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THE MARKDALE STANDARD

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1894.

Week's Commercial Summary.

The most sanguine do not at present, under existing circumstances, look for any great activity, but on the other hand no panic or general paralysis is feared with our great recuperative resources in the hands of our conservative merchants and bankers, as well as our frugal farmers and general citizens. The number of failures continues large as compared with recent years, but fortunately the average of liabilities is reduced, and there has been recently no change of consequence in the prices of products. The country seems to have adjusted itself to the present situation, and is producing no more than sufficient to supply current needs, which are greatly reduced in volume, now are importers ordering as freely as formerly, which certainly will render the process of liquidation more comfortable for them, and eventually more satisfactory to all concerned. There is now a tendency on all hands to do business with smaller stocks, and sorting orders are receiving relatively more attention. The low level of prices that prevails renders Canada a favorite market, and consequently our exports continue large. The strength shown here, however, is not a matter of special qualification, as we are selling in many cases at less than cost. All these indications point clearly to one conclusion, and that is that business interests have been in a state of suspense because of a well settled feeling of uncertainty, which in some respects ought to be eliminated in the near future. As soon as the uncertainty has been removed there can hardly fail to be a revival in manufacturing, etc., for the simple reason that the present stagnation is to be ascribed to the causes underlying it in Canada to last to 2. There is nothing radically wrong with the country, and as soon as our best customers and patrons improve their own very much depressing financial and industrial condition there is nothing to hinder a return to our usual prosperity. Confidence cannot continue on the present scale of the present time, and disturbances such as we predict that they will have to be expected. With the weather continuing unfavorable which, in addition to the cost of the market, interferes with farmers' deliveries in country towns, there is very little hope of immediate improvement in collections. The money market is unchanged, with a slight tendency to drop to 4 and 5 percent in large centres. The annual reports of our bank so formately give only a slight indication of having been effectively the depression.

It is reported from Ottawa that the Government of the United States has in contemplation the erection of extensive works for the smelting of nickel ores, which will give a great impetus to mining in the Sudbury district. The American Government, it is said, will locate their works somewhere in the State of New York, near the international boundary. It has been ascertained that in the extraction of nickel from the matter a very valuable constituent is lost, and the American Government sent an expert metallurgist to Germany, where for six months he studied the process there employed for the production of nickel. His investigation resulted in the discovery that to obtain the highest quality of nickel it is necessary that it be extracted directly from the ore, and without the intermediate process to which it has been subjected on this continent. So satisfactory has been the results that under the new process the Government at Washington recently obtained from Congress an appropriation for the purchase of a suitable site, and it is said to be their intention shortly to erect works for the treatment of ore by the direct method at a cost of probably a million dollars. In all probability the works will be located as stated near the international boundary, since the supply of ore must be drawn direct from the Canadian nickel deposits. This action of the United States Government is taken in mining circles to indicate an immense revival in the very near future of the nickel mining industry in the Sudbury district. Tests made recently, with plate composed in part of nickel produced by the new process have been so satisfactory that there can, be no doubt that the authorities at Washington contemplate its extensive use, not only for the armor of warships, but for the strengthening of land fortifications as well.

Evidence multiplies to sustain the belief that tuberculosis is developed most readily in warm modern stables and under what may be called hot-house conditions. A writer in Country Gentleman, in speaking of a case at Lenox, Mass., in 1888, when thirty-five cattle were destroyed, says: "These cattle were kept in a new barn built only after careful study into every detail. Stables were light and clean. Water was supplied in each stall. Even the most rigorous snap of a Berkshire winter failed to produce a freezing temperature in these stables, and for days at a time these cows remained inside, where they were well groomed and supplied with the best of feed and water. The warmth and comfort of these stables seemed to provide hot-bed conditions for the nurture of the tuberculous bacilli. Berkshire County has had at least six serious outbreaks, or rather developments, of tuberculosis since all of which have occurred in herds of cows kept in costly barns of modern construction, with the best of care, and I know of no instance where cattle left to 'rough it' have been troubled except in isolated cases, which were easily traceable to hereditary inoculation."

The clause in the British budget relating to death duties extending to properties held in the colonies is receiving considerable attention in Canada, and may detrimentally affect British investments in Canadian securities, especially in Ontario, where a similar duty is levied. This will result in a double taxation, and, as pointed out, will tend to discourage colonial investments. A reciprocal elimination of such tax has been suggested, and is worthy of consideration, that is if not found to be unconstitutional. Meanwhile the colonial agents in London declare that the proposals are a fundamental departure from the principals of colonial constitutions.

