

THE FIRST DEFEAT

An Amendment to the Address in the Legislative Council.

Lame Defence of the New Business Taxes by the Government—Vigorous Attack on Their Fiscal Policy by Messrs. Marchand and Stephens—Proposed Alteration to Montreal City Charter.

Quebec, Jan. 13.—The Government was defeated to-day in the Legislative Council. Mr. Starnes made the protest, and Dr. Ross failed to carry it. Mr. Pelletier, the newly elected councillor, as mover of the address, and Mr. Roche, who seconded it, made eloquent speeches in defence of the Government's policy. Mr. Starnes caused the friends of the administration much embarrassment by pointing out that, while the Government professed great respect for the institutions of the province, yet they had neglected to secure a representative in the highest branch of the legislature. This, he said, was contrary to courtesy and to tradition. The opposition could not do otherwise than express their disapproval by an amendment.

Messrs. Garneau, Gilman, D. A. Ross and J. K. Ward supported the amendment, which was carried on division, and inserted into the address.

In the assembly a number of petitions for private bills were also introduced. The most important of which being one by Mr. Kennedy to amend the charter of the city of Montreal and one by Mr. Stephens to amend the charter of the city of Montreal, asking that the number of aldermen be reduced to two per ward, elected one by property-owners and one by business men.

Mr. Stephens also introduced a petition on behalf of the Dominion Alliance in favor of a change of the whole of the council at next election.

Mr. Marchand again demanded some explanation concerning the ministerial changes which had taken place during vacation. Mr. Talbot regretted his inability to furnish the required information before Monday.

Mr. Descares then moved the address in reply to the speech from the throne. Since last session, he said, the Government had retired from office, and he felt sure that the House would admit that he had nobly done his duty. (Opposition laughter.) He said that the Government had nobly distinguished—Mr. Chapleau—who would doubtless fulfill his duties with equal tact and dignity. Mr. Talbot also had succeeded Mr. Descares. Premier (Applause.) If anything could console the Legislature for the loss of Mr. Descares, it was undoubtedly the choice of Mr. Talbot.

The news that a financial situation had improved and that important economies had been realized, and that there would be no supplementary estimates was exceedingly cheering. The era of the "fiscal" was over, and had been replaced by the reign of wisdom and economy. The revenue had increased, not only by means of the new taxes, but even the ordinary revenue. His honor had called to the attention of the Legislature the fact that the Government had not only increased the revenue, but had also increased the expenditure. The population of the Province was patriotic, and would not refuse to pay the tax, knowing that if the money was not used for the benefit of the Province, it would be given to the Legislature. He was convinced that government would practice economy. He favored the abolition of the civil service pension fund, and the payment of back pay to clerks and other officials. He hoped government would abolish the Magistrate's court, and reduce the expense of litigation before the Circuit court.

Mr. Hackett, on rising to second the address, was greeted with applause. As the representative of an agricultural county he felt gratified to be able to give his support to the Government, and to the fact that the Government had not only increased the revenue, but had also increased the expenditure.

He paid a high tribute to ex-Lieut.-Governor Angers, but the Province had not, he believed, lost by his change. He concluded by saying that the Government had not only increased the revenue, but had also increased the expenditure.

THE OPPOSITION SITTINGS.

Mr. Marchand in a short and witty speech twisted the Government on the measures of its programme. It required all the ability and eloquence of the two gentlemen who had just spoken to make anything out of so poor a speech. In their eagerness to make out a case for the Government, they had gone back into the past and endeavored to hold a preceding regime responsible for the present financial situation. For his part he believed that the situation was not due to the Government, but to the fact that the Government had not only increased the revenue, but had also increased the expenditure. He was convinced that government would practice economy. He favored the abolition of the civil service pension fund, and the payment of back pay to clerks and other officials. He hoped government would abolish the Magistrate's court, and reduce the expense of litigation before the Circuit court.

