

The Liberal.

RICHMOND HILL, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, '83

Mr. Blake and Liquor Licenses.

The *Mail* of Monday contains an editorial of some length whereby it endeavors to show that the position taken by Mr. Blake in refusing to act on the select committee of the House appointed to consider liquor legislation has brought down upon him the disfavor and criticism of his own friends, and in proof of its assertion it makes quotations from the *Canadian Casket*, a temperance journal published at Napanee. Now it is well known that the *Casket* is no friend of Mr. Blake's, therefore as far as the quotations are concerned as evidence that his friends are disposed to censure his course they fall to the ground. But it might be expected that the *Casket*, as a friend, and advocate not only of the restriction of the liquor traffic, but of total prohibition, should throw politics aside and join hands with Mr. Blake and his followers to keep the regulation of the liquor traffic in the hands of the Government that has given the Province the best license law hys ever been put in operation; for the *Casket* knows full well that although the Mackenzie Government gave the country an optional prohibitory liquor law—and prohibition alone is within the power of the federal government, not the regulation of the traffic—any legislation that may emanate from the present power at Ottawa cannot possibly be in favor of temperance, they being the openly avowed friends of the Distillers, Brewers and Licensed Victuallers. But the *Casket*, alas, like too many of its own shade of politics who are professedly the friends of temperance, when politics are thrown into one side of the balances and temperance into the other the former preponderates and temperance principles are laid aside for the time being with the injunction, "Let not your hearts be troubled." The *Casket* in its zeal for Toryism can lay aside its mantle of temperance and go into the fight on party grounds. The *Mail* was fully aware of these facts and yet it had the audacity to give the quotations to prove that Mr. Blake's friends did not approve of his action. The *Mail* in concluding its article says: "The very erratic and unparliamentary course pursued by Mr. Blake both during the debate and in subsequently refusing to sit upon the committee, has led even his own friends to believe that he is entirely unfit to be leader of the Opposition, or for any prominent position in the councils of the nation."

Now we challenge the *Mail* to cite one instance of where a journal or an individual either in the Reform ranks or that takes an independent stand in politics, yes, we will go further and include any honest temperance advocate whose temperance principles are more dearly cherished than, and will outweigh, his political inclinations, who will say that Mr. Blake has done anything wrong. Nay, had he not taken the course he did, he would have proved himself unworthy of the position he holds, as leader of the great Liberal Party of Canada. Had he shaped his course otherwise he would have been guilty of a breach of trust, guilty of betraying the interests of the temperance cause, guilty of misrepresenting the Reform party and guilty of connivance with the arch-enemy of temperance, Provincial Rights and Federal Union. His course has been endorsed and commended by every true Reformer, by every true temperance man, and every true patriot.

Great is Diana of the Ephesians

Much has been and is claimed for the N. P. by its devotees in that it will build up the trade of the country on a firm basis, and turn business into its natural channels, and under its benign reign our country would soon become great in its trade relations with other countries by building up home industries and home manufacturers to the exclusion of foreign manufactures. One of the strong points that have been argued in its favor was that large firms would be able to establish their business on such a sure foundation that failures in business would soon become a thing of the past. Good times was to be one of its essential and never-failing concomitants, and sorrow and sighing on account of hard times should flee away. At all times when business seemed to be prospering and manufactures flourishing the defenders of the faith were not slow to attribute all to the success of the N. P. It was also to ensure for the farmer constant high prices for his grain and produce, and he would have a home market in which the very highest figures would be realized. The high prices, the establishment of manufactures, the success of business, the extension of trade and any other good thing was invariably the result of the N. P., according to these protectionists. But it is a poor rule that won't work both ways. If the N. P. assumes such complete control of the business and trade of the country, it must assume the responsibility as well as the credit. Now grain and produce are at an exceedingly low figure and have been for some time. The egg and butter rings have been broken and these things are going down, down, down. Business is becoming clogged—a palpable fact which even the

most zealous supporters of the N. P. are being compelled to admit—and failures are of common occurrence. In Toronto since the commencement of the present year there have been a large number of failures. In Montreal there were no less than six prominent firms made assignments on Monday of this week, besides several others that had the week previous, and others are expected to follow, several of them manufacturing firms. Several prominent Toronto firms are just now wavering, and may collapse at any moment. Of course it would be malicious libel, heresy, an unpardonable sin to even insinuate that the N. P. has the remotest connection with any of these things, and its advocates will be less ready to attribute them to the working of the great National Policy. Notwithstanding the boasted ability of the N. P. to drive away hard times and shield the country from the evil consequences of these commercial crises, those periodical successions of commercial depression and activity which every country has to pass through will come and go, regardless of that institution. The indications are that we are now on the verge of a great commercial crisis, and it is more than probable that the next four or five years will show to the people of Canada that the great and boasted National Policy is nothing more or less than a great National Humbug.

Postal Act Interpretation.

