

The Philadelphia Convention.

The Land League Convention held at Philadelphia lately discovered that the policy of refusal to pay rent, boycotting and landlord shooting is not the most successful method of accomplishing the desired end, and so it not only discarded its former methods but has renounced its former name and adopted a new one, more in harmony with what is designed to be its future actions. Its character and purpose under its new name will be slightly modified now that the defunct Land League had merged into the Irish National League. It is composed mainly of the same membership and the declared object of the new organization are Irish Nationality, Home Rule, Separation from England, and National Independence, according as the leaders of the party may shape the future efforts. The Dynamite faction of O'Donovan Rossa and his coadjutors was well represented, but they were hopelessly in the minority, and utterly failed to secure any recognition of its inhuman, brutal and cowardly schemes of incendiarism and secret murder. But although Parnell was recognized as the leader of the party and his policy of agitation and parliamentary obstruction emphatically endorsed, yet the Dynamite party is by no means dead, and though no public endorsement of its course was made, yet it was neither rebuked, condemned, nor repudiated, and there was without doubt an under current of sympathy with that faction on the occasion which it was not politic to express. But it was not slow to express terrible threats and bitter denunciation of England and English statesmen and indulge freely in the Irish American rant and bombastic verbiage for which Fenian Conventions have, in the past, been noted. Of common sense utterances or calm surveys of the situation there were none, and for a convention of over twelve hundred delegates to allow such a fitting occasion to pass without a vigorous denunciation of the infamous assassin societies and their horrible deeds, and of the equally murderous schemes of the Dynamite party will be remembered as a lasting disgrace to the Irish name in America. When such scoundrels as Rossa and Carey receive the grip of sympathy and the protection of friendly silence their personal infamy and guilt is transferred to the whole party whose ends they are allowed to serve. This is about the position in which Parnell and his followers with the Philadelphia Convention have placed themselves by their silence. The American press strongly protests against connivance at such criminal conspiracy and plotting of murder and arson against the citizens and Government of another country, using the privileges of American citizenship as a cover, and demands that if the present law does not provide for the arrest and extradition of such conspirators as Rossa, Walsh and Tynan it be forthwith amended so that it will, and so that the right of asylum and protection to political refugees shall not be perverted into a general aiding and abetting of political and agrarian crime. This healthy tone in the press will, no doubt, be productive of good results, and it is not improbable that ere long the stigma which attaches to the American Union as a favorite haven of refuge for criminals of all classes may be removed by the action of the authorities, as well as a check put upon the latitude to which its own citizens may go in aiding the citizens of another country to plot murder, treason and crime.

The Heathen Chinee.

The Evening News, in a comment on the Chinese question and the improbability of white men going to British Columbia to compete with the Chinese at what would be starvation wages, remarks, "that the house must be freed from vermin before respectable people can be induced to enter it." Whether the writer of the above item believes in the adage "that all men are born free and equal," or not we do not think that distinguishing even a Mongolian by such a designation is calculated to educate its readers to a decent toleration of the few Chinese who are already amongst us or a kindly reception of those who may come to Ontario. The tendency of continued approbrium thrown upon any, individually or collectively, is to foster in others a persecuting spirit which will manifest itself when there is an opportunity of showing it. The intolerant and snarling propensities of the press in California and other States of the Union against the Chinese led to a series of persecutions and cruelties upon them that disgraced humanity. The same spirit of evil lies dormant in the hearts of the ignorant and degraded of our cities and it requires but little encouragement to rouse it to an unwelcome activity. The appellation "vermin" is no more applicable to the Chinese in British Columbia than it would have been to the pioneer gold seeker in San Francisco, the advance miners of Cariboo or any other gathering of men and men only who form an isolated community unrestricted by laws which govern civilized society. The early history of any of them is generally a blot on their particular nationality. The Chinese,

