THE REVIEW.

Durham, February 14, 1878.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

In commencing the issue of a newspaper in the Town of Durham we do so with considerable hesitation. The times, and especially the circumstances of this town and the surrounding country at present are not such as to give much encouragement: still, as the want of a paper of a more progressive and liberal character than our respected contemporary, has been felt for many years, and as we flatter ourselves that we can supply that want, we thus send our venture; hopeful that the GREY REVIEW may commend itself to the intelligence of our people, and enjoy a share of their patronage. As our readers may expect that in this our first issue we should *define our position*, we may briefly say:—

Believing as we do in the necessity of Party to the healthy government of the country, we will always maintain the Liberal side in Politics. Our contemporary in this town in a late issue has characterized us as being "clear Grit." Well, whether we may be deserving of that honorable designation or no, will much depend upon the way in which the term is understood. If by being a clear Grit is meant being the uncompromising opponent of wrong doing in the body politic, and being the earnest advocate of whatever tends to promote the best interests of the people, then we may safely plead guilty to the Grittish imputation. Accepting then this definition of a clear Grit, the Government of Mr. MacKenzie and Mr. Mowat will receive our hearty support. We have for several years observed the able and honest administration of public affairs, and it will be our pleasure, as it is our duty as good citizens, to assist these gentlemen in holding the positions which they at present occupy.

Municipal matters will receive a large share of our attention. The prosperity of the country so much depends upon the way in which our local affairs are administered, and we are somewhat of the opinion that these subjects should receive the chief attention in a local newspaper.

Agricultural and horticultural matters will occupy an important place in this journal, as it seems to us that in an agricultural district like this the diffusion of useful and interesting information upon these subjects would not only be of direct benefit, but would tend to develop that scientific spirit which is becoming more and more essential to the successful prosecution of agriculture as of all other industrial pursuits.

An interesting feature of the REVIEW will be the Household and Childrens' Department, and here we would take the opportunity of soliciting the encouragement and aid of our fair readers in making this department as perfect as it ought to be.

Great attention will be paid to selected matter, so that of the different departments of Education, Commerce, Science, Literature and News, our readers will be kept abreast of the age in which we live.

In short, it will be our constant effort and aim so to conduct the REVIEW that it will be a welcome visitor in every household in the County of Grey.

TORY OR LIBERAL—WHICH?

Government by party is the essential outcome of popular political freedom. In our day and with our institutions, any other than government by party is simply impossible. Thus in political matters we find ourselves divided. One class call themselves Reformers or Liberals, another style themselves Conservatives or Tories. In both camps there is found to be room for considerable latitude in opinion and sentiment. The respective parties however, agree in the main on some leading principles, and the practical outcome of these principles on the questions of the hour. Most people find themselves belonging to either of these two classes. The state of mind of that man is not to be envied, who says he belongs to neither. Any newspaper, especially, who, like ourselves, are just launching on the popular billows, might as well not make the attempt did we give any uncertain sound on this subject. We shall be found advocating political liberty, progress and economy at home or abroad. We will consider measures on their merits as they come before us, and will endeavor with fairness and impartiality to criticise the conduct of public men of both parties on public grounds. Conservatives we look upon as brethren and fellow citizens pursuing a similar object with ourselves, but doing so in a different fashion. The Liberal party believe they have got a more excellent way of gaining the end desiderated and it will be the purpose of THE GREY REVIEW from time to time to point out this way, not without hope that many of the more enlightened Conservatives in this neighborhood will become convinced—and act upon the conviction—that to be true Conservatives of the public good, they must first become downright earnest liberal Reformers, pulling down and casting away that which cannot be built into the building without endangering the whole structure. The struggle between Toryism and Liberalism is not confined to Canada. It is being waged in every civilized nation. We shall endeavor to draw lessons from political events as they occur in the older countries of Europe. Closely related as Canada is to Great Britain, everything of interest to the United Kingdoms must interest us, and political issues there—whether in regard to internal progress, or to peace, or war, must always command our attention.

