THE GUIDE.

Dundalk, April 5, 1877.

DOMINION FINANCES.

The opposition Press charges the present Government with having increased the public expenditure to a large amount since they came into power. To prove this a statement is given of the expenditure under Sir John's administration as compared with that of last year. For instance in 1871-2 the total expenditure was $17,-589,468, and in 1875-6 it amounted to $24,488,372 showing an increase of about $7,000,000. Now to get a correct idea of this matter we must take the expenditure for several years and ascertain when the increase took place. Of course it must be borne in mind that the Dominion is growing rapidly and new Provinces are being added to it which necessitates an increase in the public expenditure. In 1867-8—the first year of confederation—the total expenditure of the Government was $13,-486,092, whilst in 1872-3 it had increased to $19,174,647. In 1873-4 the expenditure was $23,316,316. This was the year that Mr. Mackenzie's Government came into power, but it is scarcely necessary to say that the new Government was not responsible for the increase of that year. The estimates were voted under Sir John's administration and it was impossible to reduce them after the expenditure had been entered upon. The figures therefore show that from the first year of confederation to 1874, the expenditure increased from $13,-436,072 to $23,316,316, an increase of about ten millions of dollars in seven years. Sir John A. Macdonald was responsible for this increase, and for any one to charge the present Government with, it is simply stating what is notoriously false. It is easy to see that the object of those who misrepresent the matter in this way is to deceive the public, but when the trick is exposed, it only serves to show the unprincipled means which is adopted to injure the present Government. The total amount of increase for which the present Government is responsible is the difference between the expenditure in 1873-4 and 1875-6, making a total of about one million dollars. But Sir John left such a heavy legacy behind him for his successors to assume that it will take some time to get rid of the excessive charges upon the revenue which was imposed by the late Government. The work of retrenchment has been entered upon, and we feel confident that next year the public expenditure of the Dominion will be less than it was the year when the present Government came into power.

THE TORONTO, GREY & BRUCE RAILWAY.

Now that we are being surrounded with Railways built upon a uniform gauge of 4 feet 8½ inches, it is becoming apparent that the narrow gauge of the T. G. & B. R. must be widened, otherwise the road will lose its traffic, and fail to pay the expense of running. The Hamilton & Northwestern, the Credit Valley, and the Wellington Grey & Bruce are all on the wide gauge principle, and shippers will prefer these roads to the narrow gauge, on account of the trouble and expense incurred in breaking bulk at Toronto. At the time the narrow gauge was projected, it was thought that it would be very suitable for this country, but experience has shown that it is a complete failure. A great many at the time of its construction were of opinion that the narrow gauge was a mistake, and experience proves that such is the case. The arguments advanced in favor of the narrow gauge were; that it could be built more cheaply and run with less cost, but it is found that there is no saving effected to be compared to its disadvantages. The road was cheaply graded, but then it is full of sharp curves and steep gradients, which are great drawbacks in the working of the road. The expense too, is just the same in working a narrow as a wide gauge, so that there is nothing gained by it after the road is built. It is quite evident that the T. G. & B. must be made of the uniform gauge if it is to continue in operation. The curves must be straightened, the grades reduced, and the road made equal to others in which it is brought into competition. If this were done it would be a great advantage to the section of country through which it runs. Grain, Lumber, &c., could then be shipped for any point, and sent to its destination without a change of cars, this would be a great saving to the shipper, and would increase the value of produce. We trust that the Company may take this matter into consideration, and adopt means to carry out the project. No doubt funds could be raised for the purpose if a proper scheme were matured. We feel satisfied that the road would pay well, if the gauge were widened and improved, and unless something is done in this direction before long, the traffic will be attracted to other lines.

AFTER THE STORM.

Last week the Northern and the Toronto and Nippissing Railways were blocked by the snow for several days. Mr. E. Wragge, General Manager of the T. G. & B. Railway, on learning the state of affairs on this line, instead of taking things easy in his own office, at once come up the line, and by his presence and superintendence of the work, no doubt was instrumental in getting the road opened much quicker than it otherwise would have been. It was not till Friday afternoon that the road was opened through to Dundalk, and Saturday evening before the train reached Owen Sound. But considering the severity of the storm, and the large amount of cutting that had to be done, we cannot speak too highly of the energy displayed by the General Manager of this road, and of those under him, in getting the road opened as quickly as it was as many expected that it would have taken several days longer to get the road opened. Mr. Wm. Middleton took the mail south on Thursday, and returned on Friday with the mail matter for Dundalk. The snow is now rapidly disappearing.