as might be expected, is no exception to the general rule. He comes as an immigrant from a foreign country to ours. Whilst as Canadians we welcome his fellow immigrant from any other nation under the sun, even the Japanese (whose style and fashions we enthusiastically adopt) we look upon him as "vermin," and driven from every society but his own, he, although imitative and ready to adapt himself to surrounding circumstances, sees no example to follow which would raise him in the scale of morality. With Christian liberality we raise money to send the Missionary to his country to have him Christianized but when he comes to ours we try to keep him heathen as long as we can. From all accounts they appear to be quiet and peaceable, their industry and frugality is remarkable and their ingenuity and perseverance in the accomplishment of work marvellous, with a fair and equal chance in the pursuits of life they ought to be useful additions to our communities. We do not think that it would be good policy on the part of our Government to offer a bonus or obtain a great influx of Celestials, or even to favor them with assisted passages, but we think that in a vast country like ours there is room for all who may find a way to our shores, that they ought to be received at least with Christian forbearance and as quickly as possible by the force of good example, the laws and usages of Canadian society get them transformed into passable and even respectable Canadian citizens.

The Toronto Telegram says: "With the exception of four or five members of the Dominion Cabinet, there is scarcely one who is competent to discuss in Parliament a matter affecting his own department. Mr. Costigan gets into a muddle with a bill affecting the inland revenue, and Mr. Caron shuffles through a bill concerning the militia. As for the others, with the few exceptions noted, fortunately they are not very often called upon to make statements. There is good ground for the remark often made that Sir John Macdonald runs the Government himself, distributes the patronage, and pays his colleagues their salaries for doing his bidding. There are only two or three men of individuality or force of character in the Cabinet besides himself. He takes care that this shall be so when he opens the door to them. As he grows older he grows more dogmatic and determined to have his own way.

The Mail will prove the ruin of the conservative party unless, as a prominent conservative put it the other day, its managing director is "hooped." Both he and his editor have undertaken to lord it over prominent men in their own party, and to employ the foulest language towards the members of the opposition. The uncalled for attack on Postmaster Patteson and the following extract from its columns are examples in point:

The truth is that the whole of the grit leaders and journals—though not all their deluded adherents—are swept to the lips in treason, in reprobate treason, in leveling and destructive theories of all sorts.

Within the past few days nearly every one of the Independent papers of the country have rebuked the Mail for its conduct, and what is still more hopeful sign, several well-known conservative papers have repudiated its abusive utterances. To speak of the member of Norfolk as the "Idiot Charlton" is a fair sample of its treatment of opponents.—Toronto Word.

The speech delivered by Hon. Edward Blake, in reply to Sir Charles Tupper's enunciation of the Government policy on the Pacific Railway question, stands unparalleled in Canadian parliamentary history. The Minister of Railways had taken weeks to prepare his points, and debated the question in all its aspects for four hours. Without a moment's hesitation Mr. Blake commenced to reply. When he had concluded, not a point raised by Sir Charles was unanswered. The various inconsistencies, contradictions and mis-statements of the government and syndicate were laid before the House with such telling force that Sir John's followers were appalled as they listened. The most servile government supporters were driven to confess that it was a terrible indictment. None dare attempt to reply. The speech was unanswerable.

Mr. Gladstone made what is termed one of the most eloquent speeches of his lifetime in support of the Affirmation Bill, which has just been defeated in the Imperial Parliament by the narrow majority of three votes. The object of the bill is to allow those who decline to take the oath to simply affirm, and the necessity for the change arose through the Bradlaugh case. The proposal seemed a sensible one, as under the present system the form of swearing is taken by many indifferently to the solemnity of an oath, and the only ones who will object are the conscientious or those desirous of notoriety. Yet, notwithstanding the eloquence of Mr. Gladstone and the apparent merits of the measure, it has been defeated by the allied forces of intolerance and obstruction.

Rufus Stephenson has a softer thing even than printing contracts. When he was appointed Inspector of Colonization Companies there were over 300 of them in existence, but now only about a dozen of them survive, and still he gets \$4,000 a year as before.