THE REFORM CONVENTION, composed of some eight hundred representatives from all parts of Ontario, held at Toronto, on Tuesday and Wednesday last week, was eminently successful in every respect, and cannot fail to have an important influence on the party organization throughout the Province.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The aspect of affairs in Turkey during the past week have attracted considerable attention. The latest news is that the British fleet has passed through the Dardanelles for Constantinople, and that the Russians would occupy the city. Intense excitement has been caused in Great Britain, and great activity is displayed at the different dockyards. It is said the Russians during the war captured 120,000 prisoners and 1000 cannon.

TO OUR READERS.

We beg to apologize to our readers for being late this week, owing to our removal. We expect to be on time next week. The quality of the paper on which this edition is printed is very poor, and will scarcely stand handling. We did not discover this until too late to remedy the evil, but in future we intend to print on good paper.

Local and Other Items.

READ E. & A. Davidson's adv.

CALL on Geo. Russell for Dry Goods, etc., Lower Town, Durham.

THE regular Monthly Fair, at Durham, takes place on Tuesday next, the 19th inst.

FOR a good, substantial Cutter or Carriage try the Durham Carriage Works.

WE beg to tender our thanks to J. H. Hunter Esq., M. P., for sending us Parliamentary papers.

WE direct the attention of our readers to the cheap and good teas advertised by John Cameron.

J. H. BROWN will commence selling off at greatly reduced prices after the 1st of March. See advt.

HASTIE & GRANT are selling the balance of their Winter Goods at greatly reduced prices. See advertisement elsewhere.

REV. Alex. F. McKenzie has accepted the call to Kilsythe and North Derby, in the Presbytery of Owen Sound.

J. H. HUNTER has just received a large stock of Clothing, Stone China ware, axes, Tweeds, Cottons, etc. See advertisement.

AT the recent special meetings held in the Canada Methodist Church, Durham, and at the Orange Hall, near here, about thirty persons joined the Church.

MESSRS. N. G. & J. McKechnie will be found ready to attend to all who may call upon them, either at the Bridge, Durham, or at their Grist and Saw Mill.

MR. W. CRAWFORD is prepared to saw lumber, and make shingles on short notice and at low rates, at the Rockville Mills, Bentinck. See adv.

THE REV MR. DONALD, of Port Hope, assisted by other Rev. Gentlemen, has, during the past week conducted a series of Evangelistic Services in the Presbyterian Church, with great acceptance. The attendance has increased night by night, and the interest continued unabated.

THE annual Soiree of the Latona Presbyterian Church will be held on Wednesday evening, Feb. 27th. Tea served at seven o'clock. Addresses will be delivered by Rev. Mr. Bethune, of Chesley, Rev. Mr. Park, of Durham, and others. A good time may be expected.

A FEW weeks since special meetings were held in the Baptist Church in this town, conducted by Revs. Messrs. Grant, Warren, and others, and resulting in about 45 members being added to the Church. Recently special meetings have been held in Priceville, and a large number were baptised last week in that village.

ORANGE COUNTY LODGE, S. GREY.—This lodge met here at annual meeting, on Tuesday last week, when the following officers were elected: W. Master, James Edge, Esq; D. Master, Samuel Fleming; Secretary, T. Jones; Treasurer, W. A. Anderson; Chaplain, James Brodie; Director of Ceremonies, Thos. Ferguson; Co. Lecturer, Stewart Fleming; The next annual meeting will be held in Mount Forest.

A STILL SEIZURE AT HANOVER, Alex. Caven, of Goderich, collector of inland revenue, of Walkerton, acting upon information received, last Thursday night visited Mr. George Campbell's hotel, known as the White Horse, in the township of Bentinck, and about four miles west of Durham, where they found a worm of a still concealed that had evidently lately been used. Campbell was arrested, brought before H. P. Adams and A. Z. Gotwalls, J. P.s, and found Guilty of a misdemeanour and sent to Owen Sound to await trial at the next Assizes. The still is not yet discovered.