Local and Other Items.

Brantford is to become a city on June the 1st.

Mr. Charles Anderson of Amaranth, and three of his children, have had the scarlet fever but are recovering.

Duncan McLean of Harriston was killed near that place on Tuesday by falling from a load of hay and breaking his neck.

The roof of the stables of the Royal Hotel, Shelburne, fell in one day last week, owing to the large amount of snow on it.

On Saturday week a horse belonging to Mr. Willscroft, was killed at Chatsworth, by taking fright at a railway train and running away.

Presbyterian.—The attendance at the School House, Dundalk, on Sabbath last, to hear Mr. Mutch, was very large, and a deep interest was shown in the service of the day.

The Dunkin Bill.—The final majority for the bill in the county of York was 455. The by-law for the repeal of of the Dunkin Act in the Township of Pelham was defeated by a majority of 169.

Mr. Freeland, of Melancthon, has lost two children, by death—Sarah Caroline on the 29th and Wm. Stewart on the 30th ult. Mr. Freeland has the sympathy of his neighbors in his sad bereavments.

In Luck.—The many friends and acquaintances of John P. Rogers, familiarly known as John A. Macdonald, will be glad to learn that he has fallen heir to a fortune of about £20,000.—*Owen Sound Advertiser.*

Revival meetings have been held in Mount Forest, Methodist Church, for the past six weeks and have been attended with marked success. Over fifty have joined the church and the meetings are well attended.

C. V. R. Bonus.—The voting on the by-law in Toronto, on Tuesday, resulted in its being carried by a majority of 321. Several places along the line held demonstrations in honor of the event, and there was a good deal of rejoicing over it in Toronto.

Royal Scarlet Chapters.—The R. S. Chapters of the District of Proton will be opened in the Dundalk Orange Hall, on Saturday, the 14th inst., at the hour of four o'clock P. M. All Brethern interested are requested to attend. Brethern from Sisters Lodges are cordially invited.

Dundalk Union Agricultural Society.—A meeting of the Directors of the above Society will be held in the Orange Hall, Dundalk, on Tuesday next, the 10th inst., at one o'clock P. M. A meeting was to have been held on the 28th ult., but owing to the stormy weather the members were unable to attend.

Drowned Out.—On Monday last, when Mr. Wm Pollard, Shelburne, got up to enter his bakery, he found it flooded to the depth of about three feet with water. Seven bags of flour which were in the building were partially soaked. Mr Pollard went to work at once and had the water pumped out before night.

Horse Stolen.—On Wednesday night, 21st inst., a valuable young horse was stolen from the stable of Mr Duncan Keith, 4th concession of Egremont. A bridle, blanket and surcingle were taken at the same time. No clue has been found to the perpetrator. A reward of $20 is offered for the recovery of the animal.

Votes for Farmers' Sons.—Farmers sons wishing to avail themselves of the right to vote at elections should see to it that their names are put on the assessment roll. If the assessment has already been made, they may yet apply to have their names entered by the court of revision or the County judge for the court of revision of the voter's list.

A Valuable Purchase.—Mr. John Agnew Gravel Road, has purchased "Young Champion," from Mr. Wm. Kirby, of near Guelph, for the sum of $800. "Young Champion" is a heavy draft horse, a beautiful dappled bay, and is eight years old. No doubt Mr. Agnew's enterprise will be duly appreciated by the farmers of Proton, Melancthon and Osprey.

Joseph McArdle, Esq., Post-maseer at Hopeville, has suffered a sad bereavment in the loss of his eldest son James Duncan, who died of inflamation on the lungs on the 27th ult. The deceased had given promise of great ability and was much esteemed. The funeral took place last Thursday. The bereaved parents have the sympathy of the community in their sudden affliction.

H. & N. W. Railway.—It was said that 500 men were wanted to work on this road, and workmen have been collecting at varions points. In Georgetown and the vicinity there are nearly 100 men waiting till work can be commenced. Many of them are destitute and have been kept for some time by the Council and bounty of the people. Work will be commenced as soon as the weather permits.