The field of long-distance electric railroading shows itself very attractive to invention and capital. To show what is being done, at this moment only a few links are wanting in a complete network between New York and Philadelphia, a distance of nearly 100 miles. These links are actually being constricted, and when they are finished both passengers and freight can be carried between the two centers by electricity, over roads which represent a vastly less investment than steam roads, and whose cars can run independently every minute of the day, unhampered by schedules. It is needless to say that, while such a net-work is useless for purposes of swift travel, it must very soon absorb a very large amount of minor and what may be called reticular traffic. A vital point is the great quickness in travel in the electricity system. The trolley cars will pick up a man at any point, drop him at his exact place, and charge him only ten or fifteen cents, where the steam road has been collecting forty or fifty cents. Furthermore, in the matter of speed, the electric cars can give a good accounting, as they are equal in most cases to a speed of twenty-five or thirty miles an hour outside of the city limits, a rate which the ordinary steam road rarely equal and seldom surpass.

It is probably not widely known, says The Electric Review, that only seven out of the seventeen trans-Atlantic cables are in use, ten having given out from various causes. Estimating the cost of each cable at $3,000,000, here is an irreclaimable investment of $30,000,000 safely buried beneath the ocean to a depth ranging from a few fathoms to over five miles.

A Child's Blanket.

It had been a very busy day at the exchange and the auctioneer had grown a trifle weary over the repeated trials which had been and worried even this Trojan son of the stump. The continual refrain of "going, going, gone!" echoed in his brain until he sighed for a respite from his labors.

The eager crowd had come and gone for several hours, and he stood on one of the velvet chairs that had come from nobody but himself knew where, and gazed upon the upturned faces waiting for the next chance, he wondered vaguely if the desire to obtain something for a little animated the entire universe. For many years he had been a prominent figure in the auction mart, and under his hammer had gone often the fruits of a lifetime of accumulation, gone for a song! treasures over which the miser had wrung the lover sighed, the mother wept—all gone, and with them the associations of a tender past, carrying with them the scent of the faded rose, save for the sounds of bitter weeping over woes that had wrung the soul.

"Going, gone!" had echoed above the cushions into which the tears of happiness had dropped and over the velvets which had marked the impress of tiny feet, long since tripping in the aisles of the unknown.

"How much am I offered?" had sent to the four corners of the earth so many things that the auctioneer hoped, if there was nothing hot, but there was. His indefatigable assistant had raked from a corner a bundle of bedding and handed it to his employer.

"What can I get for this?" he cried, force of habit forcing him into the run again. "Another opportunity." Even as he unrolled the small bundle some one said "Fifty cents."

The voice broke the stillness which settled over the crowd as a child's blanket hung before their gaze. Why? Did the sight of that small woollen cover tell to them, the callous crowd a pitiful story?

The busy man forgot to cry his refrain as he dropped his eyes upon the little square. How said the upon its surface small stains as it temptingly falls upon his eye, and his mind went back a few years before that day to a scene he never would forget.

The bedchamber was darkened. About the hands the gleams of sunlight crept into the room and fell like golden shafts upon the little cot over which his wife hung in an agony of pain. He saw again the little white hands, hands that had crept so often about his neck at night as he lay by his side, pink faltering as just such a cover as is now held in his grasp. He saw the little head with its mass of tangled curls moving restlessly on the pillow, and felt again the hot touch of the red lips upon which he had pressed his own in loving caress, eager to soften the pain and to wse back into health the loved little form slowly drifting, drifting away.

The crowd was gone. This busy man saw nothing but the child who had grown to his very being and then heard his little grasp on the world and had gone drifting, drifting out into space, which promised infinite love but left bitter desolation and despair for those left behind. The tears fell down upon his beard in flecks, and as he felt the hot drops he awoke from his dream.

"Gone for fifty cents to the only and last bidder."

The auctioneer sighed heavily as he got down from his stand and watched the crowd depart, and then he went home to his wife, his heart filled with sorrow at the thought of his own dear little one, and the empty cradle packed away in the garret.

A Decision After Solomon.

A curious incident took place the other day in a Brooklyn police court. A lame man had been arrested on the complaint of his wife for cruelly beating her. The judge was about to send the man to the penitentiary, for when a woman swears against a man the man gets but small credit. Just then the little 4-year-old child, which the mother was leading out of court and which seemed to be hanging back, attracted the judge's attention. He ordered the child to be placed between the two parents, a considerable distance from each, and then directed each parent to call it. The mother called to it first but the child did not move. Then the father called and the child ran to his arms with every manifestation of affection. This settled the case. The judge told the prisoner that the child had saved him from the penitentiary, as he was satisfied he must have a kind heart or the child would not be so fond of him. This was a practical way of settling matters, similar to that which history and tradition ascribes to King Solomon.

Another Instance.

"Been any finchings since I left?" asked the miner who had been out prospecting.

"Only one," answered the proprietor of the saloon, which, by the way, was called the "Mary Ellen," because it was a howling success. "That there revivalist feller was strung up when he came back?"

"What for?"

"He came back sellin' Bibles, and the boys kinder thought he might 'a' been working a snap all the time."

Dining-Room Don'ts.

Don't put confections into old worn-out leather-looking shoes.

Don't put sauces and pickles in glass or china hair brushes.

Don't offend good taste by putting toothpicks on the table; no well-bred person uses them at table.