ENTERTAINMENT AT ALLANPARK.—The annual Sunday School Entertainment of Christ Church, Allanpark, took place last Friday evening, in the Orange Hall. The attendance was good, and the affair passed off pleasantly. The children gave a number of recitations and dialogues. The Choir, Miss Fenson presiding at the organ, contributed greatly to the pleasantness of the evening. Mr. Goodeve, the superintendant, Mr. R. B. Walker, and Rev. Mr. Green, gave addresses. A number of prizes were given during the evening to the children. $12 was realized for the benefit of the School.

CHURCH OPENING.—The new Methodist Church at the West Bush appointment, Bentinck, was opened for divine service on Sabbath, Jan. 28th, the Rev, Mr. Green, of Hanover, preaching in the morning and evening, and the Rev. R. Godfrey, of Durham, in the afternoon. The Church was crowded at each service. A tea meeting was held on the Monday following, and was a very successful affair. Mr. J. Hopkins was called to the chair. Rev. R. Godfrey, and Mr. J. Woodland, gave readings, which elicited loud applause. Addresses were given by Rev. Mr. Godfrey and Mr. Cooke. The Hanover Choir rendered good service on the Sabbath and at the tea meeting. The collections on Sabbath and the proceeds of tea cleared off debt on Church.

MR. J. SPENCE, of the Durham Hotel, killed two very fine hogs on Wednesday, this week, which, when dressed, weighed 1014 pounds.

FROST & COOPER, Barristers, of Owen Sound, have opened a Law Office at Flesherton, which will be a convenience to the people in and near that village. See card.

INSPECTORS AND COMMISSIONERS.—The following are the Inspectors and Commissioners for Grey and Dufferin, for the year 1878.

GREY (North Riding)—C. C. Pearce, Inspector; George Price, Benjamin Allan, Matthew Kennedy, Commissioners.

GREY (East Riding)—James Campbell, Inspector; Thomas Tyson, W. J. Marsh, Wm. Brown, Commissioners.

GREY (South Riding)—Thomas A. Harris, Inspector; Finlay MacRae, Robert Watson, James Brown, Commissioners.

DUFFERIN—Commissioners Thomas Jull, William Parsons, Geo. McManus. Inspector—Thomas Anderson.

SOUTH GREY L. O. L.—The annual meeting of the South Grey L. O. County Lodge was held at Durham on Tuesday, last week, a large attendance being present. The officers for the current year were elected as follows:—James Edge, Glenelg, County Master; Samuel Fleming, Proton, D. C. M.; Jas. Brodie, Artemesia. C. Chap.; Thomas Jones, Durham, C. Sec'y.; Wm. A. Anderson, Durham, C. Treas.; Thos. Ferguson, Melancthon, C. D. of C.; Stewart Fleming, Proton, C. Lecturer. The semi-annual meeting will be held at Allandale, on Tuesday, 25th June, and the next annual meeting will take place at Mount Forest on the first Tuesday in February, 1879. Both meetings will open at two o'clock P. M.

ROYAL BLACK KNIGHTS.—The Royal Black Knights British North America, encamped at Orangeville, on the 4th inst. Members present from the Counties of Wellington and Grey. The following were elected officers for the current term: Thos. Wilson, Orangeville, Worshipful Master; Joseph McArdle, Proton, Deputy Master; John Mason, Orangeville, Chaplain; John Witters, Orangeville, Registrar; W. J. Morrison, Orangeville, Treasurer; William Vogan, Flesherton, and Robt. Burns, Mount Forest, Lecturers; Thomas Reid and Jas. May, Amaranth, and Henry Varcoe, Mono, Standard Bearers; Blaney McGuire, Pursuivant; Committee—Wm. Hand, and F. Carson, Orangeville; Joseph May, Amaranth; Chas. Smith, Mono; John Paisley, Arthur; D. C. McKinnon, Mono Mills; Joseph Kilgour, Mount Forest.

