NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Notice—Thomas H. Hodgins.
Card of Thanks—Mrs. M. A. Trotter.
Removal of Millinery Establishment—Miss Maguire.
St. Patrick's Literary Association—John Kelly.
Royal Canadian Bank—C. B. Grassett.
Stoves, Lamps, &c.—Esmonde Bros.
Church Service at St. Alban's.
Halo Lamp Shade—D. Leavens.
Royal Insurance Company—H. L. Routh.
Important Auction Sale—J. Bermingham.

The Ottawa Times

Office: 38, Sparks Street.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1869.

☞ *For Ottawa Markets and interesting reading see Fourth Page.*

THE *Leader* effectually disposes of the *Globe's* charges against the nine Reformers. It was the old staple which the *Globe* brought into requisition—where it hadn't facts it invented them, and so made up its case. We fancy from this that the Hon. GEORGE BROWN must still have some influence over the "pen" which he formerly withheld from exposing iniquity, notwithstanding the loss of his "political position."

THE Assessment Law, before its adoption by the Legislature, was amended in several particulars. Among others, the salaries of the employees of the Government and Legislature, residing at the Capital, were exempted from taxation, as were also those of the same classes in the employment of the Local Government at Toronto. The exemption in favour of the latter was made at the request of Messrs. CAMERON and WALLIS, the city members; and it was stated in debate that last year the Corporation of Toronto had not taxed these incomes.

WE hope the members of the City Council will not fail to read the advertisement of the Royal Insurance Company, inserted elsewhere. That Company declines taking any new risks in this city, in consequence of the absence of adequate means for extinguishing fires. It is to be hoped that the alarm among the Insurance Companies will not become general. There is a widespread feeling among all the intelligent ratepayers of the city, that water works are an urgent necessity, and we hope that active steps will soon be taken to bring about their construction. The matter is receiving the serious consideration of the Corporation, and we expect before many months are over to have the pleasure of recording the adoption of some plan whereby the city will be well supplied.

IT is pleasing to notice that the Quebec Government is fully alive to the importance of promoting settlement on the wild lands of the Province. Governor BELLEAU's Speech is strongly in favour of an enlightened policy which will open up the country, and give employment to the young men at home who are now attracted elsewhere in search of labour. If the promises in the Speech are fulfilled, as no doubt they will be, the Province of Quebec will make rapid strides in the march of improvement. Their wooden railway schemes are also promised encouragement, and we trust it will be liberal. Let them build their railways through their wild lands, and they will be "wild" no longer. Mr. Treasurer DUNKIN boasts a large surplus, so that the CHAUVEAU Cabinet will be enabled to give effect to its programme of promoting the material advancement of the Province.

WE are very glad to learn that the policy-holders in the Ætna Insurance Company, of Dublin, are not by any means so badly off as we had been led to believe they were. The Company has transferred its business to the "United Ports and General Insurance Company," of London; and gone into voluntary liquidation for the winding up of its affairs. The Manager of the Company in Canada called on us yesterday and shewed a Power of Attorney, duly executed, appointing him the Manager in Canada of the "United Ports" Company, and authorising him on behalf of that Company to pay all claims against the Ætna which have matured since the 30th October last, or which may hereafter mature. Policy-holders in the Ætna have, therefore, the United Ports Company's endorsement of their risks. The claims which accrued against the Company previous to that date are in a different position, the United Ports not being responsible for them, but we have been assured that they will be settled as soon as possible. The case of Mrs. TROTTER, to which we alluded yesterday, is not, for these reasons, so deplorable as we were led to suppose; her policy of $3,000 in the Ætna will be duly met by the United Ports Company, and other holders of policies in the Company have the same security.

YESTERDAY the Court of Error and Appeal delivered judgment in the case of the prisoner PATRICK JAMES WHELAN. President DRAPER, Chief-Justice RICHARDS, Vice-Chancellor MOWAT and Judges ADAM and JOHN WILSON and GWYNNE confirmed the judgment of the Court of Assize; while Chief-Justice HAGARTY, Chancellor VANKOUGHNET, Vice-Chancellor SPRAGGE, and Judge MORRISON gave judgment in favour of a new trial. The Court, therefore, stood six to four against the prisoner. The Hon. Mr. CAMERON moved for leave to carry his appeal before the Judicial Committee of the QUEEN's Privy Council, in England. The President ruled that the grounds urged were insufficient, and refused the appeal. And so we suppose the Courts are at length done with this *cause celebre*. Mr. CAMERON has certainly pushed the case of his client to the utmost limits, and if he has not succeeded in upsetting a judgment which both he and the prisoner admitted was arrived at after a fair and impartial trial, nobody can say that the fault is his. The news, we need hardly remark, excited very general interest in the city yesterday afternoon. It was, in fact, the common topic of conversation, and many anxious enquiries were made at the newspaper offices before the despatch had reached the city.

