

At last the project of a switch from Richmond Hill Station to Richmond Hill Village is beginning to receive the serious consideration of our residents. Never was a project fraught with more importance to us, never was a project deserving of more mature deliberation. In the prospective removal of the Messrs. Patterson to Woodstock, we are threatened with a blow of which very few seem to realize the consequences. We are not in a position to state whether or not that blow is inevitable, but we are in a position to say that in the proposed railroad extension we have a remedy against its worst results. With the iron-horse at our doors, we surely do not entertain exaggerated expectations when we affirm that at the least we may become all that Aurora is. With Patterson a collection of deserted houses, we sure-ly do not indulge in groundless fears when we say that a few years will see our prosperous village sunk into the condition of a Thernhill or a Newtonbrook.

Our Village is situated in the midst of a splendid country. That Richmond Hill is not a great market for the immense quantities of produce raised in our neighborhood, is to be attributed solely to the fact that we are four miles removed from the Northern Railroad. We have very fine water-privileges. That they are allowed to remain dormant, or used to an extremely limited extent, is due to the same fact.

Let those who now oppose this most necessary connection, or who are even disposed to throw cold water on it, pause in their opposit-ion or luke-warmness. If, on the one hand, they are filled with fears that their property may be burdened with fresh taxation, let them, on the other hand, ripely consider that in a very short time a depreciated property will not bear to be taxed suf-ficiently to prevent us from lapsing into a state of neglect and squalor. At present we have in our midst not a few who, although their hands are full, can with difficulty be induced to open even their little fingers. Let such as these beware lest the time may come when even if they are willing to open the whole hand, no good can result, because those hands will be found to be empty.

We have great confidence in our Reeve. He is, we understand, moving in this matter with his customary caution and shrewdness. He is be-ing ably seconded in his efforts by many of our best and most enterprising villagers. We are sure, that they will lead us into no pitfalls, and we, therefore, wish them all success

not been examined, consequently the secretary has been unable to make his annual report to the Edu-cation Department. Surely it is not yet too late to infuse new life into this apparently dead concern, which was once looked upon with so much pride and esteem.

In cases where the annual meet-ing has not been held in May according to regulations, the Minister of Education has power to grant a per-mit allowing such meeting to be held at any future time. We sin-cerely hope that the late president, or some other active citizen who has the welfare of our village at heart will make a move in the matter, and endeavor to provide for the long winter evenings which are fast ap-proaching. A little vigor and en-thusiasm on the part of a few ener-getic people might place the institution in its former proud position. We wait with anxiety to see who will start the ball rolling.

SIR LEONARD TILLEY.

A week ago was announced Sir Leonard Tilley's resignation of the position which he bela in the Ottawa Cabinet as Minister of Finance. Already he has been gazetted Lieu-tenant Governor of New Brunswick. In the withdrawal of Sir Leonaad,

the present Government has suffered an almost irreparable loss. No one who has impartially observed the ex-minister's career as a public man will pretend that he possessed more than average ability. The N. P., with which his name is so much associated, was not of his devising. The most that can be claimed for him (and he would be the first to admit it more than enough) is that he dispensed the nostrum which more adroit, and less scrupulous, quacks discovered. That the N. P. is a failure is no fault of Sir Leon-ard. He confessedly did all that could be done with a tariff prepared, not in the interest of the country, but in the interest of the country, but in the interest of a party mad-ly bent on securing office. To him, however, tell a task which can be likened only to that of the daughters of Danaus. Unweariedly he poured into the vessel which he was required to keep filled, but alas! he long ago discovered that that vessel is a sieve.

In one respect, he was a pillar of strength to the Government. To him his most bitter enemies never did, never could, impute fraud, corruption or knavery. He is undoubt-edly an honest man. His respecta-bility is due to no affectation of morality; it is the natural outcome of genuine integrity. While all must deplore his connection with a Cabi-net of the suppuration kind, we must remember that our opinion of his position would be greatly modi-fied it we formed it from his point of view.

No one needs to be reminded that Sir Leonard Tilley has been a lifelong supporter of the cause of Tem-perance. It is true his efforts were here restricted by Red Ribbon Beer Carling and wholesale Frank Smith. In this particular also, he deserved commiseration rather than censure.



in their present investigations.

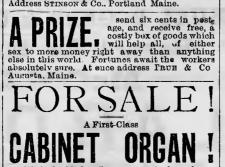
MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

A time there was when the Mechanics' Institute in Richmond Hill was reckoned among the most prosperous foundations of our village. It was highly appreciated by both young and old of all classes of seci-ety, of all occupations and professions. For many years it con-It was highly appreciated by both young and old of all classes of soci-ety, of all occupations and -professions. For many years it con-tinued to be popular, not only for its extensive library of valuable works, but for its instructive re-unions, entertaining concerts, profi-table debates &c., which were held, under its patronage, from time to time. The residents of the village, ard many within a radius of several ard many within a radius of several miles around were eager to pay their admission fee of one dollar a year, which entitled them to all the benefits derived from the Insti-tute, feeling confident they were re-ceiving full value, and more than value, for the money invested.

But we are sorry to say that this former happy state of affairs is numbered among the things of the past, and that, for some time back, the Institute has been slowly but surely retrograding, until it is now difficult to say whether it will survive the present season. By order of the president, a meeting of the directors and members was called in May last for the purpose of electing efficers for the present year, but the small number which assembled was obliged to adjourn for want of a quorum. Since that time no effort has been made to elect men to fill those important positions. The books relating to the finances have

Sir Leonard began life as a Liberal. To the last, his leanings, however carefully concealed, were tow-ards his old friends. We venture to say that none more than Liberals are desirous that his remaining days may be days of happiness and that all his paths may be peace.

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