

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

On no occasion will the names of old advertisements be inserted here.

Hause Wanted Immediately.
Situation Wanted by a Gentleman
Sale of Ordnance Lands—E. Parent.



The Ottawa Times
City and County Official Paper

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1868.

A STATEMENT has got about that there would be "no meeting of the Privy Council until the 21st." This is quite incorrect. Ministers meet daily for the transaction of routine and departmental business, though the further consideration of questions of an important political bearing has been postponed until a full meeting of Ministers, which will probably be held on or about the date named.

The framers of tariffs will have an easy time of it henceforth and forever. Our local contemporaries the *Citizens* has hit upon the "correct principle," and expounded it so clearly and comprehensively, that we shall be utterly ashamed of the Hon. Mr. TILLEY if he does not achieve for himself eternal fame in its application. Here is the simple formula:

"The correct principle for a Government to observe in framing a tariff is to take every article by itself, keeping out of sight altogether its classification as a 'poor man's necessity' or a 'rich man's luxury,' and put such a tax upon it as the exigencies of the state may require, keeping in view, always, the general interests of the people."

What charming simplicity! Take every article by itself and put upon it such a tax as the exigencies of the State may require. Never mind whether the "article will bear the tax or not. Take no heed whether it is a rich man's luxury, or a poor man's necessity—let the exigencies of the State, require, then, every article by itself!"

Then simple! and natural to keep "out of sight altogether considerations as to its classification, &c."

See from what a world of bother this relieves the Minister of Customs! If he wants millions of dollars, he has only to say to Tolstoi you must pay one; to Waite, you must pay another, and so on; for it is not "the exigencies of the State" require it? Of course, there is a little hitch at the end of this patent receipt for tariff-making. It will be rather puzzling to know how to keep "in view, always, the general interests of the people," while taking every article by itself, and ignoring its classification.

There is a certain double-action-back-stroke in this part of the operation which we do not profess to understand; but which no doubt our contemporary will be more happy to explain to those charged with the onerous duty of making a tariff to satisfy everybody.

The *Citizen* may be boasting when it says "This is the best system, was the general principle acted upon by the Government in framing the present tariff."

Surely; a principle so very "general" as to be unintelligible, was not the guiding one with Ministers in their recent legislation on the tariff. When, however, we can comprehend the process of taking every article "by itself," keeping out of sight its "classification" and keeping in sight "the general interests of the people," we shall better understand the business.

It is much to be regretted that our clever journalists do not enquire whereof they write. The *Globe*, as an instance, might make its points with much better effect if only it would stoop to the consideration of the truth, instead of taking things at hazard, and either intentionally or through inadvertence telling lies. For example, the St. John, N.B., *Telegraph* said that it had learned that the Hon. J. H. Gray had been "selected by the Government for the important position of Chairman for the Law Commission of the Dominion;" and the *Globe*, after the fashion of the story of the "three Jacks and three crows," thereupon declares that the St. John paper mentioned had stated that Mr. GRAY was "to have a lucrative position as chairman of the commission for the codification of the criminal laws." Then, taking for fact this falsehood of its own coinage, it goes on to say that it had understood "from the Governmental organ that this codification business was to be managed without the appointment of an expensive commission." It is the *Globe* refers to the remarks made by this journal, in commenting upon what had previously appeared in one of the Quebec papers, it should have "understood" that the codification, or rather "assimilation" of the "criminal" laws of the Dominions was to be done without any commission at all. It is being done by Mr. WICKSTED, assisted by Messrs. BAXTER and BAGLEY, under the direction of the Minister of Justice, and there is no question of "commission" about the master. The Bill referred to is being prepared under the authority of the 9th clause of the Union Act, which assigns the power of legislation on "criminal law" to the Parliament of Canada.

We cannot undertake to say what "Law Commission," the *Telegraph* had in view in connection with the Hon. Mr. Gray. But we suppose, when we read the paragraph, that it referred to the "university of all, or any of the laws relative to property and civil rights in Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick," for which the Dominion Parliament, by consent of the Legislature, is empowered to provide, under the 9th section of the Union Act. Consequently we suggest to any one the necessity of a "Law Commission," before attempting to legislate upon a matter of such vast importance as this, and common sense, with a slight familiarity with the Union Act, might have suggested to the *Globe* that it and not the work properly belonging to the Department of the Minister of Justice, was what had been referred to by the St. John paper. As, however, the 9th clause is merely permissive, we have no notion that it is to be acted upon immediately, though we are entirely ignorant of the intentions of the Cabinet in regard to the matter. But in any case, the *Globe* may rest assured that in so far as the assimilation of the criminal laws is concerned there will be no "expen-

sive," nor any "Commission" at all, engaged in preparing the necessary legislation. Can our contemporary find more substantial grounds than its own misapprehension of very plain language, for its humilities on Ministerial extravagance?

ELSEWHERE we publish the new Game Law of Ontario. A change has been made in the second clause since the Bill was first introduced. It extends the close time for Deer, &c., from First December to First September, thus cutting off from the hunting season the month of December, which hardly will be generally relished. However, the mover of the Bill gave a very excellent reason for the change: he said that by extending the hunting season to the First of January American "pot hunters" would come in and strip the country. The alteration, it is hoped, will undoubtedly protect the deer to a greater extent formerly; and in the meantime, perhaps, the Dominion Government might be induced, by way of dealing with the "American" difficulty as gently as possible, to impose an export duty on deer, and game too, for that matter. If it is desired that our wild animals should not be carried away to foreign markets, let us prevent it or regulate the trade by a law which shall be equally applicable to all, and the simplest way to effect this is to impose an export duty, without asking any questions whether the exporter is an American or Canadian.