Don't put pepper and salt in receptacles such as dogs, cats, etc., with perforated heads. These are unpleasant suggestions.

Don't put milk and cream in porcelain cows, on the table, pouring the contents into one's cup from the mouth of the "critter." It sets one to thinking of results were those representations realities!

Cyrus W. Field, a son of the late Cyrus W. Field, aged 35, died in New York on Saturday.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT

OUR LAWMAKERS IN COUNCIL

Proceedings of The Senate and House of Commons. New Bills Introduced and The Budget Debate Continued.

Hon. Mr. Daly introduced his bill entitled the Dominion Irrigation Act.

Mr. Davies' motion on the Ellis case was under consideration. Mr. Davies moved a long resolution setting forth all the circumstances leading up to Mr. Ellis' imprisonment, and asking the House to affirm that the Supreme Court of New Brunswick was deserving of censure for the severity of the punishment it inflicted on Mr. Ellis. Mr. Davies supported his motion with a long speech.

Mr. Hazen answered Mr. Davies in an able speech. Being fully conversant with all the facts, he was able to brush away Mr. Davies fallacious arguments, and made a masterly defence of the action of the New Brunswick court. Mr. Fraser followed; and then Mr. Baird, speaking from a personal standpoint, gave a fair and impartial statement of his own independent action in regard to the prosecution for contempt. The speech of the day's sitting, however, was made by Dr. Weldon, of Albert. He very trenchantly corrected the misapprehensions of the facts of the case which had obtained currency in the newspapers, and which Mr. Davies himself had seemed to justify. He laid down the broad principle that if any member attacked a judge he should follow it up by impeachment. Dr. Weldon was listened to attentively by the crowded House and galleries, and was warmly applauded at the close.

Hon. Mr. Mills continued the debate on the Ellis case. He dealt at great length with the constitutional aspect of the affair.

Sir John Thompson asked whether the judgment of the House was upon this question either in tones of invective or in a logical speech, the House fortunately arrived at the same conclusion. Mr. Mills had spoken for a great number of years in which the conduct and language of judges had been brought into question in Parliament, and he had illustrated well the sphere of Parliament in regard to an enquiry into the conduct of judges. He (Sir John) asked every member of the House who had listened to the cases cited whether the range of discussion had not been absolutely limited to the questions such as fitness of the judge, his temperament upon the bench, the partizanship of his conduct or the conduct of the judge in addressing juries in such a manner as to show that he was departing from his business of laying down the law and dealing with politics instead of law. This was the entire range which the discussion had taken in the Parliament of England. Mr. Mills asked the House to day to commit the very offence the judges had been censured for in Parliament, they being censured for having left their business of judgment and gone into politics. The House was invited to leave its business of politics and go into its business of judgment. Sir John then said he would not waste the time of the House by arguing whether Judge Tuck had or had not jurisdiction. In any case it was not an interference with the privileges of this House; because the House had no jurisdiction at all upon the premises. He (Sir John) felt that he would not be doing his duty if he did not deprecate this assumption on the part of the House of a function which the constitution did not give it, and which only brought the House into the contempt of the country. (Hear, hear.) The House, with no more powers in this matter than that of a debating club, was asked to-day to unseal upon its journals judgments of a character which would reduce the prestige and honor of this House and make it a laughing stock at least in professional circles in this country.

Mr. Casey, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Davin and Mr. Laurier followed.

Mr. McCarthy spoke against the resolution, stating that the name of the returning officer for Queen's County might not to have been brought up. He opposed the resolution because it was condemnatory of the judges in New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. Davies asked if there was no other course open to the judges but to act summarily?

Mr. McCarthy replied that Judge Tuck had nothing to do with the attachment for contempt. It came up in another way at the instance of a suitor.

The motion was then put and lost—66 to 110.

Hon. Mr. Daly resumed the debate on Mr. Charlton's motion of June 1. That in the opinion of this House the public lands of the Dominion should be sold to actual settlers only, upon reasonable terms of settlement, and in such areas as can be reasonably occupied and cultivated by the settler; that no sales of public lands to speculators or middlemen should be permitted; that liberal provisions should be made for free homestead grants to settlers; and that land grants to railway corporations have been made by the Government with reckless lavishness and to the serious detriment of the public interest."

He said that if there ever was a time in Canada when these lands were not properly administered, when they were sold to speculators and middlemen, it was during the Mackenzie Administration. (Hear, hear). He showed that there were a larger percentage of homestead applications rejected during the Mackenzie regime than during any period since. He said that after all grants and all land sold the Government still had over 4,000,000 acres to give to railways and over 1,000,000 acres to give persons desiring homesteads, and over and above all this they had millions of acres in reserve.

Mr. Martin, Mr. Davin and Mr. Mills continued the debate until 12.40, when the House divided on Mr. Charlton's amendment, which was defeated by a vote of 47 for to 100 against. The House then went into Committee of Supply, Sir John Thompson acting as Minister of Finance in the absence of Mr. Foster, passed one item, and the committee rose and reported progress.

