

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

Ottawa, Sept. 10th.

After a long struggle against inexorable facts that will not down, even the most pessimistic believers in the Fosterian prophecies of blue ruin are admitting that the country never was so prosperous. The splendid grain crop in Manitoba and the Northwest, the rapidly developing mining industries of Ontario and British Columbia, the fast growing export business with the Old Country, both in natural products and manufactured goods, the increasing proportions of fruit-growing in several provinces, the swelling tide of immigration, are tangible and very substantial evidence of the marvellous change that has been evolved in the condition of the country in two short years.

Cause and Effect

Of course they are naturally anxious to let themselves down as easily as possible and while forced to admit the improvement, attributed it to the wise, statesmanlike, pure, and patriotic administration of the present Government's predecessors. They do not, however, stop to explain certain details of that policy which so many people actually believe was against the country, rather than helpful to its development. The beneficial effects, for instance, of extortionate railway rates, the tying-up of vast tracts of country by railways who hold them for improved prices and seriously retard settlement, the shackling of nearly every line of natural trade by unnatural restrictions that hampered the intercourse of commerce between adjacent sections of the community, the hindering of wholesome competition in the great matter of transportation by the granting of monopolistic privileges to favored carrying corporations;—these are a few samples, taken at random, of the wise and far-seeing policy of the Macdonald and Tupper Administrations that are alleged to have brought about the present era of prosperity. As our old friend Sam Slick would remark,—this must be meant "sarcastic."

Two ways of doing it.

A comparison of the methods adopted by the two parties in opening up a new country is not without interest and significance. Twenty-five years ago, or more, it fell to the lot of the Government of the day to formulate a policy for the opening up of the vast territories between Lake Superior and the Rockies and in spite of the oft-repeated warnings of the Liberal Opposition, the members of whom severely criticised the policy of the Government, pointing out its objectionable features, which have proven even worse than was then anticipated, and offering alternative suggestions which experience has proved were wise ones, the country was saddled with a tremendous expenditure running into tens of millions of dollars, while the newly developed country was loaded with disabilities which even to-day are weighing it down.

Since the change of government, two years ago, another vast tract of unknown territory, far less accessible than was the North West a quarter of a century ago, has suddenly been thrown into the range of practical politics, demanding the instant attention of the Government. With scarcely any authentic information for guidance, a policy had to be formulated, and active administration immediately undertaken. All this was done without hesitation, the responsibility was assumed, and, without the expenditure of one dollar of the established revenues of the country, the most complete and workable system of government that has ever existed in a mining camp is being successfully operated. Not only is this being done without cost to old Canada but hundreds of thousands of dollars over and above the cost of administration are being contributed to the public exchequer.

This is a simple, fair and unyarned statement of two incidents and the Liberal party may be well content to let them be studied side by side.

The Constable's Case.

"The Constable's case" as it will be known in history, has been before the courts this week, and probably by the time this letter appears in print the finding of the judges will be public. The case has more than a Provincial importance and the outcome will be noted with interest from Halifax to Victoria. The fact that the matter is now sub judice should remove it from the arena of newspaper discussion, yet the Mail and Empire has been so worked up over the whole business, that it cannot keep quiet, but has to treat itself to a daily editorial upon the

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case, commenting upon the proceedings, and criticising the several parties participating, in a manner that is as unusual as it is reprehensible.

What does it all mean?

What is the mysterious cause of the attitude of the Mail and Empire towards Sir Chas. Tupper these days? Scarcely a day passes without an article of laudation and almost adoration of the Conservative leader, and yet it was not so very long ago that the same paper called the same politician "Prince of Politicians" Cracksmen, declaring that "genuine patriotism could have no hold upon his mind," and after charging him with attempting bribery and corruption together with other misdeeds of an equally notorious character, summed up its opinions thus:—"The appointment of such a man as the head of the State would be not merely the inauguration of violence and corruption, unredeemed by any true wisdom or statesmanship; it would be the signal for disruption of the community and for moral civil war."

Of course all this was a few years ago but while the organ has been brought to its knees since, and has abjectly apologised for the naughty things it said then, it has never given any reason for its change of heart or explained how, if it is right now in extolling the worthy baronet, it made such a terrible blunder when it took the other course. Is not the real reason, that there is a danger of a repetition of "the nest of traitors" incident and of a serious revolt against the continued leadership of the Toppers, which has necessitated this attempt to strengthen the weak-kneed brethren and enthuse the faithful in their allegiance?

Mr. Henniker Heaton's opinion.