The prisoner, it may be remembered, was respited until Thursday, the eleventh of next month, in order to give the Courts ample time to dispose of the appeal on his behalf. He will, before that date, be recommitted to the custody of the SHERIFF of the County of Carleton, and removed to this city, where, on the day named, the dread sentence of the law will, no doubt, be fulfilled.

TO-DAY we surrender a large portion of our space to an account of the dinner given on Monday night last at the Town of Simcoe, in honour of A. WALSH, Esq., M. P., Chairman of the Railway Commission. The affair was one of which Mr. WALSH has much reason to be proud. Not only those of his own party, but many prominent Reformers, united to do him honour, and mark their disapproval of the aspersions which have been cast upon him since his appointment as Railway Commissioner. Mr. WALSH's speech is well worthy perusal. The explanations he made concerning the Intercolonial will doubtless do much good in the western part of the Province, where a deep haze of prejudice has been created, around the undertaking by the perversity of some of our contemporaries, who have written against the course of the Government in relation to it, without any correct appreciation of the facts by which that policy was determined. In the course of time this prejudice will no doubt be cleared away; but it is evident that there is a party in Ontario having a large political interest in keeping it afloat, for use in the constituencies when opportunity offers.

Mr. WALSH also, in reply to some remarks from one of the gentlemen present, stated that the Commissioners intended to recommend to the several Provinces the giving of free grants of land to the men employed on the road who can produce a certificate of good character for a reasonable period. This is an admirable suggestion, and we hope will be adopted by all the Provinces. It would not only promote the work by holding out an inducement to the men to conduct themselves with propriety, but be of great service to the men themselves, and redound ultimately to the advantage of the Provinces by giving them good settlers. As we have said before, we firmly believe the Intercolonial Railway will be our best emigration agent. It was so with the Great Western, so with the Grand Trunk, so with the canals; so it has been, and so it ever will be, with all our great public works.

PUBLIC MEETING.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY FOR THE SUFFERERS BY THE LATE FIRE.

Below we give a requisition to His Worship the Mayor, numerously and respectably signed, with His Worship's reply thereto. We have only space to commend the contemplated object as one in every way worthy the earnest support of the citizens. The meeting called by His Worship will be a fitting occasion for publicly expressing the sentiments which all feel because of the calamity.

To His Worship the Mayor, H. J. Friel, Esq.

SIR,—The calamitous fire of last night, resulting in the destruction of the Queen's Printer's establishment—through which a worthy citizen, G. E. Desbarats, Esq., has been a sufferer to a serious extent—has inflicted a loss on this city which cannot help being greatly felt.

But in addition to the individual loss of the proprietor of the magnificent pile of buildings destroyed, and the cause of public regret, there will be that of the many persons of both sexes to whom Mr. Desbarats afforded a means of support for themselves and families. Thrown suddenly out of employment in this inclement season of the year, they must be reduced to extremities, if not to absolute want, if some timely movement in their favour be not entered upon.

In consideration of these facts, we would respectfully request your Worship to call a public meeting of our citizens as early as convenient, for the double purpose of expressing sympathy with Mr. Desbarats in his great loss and affliction, and to consider the best means to be adopted towards the relief of the parties suddenly deprived by the unfortunate fire in question, of the means of earning a subsistence.

J M Currier,	John A Macdonald,
† Jos Eugene, Bishop of Ottawa,	James A Grant,
Joseph Aumond,	S L Tilley,
Dr C Beaubien,	T D Harington,
P Mitchell,	Allan Gilmour,
Horace Merrill,	J E C Tache,
Wm Smith,	Perley & Pattee,
A H Baldwin,	P LeSueur,
W H Griffin,	R E O'Connor,
Mat Stoverson,	John Langton,
W A MacAgy,	Ch Armstrong,
Wm H Lee,	W A Himsworth,
Robert Berry,	George Futvoye,
Herbert O'Meara,	E Gelinas,
J E Irvine, D A D C,	H Bernard,
E A Meredith,	H E Steele,
John Page,	T Trudeau,
R S M Bouchette,	H F Bronson,
Fingland & Draper,	T W Bangs,
E T Parent,	J H Kirby,
Joseph Sleeman,	A Campbell,
A Baker,	W McKay Wright,
I B Taylor,	James Thompson,
Wm B Lindsay,	J LeB Ross,
James Goodwin,	J R Audy,
W F Powell,	J A Gouin,
H O Burritt,	Thomas Hunton,
J T McCually,	J Fraser,
E M Bronson,	Thomas Wily,
R W Cruice,	H Cotton,
C E Brush,	G Powell,
P A Eagleson & Son,	F Braun,
	Isidore Traversy,

And many others.

REPLY.

In accordance with the request contained in the above, I hereby call a meeting for the purpose stated in the requisition, to take place at the City Hall, at the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon on Monday next, the 25th inst.

HENRY J. FRIEL,
Mayor.

January 22, 1869.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE LATE FIRE.