SOIREE AT BETHEL CHURCH, GLENELG.—Last Friday evening a Soiree was held at the Bethel appointment, Glenelg, about four miles from Durham. The Church, which has just been re-seated, was tastefully decorated with evergreens, and by the time the tea was ready, was filled with an expectant and happy looking audience. After singing, the well-filled plates and tea were passed around, and quickly disposed of. A well trained Choir sang a number of pieces during the evening, which added much to the pleasantness of the affair, Miss A. Banks presiding at the organ. Mr. John Ritchie was appointed to take the chair. The Rev. Mr. Baynon gave an interesting and instructive reading. Mr. Bingham gave a brief and humorous address on mathematics, followed by a short address by J. Townsend. Mr. Christopher Williams kept the audience in laughter for a time, and spoke of the progress made in this section, and was followed by Mr. James Banks, who gave an excellent address on the glory of Great Britain through Christianity. Mr. Jabez Banks followed, and succeeded in keeping the audience in good humor for some time. Mr. Edwards spoke briefly, and the Rev. R. Godfrey made the closing speech. Votes of thanks were then passed to the Choir, the Chairman, and to the ladies for providing the eatables, etc. Proceeds $33.

Notes from the Capital.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Ottawa, Feb. 8th, '78.

The weather here during the past week has been the very antipodes of what was foreshadowed by our Canadian weather prophet, and yesterday a great many M. Ps. who had arrived the night before, were seen moving about the Parliament and Departmental Buildings noting the improvements made in the grounds and West Extension Building—a large portion of which is now occupied—since last Session, or calling on Ministers and friends. I noticed Dr. Landerkin, the member for South Grey, among the number. He arrived from Toronto Wednesday evening, and looks as if he were quite able to stand the fatigues of any length of a Session. A number of the Western members had attended the Reform Convention held in Toronto on Tuesday, and they all say it was one of the most successful meetings ever held in the Province, in respect to numbers, intelligence and unanimity.

The House was not formally opened yesterday on account of the Commons being without a Speaker. There was, however, an unusually large number of M. Ps. present, owing to the general expectation that there would be some discussion, and probably a division over the Speakership. The members were summoned at 3 o'clock in the afternoon to the bar of the Senate, when Sir W. B. Richards announced that His Excellency would explain the reason for summoning them after they had elected a Speaker.

As anticipated, there was a discussion raised by the leaders of the Opposition as to whether or not Mr. Anglin could be elected Speaker, he not having been introduced in the customary way, and therefore, according to the argument of the right honorable gentleman, not a member of the House;—Sir John forgetting that he himself had ignored this very practice when he took his seat after his last re-election. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, in reply, held that "what was to be looked to was the broad ground whether a member had obtained the sanction of the people by being elected, and whether he had been properly elected." The result of the division which took place must have been anything but gratifying to the Opposition indeed. I heard some prominent Conservatives remark that the course pursued by Sir John in the matter was in very bad taste, as Mr. Anglin, who is an Irishman, and one of the most intelligent members of the House, and a Roman Catholic in religion, is acknowledged by both parties to possess high qualifications for that honorable position. The vote on Mr. Mackenzie's motion that Mr. Anglin be Speaker stood yeas 116, nays 53.

There is considerable discussion as to the probabilities of a long Session, and the general impression is that it will be a long one, and inferring from what transpired during last Session and at the various picnic gatherings during the past summer, I think I am safe in saying that more than one stormy scene will be witnessed before its close.

There was a great crowd of people out this afternoon to witness the formal opening of Parliament. This ceremony has been an attractive feature of each Session, since the advent of the present Governor General. As the hour at which the Governor General was to arrive drew near, a continuous stream of carriages with fair and gaily attired occupants was seen wending their way to the entrance to the Senate Chamber. Soon the booming of the garrison guns on Nepean Point announced the coming of His Excellency, who in a few minutes made his appearance with his *aides-de-camp* in a carriage drawn by four fine and beautifully matched horses, magnificently harnessed. On arriving under the arch of the tower at the main entrance, the Guard of Honor presented arms, and the Guards' Band, perhaps the finest in the Dominion, struck up the National anthem.

The address from the throne is quite in keeping with the anticipated length of the Session, being quite a long one, and touches upon a number of important topics—the award of the Fishery Commission; the effects to be expected from the Sydney Exhibition in opening up new markets for Canadian products; further securing the Independence of Parliament; the enactment of a Homestead Law, &c., For Manitoba and the North West Territories; a more thorough system of auditing the Public Accounts, &c., &c.,—making up a bill of fare which will no doubt entail a good deal of discussion and labor, but when perfected will be of immense benefit to the country.