Methodist Church Melancthon.—The Rev. Mr. Dirkey preached on Sabbath evening last at the house of Mr. L. W. Golden, Lot No. 18, in the 7th Con., S. W. T. & S. Road, Melancthon, to an audience of over sixty persons, although the weather was unfavorable. There will be preaching every Sabbath evening at 6 o'clock, at Mr. Golden's, and it is expected a Sabbath school will be commenced about the first of May next.

Singular Accident.—On Wednesday last week, when the snow plough was plunging through the fast accumulating snow on the track, about six miles south of Dundalk, the snow was sent off at the side with such force that it knocked the door off the hinges, and broke the windows in at the residence of Mr Ashdown. Mrs. Ashdown, who at the time was sitting on a chair with a child in her arms, was knocked down by the door falling over on her, but escaped any serious injury. The house was partially filled with snow.

A Caution.—Rev. T. Macpherson of Stratford warns ministers and others against a person calling himself T. Veeraragava Roy, a converted Brahmin, who preached and lectured there recently, and obtained a recommendation from him. Certain reports in a Detroit paper and other communications induce him to withdraw his recommendation.

Fire at Hanover.—Monday morning last between three and four o'clock three buildings were totally consumed by fire, and one badly damaged. Two were owned by William Small, and occupied by E. D. Ayers and Nathan Lines; the other two belonging to R. G. Peers, and were occupied by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, and Peers & Hopkins, tinsmiths. The fire is supposed to have started from a defect in Mr. Hutton's bake oven, which adjoined the building occupied by Nathan Lines. All insured in the Waterloo Company.

Concert.—On Friday afternoon the excursion train from Orangeville to Shelburne, started at half past six o'clock and about half past eight arrived at Shelburne. A number of soul-stirring airs from the band woke up the Shelburnites, and in a short time a large audience had gathered in the Hall. The musical part of the entertainment was a success in every way, although the programme had to be made up as they went along. The Orangeville Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr. Whaley, the Orchestra Band and the C. M. choir under the leadership of Mr. Parsons furnished most of the music. The duetts of the Misses Holden, and of Mrs Allen and Tucker were excellent, and the solo "Far Away" by Miss Whaley, was well rendered. The solo "Tyrell's Lovely Dell," was well sung by Mrs. Allen. Mr. Parsons gave two or three solos in his usual excellent manner, and a character song by Mr. Ceaser and a comic song by Mr. Scott were both loudly applauded by the audience. A mute reading by Fag, was quite a novel part of the entertainment. The audience appeared to appreciate the efforts that had been made. The concert closed at late hour, after which supper was partaken of at Jelly's hotel. The ride back to Orangeville was made in a quicker time.

Robbery.—On Sunday night last, a mean robbery was committed at the house of Mr. Samuel Robb, in the township of Egremont. The particulars are as follows:—A young man named Sprowl, nephew of Mr. Robb, had been working for a Mr. Lamont, and on Saturday night was settled up with and received his wages. He retired to rest on Sunday night leaving his hard earned wages, amounting to the sum of $68, in his pants pockets. Sprowl and a son of Mr. Robb slept in one bed and in another bed in the same room a young man named Robert Perkins slept. Perkins knew that Sprowl had this money about him and he therefore appears to have risen during the night, dressed himself in Sprowl's clothes, and made off. Not content with this, he took from the pockets of James Robb, who was sleeping with Sprowl, about $2.30. Sprowl's loss is about $90, the clothes Perkins left not worth much. There is no clue as to the road taken by Perkins.—*Mount Forest Confederate.*

Flesherton.

(From our own Correspondent.)