We understand that at the time of the fire Miss Maguire's millinery stock amounted in value to about $2,000, and that one-half was destroyed. No insurance.

Mr. Thomas Guerin lost furniture, clothing and effects, including a pianoforte rendered useless, amounting in value to $1,300, on which there was no insurance.

We further learn that 1,000 copies of Small's "Chronicles of Canada," in the Queen's printing office, were destroyed. Mr. Small also informs us that the manuscript of his new work, "The Birds of Canada, their habits and their nest eggs," on which the author had spent three years, was destroyed. This reminds us of the loss sustained by the celebrated naturalist Audubon, the author of "The Birds of America," whose first manuscript, left in the care of a friend, was destroyed by Norway rats to make nests of. This was the labour of seven years; but nothing daunted, he shouldered his gun, took his port-folio and note-book, went into the forests and reproduced his work in three years. What will Mr. Small do?

To the Editor of THE TIMES.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to the communication in your issue of to-day signed "Visitor," I beg to say that the Bishop of Ontario had promised to give the whole of next Sunday to St. Alban's Church, at the same time that he promised to give Sunday last to Christ Church. But His Lordship having been prevented by indisposition from fulfilling his engagement to Christ Church, has desired me to say that he intends to spend a Sunday in Ottawa very soon again, when he will make good his promise to Christ Church.

I am, your obdt. servt.,
J. S. LAUDER,
Rector.

OTTAWA, January 22, 1869.

LOCAL NEWS

AUCTION SALE TO-DAY.—Read the advertisement in another column of auction sale of dry goods.

AS IT SHOULD BE.—We have much pleasure in recording the fact that a number of printing establishments in this city and elsewhere have been placed by the proprietors at the service of Mr. Desbarats, in order that the least possible hindrance to his extensive business may result from the late disastrous fire.

LECTURE LAST NIGHT.—E. P. Dorion, Esq., delivered a highly interesting lecture in French last night, at the Canadian Institute, before an intelligent audience. The subject was Canadian History, which the lecturer rendered very attractive, and presented in a light which can scarcely fail to be productive of good.

I.P.B.S.—We understand that Gowan's new concert hall will be opened as a concert-room by the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society, in a grand promenade concert, to be given some time next week. The concerts of this society have always been marked by success, and we hope that the coming one, in the interests of charity, will commend the encouragement of our citizens.

THE RIOPELLE MARE NOT GONE.—The conditions of the match for two hundred miles having left it optional with the new owner of the mare, whether he would start on Friday or Saturday night, he preferred not to leave last night, possibly on account of the cold weather, but will leave this evening at six o'clock. Meanwhile the mare has been carefully shod and tended, and the rig for travelling made as perfect and comfortable as possible, and those who have bet in favour of the mare are quite sanguine as to the results. Mr. Josh. Smith has gone on ahead, and will telegraph the time of her arrival at the winning place.

AN EXEMPLARY GRAND JUROR.—Yesterday there appeared at the Police Court a man named Cosgrove, from the county of Ottawa, charged with petty larceny at the late fire. There being no person able to prove property he was discharged with a reprimand. After the Police Court Cosgrove requested the Police Magistrate to give him a certificate to Judge Lafontaine, explaining the cause of his detention in Ottawa, and his consequent inability to attend on the Grand Jury of the Court now being held by Judge Lafontaine in Aylmer. The Police Magistrate said he was not in the habit of giving certificates of bad character, and stated that since he was not able, from want of evidence, to punish him for appropriating the goods of others, it would afford him great pleasure to hear that he was fined for an absence caused, to speak mildly, by his own *folly*. So much for the character of a Grand Juror.

POLICE COURT.—John Pretty was charged with the larceny of a crust stand, the property of Mrs. Trotter. It was found in his possession at the time of the fire, where he took it. The case having been proven, His Worship said he was restrained from punishing him as severely as he deserved, as by doing so, he should inflict punishment on his innocent family, by withdrawing from them the support derived from his daily labour. His Worship spoke in strong terms, condemning the practice of pilfering at fires, when the owners of goods were unable to protect them. Under the circumstances, he would send the prisoner to jail for two days at hard labour.

Robt. Cosgrove was brought up on a charge of having in his possession several articles of small value at the late fire, under suspicious circumstances. There was not sufficient evidence to convict him of larceny, and he was dismissed.

DEPUTATION OF INDIANS TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—A deputation of Indians from the Seiguiory of the Lake of Two Mountains, consisting of three Iroquois and two Algonquins, chiefs and headmen, arrived in the city from their settlement yesterday morning, and in the afternoon waited on the Governor-General at his office to congratulate him on his assuming the Government of the Dominion. They were received with great courtesy, and placed in His Excellency's hands an ancient wampum belt, which conveys the history of the treaty made by the Iroquois with the British Government, when their nation passed into Canada from the territory which now forms the United States. Decked out in the most approved Indian costumes of painted feather head gear, and various coloured garbs, all donned in compliment to the representative of royalty, these people presented a very picturesque appearance. Each one wore on his breast a large medallion, presented after the war of 1812 to the male relatives of the present wearers. His Excellency conversed with them in a friendly way, and they departed highly gratified at their reception.