Mr. Maclean protested strongly against the provisions of the new tariff which reduced the duty of 35 per cent. on agricultural implements to 20 per cent. He said that no reduction had been made in the raw material used in the manufacture of these machines, and that it would be ruinous to the business if the reduction should be allowed to stand. He asked the Government to reimpose the old duty.

Mr. Davin and Mr. McMullen opposed this view. They protested against an increase in the duty on this item.

The House resumed in concurrence on the items in the new tariff: Vinegar was changed from 8 cents to 6 cents per gallon. Items 220 and 222 were altered to read as follows:

220—Iron or steel plates or sheets, sheared or unsheared, hoop, band, strip and skelp iron or steel, sheared or rolled in grooves, and iron or steel of all widths not thicker than No. 17 gauge, n.o.s., $10 per ton.

222—Iron or steel sheets, iron or steel hoops, bands and strips, n.o.s., and other iron or steel of all widths, sheet iron, common or black smothered, polished, coated or galvanized, and Canada plates, No. 17 gauge and thinner, 5 per cent ad valorem.

The egg duty was further amended, with the addition of the following: "Provided also that if the United States impose a less duty than 5 cents per dozen, an equivalent duty shall be collected on eggs imported into Canada."

Hon. Mr. Foster then introduced the bill amending the act respecting the duties of customs founded on the resolutions. The bill was then read a first time.

Mr. Brodeur moved for a select committee of the House to enquire into the irregularities which occurred at the examinations for the civil service in November, 1893, and into all the facts and circumstances which preceded, accompanied and followed the irregularities, with power to send for persons, papers and records, and to administer the oath to witnesses examined by them. Out of the 100 candidates who had written at these examinations, Mr. Brodeur said that there was a report in Montreal and Quebec that some fifty had been personated. It had been shown that some scrutineers had been bribed by the personaters. The result of the investigation, he thought, showed that the system at present followed is a farce, and he thought the Government to blame for not prosecuting the persons implicated.

Sir John Thompson said that he had no intention of denying or extenuating the irregularities which had occurred, that he "regretted them very much." He also regretted the lapse of time in prosecuting the offenders, and could assure the House that orders had been sent out from his department for the prosecution of all the persons against whom there was evidence enough, including the subscribers who had been implicated. He would therefore ask Mr. Brodeur not to press his motion, as the taking of evidence before such a committee would be detrimental to the prosecution of the cases. There were good reasons why the Government had not pressed the cases before, which would come out at the investigation that which he could not divulge before that time.

Mr. Laurier regretted the Premier's attitude, as the motion called not only for an investigation of the cases, but also for an examination of the whole system, and much could be said in favor of such a proposition.

Mr. Costigan said that the number of examinations at which irregularities had occurred, were very low. Those who were concerned should be punished.

This terminated the speaking, and the motion was beaten by a vote of 68 to 40, Mr. McCarthy and Col. O'Brien voting with the Opposition, and there were no defections from either party.

Mr. Charlton's bill to secure the better observance of the Lord's Day was the first order after recess. Coming up for its third reading, Mr. Taylor renewed the objection that the bill would prevent the distribution of periodicals and religious literature in churches and Sunday schools. The House went back into committee to consider this.

The bill prohibits the publication, sale or distribution of newspapers on Sunday, and Mr. Taylor moved the elimination of the word distribution. Mr. Charlton would not agree to this but was willing to put in the word secular before newspapers. Sir John Thompson thought this would be indefinite, and upon his suggestion Mr. Charlton moved the addition of the following words: "Providing nothing in this section shall prevent the distribution of religious publications in churches, Sabbath schools or religious meetings." The was carried and the committee rose and reported.

Upon the order for the third reading, Mr. Mara (Yale, B.C.) moved to recommit for the purpose of limiting the first clause to the sale of any newspaper or journal on Sunday. This was designed to preclude the British Columbia papers that publish on Sunday instead of Monday. After some discussion a division was taken and the amendment was carried by a majority of eight of a vote of 60 to 52. The result aroused applause on the part of the opponents of the bill. The Government was divided in the vote.

In committee the amendment was adopted and the bill was again reported.

On the third reading Mr. Bennett moved that it be referred back for the addition of a section that the owner of any tug leaving a port on Sunday for the purpose of towing or otherwise shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and liable to payment of a fine not less than $100. The amendment was understood to be a fling at Mr. Charlton, and was loudly laughed at by a portion of the House.

Mr. Taylor moved a sub-amendment to add to the amendment to allow tugs to tow a vessel into harbor. After half a dozen members on both sides characterized the amendments as absurd, they were withdrawn.

Mr. Langelier moved that the act do not apply to the Province of Quebec. This being defeated, he moved that the bill be read a third time six months hence, and was again beaten. The bill was then read a third time.

As passed it prohibits the sale of newspapers on the Sabbath, and closes all canals on Sundays between the hours of 6 o'clock a.m. and 9 o'clock p.m., with the proviso that that section may be suspended for a period not exceeding a month by an order in Council when the urgent press of traffic caused by an obstruction or the impeach of the close of navigation—the suspension to apply to one or more canals.

