afterwards the husband moved to Michigan, and there cohabited with one Hattie Glover. He claimed to have obtained in Michigan a divorce from his first wife, and has now gone through the ceremony of marriage with Hattie Glover. The committee decided to report in favor of granting the prayer of the petition.

The next case was that of Hugh F. Keefer, asking for divorce from his wife on the ground of adultery. Mr. Gemmill conducted the case for the petitioner, the wife being unrepresented. Keefer was married in Thorold in 1871 to Rebecca Ann Tisdall. The parties lived together for twelve years, two children being the fruit of their union. In 1883 Keefer went to work on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is now a resident of the city of Vancouver, B. C. While there he received a letter from his wife, who had remained in Thorold, although he had sent her money to enable her to join him, stating that she had married too young and that she had lost all affection for him, and she had made up her mind never to live with him again. The husband was naturally shocked to receive such a communication from the wife for whom he was making a home in the West. Her father was with him in Vancouver, and he despatched him at once to Thorold to reason with his daughter. Keefer never heard from the father. Shortly afterwards the husband was served with an application by her for divorce from him made to the United States court. Later he received a newspaper containing a notice of his wife's marriage with one Simpson. She has now been living with Simpson for six years. The committee determined to report favorably on the case, deeming that Keefer was entitled to relief.

The next case that will be heard will be that of David Philip Clapp, Public School Inspector. This case will be somewhat more exciting than either of the above cases, as Mrs. Clapp, from whom the inspector desires to be separated, will oppose the application. Clapp's story is that he was married to Alice Mae Macdonald in 1870. They lived together for seventeen years, two girls having been born to them. In March, 1887, the wife deserted her husband, and the latter proposes to prove that after she had so deserted him, she acted improperly and at other times prior to that. Mrs. Clapp is in the city, and will oppose her husband's petition by every resource she can command.

BY A SINGLE THRUST

A New Jersey Silk Manufacturer Ends a Troubled Life.

A last night's Jersey City, N. J., despatch says: Claude Chaffanjon, a well known silk manufacturer, committed suicide here this morning by stabbing himself. He was 63 years old and a widower. He came to this country from France, and was one of the pioneers of the silk weaving industry in New Jersey. About three years ago he became involved in litigation with a partner, who succeeded for a time in ousting him from the control of their extensive business. Chaffanjon won the suit for the possession of the property, but the trouble preyed on his mind, and a succession of petty strikes among his employees tended to disturb him still further. He left letters stating that his debts and cares had increased until he could carry them no longer. After writing these letters Chaffanjon removed his outer clothing and scattered the garments about the room. He then went into the bath room and filled the tub about two-thirds full. He placed a revolver at the end of the tub, evidently intending to shoot himself if his dagger did not answer the purpose. His hand, however, was steady, as a single thrust lodged the point of the dagger in his heart. The weapon remained in his clenched hand as he sunk backward and slid down the incline of the bath until his face was beneath the water. Death was probably instantaneous.

Shot His Only Child.

A special from Waterloo, N. Y., says: Wilfred Sykes, a boss in the finishing department of the Waterloo woolen mills, was cleaning his gun on Friday night, preparatory to his usual Saturday hunt. His only child, a little girl 4 years old, was playing around the room near her father, who playfully pointed the gun at her. She at once cried out, "Don't shoot me, papa." He supposed the gun was empty and pulled the trigger. It was loaded, and the whole contents struck the little one, completely tearing out the left side of her head. Her death was instantaneous. The father is completely prostrated. His wife has been upon a sick bed with consumption for the past four months, and her recovery is now doubtful.

"Will you trust me, Fanny?" he cried. "With all my heart, with all my soul, with all myself, Augustus," she whispered, nestling on his manly bosom. "Would to Heaven that you were my tailor," he murmured to himself, and took her tenderly in his arms.

M. DeBowitz, the Paris correspondent of the London Times, telegraphs that a pardon will certainly be granted to the Duc d'Orleans in a few days.

In the ties of matrimony the man whom his wife accords the greatest liberty feels himself the most strongly bound.

Samuel Scarlett, a prominent Orange-man and well-to-do farmer of the township of McKillop, county of Huron, was trampled to death by a steer in his own yard on Saturday.

CUMBRIOUS AND COSTLY.

A Flamboro' Farmer's Opinion of Our County Councils.

A SUBSTITUTE PLAN.

An Elective Commission of Six—a Death-blow to Sectionalism—Cheapness and Efficiency—"Fancy" Systems of Voting.

