

WEEKLY TIMES OF THE IRONMASTERS

Will contain FULL PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS OF THE WEEK including the Debate on the Incorporation of Roper's Law, the Financial Statement, etc.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

- On no occasion will the names of our advertisers be inserted here. Fine Gold Watches—Young & Ralston. Fine Silver Watches—Do. Gold and Silver Jewelry—Do. Electro-Plated Ware—Do. Paper Match Goods—Do. Table Ware and Cutlery—Do. Choice Leather Goods—Do. Car of Carlton District—C. Armstrong. Architects—B. Billing, Jr. Piano-Forte Tuning—W. G. Clark. Black and Tan Lay Dog Log.

The Ottawa Times City and County Official Paper

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1915

The Postal Service Regulation Bill passed the Senate yesterday, and was ordered to be sent down to the Commons. The consideration of the Report of the Joint Committee on Printing was deferred till Thursday next, as was also the Intercolonial Insurance Company's Bill; the Compulsory, Apprehension and Interpretation of Statute's Bill was read a third time and passed; the consideration of the Report of the Select Committee on Rules and Standing Orders of the Senate was discharged and report sent back to the Committee; an Act against practising Military Evolutions unauthoritarily, was ordered to be read a second time today; as was also an Act to protect the inhabitants of this Dominion from lawless aggression by parties the subjects of Powers at peace with Her Majesty; and the House adjourned until this afternoon at three.

In the Commons, the fourth report of the Printing Committee was referred back, after considerable discussion, in which the desirability of issuing correct and full official reports of the debates was generally recognized. Mr. McKENZIE was generally recognized as having the opportunity of stating that he treated the remarks of the Times of Friday last, "with contempt," a piece of information for which no doubt the House was exceedingly grateful. For our own part we should have had more faith in Mr. McKENZIE's "contempt" had he passed the matter over without comment, but the point is entirely immaterial. When, however, a committee adopts the report of a sub-committee, and invites the House to do the same, evidently without investigation, it is certainly within the province of the press to expose the erroneous-ness of the information upon which the House is invited to act. In this particular case what is represented as "equal to a daily issue of fourteen columns of the Globe newspaper," is only equal to sixteen. It is but fair, therefore, that the fact should be made known, and we undertook to publish it without the fear of the member for Linton. Mr. McKENZIE's "contempt" before our eyes, and without at all objecting to the names named for the actual amount of work proposed to be done. The House had its first division on the motion for recommitment, which was carried: Yeas, 86; Nays, 72.

The evening was consumed in debating Mr. DORRIS's motion in amendment to going into Committee of Supply, which was put to division, and lost by a vote of 21 to 115. The House then went into Committee, and after granting Supply, rose at a quarter past one.

The Postmaster-General has taken the ground that the Department over which he presides shall be paid for the service it performs by the party whom it serves—that the carriage of newspapers as a matter of principle should be paid for as well as that of letters, and that the rate should be the same, notwithstanding the risk of the imposition by law that in our conviction, they are truly stated, and it remains for the Legislature to decide whether this "desires of uniformity," as our correspondent so politely puts it, shall be allowed to become law. It cannot be supposed in this particular that the Government has any other desire than to fairly interpret, and fully carry out, the wishes of the people, as expressed by their representatives (and not by the press), and hence we imagine, if the views of the representatives of the people accord with our correspondent's and our own, there is yet time to make that concession to the feelings of the people of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, which we think ought to be made, and which, after all, as a practical argument, is perhaps the strongest that can be urged. We must, at least, have uniformity with the Provinces, and the question is—shall Ontario and Quebec conform to the Maritime Province system, which they will willingly do? Or shall the Maritime Provinces conform to our system, which they detest? Really, we think no one should hesitate as to the answer, who desires to see our Union popularized in all the Provinces, and with every one in each of them.

We have given our Reporter room for the more formal and precise re-statement of the answer which Hon. Mr. DICKEY gave in his place to the Hon. Postmaster-General on the subject, first of the Ocean postage earned by the Canadian Ocean Steamers in the year ending June 30, 1815, and in the second place, on that of the number of letters passing through the mails in Nova Scotia; the object of the hon. member was apparently to deprive the allegations of Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, but we must say he has most lamentably failed. That gentleman distinctly stated that the sum received from the United States was just over \$1,000,000, and that the quantity of mail was 1,000,000,000. He also stated that the quantity of mail was 1,000,000,000, and that the quantity of mail was 1,000,000,000.