Since the beginning of the session the supporters of the Government have been agitating among themselves for an increase of the seasonal indemnity from \$1,000 to \$1,500, and a 'round robin' has been circulating among them to that effect. Proposals were made from that side of the House to the Opposition members to get up a similar document but was met with a point-blank refusal. Any resolution or legislation in that direction will come—if it comes at all—from the Government side of the House, who must assume all responsibility in the matter. The statement of the Ottawa correspondent of the Mail, in its issue of Monday on this subject are a issue of lies from beginning to end.

On Monday last a petition against the return of Mr. Francis G. Fauquier as Member of the Ontario Legislature for Muskoka and Parry Sound, was filed in the Court of Appeal at Osgoode Hall, Toronto. We understand that there is a vast amount of evidence of Bribery, which will be not only sufficient to unseat Mr. Fauquier, but also to disqualify him from again being candidate. Mr. Bettes claims the seat. The operations of the "cattle buyers" and the host of Dominion Government emissaries will be exposed and their mode of capturing a constituency revealed.—North Star.

The Parliament buildings as they now stand cost \$1,173,977, and an item is now included in the estimate of \$290,000 to begin an erection of additional public buildings, which will probably cost the country over a million more. When the addition was made to the departmental buildings during Mr. Mackenzie's regime the then opposition raised a lamentable howl that it was not required, and now they follow in the course they then denounced. We believe, however, there is more accommodation required for some of the departments.

Mr. H. H. Smith has left for England, on business, of public importance.—Peterboro' Review.

Yes, public importance! Mr. Smith was chief distributor of the Tory funds at the recent Provincial Elections. It is not desirable, from a Tory standpoint, that he should be supposed to attend the approaching trials of the contested elections. Therefore he is hied off to a foreign country at the public expense. That is one way of skirting the witness box.—Port Hope News.

The Orangemen of Ottawa district banquipped Mr. John White, M. P., as a mark of their appreciation of his loyalty to the Order in refusing to allow himself to be coaxed into dropping the Orange Incorporation Bill before the order for the second reading came up.

There is an unusually early spring in Manitoba and the North-West, which is always a presage of a good crop. Seeding is over, and the oldest residents state that they have never seen a finer spring or better prospects for a prosperous year.

The usual allowance for supplementary estimate has been about \$1,000,000, but under the Tilley regime it takes over \$3,000,000. What difference of that so long as people can indulge in the luxury of sausage skins imported duty free?

Mr. Dumoulin, Tory M. P. P., for Three Rivers, Quebec, has resigned rather than face the music in the protest against his election.

The examinations for promotion on the inside and outside divisions of the Civil Service will be held on the 8th of June next.

Temperance Sermon.

To the editor of the LIBERAL:

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me to avail myself of the medium of your paper to express my appreciation of the noble efforts of the Rev. W. J. Barkwell, B.A., to rouse the people of this village to take a correct view of the Temperance Question. I am sure he has earned the thanks and respect of all who have had the privilege of listening to his, eloquent and fearless appeals on behalf of that much abused theme. My convictions are, that the blessing of God will surely follow such efforts, and that many young men, aye, and those of riper years, who have heard his solemn warnings, will pause, and consider to what this habit of frequenting bar-rooms and treating friends to the Social Glass will lead them. I think if we had more of such appeals from the pulpit, we would see Temperance better exemplified in the lives of church members.

While fully endorsing all Mr. Barkwell said on the subject of Prohibition, I would like to know why the present law cannot be enforced in regard to Sabbath drinking. The law, I think, says, "No intoxicating liquors shall be sold between the hours of seven on Saturday night, and six on Monday morning." Now Mr. Editor, I have seen, within the past month, in this our fair village, noted, and very justly too, for its beautiful churches, and its observance of the Sabbath, proof visible to the eye, that if intoxicating liquors had not been sold, it had been given away. Surely we can have a better state of affairs than this. Will not the people of our village rouse themselves and see to it that, at least, on the Lords Day, no drunken man will be seen in our streets?

Thanking you for the space accorded me on this occasion, and hoping that the

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He fled hastily for a moment at a point

of the collar just below his ear, and with a gentle burn he eyes was "warmed."

was the consequence of a young fool He fled hastily.

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