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH.—The Lord Bishop of the Diocese, desiring to aid the congregation of this *only free church of our city* in their efforts to lighten the very heavy burden that rests on their Clergyman and Building Committee, has kindly consented to preach at both the morning and evening services to-morrow. When it is remembered that the site alone of this church cost $2,200, the building, with school-rooms and furniture, over $8,000, and that the wealthy churchmen of Ottawa have given little or no help as yet to encourage this true church extension, we think that the comparatively small and poor congregation deserve some credit for having reduced their debt to its present figure, viz., $6,000. Still, as we have said, this is a very heavy burden, continually exercising a depressing effect on the zeal and efforts of both the congregation and their pastor. To meet the claims of interest and deduction of the principal, the latter has pledged to the Building Committee the weekly offertory (and the other sources of revenue are but trifling) to the amount of $80 per month. As there are neither pew rents nor endowment, and it being a city church, the Mission Board can give no grant, it is virtually the stipend of the clergyman that now meets this charge. We think when these facts are understood, that on such an occasion as is presented to-morrow, many wealthy church members will come forward and contribute liberally to the offertory collections. These, we are informed, (see advertisement) are to be altogether given to the funds of the Building Committee, to aid the reduction of the debt. We hope, therefore, that not only will the eloquence of the Bishop fill the church, but that the excellent cause for which his lordship is to plead will be materially benefitted.

A PUPIL OF PERFANGUISHING.—There is a young gentleman in this city known as Jack Waller, his right name, of course, is John, and he has served out a term in the Reformatory, bearing the above name, without, so the police believe, making such progress in learning to be good as he might have done. He was up not long since, and will be up again this morning at the police court. His present offence is assault and battery, at least that is the charge against him, and these are the circumstances: There was a young lady between whom and John there seemed to be a warm attachment, and it is to be hoped there is still—Kitty, Kate, or Catherine, was her name. This damsel was admired, all the country round, for her dancing talents; but there were some things for which she was not admired, and for one, or some of these, she has before now fallen into the hands of the hard-hearted policemen, who have taken her to the lock-up, whence she has been taken the following morning and placed in the dock to hear from the Police Magistrate how much she had to pay to keep out of jail. A short time ago she had the misfortune to be treated in this way, and went up to Mr. Powell's establishment. There she remained until within a few days of her term, when John became so impatient to enjoy her society or her dancing, that he absolutely went and sold his coat to pay her fine, and soon after led her to the altar, where she became Mrs. Kitty Waller. But long before the expiration of the honeymoon John cooled in his ardour so much as to require his coat, and he went to the man who had lawfully bought it, and without offering the money back fell upon the purchaser and beat him. For this he was arrested yesterday, and by the bride's father bailed out to answer a question or two from the Police Magistrate this morning.

—Sixty-seven female teachers in Cincinnati have petitioned for the same salaries as males, on the ground that they find no reduction in board bills on account of sex.

Try Gardner's Baking Powder. See advertisement. 887.6m

DINNER TO A. WALSH, ESQ., M. P.

SPLENDID DEMONSTRATION.

Marked Tribute of Respect by Men of all Parties.

Mr. Walsh's Appointment to the Intercolonial Railway Board Endorsed.

Condensed from the Spectator.