post-office that it was an "estimate," just as the Postmaster-General had worked it, and not a matter of account. Surely the officers of the Post Office must be best able to estimate how much of this \$73,000 was not postage, and how much was as about \$60,000, it does not appear there was much to carp at. The next grievance of Mr. DICKEY was that the Postmaster-General had understated the number of letters passing through the Nova Scotia post offices, but here again his own statements refute themselves. By his account the Halifax office received in its own boxes 418,484 for delivery in the city itself. Then there were received from other places 2,938,027, and those passing through the country offices, but not coming to Halifax, 1,047,334, total 4,463,845. Of these, he tells us, a considerable number were free. Well, suppose we admit that 263,845 were free, and that they were there must have been a most startling abuse of the franking privilege. This would leave 4,200,000 to pay postage. Now, let us suppose, that 2,000,000 paid only 2 cents (the ordinary and proper letter rate), though that number is larger than the delivery in Halifax and the country letters put together; but let that pass. Say 2,000,000 at 2 cents or \$40,000, leaving 2,000,000 at 6 cents, equal to \$120,000, making a total of \$160,000. Is not this a very moderate calculation, and if it is, what becomes of the hon. member's figures, seeing that according to him the whole revenue was only \$7,673, or considerably less than half that of the letters alone must have yielded, if as numerous as represented? But was the hon. member perfectly ingenious in stating the product of the letters as \$77,000? (which was probably something under \$50,000 mark). Are there no other items of revenue in the \$77,000, no foreign newspaper postage, no parcel or book postage? If Mr. DICKEY's figures are correct, instead of 363,845 free letters, there must have been about 3,363,845, the remaining 1,500,000 being quite sufficient to account for the revenue actually collected; for it must not be forgotten that these include the 7-cent letters, and those also of a higher rate, if there were any, the average being probably 6 cents or thereabouts. For the year 1865 the Postmaster-General of Nova Scotia reports the letters passing through the Halifax office as 745,000, and through the country offices 980,000, giving a total of 1,725,000, and this number agrees reasonably well with the revenue collected that year. How the number should have run up to very nearly 5,000,000 in 1865 is not easy to conceive, and we apprehend our readers, if not Mr. DICKEY himself, will be very greatly at a loss to understand it, particularly when the revenue, instead of showing a corresponding improvement, only exhibits one of 10 per cent. against one of 150 in that of the letters—as stated by the hon. member.

YESTERDAY we gave insertion to a communication from Mr. JOHN DUGGALL, of the Montreal Witness, on the exemption from postage of Educational, Agricultural, and Commercial papers. After a careful perusal of his argument, we are inclined to discover a single reason why these matters should be exempted from postage, and that is, that the expense of the whole communication, instead of at the cost and charge of those who send them, or to whom they are sent. We very much regret, not on the ground of principle, but as a consideration of the highest and most urgent expediency, that the Postmaster-General has not seen his way to the adoption of the system at present prevailing in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, instead of that in force in Quebec and Ontario; but while urging that sound policy—considerations of revenue except—clearly points to the abolition of newspaper postage throughout the Dominion as the most acceptable, and has calculated to prevent an increase of irritation among those who are not over well affected towards the new order of things, we cannot for a moment give our sanction to the perpetuation of exceptional favoritism to any particular class of publications, no matter on what grounds their special and spurious merits may be urged.

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LOCAL NEWS

The Rev. J. Stannard, Rector of Kempville, will deliver this evening the Second Advent Lecture in St. Alban's Church. Service commencing at 7:30.

ASSASSIN, BROTHER. That you can get a lamp for twenty-five cents (25c), and one gallon of non-explosive oil for twenty cents (20c), at the Oil Barrel, Chandler's, parlor lamps, in great variety—D. R. Leavins.

ANNOUNCEMENT.—Members leaving for home, and taking Christmas presents from the Capital of the New Dominion, will find the leading novelties in silks, fancy dress goods jackets, shawls, carpets, piano and table covers, and every description of dry goods and millinery at moderate prices at Mackay, McEwen & Co., Importers, 20 Sparks St., 701-A.

FRUITS IS.—The early and unexpected death of King Frost, which has swept over things around and around has resulted among other inconveniences, in closing in nine barges and three steamers in the river near L'Orignal, the precious cargoes of which are now being discharged at considerable expense, and some distance from their destination.

YOUNG & RALSTON have added the contents of twenty cases of new goods to their stock which will now be found repaid with everything in the line of watches for pocket, wristlet, electro plated ware, paper, Christmas and leather goods. All suitable for Christmas and New Year presents, and will be disposed of at such prices as will give general satisfaction.

MILITARY AMATEUR THEATRICALS.—By permission of Col. Lord Alexander Russell, and under the patronage of the officers, the amateurs of the 1st Battalion of the P. C. O. Rifle Brigade will give a Dramatic Entertainment (tomorrow) evening at Her Majesty's Theatre. The pieces selected for the occasion are—You can't marry your Grandfather, and the Merry Parrot and the Merry Parrot.

