

THE PREMIER'S DEFENCE

Sir John has at last admitted what has long been suspected—that the Government was pledged to see the Syn- dicate contract through the House of Commons. Here are his own words:—

Well, gentlemen, we made this bargain, and after we had made it, after we had pledged ourselves as a Government, after we had signed the provisional contract, we party depended upon carrying out the agreement entered into with the Syn- dicate, that at the last hour appeared a second Syn- dicate—a bogus Syn- dicate— and not to speak seriously, but in a Pickwickian sense, a fraudulent Syn- dicate.

First serious thoughts are suggested by the apologetic language of Sir John Macdonald. 1. That the Government was not acting honestly and in a business-like manner when they became irrevocably bound to carry out the contract which could not be carried out without the endorsement of Parliament.

2. That the Premier depended upon whipping his subsequent followers into submission and actually commencing the contract down their throats without consideration as to the propriety of the case and the possibility of serious consequences.

3. That Sir John took unwarrantable liberty in substantially forcing the contract upon the House without giving it the alternative of a refusal. The revelation shows the farcical nature of the whole parliamentary proceedings. That weeks should have been spent in discussing the advisability of approving what was already pledged is almost too utterly utter for belief.

4. That the second Syn- dicate tender was made in good faith and with the genuine purpose of carrying it into effect were the opportunity offered. It was not made at the opening of Parliament because those who composed the Company could not consult and submit a proposition until they heard the terms of the Stephens contract discussed.

5. That the second Syn- dicate proposal was not bogus and fraudulent. A large sum of money was placed on deposit, to the order of the Government, as a guarantee of good faith and a proof of seriousness which was lacking in the other instance.

The facts of the case are not forgotten as Sir John would seem to suppose when he made a statement at such variance with the truth. He has made the Syn- dicate contract one of the issues for the coming election. The Opposition regard the announcement satisfactory and hope for favourable results, especially if the Government cannot make a better defence of the transaction than Sir John has done at Toronto.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE The discussion of Royal Military College affairs has been productive of good results. It has been the means of bringing into prominent facts which had not in the recent agitation been taken into consideration. Many have pronounced judgment upon it hastily, drawing conclusions from mere assumptions. They have condemned the College because it has failed to meet what they think are the requirements of the country, not apparently cognizant of the fact that if the facilities are not in greater use the people themselves are alone in fault.

The purposes of the institution have been and are still unfortunately mis- understood. The point seems to have been forgotten—and until we made the matter the subject of examination we labored under a mistaken idea—that the cadets have not the exclusive benefit of the admirable training which the institution affords. The militia officers can, if they will, become connected with it the better to qualify themselves for responsible positions in the Canadian service. We find on reference to the published reports of the Government that as long ago as 1879 the Commandant hoped the College would shortly afterwards be enabled to give to those holding volunteer commissions instruction in Fortification and Military Engineering, Military Topography, Reconnaissance, Tactics and Strategy, Military Administration and Law, French, and Free Hand Drawing. In the same report the Commandant observes:—'I trust that before long several officers will avail themselves of the privilege, and I believe there are several who, while unable to leave their occupation for a long period, are extremely desirous to increase their qualifications for the highest rank in their regiments, and would make an effort to undergo a course of six months. It need hardly be said that only an elementary course is possible in so short a time, but regimental officers could not be expected to attend more, even if it were possible for them to do so. The extension of military instruction to officers of militia as well as cadets has always been a recognized feature of the College. Circumstances have, however, prevented the carrying out of this object up to the present time, but it may be expected to develop itself. The Royal Military College deserves to become, and ought to be, the training school, the centre and head of the militia force, and it is difficult to conceive any person, whether in or out of the force, being indifferent to, much less jealous of, its work and success.' This brevity and succinctly the adverse criticism of those whose opposition has been based upon erroneous conceptions has been bluntly met and disposed of. We have no sympathy with those who are aiming blows at the institution with the evident design of injuring, and if possible, abolishing it. It has not been tried sufficiently long to permit of its work being fairly judged. Those who have graduated from it have done so and themselves infinite credit, and the outlook is exceedingly encouraging. There have been regrettable staff differences, but the occurrence of such does not warrant the supposition that the useful work of the College is gone. By the same party of reasoning Toronto University should cease to be because of the serious conflict which has taken place between the members of the Faculty and the students. Personal

