

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

On no occasion will the names of Old Advertisements be inserted here. The Parliament Buildings to be sold—Spencer. Her Majesty's Theatre—John Townsend. Water Colours, etc.—Edmund Ross. Bake House to Rent—Apply at this office. Ottawa Grammar School—J. Thornton, M. A. Plain Cook wanted—O. F. Baker. Victoria Hair-Dressing Saloon—J. P. Fortin. Situation Wanted as Head Clerk—W. H. Lindsay.

EXCURSION

THE QUEEN VICTORIA Will, during the Session of Parliament, convey passengers to Montreal, and return same day, at HALF FARE—81-23. 132-4

The Ottawa Times

OTTAWA, JUNE 26, 1866.

The progress of events indicates, with something approaching certainty, the near consummation of the great scheme of Confederation devised at the Quebec Conference, with possibly some small modifications; and one of the best evidences that the Government entertain no misgivings on the subject, is that they are preparing immediately to place before the Chambers, the resolutions embodying the constitutions of the local government of Upper and Lower Canada. The leading features of these constitutions are so secret to public men here, but as they may not be known to the general public, it will not be amiss to state them in a few words. Upper Canada it seems is not entirely satisfied with its present form of Government, for its political leaders have concluded to introduce an innovation, which, we have no doubt, will appear rather startling, at the first mention of it. The plan, as we understand it, is that there shall be two estates, viz: The Crown, and a popular representative House; in other words, a Lieutenant Governor and a House of Assembly. The Government will be composed of five or six Ministers—we have not ascertained the exact number—who shall be responsible for their policy, as now, to the people's delegated representatives and stand or fall, according as they are supported, or abandoned, by the majorities. We believe that this arrangement dates some time back, and that a leading Reformer, then in the Government, desired that the Ministers should be independent of the majorities for the full term of four years, like the American Cabinet, but that this proposal was overruled. We cannot say that even with the preservation of the responsibility feature, the plan commends itself to our entire and unqualified confidence. How the wholesome check upon hasty and ill-considered legislation, as present exercised by the Upper House, and upon which, after all done and said, the country relies with more confidence than in any other measure, is to be exercised or compensated for, we confess we do not very clearly perceive. We are told that the Lieutenant Governor will have a veto and may, independently, exercise it by refusing his sanction to the measures which he cannot approve. In this case it would seem to us as if he must necessarily come into collision with his ministers, especially if he should undertake to dissolve any measure of public policy; and not only in collision with his ministers, but with the majority by whom they were supported in carrying through such measure. The only alternative for him would then be, to do as Governor Gordon recently did in New Brunswick—dismiss his advisers, appoint new ones and let them appeal to the people. But it must not be forgotten that the discarded men, who would be only the more intent upon compelling a position not over dignified for a Governor to find himself in. This, to be sure, is pushing the consequences to their worst issue, and we have no doubt the possibility of such a clash of opinion has been considered, and found not to be so formidable as it would appear in theory. But the Governor's check can hardly be said to meet the wants of the case; for it does not meet but merely prevents bad legislation, whereas the Legislative Council does amend and improve many of the bills sent thither. The answer to this we believe is that the Assembly, knowing there is a House of Revision, relies very much upon its action, and, in fact, throws upon it the onus, both of amending bills in a sense, it is the House of Assembly might not care to undertake, and also, of rejecting those which are altogether objectionable, and would probably not have been passed at all by that House, but with the exception that they would be so rejected. It is the having but one chamber secures as good legislation as having two, there will certainly be an advantage in regard of expense. It is yet a bold experiment, and if it is sanctioned by the present Parliament, and obtains the force of law by Imperial enactment, its working for some time will be watched with interest; if not with anxiety, not only in Upper Canada but in other colonies. Should it be successful, it may be imported into the Constitution of other Colonial Legislatures, and a very important question will have been solved. Lower Canada, on the contrary true to its conservative instincts, prefers the old plan and returns contentedly to the form of Constitution it had, in common with other British Provinces until its union with Upper Canada, and under the union until 1856—with a small difference only. It will continue to have a Governor, a Legislative Council and a House of Assembly. The Ministry as at present will be responsible to Parliament, and the Legislative Council will be appointed by the Crown. The difference will consist in the fact that the members of the Legislative Council will be taken for life from the geographical divisions as now arranged, and that the members so chosen will require, as now, to reside in the divisions they represent, or hold property there qualifying them for the seat. The adherence of Lower Canada to a tripartite political system, shows how well the inhabitants of that section of the country are satisfied with the

FETE DE SAINT JEAN—BAPTISTE.

Yesterday morning at an early hour evidences of a Fete day were visible in every part of our city where our French Canadian citizens reside. All the streets were decked out to observe the operation of the new plan in Upper Canada, where, if it gives perfect satisfaction, it may at a later day be adopted there likewise. We think they have done well to take their time and let the venture alone until the experiment. We may possibly be mistaken in some of the particulars stated above, but rather think that these will be the main features of the two projects.

THE PICNIC YESTERDAY.

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BRITISH AND AMERICAN RELATIONS.

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