In the evening their Excellencies held a Drawing Room, where many of those who delight in such entertainments had the opportunity of making their best bow. I thought while looking at some of our M. Ps. and citizens whose latitude is rather out of keeping with their longitude, that they would have some difficulty in keeping the proper poise while going through the evolution.

Liquor Cases.

License Inspector vs. John Irving, defendant—The case was to be heard at Ayton on the 14th inst., but the witnesses not appearing, it was adjourned until Monday, the 18th inst. The witnesses who failed to appear were arrested and bound over in the sum of $100.00 to appear when called.

License Inspector vs. Adam Euler, defendant—Charged with selling liquor without license, on the 7th of January last. Fined $20, and costs amounting to $8.60.

License Inspector vs. Samuel Rowe—The defendant has left the country.

Presbyterian Church Missionary Meeting.

Last night (Wednesday) a Missionary Meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church by appointment of the Presbytery of Saugeen. The Church was well filled. The Rev. Mr. Park occupied the chair. After the meeting was opened with singing and prayer, the chairman called upon the Rev. Mr. McDonald, of Elora, to address the meeting. The Rev. gentleman in commencing his address, said that before dealing with the special subject which he had on hand, he would refer shortly to some of the other schemes of the Presbyterian Church. One of those was the Colleges, of which there were six in the Dominion, whose object was to provide an educated ministry for the wants of the Church, and for this purpose the Church required $48,000 to enable it to carry on its work in this department.

The next subject to which he would direct the attention of the audience was the Home Mission, whose object was to carry the Gospel to destitute parts of the country and to the French population of Lower Canada—for this purpose $38,000 is required for this year's work.

The Rev. gentleman then proceeded to deal with the special subject which he was appointed to present to the audience, viz., —"The Foreign Mission;" and in doing so he would first refer to the work of the Church in the North West Territories. Fifteen years ago the Church sent the Rev. Mr. Nisbit to the Saskatchewan, where he labored with great success in instructing the people in the Gospel, and teaching them how to cultivate the soil of their prairies. However, now the Church has resolved to confine its operations to instructing the people. At present we have nine missionaries laboring in that region, and at the school there are 48 Indian children receiving religious and secular instruction. We have also missions in India, China, and Formosa. The Rev. gentleman graphically and lucidly described the terrible moral degradation in which the natives of those countries are lying.

The Meeting was afterwards addressed by the Rev. Mr. Greig and Mr. Eckford, on the duty of Christian liberality.

Wet salt placed around a window sash will prevent it from freezing down.

It is said that a teaspoonful of carbolic acid in a tumbler of water, well sprinkled over a bedstead, is an effectual bed-bug exterminator.

Centre Wellington Liberal Conservatives have again nominated Dr. Orton to be their representative in the Commons.

EUGENIA.

The Tea-meeting which was held here on Thursday evening, the 8th, was a decided success. There were a goodly number present, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Several excellent pieces of music by the Flesherton Choir, and also speeches by the Revs. Mr. Irwin, of Markdale, and Mr. Johnston, of Flesherton, contributed mostly to the enjoyment of the evening.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Queens Valley Grange.

To the Editor of the Review.