With the exception to which we refer, and even that perhaps may be an improvement, the Bill is excellent in its enactments, but how are they to be put in force? In this respect the law is in a worse position than before, for the Fishery Officers were also empowered to act in the enforcement of the Game Act. But the re-education of the protection of game to the Local Governments, while the fisheries are controlled by that of the Dominion, render the prospects of carrying out the law respecting the former even worse than before.

Mr. WHITCHER, in a letter which we published some days ago, drew attention to this anomaly, and suggested, we think, a feasible remedy. He proposes that the Local Government should invest the Fishery Officers with magisterial powers in the enforcement of the Game Act. With Mr. WHITCHER's remarks as to the inefficiency of the measures provided for the enforcement of the law, every one will concur; unless it is made the positive duty of somebody to see it duly respected, the violations will undubtably be many, and the punishments therefore exceedingly few. We do not, however, favor his proposal to issue game licenses, if no other reason than that it would further complicate the difficulty of carrying out the law. But we think the "fund" for defraying expenses incident to the administration of the law might be provided by the appropriation of one-half the fine to that end, which the Act now gives to the municipality in which the conviction may take place. These remarks are merely intended to show the advocates of the protection of game that their work is not yet done; that having got the law itself, in an acceptable shape they require additional machinery for carrying it out. Where prosecutions are left to individual opinion in matters that affect only the public, it will be readily understood that the transgressors are almost an immunity from punishment.

WICHARDSON, a Male Teacher holding a first-class certificate, Salary two hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

The above announcement "caught our eye" yesterday morning, and our first feeling was one of astonishment that any man should be found in the whole Province of Ontario, who could put his name to it without blushing. Two hundred and fifty dollars per annum—eight cents per day, when common laborers readily command a dollar! Our next feeling of astonishment ought to be that any man not physically disqualified for manual labor would accept a situation as first-class teacher for such a paltry sum. But unfortunately in these days of fashion and refinement, ambitious young men are dreadfully afraid of spoiling their hands by what is called "hard work," and are faint to accept the position of "Domestic" at starvation wages, rather than qualify themselves for the battle of life by the acquisition of some useful mechanical occupation, or the less useful cultivation of the soil. If School Trustees really expect to get good teachers, and keep them, they must offer salaries more commensurate with the duties and responsibilities of the position, and if able-bodied male teachers, holding first-class certificates" understand their own interests, they would find many more profitable ways of employing their time and talents than in becoming "knights of the ferule," at eighty cents per day.

PROM HALIFAX.

The Royal Resolutions in the House—No Excitement—More Desultory Among the Fishermen—The Financial Condition of Nova Scotia.

Special to THE TIMES.

HALIFAX, Feb. 6, 1868.

The royal resolutions were introduced into the House yesterday. There was no excitement whatever. It was resolved to take them up as the order of the day for Saturday.

A very heavy snow and storm prevaled here to-day. The streets are impassable.

Fresh accounts of the destination among the fishermen of the *Times* arrive daily.

News comes from the American Government that the Alabama claims cause great excitement.

The Evening *Reporter* of to-day contains an article on the financial condition of Nova Scotia, proving that the speech put into the mouth of the Governor-General, and the answer to the same, disseminate a gross misstatement of the financial position of the province. It states that the total receipts for 1867 to July 1868, will be four hundred and seven thousand dollars, and estimates the total expenditure for the same half year at three thousand dollars. The latter amount, includes one hundred and forty thousand dollars for road grants, which will not have to be paid till the second year. The General Government are to pay grants for the present year, proposing to add the amount thus paid to the general debt.

DISTURBANCE AT PORTAGE-DU-PONT.

We very much regret to learn that a serious fight has occurred at Portage-du-Pont, in which some fifteen or twenty parties were engaged. It is reported, though we have not heard full details, that one man had his head split by a blow from an ax, and that he is in a very precarious condition. The case will come before some of the local Magistrate to-day, but we fear from what has reached us that it will not end there. Some of those who are witnesses in the recent trial at Ayler are parties to the fray, and we have heard the origin of the disturbance.

[We are indebted to our neighbourly contemporary *Le Canada* for the copy of the following despatch, and are glad to find that our Montreal confrere, *La Minerve*, escaped from the danger with which it was so imminent threatened.—*Ed. Times*.]

MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Feb. 6, 1868.

The large establishment of Haldimand & Co., corner of St. Vincent and St. Paul streets, was destroyed by fire last night. No water during an hour, the fire spread rapidly. The establishment of *La Minerve* and the adjoining houses were in great danger for some time, but by the exertions of the citizens who came up all parts of the city to give help, that establishment was saved without much damage, so that the above named paper will continue its issue as usual.

FROM TORONTO.

Special to THE TIMES.

TORONTO, Feb. 6, 1868.

In the "Local Legislature yesterday, the Law of Evidence received the six months' hoist, and the Municipal Law was withdrawn, to prevent it meeting a similar fate to-day, among other things, the amendment to the Municipal Act were read a second time.

A curling match took place yesterday between Toronto and Buffalo, when the former won by 45.

It is said that the 17th regiment will be moved to London in the spring, and that it will be replaced by the 78th Highlanders, who are to march to the castle to be housed in the same building.

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