While conversing with a Flamboro' township farmer a few days ago the recent proceedings of the County Council were mentioned casually, and from the particular incident the question of county government in general was reached by easy gradations. "This County Council business," said the gentleman from Flamboro', "is pretty much of a humbug, and a rather expensive one, too. There was a time, when there were other important duties than the mere care of county property devolving upon them, that they had justification for their existence. That time has passed. The functions of township and village councils have been so amplified that much of the work here and there throughout the counties has been relegated to them, and properly so, as they are in closer touch with the people; and now a good deal that is done by the county bodies is done expensively, and, in my judgment and that of many of my friends in the county, without that degree of local disinterestedness that should be manifested in all public business. The fact is that expenditures by County Councils partake much of the ward-grabbing of the towns and cities. Works are obtained on a kind of barter plan—a you-help-me-and-I'll-help-you system—whereby in order to obtain the grant necessary for a certain work, and which on purely business principles, and as a matter of justice, ought to be given, the representatives of the locality are constrained to support some other expenditure, perhaps less necessary or justifiable, and for which they would not otherwise vote. This leads to much injustice and unnecessary taxation of the people on the one hand, while it results, on the other, in diminished efficiency in county government and a less economical expenditure of the people's money. The less populous townships and the small villages of the province feel the effects of this evil; they have fewer representatives at the boards and have, consequently, less to offer in barter for support. That the larger towns are alive to it is clearly evidenced in the promptness which which they seize on excuses for separation from the counties to enter into business on their own account. It's an expensive system, too, even were its work well done. A body of twenty, thirty, fifty men, does not transact business rapidly or deliberately as a rule, and work requiring deliberation as is well-known, is usually left to small committees—a fact that tends to prove the wisdom of reducing the number of councillors—and the routine work is often railroaded through. The fees and mileage of councillors make up a pretty snug little sum, and when the contingencies of the municipality require some prompt action a special meeting is a costly addition to the annual bill. We are a very much governed people and I think a big hole in our pocket could be closed up by reducing the number of County Councillors, if we had to relegate all work, outside of care of county property to the townships."

My Flamboro' friend is not the first shrewd farmer who has voiced the views I have stated here. It is a general cause of complaint that "log-rolling" prevails in many, if not all, of the county bodies. Indeed, it is as inseparable from the system of representation by townships as in that of representation by wards in City Councils. This log-rolling kills time (and some County Councils value time highly), wastes money and inflicts hardships in many cases. How then is it to be abolished? Clearly it can not be abolished while each member of this large body owes his election to a particular section of the county and looks forward to re-election on the strength of what he can secure for his constituents in the general game of grab. Appreciating that the evil is at least aggravated by the desire of each to do or secure some sectional good or benefit that he may lay reasonable claim to local support on the strong plea of self-interest, some have advocated making county councillors ineligible for a second term. For two potent reasons this suggestion is not to be seriously considered: It would at once deprive the county councils of experienced members and remove all incentives to acquire facility and familiarity in municipal politics; and, as it could not eradicate selfishness, it would fail of its object, if it did not aggravate the evil, as each representative, knowing he would not have another chance, might be depended on to use every means at his command to get votes for his own section of the county. It would be a case of "After me the deluge." Reduction of representation in the townships seems equally inadequate as a remedy. To abolish the effects of sectionalism you must abolish representation by sections.

How is it to be done? Some of our cities and towns have found that the abolition of the ward system and the expenditure of the public moneys by a commissioner responsible to the whole body has proven an advance on the ward-grabbing and wastefulness that preceded it. There may be something to be learned from this experiment. In some parts of the neighboring Republic the county business is transacted by Boards of Commissioners, each of whom is responsible directly to the people of the whole county. The boards usually consist of six members and a secretary-treasurer. Two retire annually, so that even if neither of the retiring members are re-elected there remain always in office two members of two years', and two of one year's experience in the conduct of the business. It will be seen at once that a body like this can be assembled at small cost at any time, and can (having always a third year members in it) have a thorough acquaintance with the details of their business. They are at once a committee and a council and, if they are men of capacity, there are enough of them to deal with all the business that comes within their jurisdiction.

If they violate their trust or exceed their duty the same remedy is applicable as under our system—recourse to the law courts.

In elections to such a body sectionalism plays no part, as each candidate asks for the suffrages of the county, and is by the vote of the whole county elected or defeated. When a grant is asked for for the improvement of a certain road or bridge he is free to stand on grounds of justice and public policy instead of supporting or opposing for the purpose of grinding the axes or rolling the logs of his own little section.