DEAR SIR:—It is my desire to contribute to your paper a short description of a pleasant evening's entertainment afforded to myself in the form of a Grange Supper, which took place on the evening of the 7th of the present month, in the Queen's Valley, township of Euphrasia. Only those to whom invitations are tendered are supposed to be present at such gatherings, and being the recipient of such an invitation on this occasion, I concluded to accept, and get somewhat better acquainted with the "Patrons;" consequently I found myself among the invited at the Supper, and such a sight and feast as gladdened the eyes and stomachs of our epicurean selves, would have modified the heart of the most hardened old hygenic reprobate that travels. There were almost every description of food placed upon the large tables, which the ladies had prepared with unusual care—even to oysters—and that latter, Mr. Editor, I feel like dwelling upon for a little time, but space will not admit of it. Some expressed themselves as not altogether satisfied, for the reason that they did not get any, but I imagine I can explain that. You must understand they were obliged to spread two tables, as the number present was so great; and I am acquainted with three or four wonderful oyster eaters who were at the first table (confidentially, Mr. Editor, I am exceedingly fond of the bivalves myself) but I shall not say that I was among this number. Well, after regaling ourselves upon the dainties provided, we were treated to some fine music, Dialogues, Readings, Recitations, and an interesting and instructive speech on "The Art of Making Bread," delivered by Mr. T. White, which was listened to by the ladies with wrapt attention, and if appropriated and properly applied, will profit them much. If for nothing but social intercourse and the getting of wisdom, the Grange is as deserving of a place among the many associations of the land, as the Orange or the Temperance Society, and I am not certain but such wisdom as is gained by the members of this Society is of much more benefit to the farmer than that gained in either of the two former. One gets his senses livened and his wits sharpened, as it were, and profits by hearing discussed all the improved modes of "farming profitably," etc. I would say, by what I saw, that if such excellent food, such affability, enjoyment, and happy faces as were presented to my sight that evening, are any proof of prosperity, then the Queens Valley Grange is in the highway to such.

VISITOR.

Parliamentary Summary.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

The business of the Assembly is progressing rapidly, notwithstanding the obstructive tendencies of some of the members of Her Majesty's Opposition.

After routine on Wednesday, the 6th inst., Mr. Mowat announced that the amount of licenses paid by the Brewers, and which had been declared by the Supreme Court to have been illegaly collected would be refunded. A long discussion took place on a motion of Mr. Creighton for the production of correspondence between the Government and the Queen's Printer in relation to the rate at which Government printing is to be paid for. The motion was agreed to. On Thursday the House went into Committee to consider certain resolutions affecting the civil service. 1st, That the Deputy of the Attorney General, the Deputy of the Minister of Education, the Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, the Assistant Provincial Secretary, the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works, the Assistant treasurer and the Clerk of the Executive Council shall be the Deputy heads of the Departments to which they are attached, and 2nd, That the clerks in the different Departments be divided into form classes, with a range of salaries from $400 for a Clerk entering the fourth class, up to $1,400 for a first class Clerk. The resolutions were sustained by a majority of 43 to 28. On Friday Mr. Mills moved for a return in the matter of expenditure in connection with the Deaf and Dumb Institute at Belleville, which was agreed to. A motion made by Mr Bell for certain information in reference to the free grant lands, was modified in the motion of the Hon. Mr. Frazer, who expressed his willingness to bring down all the information at his disposal. Mr. Scott then moved a resolution in reference to the property acquired by Railway Companies after the issue of their bonds; the object of the resolution being to enable persons selling supplies to Railway Companies to recover the amounts due them. Mr. Mowat quite concurred in the spirit of the resolution, but deprecated such export facto legislation, and after some discussion the further consideration of the subject was deferred. On Monday, the 11th inst., after routine, the Hon. Mr. Frazer moved the first reading of the Voters Lists, "Finality Bill," the object of the measure being to make the certificate of the County Judge final and conclusive evidence of the correctness of any voters list. Various Bills were advanced a stage. On the second reading of the Bill to incorporate the Western University of London, several gentlemen opposed the measure as being injurious to the interests of our National University. The Bill, however, passed. Mr. Ross moved for a return of the number of pupils attending the County Model Schools, which was granted. The High School Law, the Game Law, and Insectivorous Birds' Bill were read a second time, on Tuesday.

TUESDAY.

The Attorney General stated that it was the intention of the Government to carry the Brewers' License case before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, although in the meantime the amounts of license fund would be refunded. This course was rendered necessary that future complications might be avoided, and that the powers of the Local Legislature might be definitely settled. Bills respecting the confirmation of the revised statutes, another preservation of forests from fire, were read a second time.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

The fifth Session of the third Parliament of the Dominion met at 3 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, the 7th inst. Nearly all the members were present. A somewhat lively discussion on the re-election of Mr. Anglin as Speaker. Sir John Macdonald opposed the motion on a point of order, but the House sustained the correctness of the view taken by the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie by a majority of 64. On Friday Parliament was formally opened by the usual time-honoured ceremonies. His Excellency, Lord Dufferin, proceeded to the Senate at 3 o'clock, and having taken his seat upon the throne, the faithful Commons were summoned, when he delivered the following

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In again summoning you for the despatch of business I am glad to say that nothing beyond the ordinary business of the country requires your attendance.