A grand neck-tie social in celebration of the fourth anniversary of the Division Sons of Temperance, of this place, was given in the Town Hall, on Monday evening last and proved one of the most successful and pleasant entertainments of the season. The attendance was very large, quite a number of persons from Markdale, Priceville, Singhampton, Meaford Road, and other places, being present and manifestly enjoyed themselves very much. The former part of the evening was spent in the "matching" of neck-ties (many of which were exceedingly unique,) affording much hilarity to the participants; as also being a source of revenue to the vendors of the refreshment tables. When all had apparently been satisfied with this portion of the entertainment, Mr. M. Richardson was called upon to preside, and introduced a literary and musical programme, which for quality and selection has been seldom, if ever, excelled in Flesherton. The fellowing is the order of the programme:—Glee, "Greeting," Miss Law, Messrs. Bolster and Sproul. Recitation, "Parrhasius,"—Mr. George Hind. Song, "Old Log Cabin in the lane"—Misses Bellamy and Christoe, and Mr. Bolster. Reading, "£300 a Year"—Mrs. J. T. Sproul. Song, "The Myrtle"—Miss A. Baskerville. Charade, "Definite," Act, four scenes—Misses L. Richards, C. Davis, M. Hooper, A. Flesher and E. Damude, and Messrs. A. G. Campbell, G. Hind and J. L. Payne. Glee, "Seasons"—Miss Law, Messrs. Bolster and Sproul. Recitation, "Curfew must not ring to-night"—Miss C. Davis. Song, "Gushing Rill"—Miss and Dr. Christoe. Violin Solo—Mr. Geo. Wilson. Song, "Do to others as you wish to be done by"—Mr J. Campbell. "Grand Display of Wax Figures," by Prof. Jarley. The latter exhibition was a decided novelty, and created great amusement, in-as-much as from behind the "wax," familiar faces gleamed, although under the assumed names of high and foreign dignitaries. And the "professor" in describing the merits of his "figgers" as unequalled, sounded too true to nature or at least sufficient to divest him of his "cloak" and rob him of his title. Altogether the affair was a grand success, and will contribute somewhat to the "coffers" of the Division.

Maxwell.

The quarterly examination of the Maxwell Public School was held on the 27th ult., and, as on all other similar occasions, the parents and friends of the children turned out to witness the exercises of the day. The new programme was strictly adhered to in the examination of the several classes, as the Trustees engage an assistant during the winter months in order to enable Mr. R. Little the Teacher to carry out the new programme more efficiently. The examination being brought to a close the Rev. Mr. Willmott was called to the chair. Then the most lively and interesting part of the day's proceedings commenced the children taking part in several dialogues, readings and recitations which all enjoyed with great pleasure. Mr. Little then gave a short account of the working of the school, showing that three of his pupils had entered the High School during the last year and one of them, J. R. Stirling, obtained the highest number of marks at the December examination of the Collingwood High School. He also showed that 95 pupils have been registered in the daily and general register since the 8th January—88 under the care of Miss Margaret M. Gamey, the assistant, and 57 under his own charge. The Rev. Mr Willmott, and others, in making their remarks attributed great credit to Mr. Little for the able and efficient manner in which the school is conducted and taught. The children and visitors then sang the Doxology, led by Miss M. M. Gamey, the Rev. Mr. Willmott closing with prayer.

COMMUNICATIONS

Broken Pledges.

To the Editor of the Dundalk Guide.

Sir,—The oppenents of our deputy-Reeve at the last election endeavored to impress on the Temperance people that to carry the Dunkin by-law by a majority of 104 and elect Mr. Modeland soon after were acts very incongruous. But Mr. Modeland in a man-like-manner, met these objections in a way that commanded warm commendation, by requesting Mr. A. G. Hunter—a leading temperance advocate here—immediately preceeding the election, to have him proposed for membership in the Temperance Society at Dundalk, and declaring at a public meeting in the Orange Hall, at Dundalk the Saturday night preceeding polling day that he would defend to the uttermost the By-law lately passed for enforcing the Dunkin Act in the County of Grey.

This course was deemed by the Temperance people sufficient to silence the above objections, and secured for our Deput-Reeve a large vote from a quarter where all had at first decided to mark their ballots for Mr. Robert Black, a gentleman of truth, honor and known moral worth.

Mr Modeland was elected, but since we have heard nothing of his intiation to the Temperance Society which suggests the querry that his having himself proposed immediately prior to the election might after all have been a vote catcher.