A PLEA FOR FREE PAPERS BY POST.—To the Hon. Members of the House of Commons: GENTLEMEN.—The Postmaster-General's Bill will be this week before you, and it will be in your power to decide whether the clause imposing postage on the newspapers of the New Dominion shall stand as part of the Bill, or be struck out.

It is proposed by Mr. Campbell, to increase the postal revenue of the country, from this source, by about \$130,000 a year—or a tenth part of the revenue collected upon mail matter generally. In Ontario and Quebec this tax is of comparatively late date, and was always unpopular; in the Maritime Provinces it has been hitherto unknown, and the very notion of its imposition, and the consequent liability of the whole Eastern Fringe. The public mind in those Provinces will be forced to regard this new legislation as one of the first fruits of the Union, and for the sake of \$40,000 a year, urged on by the disinterested desire of uniformity, you are asked, gentlemen, to burden the Union with this odious imposition at the very start. It may be a small grievance—and so sticking to the worst. Why for the sake of such a small grievance create a wide spread ill-feeling? It is asked, why should not printed matter going through the mail pay postage at the same rate as letters, and why not at a higher rate, so that letters, and not printed matter, should be the more favored? At first sight the comparison looks reasonable enough, but on closer view, it will be found there are essentially different reasons for taxing the one species of matter, and exempting the other.

The correspondence of individuals, is a private interest of the writer, or receiver, or both, which neither have any claim whatever, that the society of Government of the country, should contract or transact for them at the general expense. But the free circulation of public journals, composed of matter intended for the public generally, cannot be considered exclusively a private, or individual, interest of a few persons. The newspaper publisher, and the public do not stand in the same relation, as the private writer of a letter, by mail, and the single person, or firm, to whom his message, or order, is addressed. The subject of the newspaper matter must be a public subject; the object of disseminating it must be as a public object; and the interest of the public in the general diffusion of the matter disseminated must be a public interest. In free government the public interest is paramount, and the opinion of the Press is, in reality, one of the most effective agencies of the Government. It is the Press mainly which brings home to the public mind the knowledge of the proceedings of the Government, and of the reasons for changes or alterations in the law; it is the Press which prepares the public mind to receive the objects of the Government, which supplies in our times the moral sanction, without which our laws could only depend on brute force for their execution. In our state of society, therefore, there are three estates; the Executive or Crown, the Journalists, and the representatives of the people, and the public opinion. It is on this ground, therefore, that we should distinguish fundamentally between the private interests of private letter writers, and the governmental and political interests which are at stake in the free and unobstructed circulation of our newspaper literature.

PARLIAMENT: 1st SESSION. THE SENATE.

FRIDAY, Dec. 6, 1867. THE POSTAL BILL (IN COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE). In answer to Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, Hon. Mr. DICKEY stated he was obliged to the hon. member for his explanation of the contents of his (Mr. DICKEY's) figures, as he gave him the opportunity of showing he was correct. He had referred him to the authorities, and he had not taken any notice of the trouble to examine the National papers of 1866, No. 3, (Mr. Postmaster-General's Report) by (Mr. DICKEY) read as follows: "The amount of postage due to Canada for the sea conveyance of mails between the United States and Europe was for the year 1866, 1867, \$1,479,311. The gross amount of sea postage derived from the Canadian mails by the Post Office in Nova Scotia, he read in the Journals of the Assembly of that Province as follows: "Number of letters sent by the Post Office of all kinds for the year ending 30th September, 1866: the Halifax delivery was 845,484. Posted at Halifax, and there received by other offices, 2,938,027. The average number of letters which passed through the Country Post Offices during the same period was 1,725,000. The revenue collected was \$4,463,845. Of these a large portion were delivered in the country at 2 cents, and a still larger portion at 6 cents. The revenue collected in the country, Members of the Legislature, &c. The gross amount of postage collected in Nova Scotia was \$77,673, instead of \$50,000, as given by the Hon. Postmaster-General."

MONDAY, Dec. 8, 1867. Several petitions were presented in favor of the Montreal route for the line of the Intercolonial Railway. COMMERCIAL BANK. Hon. Mr. HAMILTON (Kingston) from the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, reported the Bill to amend the charter of the Commercial Bank, without amendment. Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved that the Bill be now read a third time.—Carried.