The House then went into committee on Mr. Coatsworth's bill regarding cruelty to animals, the first clause taking up being that empowering bystanders to summon such persons who are ill-treating animals. Mr. McMillan, Col. Tisdale and Mr. Flint objected to this on the ground that it would lead to undue interference with persons who are using necessary force to break in or subdue fractious animals. Mr. Coatsworth replied that the onus of proof would rest on the person lodging the charge. Mr. Mills (Bothwell) said that it was a question of police, and that it would not do to allow passers-by to interfere between a man and his animal. After a further protest from Mr. McMillan, Mr. Coatsworth consented to drop the clause.

Col. Tisdale moved an amendment which would allow the shooting of game birds and vermin trap shooting under stringent regulations against cruelty. He defended the shooting of birds, both as sport and as a test of skill in marksmanship, and said he would be sorry to see the House declare against a sport which had been pursued for so many generations and which was not cruel. It was far better for a boy to grow up in the habit of wandering through the woods and marshes, gun in hand, than to remain cooped up in a city in danger of learning habits far worse than he would learn when in the woods studying nature. This clause was similar to that in the British act dealing with the subject.

As soon as Col. Tisdale had ceased, Sir John Thompson said that the question was one which would entail a great deal of discussion and therefore moved that the committee arise.

The order of the day being called, Mr. Charlton rose to speak upon the famous Tay Canal. He first gave an outline of the history of the construction of the canal. In 1882 Sir Charles Tupper asked for the first vote, stating that the cost would be $132,660, together with certain land damages. In 1883 he asked for $75,000, and said that owing to certain changes the total expense would be $210,000. In 1884 $100,000 more was voted; in 1887 yet $35,000 more, Sir Charles stating that the expense had been $256,860. In 1888 another vote of $78,000 had been asked for. The cost had up to then been $358,364. In 1889 Mr. Foster asked for $25,000; in 1890 for $11,000; and in 1890 a further vote of $20,000, part of it a re-vote, was given. In 1891 Mr. Bowell stated that the cost up to date had been $434,618.21. In 1892 a fifth last call of $20,000 was made to provide a branch from Perth Basin to Haggart's Mill, though the actual cost of this was $36,412.26, or almost double the estimate. Finally, it had lately been stated that the total cost up to January 1 had been $476,128.73. The expenses for maintenance for 1893 had been $2,466, and the revenue $4,615. In 1892 the returns showed that two or three small steamers, a scow, one or two yachts and a skiff or two had been all the vessels passing through it, the tonnage being 5,831. Mr. Haggart in 1881 had assumed the responsibility of the construction, and had claimed that it had benefited to the amount of $30,000, in that the charges upon 20,000 tons of freight had been lowered $1.50 a ton. The returns of the traffic on the canal showed a discrepancy.

Mr. Haggart said that he had not asserted that the 20,000 tons had gone by the canal, and Mr. Charlton replied that he had not said that Mr. Haggart had asserted that the canal had carried this amount, but that Mr. Haggart had said that, through it, the rates had been lowered. If Mr. Haggart had wished to reduce the railway rates, why had he spent half a million upon the canal, when the railway act of 1888 provided means of cutting down exorbitant rates?

In conclusion Mr. Charlton moved an amendment as follows: "That the amount of business transacted upon the Tay Canal is of insignificant proportions when contrasted with the possible capacity of the work, and that the benefits conferred upon the general public by its construction are comparatively trivial and unimportant; that this House expresses regret that so large a sum of $476,128.73 was expended in a way that no consideration of sound public policy could justify, leaving the country to suffer, not only the loss of annual interest upon the investment, but a considerable annual charge in addition to the nearly useless creation if the expenditure is maintained; and that this House is of the opinion that the magnitude of the public debt of Canada is due in no inconsiderable degree to that wasteful and unwarrantable class of expenditure of which the Tay Canal is a typical."

Hon. Mr. Haggart said the present resolution was almost in the same language as one moved in 1891 by the member for Huron (Mr. M. C. Cameron). He had at that time replied fully to the statements which Mr. Charlton had just repeated. The first vote for the canal was made by Parliament in 1882. For several sessions thereafter additional votes for it were made. On each of these occasions no objection was raised to the project by the Opposition. At the time the Tay Canal was constructed he (Mr. Haggart) was a private member of the House, and did his best to get for his constituency of South Lanark a public work which was to its benefit. The work suggested was not a petition signed by the citizens of Perth, and the town had contributed a considerable sum of money to it. It had been a great benefit to the town in saving $1.50 a ton upon 4,000 tons of freight per annum. He thought the people of Perth had a right to have the canal, because they had contributed their share of the cost of public works in every other part of the Dominion.