The people from the county of Norfolk, feeling proud of the honour conferred upon their representative, A. Walsh, Esq., in his appointment to the chairmanship of the Intercolonial Railway Board, resolved to testify their continued confidence in him by a public dinner, which took place in the Music Hall, Simcoe, on Monday last. Early in the day the farmers began to flock in from the surrounding townships, and when the hour arrived for the dinner, upwards of three hundred of the most influential residents of the county had assembled. There were, in addition to the cross table, at the head of the room, which was elevated on the platform of the hall; six tables running down the room, besides one in the side gallery; and a few minutes after the doors were opened all the tables were comfortably filled. The chair was occupied by David Tisdale, Esq., the Warden of the county, Daniel Mathews, Esq., and Messrs. Roger Cryslet, George Snyder and George Jackson, filling the vice-chairs. To the right of the chairman sat the guest of the evening, Mr. A. Walsh; and on the platform were the following reverend gentlemen, who had attended to testify their personal respect for Mr. Walsh, and their sense of his honesty and integrity of purpose, viz.: Rev's Messrs. Grassett and Harris of the Church of England; Rev. Mr. Scott, of the Baptist Church; Rev. Mr. Craigie, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; Reverend Mr. Livingstone, of the Church of Scotland, and the Rev. Mr. Wilkinson, of the New Connexion Methodist Church. In addition to those gentlemen there were on the platform, Messrs. J. Y. Bown, M. P.; John O'Connor, M. P.; James Cotton, of Ottawa, James G. Moylan, of Toronto; Thomas White, jr., of Hamilton, John Elliott, of Brantford, Peter E. Young, Major Maybee, Captain McLaren, Captain David Walker, Dr. Covernton, and Dr. Pine. In the body of the hall we noticed Messrs. Thomas Waters, Robert Riddel, James Riddel, Oliver Maybee, Adam L. Potts, E. P. Martin, Charles Robinson, deputy reeve of Wyndham; D. A. McCall, reeve, Charlotteville; William Cown, deputy reeve; W. H. Ball, W. Stevenson, Robert H. Clement, Absalom Bartholomew, Peter Cline, William Wilson, Dr. John Wilson, John Carter, L. D. Livingstone, Oliver Maybee, William Rolph, George Peter, Alexander McKay, William Depew, Thomas M. Walsh, James Bell, George Liddel, J. W. Squires, John Pardee, John E. Potts, William Depew, Squire L. Curtis, Major McKerly, C. S. Harris, Ephraim Tisdale, W. Homerford, Robert Davis, A. T. Polley, John Jackson, T. P. Ronson, R. W. Mackay, Richard Stevens, Dr. Hagarman, David Irwin, Alexander McCall, David Parney, O. M. Smith, Dr. Hays, Joseph Stitt, D. Campbell, J. Cowan, &c., &c., &c.

After dinner, and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been disposed of, the chairman gave "The Health of Sir John A. Macdonald and of his colleagues," reading the following letter of apology from the Premier:

"OTTAWA, January 11, 1869.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I am much obliged for the kind invitation forwarded through you to me, from the Committee of Management, to a public dinner to be given to Mr. Walsh on the 18th inst.

"I am afraid that my duties here will prevent my having the great pleasure of joining in this fitting compliment to my old and valued friend. It is just possible, however, that about that time, I may be obliged to go to Toronto, and if so, I shall probably be able to extend my journey to Simcoe, and be present on the occasion.

"Believe me, my dear sir,
"Yours faithfully,
"JOHN A. MACDONALD."

"D. Tisdale, Esq., Simcoe."

It had been hinted that Sir John's name had been mentioned merely to attract visitors, but they knew sufficiently that no such attraction was necessary, for that everybody would be there without it (cheers.) The letter which he had just read to them explained perhaps sufficiently the causes of the statesman's absence. But, like those of other illustrious statesmen, Sir John's letters did not always convey literally their full meaning. (Laughter). There had been a certain little matter told him (the chairman) in confidence, and he hoped that if he should relate it gentlemen of the press would not only forbear from putting it in the papers, but would even deny themselves the pleasure of relating it at all. Sir John had told a friend of his confidentially, and this friend had told to him confidentially, and he told to them confidentially, and they could tell to their wives confidentially (laughter), and then everybody could not fail to know it (renewed laughter), that he was just then expecting an important event in his family (cheers and laughter), and had added that, although Premier of the Dominion, his influence or authority was powerless (roars of laughter) to accelerate or postpone the event which was absorbing his attention (prolonged cheers.)

The toast having been duly honoured,

The chairman next gave "The Army, Navy and Volunteers."

Major Maybee responded, explaining that, though politically opposed to Mr. Walsh, he had come there to show his personal regard for Mr. Walsh, and his pride at his preferment. Had it been necessary to appeal to his constituents, Mr. Walsh would have found Reformers uniting with Conservatives to return him by acclamation. (Cheers.)

Several other gentlemen also responded, speaking in very complimentary terms of Mr. Walsh.

The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, said that the main object of their meeting there was to contradict the assertion that Mr. Walsh could not be re-elected had he offered himself; and for that purpose there was no need of other attendance than of those whom he saw before him. After complimenting the Premier of Ontario as a moderate supporter of the coalition which had been endorsed by Norfolk, he read the following messages of apology from ministers as well as from the local representative of the North Riding, Mr. James Wilson, the gentleman for whom they had all laboured so hard last election. [Laughter.]

"18th Jan., 1869.

"By telegraph from Toronto,
"To D. Tisdale, Simcoe,

"I thank the committee for their kind invitation, and regret I cannot be with the electors of Norfolk to join in their expression of confidence in their able representative, A. Walsh, Esq.

"M. C. CAMERON."

"18th Jan., 1869.

"By telegraph from Toronto.
"To D. Tisdale, Simcoe,

"I feel highly complimented by the invitation to join in the demonstration this evening, in honour of my friend, Mr. Walsh; say this to the committee. The motive which has prompted this manifestation of the esteem in which he is regarded by his constituents in faithfully expressing their views in the Commons for successive years, is as creditable to them, as the evidence of it must be gratifying to him. The necessity which compels my remaining here to attend to public affairs alone prevents my being present with you on this occasion.

"J. S. McDONALD."