It afforded me great pleasure to have had an opportunity, before my departure from this Government, of visiting the Province of Manitoba and a portion of the outside territories, which visit I accomplished last autumn. I have now had the advantage of visiting every Province in the Dominion during my term of service in Canada.

I am happy to be able to say that the arbitration on the Fishery Claims, under the terms of the Washington Treaty, has been concluded. An award has been made by the Commissioners of $5,500,000 as compensation to Canada for the use of her fisheries. This amount is much less than that claimed by my Government; but having assented to the creation of the tribunal for the determination of their value, we are bound loyally to assent to the decision given.

The exhibition of Canadian manufactures and products at Sydney, New South Wales, was successfully carried out. I trust that the result will be the opening up of a new market for Canadian goods, even in so remote a region as the Australian Colonies. The expenditure will slightly exceed the estimate, but I doubt not the cost to Canada will be amply repaid by the extension of Canadian trade.

Preparations have been uninteruptedly carried on during the last six months for securing an ample but select exhibition of Canada's products and manufactures at the great Exhibition to be held at Paris during the current year. A further estimate will be required to meet the expenditure. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has assigned a most prominent place to Canada in one of the main towers, where a Canadian trophy is now being erected.

A very disastrous fire occurred in June last in the city of St. John, which caused the destruction of a large portion of the city, including all the public buildings. My Government deemed it necessary to contribute $20,000 to relieve the immediate wants of the people who were rendered destitute by so appalling a calamity. I also sanctioned the appropriation of some public money with which to commence the erection of new building for the public business, which acts you will be asked to confirm in the usual way.

During last summer my Commissioners made another treaty with the Blackfeet and Piegan Indians, by which the Indian title is extinguished over a territory of 51,000 square miles west of Treaty No. 4 and south of Treaty No. 6. The treaty has been made on terms nearly the same as those under Treaty No. 6, though somewhat less onerous. The entire territory west of Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains, and from the boundary nearly to the 55th degree of north latitude, embracing about 450,000 square miles, has now been acquired by peaceful negotiation with the native tribes, who place implicit faith in the honour and justice of the British Crown.

Early in the past summer a large body of Indians, under Sitting Bull, from the United States crossed into British territory to escape from the United States troops, and have since remained on the Canadian side. The United States Government made a proper but unsuccessful attempt to induce these Indians to return to their reservations. It is to be hoped that such arrangements may yet be made as may lead to their trusting their own Government, and returning to their own country, and thus relieve Canada of a source of uneasiness and a heavy expenditure.

The surveys of the Pacific Railway have been pressed to completion during the past season. A complete instrumental survey of the route by the North Thompson and Lower Fraser has been made, with a view to ascertaining definitely whether that route presents more favourable features than the routes already surveyed to Dean Inlet and Bute Inlet. It is believed that the additional information now obtained will enable my Government to determine which route is the most advantageous from Tete Jaune Cache to the sea. Full information will be laid before you at an early day of the session's work.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the abundant harvest reaped in all quarters of the Dominion, and I rejoice that, under this and other influences, there has been some improvement in the revenue returns, thus indicating, I trust, that the commercial depression that has so long afflicted Canada, in common with other countries, is passing away.

My attention has been called to some imperfections in the existing system of auditing the Public Accounts; and a measure providing for a more through and effective supervision will be submitted for your consideration.

The prospect of obtaining at an early day greater facilities for reaching the Northwest Territories and the Province of Manitoba is sure to attract a larger number of settlers every year, and as much of the prosperity of the Dominion depends on the rapid settlement of the fertile lands in those territories, it is desirable and necessary to facilitate such settlement as much as possible. In order to effect this, measures will be submitted for your consideration concerning the registration of titles, the enactment of a homestead law, and the promotion of railway enterprise in districts not touched by the Canada Pacific Railway.