Sir Richard Cartwright said, in all the profligate expenditures of this Government, he doubted if there could be found a more scandalous waste of the revenues of the country than the particular waste to which the attention of the House had just been directed. The Tay Canal was a worse job than the Curran bridge, because, although in the latter there had been a waste of $200,000, at least the country had got a work of some utility.

Dr. Sproule said that if the Tay Canal was a mistake, and he was not prepared to admit the statement, it was not the only mistake of the kind which had been made by a Government in this country. He reminded the Opposition of the St. Francis Canal in the Thunder Bay district. Upon that work $250,000 was expended by the Mackenzie Government, and it was now filled with sawdust and debris.

The division on the resolution was then taken. The result was a majority of 43 for the Government. It was a straight party vote, Col. O'Brien voting with the Government.

In Committee of Supply a discussion arose upon the item of $3,200 for the Dominion statistical year book. Sir Richard Cartwright criticized the way the book is made up. The statistician's business, he contended, was to record facts; his comments were of mighty little value, and, being influenced by a desire to stand well with his superiors, he had transformed the year book from a public record into a party pamphlet. Mr. McMullen, and Mr. Perry made criticisms along the same line.

The census returns of 1891 were brought under discussion by Mr. Lavergne, member for Athabaska ville. In the village of that name, having a population of 1,000 people, the census gave forty-two industries, employing ninety hands, including five boot and shoe manufactories, employing together five hands. The climax of absurdity was that a woman was put down as the head of a dress-making establishment and a knitting establishment in each of which she was the only one engaged.

Mr. Choquette referred to a similar misleading and unfair enumeration in his Town of Montmagny.

Dr. Borden, taking up the subject, gave the House facts which show that the census, as well as being completely unreliable as to industrial establishments, is no more reliable with regard to the enumeration of population. He had had prepared by a gentleman in his constituency of King's County, N.S., a list of fifty persons. These names he had sent to the census commissioner, asking if they were on the enumeration returns. This enquiry he had been obliged to make, because the commissioner had declined to allow him to examine the returns for himself. The reply he received was that forty-eight of the names were on the returns, and one of the remaining two might be there, but he was not sure. Dr. Borden then read to the House the places of residences of these fifty persons. They were scattered over various States, but most of them were in Massachusetts, and two or three were in different parts of Canada. Whole families, whose members had been absent from King's County five years and longer, had been counted. In one case a person absent for twenty-two years was included in the census. Several had been away for seventeen years and a number for eleven, and all of them for a longer time than two years previous to the taking of the census, and too long to allow of any question that they had been counted by mistake.

Dr. Cameron followed, declaring that the evidence adduced was not worth a straw and that the amount of immigration from Canada had decreased under the National Policy.

Mr. Flint declared that the statistics put out by the Departments of Agriculture were worthless.

Sir Richard Cartwright suggested that the Government give orders to allow members to inspect the census rolls. It was evident that in the district taken by Dr. Borden a gross fraud had been committed.

Sir John Thompson said he was not aware of the state of the law upon that point, but he would give an answer on the next day.

Mr. Forbes followed, stating that he had the names of eight clerks under Mr. Johnson, one of whom had informed him that he and some of the other clerks named had, at Mr. Johnson's express orders, increased the figures in the tables in the industrial bulletin by amounts from 10 to 25 per cent. in excess of the amounts returned by the enumerators.

No reply being made by the Government, Mr. McMillan complained of the lack of courtesy to the Opposition in no reply being made to these serious charges.

The item was passed without any reply being attempted.

The railway and canal and postoffice estimates occupied the time until 1 o'clock, when the House adjourned.

NEW FRANCHISE ACT.

Sir John Thompson introduced the bill to amend the Electoral Franchise Act, and moved the first reading. He said: After what I said the other day in indicating the outlines of the bill, it will not be necessary to express myself at great length this afternoon in order to give the House to understand what the contents of the bill are. In order, however, to give a brief sketch of them previous to the second reading, I would mention that the principal features of the bill are these: First of all, in relation to the revision of the present year, we bring into force for the purposes of the revision of the Redistribution Act of 1893, it will be made on the lines of the constituencies as rearranged in 1892, notwithstanding that the Redistribution Act is not to come into force for electoral purposes until a dissolution of this Parliament. At the same time it is our constitutional duty to see that the constituencies are always in such a position that in case of an appeal the electors will be ready with the lists revised in the constituency so arranged that the general elections may take place. While it is not only possible but very probable, that the revision of this year will be followed by a revision next year prior to any dissolution, still, acting upon the principle which I have mentioned, we are bound to keep in view the facts that whenever a dissolution shall take place the constituencies will be in a position to have a vote taken according to the distribution which will then be in force. However, we propose to provide for the case of by-elections taking place in the meantime by taking care that the polling divisions will be made in such a manner that they will not run from one constituency, as it exists at present, into any new constituency that will exist under the Redistribution Act of 1892. The change is also proposed in the bill, which I indicated a few days ago, that the question upon which so much difference has arisen in the past as to the basis of the franchise, shall be adjusted by adopting the franchises of the several Provinces. It is obviously one of the most desirable features in connection with any system of franchise, and to my mind an essential feature, that the system to be adopted shall be such that it can be put into operation every year, while under the system which we now propose, considerable difficulty and labor may arise, fully as much perhaps as would arise in a revision under the law as it now stands. We uphold the feature, which I regard as the principal feature of the Franchise Act of 1885, and that is that the revision shall take place by officers under the control of this Parliament and of the Federal Government. The great principle which underlayed the Franchise Act of 1885 was the control by this Parliament over matters connected with the franchise. I adhere to the second branch of the principle of control, namely, that this House and the electors who return members to this House ought not to be under the control, as regards the exercise of their franchise, of the officers of any other Government or Legislature whatever in the country. And, therefore, we intend to ask the House to adhere to that principle of federal control over the federal franchise. With these remarks I ask the first reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. Laurier—We, of the Opposition, do not at all find fault with the bill so far as it goes. The only fault I find with it, and I will criticize the bill at a subsequent stage, is that it does not go far enough. However, the Government, I will not say have surrendered, because the word is objectionable to the hon gentleman, and I desire to hold out the olive branch and will not harrow his feelings by using that expression, but I congratulate him on the fact that he has a good deal diverged from the principles maintained in the past by himself and his party.