Mr. Walsh had been first brought out in their county—as a moderate man, able to reconcile parties, and as a man who was equally averse to hasty changes as to the obsolete practices of the times, for which the days had gone by. It was such moderation that had returned Mr. Walsh and re-elected him, and that had gained for him his present high honours, just as it was similar moderation that had won their stations for Sir John A. and Hon. J. S. Macdonald, and had brought Reformers there to speak as they had heard, knowing Mr. Walsh to be honest and straightforward and worthy—a consistent supporter of consistent principles which he (the chairman) urged men of all stripes to stand by as calculated best to promote the advancement of the country. Reformers and Conservatives and all would admit that in the whole country there could be found no man more capable to fill such office, and acknowledge, too, that his friends were always ready and willing to re-elect him, and, what was more to the purpose, were able also. (Cheers.) Without any further preface he would then give them the health of their representative, Mr. Aquila Walsh, the chairman of the Intercolonial Railway Commission. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Mr. Walsh, who rose amid tumultuous applause, said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, it has been my good fortune, during the past eight years, to be entertained on many similar occasions, and it has been my duty to respond to the expression of the kindly sentiments of my friends in such language as I could then find, or the occasion seemed to demand; but to-day the kind and the hearty manner in which you, sir, have been pleased to propose, and you, gentlemen, to receive, this toast of my name, has made me, standing here before so large a gathering of my constituents, quite unable to respond as I should now desire. On all such occasions I have never found anything but the utmost kindness whenever I have mingled with you. Permit me here, on the first opportunity of this nature which has occurred, since then, to return publicly to the electors of Norfolk my cordial thanks for their support through the election of 1867. (Cheers.) Mr. Walsh then went on to express his thanks to the electors of the South Riding for their invitation to him to represent them at the time of the division of their county, but having previously sat for the whole county he had then thought it proper, he might say found it necessary, to go into that portion of it where his friends were weakest. [Cheers.] He thanked them for the double compliment to his past career and to his fitness for his present office, and supposed that in anything he had to say regarding his course in the House he did not need to refer to his actions previous to the last Parliament, but could plead the statute of limitations against any claim for earlier explanation, having been since then endorsed by the approval of the county expressed in his return. The condition of affairs had been gravely altered by Confederation, and, as a public man, he was ready to take his share of the responsibility of having brought such an alteration about, when he believed, and which all who assisted in it believed, would be for the profit of the country. In the present Parliament, they had to deal with the new element introduced from the Maritime Provinces, which had perhaps been accustomed to deal with smaller matters, and it was to be regretted that Nova Scotia had sent an almost unanimous representation, pledged to hostility against the Union. Her representation was, however, it gratified him to bear witness, composed of men of the highest character, and who reflected every honour on their Province. But these new and hostile elements had made it a matter of great difficulty to get through the business of the last session. It was the first duty of Parliament to assimilate the laws of the different Provinces, and in doing this, especially in matters relating to the tariff, great difficulty had occurred arising out of the different local customs duties, and the apparently diverse interests of the various Provinces. These difficulties had, he feared, for the moment somewhat aggravated the feeling of dissatisfaction among the Repealers in the Maritime Provinces. But a better feeling he was glad to say was springing up; and he had the strongest confidence in the future of the Dominion and in the removal of all dissatisfaction in any part of it. [Cheers.] After referring at considerable length to the measures of the last session, and his own course thereon, as well as several local railway enterprises, Mr. Walsh said the next point upon which he desired to address them was with regard to the more immediate object of the gathering which had met to pay him so high a compliment. And he had pride in assuring them that this appointment of which they had been pleased to approve, had been not only unsought, but even wholly unexpected by himself, [hear, hear,] and that the first intimation he had received regarding it was in the official intimation from the head of the Government, proposing it for his acceptance. This fact made in his estimation the distinction of the office far higher than if he had obtained it by outside influence, such as might be used through his friend on the right from Brant, [Dr. Bown,] or on the left from Essex, [Mr. O'Connor.] He would refer to the statement which had been made by a section of his opponents—that it had only been after it was found that he could not be re-elected that a loop-hole had been found for him to get through. [Laughter.] He had himself, at first, been of the opinion that re-election would be necessary, judging from the general parliamentary principle, and without having very closely studied the law. He had consequently consulted his friends from the riding upon his prospects, and, from their cheerful assurances, was able to signify his willingness to accept the office, adding that he had every certainty that there would be no difficulty in securing his re-election, [loud cheers,] for he had yet to learn where there was to be found one man who had voted for him hitherto, who was not prepared to record the same vote again [prolonged cheers.] He took this first opportunity of making this personal statement publicly, and went on to express his approval of the principle which enacted that a Commission holding such extended power should be directly represented in the people's Council. Since their appointment the Commissioners had not been idle, and he thought they might fairly take credit for having, in the month immediately succeeding their having been gazetted, carefully examined 90 mils of the route, and travelled over the whole 500 miles of its distance. It might be said that such a flying visit was of no practical value, but they should know that the line of route ran within sight of the travelled road almost all the way from Riviere du Loup to Truro, and that a journey along the latter gave a very good idea of the nature and difficulties of the former. They had examined all the localities of the heaviest works, which were chiefly on the Restigouche and Metapedia, and had, he thought, exonerated themselves from any imputation of attending only to their own interests, which might be brought against them, had they sat down inactively in their office at Ottawa. He could venture to say