But it may be interposed here that the most populous sections would count in the votes. That is true, and is equivalent to saying that twenty times two exceed ten times two. At the same time a populous section has always more influence at the ballot box than a sparsely settled one, and its claim to a liberal share of the expenditure toward which it contributes so largely is not without force. But the danger of sectionalism would be greatly minimized by the circumstance of a whole county voting for candidates drawn from the whole county. If thought desirable a further protection is available in proportional voting, a system which, in an educated country like ours, should present no insuperable difficulty to the officials or the electorate. In an election under this system the names of all the candidates would appear on the ballot. Whether one, two or three members were required, the voter's duty would be the same; he would simply mark opposite each name a figure indicating the order of his preference, according to the number of names on the ballot. The labor involved in the summing up is not so great as would at first sight appear, and the result is that each candidate's total indicates exactly the degree of esteem in which he is held by the electorate of the county, and "plumping" is abolished. For example: Take a case of five candidates "A, B, C, D, E," and let us suppose an electoral vote of ten:

	2	4	5	1	4	3	5	1	3	1	—27
A	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	3	1	2	—16
B	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	3	—33
C	4	3	4	5	2	5	4	5	5	3	—41
D	5	1	2	3	5	3	1	4	5	3	—33

Now, the above would show in detail how each of the ten electors voted and the summing up. If only one member is required B is elected. If two members are required A is second preference.

Another "fancy" system of voting is known as the "cumulative" system, in which each elector is entitled to cast as many votes as there are members to be elected, and is privileged to cast all for one candidate or divide them up as he chooses. This enables a minority to secure a voice in councils when otherwise they would be unable to elect a representative, but it opens the door for the manipulation of cliques on strictly scientific lines, and might, were it adopted, stimulate the study of mathematics in connection with elections. Space does not permit me to enlarge here. There seems, however, to be a feeling abroad that our County Council system is cumbrous and expensive, and, in some cases, of doubtful efficiency, and I am inclined to think it is not unacceptible of improvement. MASQUETTE.

NORTHWEST NEWS.

Goldhill, Dannatt Mine, Scovis, the Pine Portage, the Winnipeg Consolidated Sultans and innumerable smaller claims are being prepared to work this spring, and there is every probability of a big mining boom taking place.

Eight MacLeod saloonkeepers have been fined \$100 each for selling whisky illegally. The body of the late Attorney-General Clark, buried at Pembina, has been removed to Seattle, Washington.

A Red Portage despatch says: John Mather, for his company, has laid claim to the Sultans Island, in Lake of the Woods, as coming under his lease, and has put a gang of men to cut timber on the island. The island was formerly an Indian reserve, and the title being extinguished, the island, which is very rich in mineral, has been sold, and in many cases patents issued, by the Dominion Government to members of the Ontario Mining Company. The Government have taken up the cutlogs in defence of the miners, and have instructed their foreman to continue cutting, and the agent is continuing to seize, also notifying the Indian Agent at Winnipeg of the action. Matters are still in this state, waiting further orders of the Government. It is generally looked upon here as a step taken by Mather to test his right.

A Mind-Reader.

Dudely—You look at me as if you thought I was a fool, eh?

Stranger—Why, no; you can't be such a fool, after all. Your remark shows that you read a man's thoughts at a glance.

Not Worth a Tear.

Young Wife—Oh, John, the rats have eaten all my angel cake!

Husband—What! All of it?

Young Wife—Every piece. I feel like crying.

Husband—Oh, pawaw! Don't cry over a few rats.

He Would Like To.

Timid Wife (to husband going to Europe on business)—Now, dear, do be careful and not fall overboard, won't you?

Husband—To be sure I will. Don't worry. I shall be all right.

Wife—And if you should get wrecked out in the ocean, John, I want you to telegraph me at once.

At the Coroner's inquest to inquire into the death of Hannah Cole, Belleville, the jury found that she met her death from exposure and violence, the violence being inflicted by William Arnott.

Lord Salisbury has complained to Mr. Waddington of some French intrigues inciting the Canadian habitues to an agitation for separation. Mr. Waddington replied that he had no information of any such proceeding.

Dr. Bell, of Amherstburg, was driving out in the country, when the horse carried the buggy with the doctor over an embankment. The horse was killed and the buggy smashed, but the doctor escaped with a few bruises.