AMERICAN DISPATCHES

President Preparing his Message Relations With Chile Incidental Protection

Washington, Nov. 25.—The President has announced a large amount of his message, and is beginning to work in earnest upon the balance. The time which he has spent upon the subject is very short, and the President's message is expected to be ready for the press in a few days. It is reported that the President does not intend to have the message printed, but will send it to Congress in manuscript. In this case it is very probable that it will be the light which will be thrown upon the relations between the United States and Chile. Folger expects to have his printed, and it is now preparing the formal part of it. Mr. Giffen's report is described as the case of the Government against Huelo Williams, where the Government of 1870 were complained in the Sixth Auditor's office by the payment of \$500. The case was twice referred to the Asst. Atty-General for the Post Office Department, who refused to recommend the acceptance of the compensation. The present occasion is believed to be the first time that the relations between the United States and Chile are directly brought into the public eye. The claims of Americans against Chile are of various kinds, which are now being investigated by the State Department. The claim amounts to a million, and scrip representing millions have been issued for use in Washington and elsewhere in inducing the United States to make such action as the part of Chile toward Peru as will protect the claim. It is believed that an understanding has been reached with President O'Meara, of Peru, that he will discharge these claims in case the United States will do so. There is much feeling in Washington among the public now over our South American relations, and what is first treated with little attention is now regarded as a very serious situation. The relations between the United States and Chile are now being investigated by the State Department. The claim amounts to a million, and scrip representing millions have been issued for use in Washington and elsewhere in inducing the United States to make such action as the part of Chile toward Peru as will protect the claim. It is believed that an understanding has been reached with President O'Meara, of Peru, that he will discharge these claims in case the United States will do so. There is much feeling in Washington among the public now over our South American relations, and what is first treated with little attention is now regarded as a very serious situation.

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DASTARDLY DEED. A Servant Girl Attempts to Kill a Clergyman by Poison.

Notes From Ireland. Dublin, Nov. 25.—The Mayor of Drogheda, a candidate for re-election, was defeated by Mangon, an imprisoned convict.

Pork Restriction. Paris, Nov. 25.—It was stated yesterday in the lobby of the Chambers of Deputies that the Government had decided to withdraw the decree against American pork.

At the close of a long interview with Aristotle Welch, Esq. of Anderson's Stock Farm, near Chesham Hill, Penn., that gentleman who bred Troopers and Parols, said:—'I want my horse to continue the use of St. James Oil for it is an excellent horse medicine.' Prominent horsemen all use it.

CANADIAN JINGOS.

The American V. of the Pre- sident's Banquet Speech—In- dependence Discussed.

New York, Nov. 25.—The Herald's in- forming says:—The Canadian Pre- sident's Independence. He says the In- ternational Confederation is in abeyance. He speaks of the million of emigrants, and de- clares his unalterable adherence to Home Rule, high tariff and the comprehensive system of the railroad Syndicate. On Sunday morning an appeal will be made to the country in 1882. This is nothing more than a good Jingo platform. Whether the Canadians will endorse it is another question. A full Treasury is a sine qua non for the Government that it is to be a success. It is necessary to have a severe fall on the pockets of the people who soon tire of paying for glory. Several years ago Canadian statesmen objected to annexation. Now we might object to an annexation of the Canadian debt. At the present rate of increase our debt will disappear in a few years, while that of a man will probably be so large that his liquidation by this generation will be a hopeless task. The only course necessary to avoid it is to make a law preventing capital emigration to the United States.

The Herald says:—Sir John A. Macdonald's speech at Toronto, is hardly worth commiseration. He has committed the Troop party in Canada to British connection, a protective tariff, the Canada Pacific railway, and a vigorous colonization policy in the West. This is a natural movement. In Canada it always is in order to denounce a political opponent as a traitor, an annexationist. The Conservatives could not abandon the National Policy now without admitting that they only took it up recently as a political weapon and without any belief in its excellence and efficacy. The Canada Pacific railway affords unlimited opportunities for giving place for pensions, and raising com- plicated questions. The thing interested in the North Western land schemes is very timely connected with the Troop party. All this, however, does not alter the fact that Canada will be independent before very long. That the National Policy is a failure; that the young men of promise in the country are emigrating to the United States; that the majority of the business men are 'sight- ing' for annexation; that the country is an abandoned condition, financially and otherwise; that the Canadian railway is a wasteful and superfluous waste, and that the North Western bubble will burst, so far as England is concerned, before another year. Sir John knows this, and if he lives a few years longer and finds himself in oppres- sion, he will say all this as frankly as we do, and demand his own return to power to bring about independence, a col- lective and economical reform generally.

Watched by an Expert—Reasons for Judge Cox's Ten- dency to Him.

Washington, Nov. 25.—The World says the Lincoln which Judge Cox has allowed Guiteau is attributable to the belief in Guiteau's insanity and determination that the trial shall be in every respect such that neither the prisoner nor his friends will have ground for complaint of unfairness.

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