Your attention will be invited to a measure for better securing the independence of Parliament.

Experience has shown that certain changes may advantageously be made in the departmental arrangements existing at present without increasing the expenditure or the number of the departments. A Bill will be submitted to you for accomplishing this purpose.

It is very desirable that there should be uniform legislation in all the Provinces respecting the traffic in spirituous liquors. Hitherto that trade has been regulated by Provincial laws, or laws existing before the Confederation of the Provinces, although there has been lately a conflict of authority as to the jurisdiction of the local authorities, the Supreme Court having a few days ago given a decision affirming the incompetence of the Provincial Legislatures to deal with it. A Bill making the necessary provision will be submitted for your consideration.

His excellency then withdrew.

After the members had re-assembled in the Commons the following new members were introduced and took their seats:—

Mr. Wade (Digby), by Sir John A. Macdonald, and Dr. Tupper.

Methot (Nicolet), by Messrs. Masson, and Tupper.

Mr. Bourbeaux (Drummond and Arthabaska), by Messrs. Masson, and Pope (Compton).

The House met on Monday, the 11th, at 3 p. m. The address was moved by Mr. De St. Georges, and seconded by Mr. Charlton, in speeches of a very able character, and the debate upon the address is proceeding.

MR. A. G. HUNTER, of Dundalk, has succeeded in securing for the family of Mrs. Jacob Sipes, formerly of that village, a legacy of several hundred dollars, which has been due to the family for the past 29 years, from relatives in England. Mr. Hunter expects to secure a further claim for the same family, and is also investigating two other claims for parties in Dundalk. We hope he will be successful in these claims.

PIC-NIC SPEECHES.—The pic-nic speeches delivered during the past season by the leading members of the Government, have been collated into a neat pamphlet, which has just been published under the direction of the Ontario Reform Association. The able secretary of the association, Mr. G. R. Patullo, has carefully edited the speeches, introducing the various topics by appropriate headings, and has added a very carefully prepared index, which is invaluable for reference. The various political questions of the day were discussed at length in these speeches, and the pamphlet will be found a most valuable campaign handbook. Its price is fixed at the very low sum of $10 per hundred copies, at which value any number can be obtained by addressing Mr. Patullo, secretary of the Reform Association, No. 45 King street, East, Toronto.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Chisholm insurance agent, was robbed lately of $20, at Harriston.

A young man died at Bolton, England, lately, of hydrophobia, from the bite of a dog received two years and six months previously.

A large quantity of straw was recently placed under a school-room near Newcastle, England, by some wicked persons during an entertainment, and set on fire. The audience fortunately escaped unhurt.

According to the *News Record* Mr. T. A. W. Gordon, of Fergus, announces himself as a candidate in opposition to Mr. Geo. A. Drew for the representation of the North Riding of Wellington in the House of Commons. Mr. Gordon is a thorough-going Conservative.

A tree-felling machine worked by steam supplied by a small vertical boiler, which can be moved from tree to tree by three men, was recently exhibited at Roupel Park estate, London, England. It cuts the tree off close to the ground, and went through an elm two feet nine inches across the cut, in less than four minutes.

About two weeks ago the barn of Mr. George Bailey, lot 7, Con. 7, Garafraxa, was destroyed by fire. 11 head of cattle, one horse, a quantity of hay and grain, implements, etc., were burned. The building was insured for $300, and contents for $900. The origin of the fire is a mystery. Mr. Bailey was away from home at the time o the fire.

The extensive woollen mills in Norval, owned by Mr. R. Noble, and occupied by Mr. Samuel Beaumont, were on Wednesday entirely consumed by fire, supposed to have originated from the stovepipe. Owing to the inflammable nature of the material the flames spread with such rapidity that nothing was saved.

The wife of John Johnston residing in Carrick township, while visiting her brother-in-law in Toronto, recently committed suicide by hanging. She was of weak mind, brought about by disea

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