But the worst is to come—the vitualers Association having decided to apply to the Courts to test the legality of the passing of the Dunkin By-law which if quashed would entail heavy expenses on the county, as unquestionably the costs of the court would follow the verdict, therefore the warden very properly took advice from the County Council, at its late session, whether he should institute a defence in this respect or not, should the action proceed. All the members present, save nine, including many who voted against the submission of the by-law, took the view that the by-law was the people's and they were the people's representatives—not the exponents of their own wishes and appetites—and that their obvious duty was to protect the action which was even more necessary than refusing of the public, calmly to submit to have the people burdened with additional expenses. Amongst the nine who voted to offer no defence and to allow the by-law quietly to be quashed after the large amount it has cost to carry it, and before the ratepayers can from any practical opinions of its effects on the community for good or evil is the name of our respected Deputy-Reeve. I have known Mr. Modeland favorably and hope he will be able to give an explanation of his vote satisfactory to his many past warm temperance friends. I do not mean to convey the impression that most of those, if not all voting with Mr. Medeland, were not respectable men, but what I do assert is to obtain support by professed sympathy with our views, and when elected to turn against us and vote contrary to these very same views, was an act having the appearance of deception.

Yours truly,

Temperance Man.

Proton Council.

To the Editor of the Dundalk Guide.

Dear Sir,—Some days ago while conversing with a certain merchant not a hundred miles from Dandalk, I was strongly urged not to get my gristing done at the mill of that place, which had the effect of temporily deciding me to drive a distance, but on the following day, hearing, that Mr. Thos. McCauley, sr., whom I knew to be a skilled miller, and an upright man, had charge of the Dundalk mill, I decided to consult convenience and give it another trial. I brought a grist of ten bushels of moderately good spring wheat, and received a yield of forty-one pounds to the bushel of as good flour as has been used in my house for many years and much preferable to some bought from the merchant in question, a few days previous, which possessed the recommendation I was told of having been brought from the County of Simcoe. Grangers receive no compliments from the merchants of Dundalk for sending their cash to foreign markets while a majority of these very same gentlemen constantly engage in transactions similar, but much more unnecessary by sending to distant communities large amounts of funds—one dollar of which never returns to their own coffers—for the purchase of an article no better than could be obtained in their own village and where the dealing would be mutually beneficial.

Yours truly,

A Granger.

Inspector for East Grey.

To the Dundalk Guide.

Mr. Editor,—Would you inform me through your valuable sheet if the Government *in its wisdom* has appointed a License Inspector for East Grey for the current year. I noticed that Hon. S. C. Wood stated in the house lately that the services of Mr. Inspector Campbell had been dispensed with, which I regretted to hear, as the office is merely an ornamental one, and Mr. Campbell might as well enjoy it, as a gentleman of worse presence. The Crook's Act is good in limiting the number of taverns licensed, but has had the effect of increasing the number of unlicensed houses to such an extent that they now outnumber those having licenses, and such places may accommodate Sunday drinkers, but do not commend themselves to people of better morals. As the patronage of the inspectorate was extended to North Simcoe last year it might be well did the Government look to Algoma for a successor this year, in order to not fall into the error of giving us a practical man who might be seen in the Riding oftener than once in two months.

Yours truly,

Vinaux.

Garafraxa Items.

On Thursday the 29th ult., the School examination in section No. 6, W. Garafraxa, took place, and was very largely attended by the parents of the children and others. After the examination, which was highly creditable to Mr, J. Dick, the teacher, A. D. Fordyce, Esq., the respected Superintendent of North Wellington, was called to the chair, and a number of Teachers, Revs. Messrs. Mullan, of Fergus, and Griffith of Garafraxa, gave addresses. The school house was tastefully decorated with evergreens for the occasion.

In the evening, Rescue Temple, I. O. G. T., held a very successful open meeting in the same place, when the building was crowded to excess. Mr. John Dick, Teacher, occupied the chair. A number of addresses, recitations, and musical pieces were given by the members of the Temple and others. The Temple, which has only been started a few weeks, has a membership of over thirty, and a number proposed for membership.

A thunder storm passed over this section on Sunday evening, but did not continue many minutes.

The merchants of Guelph sell coal oil at 14 cents a gallon.

Prince Antoine Bonaparte, nephew of the first Emperor, is dead.

The Lincoln election scrutiny was recommenced on Monday at St. Catherines before Registrar Brough.

The steamer City of Owen Sound is being fitted up for the Lake Superior trade by Mr. Thomas Maitland.

Mr. D. Crawford has been transferred from the Port Perry to the Strathroy High School as assistant master.

The office and contents of the Arnprior *Review* were entirely consumed by fire on Tuesday. Insurance small.