CANADIAN CATTLE.

Prof. Hunting Says Positively there is No Contagious Pleuro-Pneumonia.

London, June 12.—A representative of the United Press had an interview with Prof. Hunting, who has been conducting the export examination of the lungs of Canadian slaughtered cattle at the instance of Sir Charles Tupper, the latter not being satisfied that the experts employed by the Government were disinterested. Prof. Hunting said: "Mr. Gardner, President of the Board of Agriculture, has decided that pleuro-pneumonia exists in Canadian cattle, and we may take it that the Canadian trade will be knocked in the head as regards store cattle. Mr. Gardner has summoned a meeting in the House of Commons, at which the United Kingdom and Canadian exports will be present. The majority will favor Mr. Gardner, and I will oppose him. The United Kingdom experts are Mr. Gardners. Our own inspectors in the Liverpool and Deptford cattle markets did not believe it possible to determine whether a case of pleuro-pneumonia is contagious or otherwise by a post-mortem examination of the lungs, or lesions from which specific organism is absent. This neither proves nor disproves contagion. The only test is absolute contact with healthy animals. This might be done by placing a few healthy bullocks in their pens. Whether Canadian cattle must pass through another process or not, it is only just to Canada to say that no case of contagious lung disease has ever been communicated by Canadian cattle, while English diseases, prevalent among cattle, such as lung disease, mouth diseases, etc., have cost England millions annually since 1839. The appearance of the lungs examined showed in every case a difference, proving that the cattle were not afflicted with contagious pleuro-pneumonia."

To Canadian Girls.

The following from a Canadian girl in the United States may be profitable reading for the girls who think that in order to escape all toil, trouble and worry, and live a life of ease and pleasure, it is only necessary to "go to the States"—the veritable Mecca of their dreams:

We all know the girl who says: "I want to go to the United States and live a city life, and earn my own living." She says: "Oh I am sure I can get employment and lay up money. I can do most anything." All, correct, and you may have to do "most anything" before you get what you want.

"Oh!" she says, "it would not be very long before I could have a nice gold watch, a diamond ring and a handsome silk dress. It must be fine living in the city. I am so tired of this country life."

Do not, I beg you, let this subject dwell on your mind too much. There are ten chances to one that you are not in it; I mean in the luxuries your imagination lays out before you. Show me one who is enjoying herself better in the city than she was when she lived in her pretty country home, where she knew everybody, where she had a nice, cosy room all to her self, where she was at liberty to go skating and coasting in the pure country air, or spend an enjoyable evening with her neighbor's boy or girl; or, in summer or autumn, may stroll in the fields and gather wild flowers or berries, and have all the fruit she wants—show me one, I say, and I will show you nine who are not enjoying themselves in the city as they did when they lived among these luxuries in their old country home. Some have a cramped up, cheerless room, and get their meals at some third-class restaurant or boarding house simply because they cannot afford anything better. They only get one or two nights out in the week, and, as a rule, have to work on Sundays. Their leisure evenings are spent in the theatre or opera house, where all are strangers to them. They have a few hours of pleasure and return home (if you think it worthy of the name) to be growled at because they stayed out so late.

How many such I have seen while in one of the popular cities of the United States. They say: "Oh, how I long for the old home down east, where I knew everyone, and where I was at liberty to go where I wished. There is no freedom in the city. The fancy for city life was all gone in a few months. I feel as wretched and lonesome sometimes I feel like committing suicide. I have no friends here to sympathize with me."

My dear readers, many of you who are posted will acknowledge that, in nine cases out of ten, my statements are true. Few of our girls will acknowledge their hardships and misery when writing home to their friends. Many of them are doing work they would not think of doing when they were in Canada. They want people to think they are stacking up money by the bushel, but in their hearts they would rather be in their old homes; and, if it were not for very shame, the most of them would return there. Be content, my pretty little country girl, to stay at home and go fishing in the small brook for trout, rather than cruising the stormy sea for whales.