It will be remembered that some months ago we were compelled to request our Subscribers who resided out side of the village who had been receiving their LIBERALS through the Post Office to call at this office for them as the Post Master had informed us that in order to their delivery they would have to be pre-paid at half a cent per paper. This seemed to us absurd, as we could send them anywhere in Canada free, and on looking up the Postal Act, we claimed it was a misinterpretation of the Act, and determined to test it. We therefore continued to mail said papers as usual, with the result that they were sent to the Dead Letter Office, from whence they were returned with the information that they would have to be pre-paid half a cent each. We then wrote to the Post Office Department concerning the matter, in answer to which we received a pert and somewhat indefinite reply, which seemed to intimate that "You are only the publisher of a Grit newspaper—what business have you to enquire concerning these matters. If you were a Tory publisher it would be a horse of another color. 'The Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans'" The thing, however, appeared so absurd to us, and an evident misinterpretation of the Act, according to its own wording, that we wrote again to Ottawa explaining the ground we took in the matter, but had, in the mean time, having no alternative, to ask our subscribers to call for their papers, as they were regularly sent to the Dead Letter Office by the Post Master. Any person who possessed any common sense and a moderate knowledge of the English language could not help taking the view we took of the clause which reads thus, "Newspapers printed and published in Canada and mailed from the office of publication to subscribers resident elsewhere than at the place of publication shall be transmitted free of postage," which is evidently meant to exclude only those to whom they can be delivered, and not those residing one or two or three miles distant from the place of publication. For some time we looked in vain for a reply from Ottawa, but on Monday it came by the Post Master personally informing us that he had received instructions to deliver the papers referred to free of postage.

Canadian Newspapers in 1883.

From the new edition of Messrs. Geo. P. Rowell & Co's *American Newspaper Directory*, which is now in press, it appears that the total number of newspapers and periodicals of all kinds issued in Canada is 596. There are no less than 74 daily papers, while the monthlies number 57. The weekly papers 423. This is an excellent showing for the Dominion, though it cannot of course equal the United States and Territories, in which the Journals and periodicals of all kinds now reach the imposing total of 11,196. This is an increase of 585 in twelve months. Taking the States one by one, the newspaper growth in some is very considerable. The present total in New York State, for instance, is 1,399—a gain of 80 in the past year. The most remarkable change has occurred in the Territories, in which the daily papers have grown from 43 to 63, and the weeklies from 169 to 243—Dakota being the chief area of activity. The number of monthlies throughout the United States grew from 976 to 1,034, while the dailies leaped from 996 to 1,062. Referring to our own journalistic growth, it is interesting to note that the newly settled regions of our Canadian North-West are productive of newspapers as well as of wheat, for the number of journals issued in Manitoba was nearly doubled during the year.

It now looks as if the Temperance Colonization Society was going to get itself into difficulty through its "chief pusher." Mr. J. Alf. Livingstone, manager of the Society, is being made to face the music of two actions at law, one by Wm. Whyte, of Liverpool, for \$8,000, and another by Fraser & Co., of the same place, for \$3,140.

Liquor Legislation.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and done by Sir John Macdonald and his followers concerning the liquor license legislation, and the strong epithets and loud-mouthed imprecations of the *Mail* that have been poured on Mr. Blake and the Reform party the probabilities are that the matter will be let drop and nothing will be done in the matter. If there is we need not look for anything favorable to temperance. The entire agitation on the matter is at the instance of the Licensed Victuallers, and it would be absurd to expect legislation unfavorable to them, especially as it is well known that to the liquor interests Sir John owes his gratitude for his lease of power. We repeat again that it would be folly on the part of the temperance community to expect legislation unfavorable to the liquor party in Canada.

The Toronto Board of Trade seem to be strongly opposed to the Railway Commission which Mr. McCarthy's bill calls for. At its meeting on Monday afternoon a number of its members spoke warmly against it, while one or two seemed to favor it. One thing was evident—a coincidence of course—in every instance those who spoke against the commission were either directly or indirectly connected with railways. It is to be hoped the bill will pass as the Railway Commission will be a public boon, the Board of Trade to the contrary notwithstanding.

The appointment of Judge Boyd to the Senior Judgeship of the County of York, *vice* Judge Mackenzie, deceased, will not give unanimous satisfaction, though perhaps it is better so, as in the work of the Senior Judgeship there is not the same opportunity of manifesting political partisanship which is well known to be a chronic failing of his, as in that of the Junior. It is to be hoped that Joseph Easton McDougall, Q. C., now Judge McDougall, will, in the exercise of his judicial functions, be free from this objectionable feature.

A Special Committee of the County Council a short time ago reported the basis on which the County Council was prepared to go into the erection of a new Court House with the city. Now a similar Committee of the City Council reports their basis on which they are willing to go into the scheme. About the only difference between the bases is that the County Council blames the City Council for the delay and the City Council blames the County Council. The fact appears to be, neither of them want to go into it.