For the benefit of those who have not yet been able to grasp the fact that Canada and her Post Master General are entitled to the lion's share of credit in securing Imperial Penny Postage, the following extract is given from a letter written by Mr. Henniker Heaton, the one man of all others who is recognised as the highest authority on the question. Mr. Heaton says, after giving a brief history of the agitation:—"The negotiations, the discussions, the arguments on either side were long and wearisome. Official "vis inertia" was finally overcome in a surprising way and the victory is won." It is the opinion of those possessing any acquaintance of this affair, that to this victory, the courage, the energy, the determination, the moral stamina, and last but not least, the discreet reserve of Mr. Mulock largely contributed."

It is impossible that this is the same Mr. Mulock who, the Mail and Empire recently declared, was "going about London with a head too large for his hat, thinking that instead of objecting to the scheme, the government to which he belongs actually proposed it and forced it through." When will the Mail and Empire treat its readers as though they had at least a modicum of intelligence?

NEW WESTMINSTER DESTROYED.

This fine Western City was wiped out on Sunday morning by fire. Only three insignificant residences remain, every public building is destroyed and three boats in the harbor, with docks &c.

The fire started on one of the boats which burned itself loose and drifted off setting fire to others, which in turn spread the destruction. The fire department was crippled by having their hose burned before it could be used, and though Vancouver, 12 miles distant, sent their brigade over in 14 hours, little was saved. Estimates of the loss run as high as \$3,500,000 about half covered by insurance. Toronto has sent them \$1000 and other cities are contributing to the fund for the relief of the, in many cases, ruined families.

TEACHER WANTED.

The undersigned will receive applications for the office of teacher in S. S. No. 1, Bentinck for the year 1890, up to October 22nd 1890.

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Bacon per cwt	65 to 70
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Fall Wheat per bushel	65 to 70
Barley	0 30 to 0 35
Pens	0 47 to 0 48
Oats	0 21 to 0 22
Drd Hogs, per cwt	5 75 to 6 25
Hogs, live weight	4 50 to 5 00
Lard per lb	10 to 10
Tallow per lb	63 to 0 04
Butter per lb, Tab	0 12 to 0 13
" Roll	11 to 11
Eggs, per doz	11 to 11
Chickens, per pair	25 to 30
Ducks	40 to 50
Turkeys, per lb	10 to 15
Geese per lb	0 05 to 0 08
Hides per cwt	08 to 10
Calfskins	25 to 30
Sheepskins	60 to 1 00
Hay, per ton	5 00 to 6 00
Straw	0 00 to 0 00
Potatoes, per bag	50 to 60
Apples, per bag	50 to 1 00
Wood, 4 feet	1 50 to 2 00
Wood, 22 inches	1 00 to 1 00
Wool	15 to 16

Live Stock Markets.

TORONTO.

Yesterday was a very quiet day for business at the western cattle yards. The receipts were smaller and the cattle received were generally of an inferior quality. Good butchers' cattle, sheep and lambs are wanted. Buffalo men are operating slowly in the stocker line. The receipts of stuff were 50 car-loads, including 500 sheep and lambs, and about 1,700 hogs.

Export cattle—Really choice cattle brought as high as \$4.80 per cwt, but nothing went any higher than that price. Most of the deals for the best cattle were made at from \$4.20 to \$4.60. Butchers' Choice cattle brought \$4 to \$4.25 per cwt. Heavy bulls were firmer, ruling from \$3.00 to \$4 per cwt. Light bulls were quiet at from \$2.75 to \$3.40. Mixed lots of butchers and exporters cattle sold from \$3.85 to \$4.12 per cwt. Stockers—for Buffalo were slow at \$3 to \$3.30 per cwt.

Sheep—For export and butchers' use were steady to firm at \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt. Spring lambs are quiet at \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt.

Calves—Were quiet at 4 1/2 to 5 per lb, or about from \$3 to \$6 per head. Extra choice brought \$7 each. Choice veals are wanted.

Milk cows and springers—Were slow at \$25 to \$45 each.

Hogs—This line was steady and the prices were unchanged. Choice bacon hogs sold at \$4.75 per cwt. Light hogs brought \$4.25, and thick fat hogs ranged from \$4.40 to \$4.50 per cwt. Sows were steady at from \$3 to \$3.50.

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South Grey Sept. 27 to Sept. 28

Industrial, Toronto Aug. 29 " 10

Western, London Sept. 8 " 17

Northern, Walkerton " 14 " 15

Markdale " 15 " 16

Owen Sound " 20 " 23

Collingwood " 27 " 28

East Grey, Flesherton " 22 " 23

Central, Walters Falls " 27 " 28

Holland, Chatsworth " 22 " 23

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