POSTAL BILL. Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved that all the words now found in brackets be expanded. Hon. Mr. McCULLY begged to call the attention of the House to the fact that there existed some difference in the several Provinces in the value of the currency, and that in effect cents in Canada were not equal to cents in Nova Scotia, and he asked whether payment would be taken for postage in the present currency, or whether it should be in the currency which was passed. He begged also to ask if the postage stamps issued since the 1st of July, quantities of which were, no doubt, in the hands of the public, and which they bought them by \$10 or \$20 worth at a time—would be taken. He took the liberty to make a query, enquiring if the stamps issued since the 1st of July, would be taken. He thought he might say, too, that his remarks would equally apply to the payment of ad valorem duties, and to the duties on goods.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said that with regard to the postage it would be accepted in the currency of the Provinces until a new currency was introduced. Hon. Mr. ALLAN, referring to class 65, said, as he understood the policy of the Government in relation to the postage, and the interest of the provinces, he thought it would be better to establish a uniform rate of postage throughout the Dominion, and to let the provinces pay for the postage in their own currency. Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said that as the Bill was now before the House, he thought it would be better to amend it in the same sense, and that he was not there to amend it in any other sense.

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Hon. Mr. BUREAU, (in French), maintained that it would be exceedingly dangerous to allow money to be lodged not liable to seizure, and that the hon. member's proposal was not beyond the reach of the law in Nova Scotia. The hon. member had a more violent remedy than that which he proposed, and he would put in prison until they had made a disclosure of their effects. He repeated his objection to render the money unattachable, as it would open the way to innumerable frauds. He would, however, be willing to allow the clause to remain, if the sum was limited to \$200. There was, however, a remedy in Nova Scotia when fraud was suspected, for the debtor could be brought up on a writ of *ex parte* of *sequestration*.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. THURSDAY, Dec. 10, 1867. THE SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock. THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND COMMERCE presented their fifth Report, which stated that after the examination of this Bill, they were of opinion that it was not expedient to amend it in any other sense than that which it now bears. The hon. member for the Dominion of Wales, who was present, stated that he was of opinion that it was not expedient to amend it in any other sense than that which it now bears.

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which report from the sub-committee had been adopted by the general committee by a vote of 10 to 4. He repeated the statement he had made as to the estimated value of the mode recommended—\$12,019 for a Session of sixty days. Referring to an article which had recently appeared in the Times, he stated that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

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the advantage to Local Legislatures from being able to refer to the recorded views of members of this House upon any question of importance between Federal and Provincial jurisdiction.

Hon. Mr. MCKENZIE, repeating that since the matter had first come under consideration, he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

Hon. Mr. SMITH supported the recommendation of the sub-committee, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

Hon. Mr. SAVERY also spoke in favor of the bill, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON favored the adoption of an experiment, arguing that experience had shown the great want of some authoritative report on the subject of the proposed Intercolonial Railway.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved that the Bill be now read a third time.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved that all the words now found in brackets be expanded. Hon. Mr. McCULLY begged to call the attention of the House to the fact that there existed some difference in the several Provinces in the value of the currency, and that in effect cents in Canada were not equal to cents in Nova Scotia, and he asked whether payment would be taken for postage in the present currency, or whether it should be in the currency which was passed. He begged also to ask if the postage stamps issued since the 1st of July, quantities of which were, no doubt, in the hands of the public, and which they bought them by \$10 or \$20 worth at a time—would be taken. He took the liberty to make a query, enquiring if the stamps issued since the 1st of July, would be taken. He thought he might say, too, that his remarks would equally apply to the payment of ad valorem duties, and to the duties on goods.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said that with regard to the postage it would be accepted in the currency of the Provinces until a new currency was introduced. Hon. Mr. ALLAN, referring to class 65, said, as he understood the policy of the Government in relation to the postage, and the interest of the provinces, he thought it would be better to establish a uniform rate of postage throughout the Dominion, and to let the provinces pay for the postage in their own currency. Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said that as the Bill was now before the House, he thought it would be better to amend it in the same sense, and that he was not there to amend it in any other sense.

Hon. Mr. ALLAN thought it would be more convenient than at the present moment, to amend the Bill in the same sense, and to let the provinces pay for the postage in their own currency. Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said that as the Bill was now before the House, he thought it would be better to amend it in the same sense, and that he was not there to amend it in any other sense.

Hon. Mr. WILMOT said he did not see the point of the hon. member's question, but he thought it would be better to amend the Bill in the same sense, and to let the provinces pay for the postage in their own currency. Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said that as the Bill was now before the House, he thought it would be better to amend it in the same sense, and that he was not there to amend it in any other sense.

BLAKE, and it being then six o'clock, the House adjourned.

Hon. Mr. CARTER left the House, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

Hon. Mr. SMITH supported the recommendation of the sub-committee, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

Hon. Mr. SAVERY also spoke in favor of the bill, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

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Province was so fully represented in the Government as to send no less than two bills to the House, and that the Minister of Finance, Mr. BLAKE, had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it, and that he had not taken any notice of it.

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