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declaration for what it is worth, and admitting its correctness. He would be obliged to conclude that the expenditure was being reduced by \$400,000 for the current year, and the revenue being increased according to the statement made by the Government organs, by \$250,000, exclusive of the new taxes, forming a total increase for the year of at least \$650,000, as the revenue for the second half year is always greater than that of the first. His financial situation is consequently better by one million per year; and why then speak of new taxation? Government had undertaken upon assuming power to apply themselves exclusively to their work of retrenchment and it might have been supposed that they would have been now ready to show the result of their work, but instead of that they appear to have wasted their time and the resources of the province in bawling down a political man, who even supposing that all they reproached him with was true, would be hanged by the neck, and not by the result of the last elections. They had during the electoral strife to serve their own personal purposes made imprudent promises by the Government, and to carry out these threats they had recklessly insisted heavy law suits and squandered thousands to reach a most miserable fiasco in the end. Such is the style of statesmanship they have so far exhibited. Certainly it is not of a nature to inspire the public with confidence in their ability and earnestness of purpose.

Referring to the Legislature, Mr. Marchand said that the Government should concede its abolition to the unanimous desire of public opinion, and thereby realize an important economy. It was evident that the Government had not only increased the revenue, but had also increased the expenditure.

Mr. Talbot, after complimentary remarks to the mover and seconder of the address, said that the Opposition was illogical in asking us to forget the past. He desired the Conservatives to cease reproaching Mr. Marchand for his financial policy, and to turn their attention to the future. He said that the Government had not only increased the revenue, but had also increased the expenditure.

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both been spoken of. So far as the poll tax was concerned, he showed conclusively that it could not be collected by citing the instance of the city of Montreal, to which he drew the special attention of both Mr. Stephens and of the members representing the city. There had been some general complaints against the taxes, but only one specific one, and that was from Montreal. There was no municipal complaint against the taxes, and that was from Montreal. The question was how to grade it. It could not be upon stock, for that had been found impracticable in Massachusetts and elsewhere. A tax upon real estate would be extremely difficult to collect. It would establish and create an enormous machinery which it would be very difficult to get rid of. Then he hoped the present taxes might only be temporary. It was a great thing to be able to say, in view of the expenses of other countries in the collection of taxes, that the taxes of Montreal were not too high. The unfortunate victim of the system is now an inmate of the Kingston Lunatic Asylum, and from the character of his malady has been pronounced incurably insane. He first entered the civil service in 1873 as an extra clerk in the Public Works Department, and when in 1885 the Militia Architects Branch was brought down from that department, he was made permanent clerk and was responsible for the organizing after the change.

He was not, however, entitled to a superannuation, as Mr. Stephen Wilmet's case was before the Government last year an order in council was passed granting him a gratuity of \$1200. The cheque calling for that amount was not payable to order, and as the unfortunate man was reported by the medical superintendent of the asylum as being non-compos mentis he could not receive his money. The cheque was then made payable to cash, and the unfortunate man was reported by the medical superintendent of the asylum as being non-compos mentis he could not receive his money.

THE MAYORALTY.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING IN FAVOR OF MR. McSHANE.

East End Electors Declare for the Present Incumbent of the Civic Chair—Mr. Desjardins' Campaign.

The mayoralty meeting in favor of the candidature of Mayor McShane, held at the St. James market, Ontario street, was a success, notwithstanding the attempt to cause the close to raise the national cry. The meeting commenced shortly after 8 o'clock with Mr. Fautaux, a prominent merchant of Ontario street, in the chair. The large building was packed to its utmost capacity, and the atmosphere was one of the most enthusiastic of the kind.

Mr. Fautaux, speaking in French and then in English, delivered a very able address, and throughout it was very sympathetic to the candidature of Mayor McShane. He recounted his career as Mayor, told how he had worked for the best interests of the city, and how he had fought for the welfare of the city in the questions recently before the Council. He said that the Government had not only increased the revenue, but had also increased the expenditure.

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RED TAPE STORY.

How an Abundance of it Affected a Government Clerk.

He Has Become Insane and Cannot Sign His Endorsement to a Gratuity Check, Meantime His Family Suffers—The Trial of Fishery Inspector Wilmet at Morrisburg—The International Navigation Company.

(Special to The Herald.) Ottawa, Jan. 13.—The story of how a government employee has suffered through too abundant exercise of red tape in the service, has just come to light. The unfortunate victim of the system is now an inmate of the Kingston Lunatic Asylum, and from the character of his malady has been pronounced incurably insane. He first entered the civil service in 1873 as an extra clerk in the Public Works Department, and when in 1885 the Militia Architects Branch was brought down from that department, he was made permanent clerk and was responsible for the organizing after the change.