for his brother commissioners as for himself that their only object was to build the cheapest and the best road (applause), and he would mention one item in which the determination they had come to would effect a large saving of expense, viz.: by building their bridges of wood in place of iron. It might be said that it was but false economy to construct such works to last only twelve or fifteen years instead of forever, but considering the peculiar nature of the line which was not likely to prove of commercial profit for some time, he thought their determination would generally be accepted as the correct one, especially when they reflected that its end would be to supply the material and the labour, and keep the cost of these in the country in place of paying England for English produce to the loss of the advantages they had thus agreed upon retaining. (Hear, hear.) These bridges would only cost half the price of iron, and could, therefore, be renewed at the same total cost for many years to come. The principle of employing such material was as he held, of sound economy, and had been largely practised in America, as well as very recently upon one of the Grand Trunk lines, in the case of the Paris viaduct. He added that the Commissioners had, as the Chairman though not perhaps the meeting was aware, made an alteration in the system of carrying on the works, which they considered of high practical importance. They had reversed the judgment of the Chief Engineer, who had proposed that their contracts should be let out on a fixed schedule of prices and measurements, while they held it was preferable to let all contracts at a specific fixed sum, whereby they could know all their responsibility at first, and would throw on the contractor the burthen of making all his calculations respecting the character of his cuttings or embankments, while the country would have the satisfaction of learning at once what each 25 or 30 mile section was to cost. This new system they had adopted in the case of the four sections which had already been advertised, and though their course had been said to have been adopted in the interest of contractors, none of them had expressed any satisfaction at it, which he (Mr. Walsh) held as a strong proof of its merit. It was possible that the surveys were not as yet sufficiently complete to enable contractors to send in accurate tenders, but they would know their estimates decisively on the 8th February, and how far their system would result in economical efficiency. He would take that occasion of saying for Mr. Fleming, that the difficulties of the Chief Engineer were very great, of running his lines over a vast extent of country, in making experimental surveys, and being able to concentrate his forces only where the Government had definitely located the route. He would also say most emphatically, whence his words would go out to the country, that from the Commission every contractor should have fair play, that there should be no such thing as favouritism, but that each and every tender should be judged upon its own merits solely. Referring to the subject of the route he said three distinct lines had been at various times proposed. The Central, Frontier, and North Shore. Reviewing their differing recommendations he said that he had never been inclined to view the road as one of great commercial promise, and had been even less so since he had traversed the country. But it was a political and military necessity, and no line which could be chosen was commercially desirable. The frontier route had been advocated on account of its shortness, and because it led directly to the city of St. John, N.B. But it would be utterly useless for military purposes, and the British authorities would never have consented to sanction it, while as a commercial undertaking it would have to compete with the road now being constructed from St. John to Bangor, in Maine, and these joint considerations he could not but regard as sufficient reasons for its rejection. As to the Central route, he had the very best grounds for stating that its cost, per mile or in the aggregate, would considerably exceed that of the line selected, besides which it would cross a country perfectly sterile and uncultivated, in the heart of the Province. The Intercolonial line, as determined upon, would, on the contrary, supply the want of railway communication where New Brunswick most needed it. He believed therefore that, in their selection, the Government had taken the course likely to effect the greatest good to the greatest number. As the Commission had not been long enough in office to work as yet a great deal of either good or evil, he might perhaps be excused from saying anything further upon such a topic, but he still desired to reiterate his sense of the military and political necessity of the line, and of the absolute exigency of its construction for the maintenance of the Union of the Provinces. But upon this point he was glad to be able to say that, from his own observation and enquiries, and from recently obtained information, he was satisfied that the darkest hour of Nova Scotian disaffection had passed away, and that if the great question of Confederation were to be shortly submitted to the people, the Union would be ratified by a decisive majority. He was able to go farther, and to tell them without hesitation that, at the next session of Parliament the Government would be prepared to submit to the House propositions to make the basis of an agreement which should include Newfoundland. [Cheers.] Mr. Walsh then went on to enlarge upon the capacities of the great British Confederation which was to stretch from sea to sea, and to yield its productions of gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, coal, salt, coal oil, fish and forest, to be made available by its splendid climate, soil and water communication in connection with its vast agricultural resources and manufacturing enterprise. To enhance those glorious gifts of nature was the influence of their grand old British institutions pervading every relation of life, and working that happiness among us here which it had never failed to do in the parent land, and which gave the highest promise of the great future of our beloved territory. In conclusion he again sincerely thanked them for their friendship and gracefully acknowledged the presence of so large a number of clergymen of the town in which he had lived so long, and who, of these different denominations which he saw represented around him, came here, as he believed, not as politicians, but as his personal friends, and whose presence he gratefully accepted as having been given to express confidence in and esteem for himself; and he hoped and trusted that whether his commissionership should prove of short or long duration, he should be able to return to them at its close with a faithful account of his stewardship. He would only further detain them to express his deep sense of Major Maybee's kindness, as of a consistent opponent who had so generously expressed such liberal sentiments regarding his re-election, and of his regard of his presence, and that of others whom he similarly saw there as an evidence of the general confidence with which the county honoured him, and the general belief that he would do the best he could for the interests of the country. [Loud and prolonged cheers.]