Hon. Mr. Hardy was on Friday elected by acclamation as the representative of South Brant in the Local Legislature.

The distress occasioned by the famine in India is on the increase. 23,000 additional recipients of Government relief are reported in the Presidency of Madras.

Extensive floods have occured in the south-western portion of Chicago, the water in some instances reaching the second stories of the houses. So far as known no lives have been lost.

The engineers appointed to examine and report upon the stability of the Suspension Bridge, have reported, in effect, that the foundation, cables, etc., are in good condition, and the bridge entirely safe for the carriage of regular trains.

A very pleasant and successful tea meeting was held in Bowling Green, Amaranth, on Good Friday evening, under the auspices of the Primitive Methodist congregation, for the purpose of raising funds for the erection of a new church.

A Collingwood firm has purchased and fitted up a steamer which they intend running between Collingwood and the Sault Ste. Marie calling at intermediate ports including Owen Sound. The Propellor, Seymour, and the Steamer Silver Spray will run on the same route.

A joint pastoral has been issued by the Roman Catholic Episcopate of the Province of Quebec respecting the recent judgement of the Supreme Court in the Charlevoix election case. The Bishops deprecate the severity of the construction placed upon the law, and ask for legislation in the matter.

A Berlin special says Bismark has tendered his resignation of the Imperial Chancellorship, which has caused immense excitement. The recent difference between him and General Von Sloach is believed to have provoked it. The Emperor has declined to accept the resignation, but has granted Bismarck a year's leave of absence.

The Flour Question.

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Spring Assizes.

(Concluded from the Times.)

THURSDAY.

Cahoon *vs.* Cahoon.—Action of ejectment. Verdict for plaintiff. D.A. Creasor for plaintiff; S. J. Lane for defendant.

The Grand Jury found no bill against John Huston for perjury; true bills against Dugald McMullen for obtaining goods by false pretenses, Barbara Earls for wounding with intent to bodily harm, Agnes Lamont for perjury; and no bill against Samuel McNerin for larceny.

Queen *vs.* W. B. Davidson.—The defendant was indicted for ill-treating his child. Verdict—guilty, with recommendation to mercy. His Lordship took defendant's own recognizance to appear for sentence when called upon. A. Frost for prosecution; S. J. Lane for defence,

The Grand Jury found no bill against John Billington and Thos. McMahon for perjury.

FRIDAY

Queen *vs.* Barbara Earls.—Prisoner was indicted for shooting a boy named Francis Hinds, on the Union Hill, Owen Sound, on the evening of the 6th December last, with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

In consequence of neglect to call medical evidence, the Judge charged that there was no evidence of wounding, and that a verdict for assault only could be rendered. A. Frost for prosecution; J. Masson for defence.

Queen *vs.* Dougald McMullen.—Defendant was charged with obtaining property on false pretences. It appears that he had traded horses with John Armstrong, representing his horse to be free from claims, but it was afterwards taken from Armstrong on a chattel mortgage which was against it. The defence contended that the chattel mortgage was not good. Verdict—Guilty. The Court allowed the defendant to make an arrangement with Armstrong. A. Frost for prosecution; McFayden & Robarts for defence.

Queen *vs.* Agnes Lamont.—Defendant was accused of having committed perjury in a case in the County Court between S. Parke and herself. The Judge ruled that the prosecution had no right to bring the record of the County Court into this court to prove that the former trial had taken place, which fact must be proved by an exemplification of the record, under the seal of the Court, and that document not being forthcoming, he dismissed the case. A. Frost for the prosecution; F. Osler for defence.

McGillivray *vs.* McGillivray.—Action on a promissory note. Defendant contended he had paid it. Tried without a jury. The Court held that he could not allow the wife to corroborate the evidence of her husband as to paying the note, and there being no other corroboration, gave judgment for plaintiff, $130.50. W. D. Pollard for plaintiff; McFayden & Robarts for defendant.

SATURDAY

Jones *vs.* Robinson *et al.*—A shingle machine belonging to Mr. Jones of Wiarton having been seized by the Sheriff under executions for debts owing to H. Robinson & Co. and Wm. Fleming, it was contended that the machine could not be seized on account of being bolted to the floor, and Robinson and Fleming were now sued for joint trespass. After hearing the evidence for prosecution, the Judge directed a non-suit on the ground that there was no evidence of a joint trespass. C. McFayden for plaintiff. F. Osler and D. A. Creasor for defendant Robinson; Jno. Creasor and A. Frost for defendant Fleming.