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SIR JOHN TALKS.

Big Conservative Meeting at Toronto Last Night.

The Premier Requests that the Liberals Bounce Edward Farrer from the Country—His Explanations of the Census Figures—The Audience Complained Him to Say Something About the Manitoba School Question.

(Special to The Herald.) Toronto, Jan. 13.—The mass meeting in the Auditorium to-night, under the auspices of the Young Men's Liberal-Conservative Association, was a huge success. An hour before the time of opening the hall was packed with 3000 people, while fully the same number were unable to obtain admission.

Richard Armstrong, president of the association, presided, and was supported by the twelve Cabinet Ministers advertised to speak, and fully a hundred prominent Conservatives of the city and province. After a few introductory remarks from the chair, Sir John Thompson addressed the assembly, and on the occasion of the meeting, he urged the necessity of permanent quarters for the Conservative organizations, which he suggested should be held in the St. James market. The coming of the Ministers to Toronto on this occasion, he said, had aroused great expectations, but he was afraid they had no great results to show. His own predecessors had established and developed the national policy. A national policy not simply as it referred to tariff matters, but as it referred to the policy of the country, which was the policy of the country, developed her industries and opened up her resources. This had been the national policy of the past, and they would stand by the policy which would make Canada a nation if the earnest efforts of young Canadians could do it. (Cheers.) The Opposition leaders had talked a great deal.

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The Liveliest City Council Session on Record.

The Mayor and Aldermen Prefrontate at Loggerheads—It All Came Out of the Street—A Contract—A Large Deputation—Arders, and What They Wanted.

It was twenty minutes after three yesterday afternoon before a quorum could be obtained to open the special meeting of the City Council called by the Mayor. The business specified on the order of the day was "Reports—From the Finance Committee on interim appropriations; joint Health and Finance, and Finance Committee thereon, for authority to call for tenders for the establishment of incinerators and removal of garbage, and to consider the question of widening Notre Dame street."

Those present were Mayor McShane in the chair, and Aldermen Hurlbut, James, Cress, Dagenais, Stearns, Beauséjour, Savin, Brun, Wilson, McBurn, Farrell, Dufresne, Taussey, Thompson, Rainville, Cunningham, Nolan, Germain, Stevenson, Jeannotte, Prefronte, Clendinning, Gauthier, Lamarche, Grenier, Griffin, Perreault, and others. A deputation of the city, numbering fully 300, was ushered into the council chamber by the Mayor. In answer to a joking remark by one of the aldermen, the Mayor said, "All right, these are the people, sir."

Mr. Hurlbut then was the first speaker. He wanted the Street railway to use the city's money to build the winter, and when the carter used wheels. They wanted fair-play, and complained very strongly against the action taken by the Mayor. It was impossible to get them to carry out their contract, and he thought they were not doing.

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The Liveliest City Council Session on Record.

The Mayor and Aldermen Prefrontate at Loggerheads—It All Came Out of the Street—A Contract—A Large Deputation—Arders, and What They Wanted.

It was twenty minutes after three yesterday afternoon before a quorum could be obtained to open the special meeting of the City Council called by the Mayor. The business specified on the order of the day was "Reports—From the Finance Committee on interim appropriations; joint Health and Finance, and Finance Committee thereon, for authority to call for tenders for the establishment of incinerators and removal of garbage, and to consider the question of widening Notre Dame street."

Those present were Mayor McShane in the chair, and Aldermen Hurlbut, James, Cress, Dagenais, Stearns, Beauséjour, Savin, Brun, Wilson, McBurn, Farrell, Dufresne, Taussey, Thompson, Rainville, Cunningham, Nolan, Germain, Stevenson, Jeannotte, Prefronte, Clendinning, Gauthier, Lamarche, Grenier, Griffin, Perreault, and others. A deputation of the city, numbering fully 300, was ushered into the council chamber by the Mayor. In answer to a joking remark by one of the aldermen, the Mayor said, "All right, these are the people, sir."

Mr. Hurlbut then was the first speaker. He wanted the Street railway to use the city's money to build the winter, and when the carter used wheels. They wanted fair-play, and complained very strongly against the action taken by the Mayor. It was impossible to get them to carry out their contract, and he thought they were not doing.

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