Mr. Wallace, Accountant of the Railway Commission, was then presented with an address and a valuable watch, which, with the toast of his health he suitably acknowledged.

"The Legislature of Ontario" was then proposed, which was received with cheers.

Dr. Bown, M.P., being called upon to reply, said that he had much pleasure in coming there to witness the enthusiastic reception of their member on his return home. No man could possibly receive higher satisfaction from any expression of regard than it was Mr. Walsh's to experience that evening. This regard was manifestly that of no particular party, but of the whole general community. (Applause.) He (Dr. Bown) had been surprised to find such an important gathering at Simcoe, and heartily congratulated Mr. Walsh on the compliment thus paid him. He confessed to a difficulty in speaking to the toast, arising from nervousness, having but once attempted to address the House, and then broke down. (Laughter.) Still, he could tell them how he remembered having entered Parliament at the same time as Mr. Walsh had been returned for Norfolk. Things were greatly changed since then, and members were able to speak to their opponents, and to regard them as gentlemen without necessarily falling under the ban of their leaders. He had, himself, gone into Parliament as a supporter of party, not faction, and could not consent to be subjected to the orders of Mr. McKellar, Mr. McKenzie, or even Mr. David Christie. (Loud laughter.) And, for his independence, was hounded all over the country, and told that he suffered from all sorts of maladies, such as weak knees, soft brain, &c., &c., as well as prescribed all sorts of remedies. Now, his real and only malady was that of a stiff neck. (Laughter.) He went on to urge the necessity of a modification of opinion in the light of experience, and disclaimed any unwillingness to confess errors of which he had become convinced, asserting that those who knew him best knew that when he wronged anybody he was always ready to make reparation, and to acknowledge his mistakes. Of such a course he could never be ashamed, having shared in scientific discussions in which the ablest men were willing to amend and correct their former opinions in the search of truth. He would, however, be ashamed if it were possible that he could persist that Wrong, which he knew to be wrong, was the Right he had once fancied it. He had been long ago told by a leading statesman that politics were a matter of expediency, but he had lived to see the party which held such a theory dwindle surely to decay. Going on to contrast the British and American forms of Government, he said that the latter placed the sovereignty in the popular, the former in the divine will. Severely censuring the attitude towards Confederation taken by the Hon. George Brown, he stigmatized that gentleman as having attempted as an abortion to destroy the life of his own offspring. This man's failure had sufficiently taught the lesson that men could only truly benefit themselves by honest work for the benefit of the whole community. With his place in public disregard, they might contrast advantageously that of the memory of another politician. There had been a man who had come among them poor and suspected, with nothing but his honesty and his intellect to rely upon, with all the impulses of charity and benevolence working in his soul, but with little to give to those of his brethren whose needs claimed his infinite compassion beyond the treasures of that genius which had made its mark on the country and the age, and which he was ever ready to lavish in the cause of suffering humanity. This man it was who had magnanimously resigned his own claims to office for what he thought to be the general good, and who, in that last sad speech which none among his audience could ever forget, had enjoined the necessity of legislation in each Province for higher aims than purely local ones, and had thus won a grateful meed of popular recognition, declaring that, if ever any one deserved honour of his country, it was the murdered martyr Thomas D'Arcy McGee. [Loud cheers.] This was the man who had, day after day and night after night come down, with the knowledge that murder was on his heels, to do his duty to the country that he loved to serve. There was, it seemed to him, a valuable public lesson to be learned from the contrast of these two lives—of the one, who was now rolling in wealth, and of the one, who was now rolling in wealth, and the other who had died wanting provision for the future of his family, which the gratitude of the country had provided for, although he feared but insufficiently. (Hear, hear.) He had often had to differ with Mr. Walsh, but he could notwithstanding assert that there was no one from whom the public interests could now derive higher service, and was confident that he would come back to them again, and again, to receive renewed assurance of their approval, while he himself, so long as Mr. Walsh went on as now would be always ready to defend him in the House. (Cheers.)

Mr. O'Connor regretted that illness would prevent him from addressing them as he could desire, and would indeed have kept him at home but