Milne *et al vs.* Sing.—This was an action arising out of a magistrate's case, in which defendant had been presiding justice and made a conviction, two other justices dissenting. The conviction was subsequently quashed on appeal, and Mr. Sing was now sued for malicious prosecution. Verdict for defendant. F. Osler and J. S. Wilson for plaintiffs; Jno. Creasor and C. McFayden for defendant.

MONDAY,

McKay *vs.* McClarty *et al.*—Plaintiff had leased land from defendant's father, and now brought an action to recover damages for defendant entering the land and taking away cordwood. Defendant contended that the wood was taken off a portion of the land over which plaintiff had no control. Verdict for plaintiff, 20c. damages on first count, for defendant on other counts. McFayden & Robarts for plff; J. Masson for defendant.

Plows *vs.* Maughan *et al.*—The Sheriff having seized and sold a quantity of hay under an execution in a suit of W. Kough against Wm. Plows. Mrs. Plows claimed the hay as her property, and now sued the Sheriff for damages. The case was tried without a jury, and was very tedious, occupying the whole of Monday afternoon and a large portion of Tuesday. Judgement reserved. D. A. Creasor for plaintiff; F. Osler and C. McFadyen for defendants.

Jeffers *vs.* Stokes.—Action for trespass. After hearing evidence for prosecuution, the Judge directed a non-suit to be entered. McFadyen & Robarts for plaintiff; F. Osler for defendant.

D. McMullen, having failed to make arrangement with Armstrong, was sentenced to three months in Central Prison for obtaining a horse under false pretences.

Barbara Earles, for assualt, was sentenced to four months imprisonment.

PRESENTMENT OF THE GRAND JURY.

May it please Your Lordship:

The Grand Jury at the Spring Assizes for the County of Grey beg leave to present:—

That they are pleased to find that the majority of the cases which have been brought before them are of a trivial character; yet they cannot by any means say they are few in number. They have noticed with regret the extreme desire on the part of individuals to bring actions of this character, evidently more to gratify personal feelings than to serve the ends of justice.

They have visited the Goal yards, and found everything in a state of good order and cleanliness, ample provision being made for the articles of feul, food and water. Their attention has been drawn to the dangerous condition of the goal cistern, situate near the main entrance, caused by the premature decay of the timber surrounding the same, and beg to call the attention of the proper authorities to the necessity for immediate repairs.

There are thirty inmates confined in the goal at present, consisting of twenty-seven males and three females—four for assault, four awaiting trial, five for larency, two for insanity, two for drunkenness, and thirteen for vagrancy.

The Grand Jury desire to draw attention to the large number of vagrants confined in the goal at present—an evil which is becoming an onerous burden to the country. Doubtless this evil is partially caused by the great depression of trade, but one noticeable feature they have remarked is that the greater portion of this class appear to be immigrants from the mother country, many of whom are mechanics, who, being unacquainted with farm labor, have failed to find suitable employment during the winter season. If more encouragement was given to farm laborers the wants of the country would be better supplied, and the burden on the country would be materially diminished. There appears to be a lack of employment for the able-bodied prisoners, the only available labor under the present arrangements of the goal is the sawing and splitting of wood for the goal. The Grand Jury consider it advisable for the County Council to enter into some arrangement with the Town Council, with the view of utilizing the prison labor. If such arrangements were made, many of these vagrants would avoid our goals, and use more energy in seeking and obtaining employment elswhere.

They were also pleased to find that the goal improvements on the upper flat are nearly completed, which will afford that increased accommodation so much required at present.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Robbe, *Foreman.*

Grand Jury Room, Owen Sound,

March, 24 1877.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT

Ottawa, March 27.

After routine and other important business the House went into Committee on Mr. Blake's Bill respecting breaches of contracts. A few unimportant amendments were made, upon which there was some discussion. The Bill was then reported.

The Act to amend the Act relating to the inspection of steamboats was passed through Committee, and a few other Bills were advanced a stage before six o'clock.

After recess.

The Bill respecting the boundaries of Manitoba was passed.