Speaking of the Provincial elections the *Winnipeg Sun* says: "Never before in Canadian history was there so open an attempt made on the part of the Federal Cabinet to influence a Provincial election. The organized endeavors to bring Ontario into subjection to the powers that be at Ottawa is a barefaced interference with the freedom and independence of the local parliaments that deserve reprobation, whether those guilty of it are Conservatives or Liberals."

The *Markham Economist* says: "The Richmond Hill *Herald* commenting on the result of the election in East York, says: 'Mr. Badgerow has got electioneering down to a fine art.' In its own constituency, it is said, the successful candidate 'got electioneering down' lower than that, for the 'art' employed is said to be illegal. According to current belief the influences were so bewitching that they might be ascribed to a practice of 'black art.'"

Mr. Lees, the member elect for Lanark, has always been counted among the supporters of Mr. Meredith, but it now transpires that he is pledged in writing to support Mr. Mowat. This is equal to two for the Government. It is quite certain that when there is a division in the House Mr. Mowat's majority will be found to be twelve or fifteen. Figure as they like to compel "Mowat to go," the Tories will have to come down to fair, solid facts.

Some of our exchanges give currency to the report that the Hon. A. S. Hardy will be appointed Provincial Treasurer *vice* Hon. E. B. Wood, resigned, and that Dr. Widdifield, of North York, will receive the Provincial Secretaryship. It is also rumored that Mr. John Dryden, of South Ontario, will receive the Secretaryship. The appointment of either of these men could not but give universal satisfaction.

The Orange Bill was carried in its first reading in the Commons by a majority of 5, Sir John Macdonald and J. J. Hawkins voting for it. It will be seen what stand these two-faced tricksters will take before it is through. We will see if the Quebec *Bleus* will permit Sir John to pass it. Will the *Bleus* and the Tory Orangemen then pull together. We will see.

The announcement is now made that the revision of the franchise promised in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present session of the Dominion Parliament will be quietly dropped without any action being taken in the matter. This is nothing more than might be expected concerning the loud-mouth boasts of Sir John Macdonald.

The latest thing in journalism is for the Tory papers of Ontario to plagiarize whole editorials from the *Montreal Gazette*, on the political situation in Ontario and the desirability of having Mr. Meredith succeed Mr. Mowat. Every body knows that the *Gazette* is the notorious Tom White's journal and the exponent of the opinion of the Quebec *Bleus*.

A grand complimentary Banquet is soon to be given to Dr. Widdifield, M. P. P., of North York. Hon. Attorney-General Mowat and other prominent gentlemen will be present. The Dr. is a faithful representative of his constituency, and is worthy of this recognition at the hands of his friends in North York.

The House of Commons met on Feb. 8th. From that to the 20th of March is five and a half weeks. The rate of cost of legislation is \$28 per minute, \$1,668—of actual working time—per hour, and as yet there has been absolutely nothing done—not even the budget ready to be brought down.

It is expected that next week will make startling revelations in political circles, as this week closes the time for entering election protests. There will be a large number of protests entered.

The Dominion Parliament resumed its sitting on Wednesday, after Easter vacation. Many of the seats were vacant.

MILLIONS GIVEN AWAY.—Millions of bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs, and Colds, have been given away as Trial Bottles of the large size. This enormous outlay would be disastrous to the proprietors, were it not for the rare merits possessed by the medicine. Call at R. E. Law's, Richmond Hill, and T. A. Hewitt & Co's, Thornhill, and get a Trial Bottle free, and try for yourself. It never fails to cure.

NEVER ALLOW IT.—Never allow the bowels to remain in a torpid condition, as it leads to serious results, and ill health is sure to follow. Burdock Blood Bitters is the most perfect regulator of the bowels, and the best blood purifier known.

NEVER GIVE UP.—If you are suffering with low and depressed spirits, loss of appetite, general debility, disordered blood, weak constitution, headache, or any other disease of a bilious nature, by all means procure a bottle of Electric Bitters. You will be surprised to see the rapid improvement that will follow; you will be inspired with new life; strength and activity will return; pain and misery will cease, and henceforth you will rejoice in the praise of Electric Bitters. Sold by R. E. Law, Richmond Hill, and T. A. Hewitt & Co's, Thornhill.

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Mr. W. A. Wing, Westport, writes: "I wish to inform you of the wonderful results which followed the use of Northrop & Lyman's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda. A Cough of six months' standing had reduced me to such an extent that I was unable to work. I tried many remedies without effect; at last I used this Emulsion, and before three bottles were used I am glad to say I was restored to perfect health."

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In returning thanks to my numerous friends for their liberal patronage during the past twenty-five years, I beg to remind them and the general public, that having erected entirely new and commodious premises, I am enabled to supply

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Both light and heavy, all of which are guaranteed to give satisfaction, as the work is under my own supervision. I am also prepared to do all kinds of blacksmithing & repairing in the most workmanlike manner, on the shortest notice, and on the most reasonable terms.

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