There is talk of running Sunday boats from Hamilton to the Beach.

The London Conference will meet next year in Strathroy on the first Tuesday in June.

Rev. Canon Houston has been appointed archdeacon of Niagara, succeeding the late Archdeacon McMurray.

Near Essex, Ont., Tuesday, G. O. Young was killed by his horse shying and throwing Mr. Young from his buggy, breaking his neck.

Reports from the flooded district of the Fraser valley are very encouraging. The waters are receding and fresh are coming in rapidly.

W. H. Mercer, of the British Colonial Office, has been appointed delegate to the intercolonial conference at Ottawa conjointly with the Earl of Jersey.

NEWSY CANADIAN ITEMS.

THE WEEKS' HAPPENINGS.

Interesting Items and Incidents, Important and Instructive, Gathered from the Various Provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Wallaceburg has a bicycle club.

Oil City has a new cheese factory.

Holland Landing has a Fishing Club.

Brockville has only one lady bicyclist.

Smith's Falls is to have a race track.

Prescott's band has been re-organized.

The Jessopville shingle mill has closed.

Scarlet fever still hangs on to Coldwater.

St. Mary's ships away a great number of hogs.

Ottawa gardeners deprecate the killing of toads.

Albion township lost $1,000 by the recent floods.

A new hotel has been opened at Kentville, N.S.

A new orchestra has been organized in Strathroy.

The repairs on the Thornbury wharf are completed.

Donald McKenzie, pioneer settler of Durham, is dead.

Sheep-shearing and washing is the rage in country places.

Mrs. Margaret Love, an old pioneer of Dunwich, is dead.

A Templar of Temperance hall is being built in Cornwall.

A consignment of Ingersoll cheese went to Japan last week.

Distemper is prevalent among horses in the Belleville district.

A branch of a chartered bank is to be established at Alvinston.

A colossal bank barn is being built by James Shain, of Gladstone.

It is reported that the G.T.R. will erect an elevator at Owen Sound.

During the month of April Manitoba received about 1,083 settlers.

An experimental fruit station has been established near Leamington.

Surveyors, are outlining the proposed waterworks system at Aylmer.

Omer Roy, a resident of Sudbury, has been drowned at Wahnipitae Lake.

A 32 pound trout was caught in Lake Simcoe recently by an Orillia man.

During the month of May 932 horses were shipped from Montreal to Britain.

Collingwood streets are watered for $25 a year. One tender for $65 was received.

A woman at Fredericton, N.B., was fined $100 for selling liquor to an Indian.

Michael Landry, an explorer, was drowned near Rat Portage last Wednesday.

It is said the water in Lake Simcoe has risen six inches as the result of the late rains.

There is a good demand for farm lands in Manitoba and the North-west territories.

It is said that 15,000 people are homeless as the result of the Fraser river floods.

Sylvanites complain that the cemetery is too close to the school for the health of the pupils.

The fee for admission to the Mechanics' Institute of Thornbury has been reduced to 50 cents.

Le Manitoba, the organ of the French-speaking people in Winnipeg, has ceased publication.

The assessment of the county of Simcoe is over nineteen million dollars, and the debt $123,857.

Jas. P. Shannon, a Petrolea oil driller, died in Australia recently. His wife resides in London.

Nearly two hundred maple trees have lately been planted in Bradford's new agricultural grounds.

Dr. J. W. Lawrence, of Montreal, has been appointed house surgeon of the Winnipeg general hospital.

A Dresden woman horsewhipped a town constable the other day for passing remarks about her reputation.

Ex-Mayor McEvoy, of Amherstburg, has had one of his feet badly smashed by a piece of timber falling on it.

The Winnipeg Jobbers' Union has wired Governor Dowdney $1,200 for the British Columbia flood sufferers.

One thousand, seven hundred and thirty-five carloads of cattle passed through St. Thomas in bond during May.

James Barnett, aged about 42, drowned himself at Howard's Station, Ont., on Friday. He is said to have become demented.

Petrolea firemen presented ex-Chief W. G. Fraser with a valuable clock last week in recognition of his long services to the brigade.

Medical inspectors have been stationed by the government at fifteen points along the international boundry to prevent the entrance of smallpox.

Oxford produced $817,600 worth of cheese last year. This sum represents over $120 for each family in the rural sections of the country.

John Martell's billiard hall at Wallaceburg, Ont., was burglarized on Friday night and about $75 worth of tobacco and cigars stolen. No clue.

Mr. A. E. Lavell, son of the warden, has resigned his position as assistant electrician at the penitentiary, and will enter the Methodist ministry.

On Saturday, morning burglars blew open the safe of T. J. Gould & Bros. private bank at Uxbridge, Ont., and got away with $4,000. No clue.

One of Port Huron's most respected citizens, Henry Howard, died in that