The House then went into Committee on Mr. Rupert's Bill to amend and consolidate the Customs Acts. The Bill is a very lengthy one, consisting of over 140 clauses. Of these, 50 were passed in Committe, with slight amendments, after which the House adjourned.

Ottawa, March 28.

Mr. Mackenzie, in reply to Mr Derlorme, said the probability was that some plan would be adopted by which Canada would be represented at the International Exhibition to be held in France in 1878.

Mr. Huntington, in reply to Mr. McCallum, stated that Wm. Cornock, postmaster of Erin, had been reported inefficient to the Inspector, and was accordingly called upon to resign.

On a motion for correspondence, Mr. McCarthy was understood to complain that the collector of Customs at Collingwood was permitted to hold the office of Mayor while there was a rule o the department opposed to it.

Mr. Burpee said no such permission had been given, and the motion was withdrawn.

A number of bills passed through Committee and were read a third time and passed.

Mr. Blain moved for returns relating to the work on the Welland Canal and St. Lawrence River and canals, and expressed his opinion that the canals should be deepened to fourteen feet.

Mr. Mackenzie was quite surprised to hear complaints of the progress of the Welland Canal; it had been carried on with most remarkable vigor. There was very little yet to be put under contract, but it would be put on contract as soon as possible. The Welland Canal, when finished, would be a complete work of twelve feet, and with all the locks for fourteen feet. The expenditure of $3,000,000 at present for the purpose of obtaining the two additional feet had to be considered very carefully under present circumstances. While there was no one more desirous of deepening it to that depth, it did not seem convenient for carrying on the work. In order to obtain fourteen feet of water on the lower reaches it would cost more than three times as much as for twelve feet. The cost for twelve feet would be about $1,500,000; for fourteen feet $5,000,000. The new aqueduct on the Welland Canal was the most serious part of the works not yet commenced. The old aqueduct was too small in depth and sectional area, and yet it was found necessary to construct a new one which would be fourteen feet in depth. It would have been possible to have done a little more, but not profitably but everything possible had been done on both it and the Lachine Canal. He hoped the members of the House would take a reasonable view of the matter.

The motion was agreed to.

Ottawa, March 29.

Mr. Mackenzie's Bill to authorize the transfer of the Truro and Pictou branch of the Intercolonial Railway to the person or company constructing a line of Railway from New Glasgow to the Strait of Canso and providing a proper ferry across the Strait, was read the third time, an amendment by Mr. Mitchell to give the Government control over the branch in the transportation of coal having been defeated by a vote of 88 to 44.

The amendments made by the Senate to the Bill for the prevention of gambling practices in certain public conveyances were concurred in.

Mr. Blake's Bill to provide for the employment without the walls of common goals of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment therein passed its second reading.

The House adjourned till Monday afternoon.

Ottawa, April 2nd.

A few important private Bills having been advanced a stage, a number of notices of motion for returns, &c., were cleared off the paper with little discussion.

Mr. Cook resumed the debate on his motion for papers &c., relative to alleged preference shown by the Government to the Beatty line of steamers over the Collingwood line in the matter of passages of Canada Pacific Railway employes to their places of work on the survey. Mr. Mackenzie said that the Government never showed any preference for one line over another.

The motion was carried.

The remaining clauses of the Customs Bill were passed in Committee, as were certain resolutions respecting the culling and measuring of timber, and certain others respecting the standards of fish and fish oil in Newfoundland.

The Insurance Bill was passed in Committee, Mr. Young giving notice that he would at a future time move an amendment to the effect that the reserves to be held by foreign companies in Canada shall be for the benefit of Canadian policy holders alone.

The House then adjourned.

Another Defaulting Bank Clerk.—It appears that a week ago there was a discrepancy in the cash of Joseph Small, who acted as teller in the Standard Bank, Toronto, and at the meeting of the Board of Directors last week he was requested to explain at the meeting to be held Thursday. However he seems to have thought his game played out, and so "quitted." The missing amount was at first stated to be $3,300, but the deficiency is now said to be $6,000. The absconder is said to have operated by manufacturing bogus cheques and drawing against deposit; but this is given with reservation. Mr. Small was a middle aged man and up to the time of his disappearance always bore an unblemished reputation. He is well connected in the city. The amount of the defalcation is covered by security in the Guarantee Society so that the bank will lose nothing.

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