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When stamps are sent to make up a remittance, the only denominations we will accept are 1 and 3 cents.

A GOOD WAY to circulate the Weekly "Witness" is for our friends to send us a list of names, with the P. O. address, of their neighbors and friends who are not receiving the "Witness," and we will mail sample copies free for a few weeks.

The Witness.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1889.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

Mr. Foster, the Finance Minister, brought down his first budget last week in an extremely interesting speech. The financial statement is what it should be, clear, concise and easy of comprehension. It is, moreover, apparently frank and candid, as Mr. Foster promised in the beginning it would be. It is remarkable, however, that the major portion of the Finance Minister's speech is virtually a defence of the Government's policy, and an attempt to vindicate protection. There have been persistent rumors to the effect that this would be the last session of the present Parliament, and that Sir John Macdonald intended to appeal to the country this year some time in order to anticipate the further progress of public opinion in favor of unrestricted reciprocity with the United States. If Mr. Foster had intended to open such a campaign in his budget speech he could not have made a better one for the purpose. He has labored with great skill to show that Canada's fiscal policy has not been and is not now as burdensome as that of the United States, and is not onerous to the farmer and laborer, whom, as he rather equivocally insinuated, all politicians loved very dearly. The arguments are not very strong ones, and especially weak is that one which represents the farmer of Ontario living almost entirely upon the direct products of his own farm, and therefore paying no taxes. We rather fancy that the farmers of Ontario will come to the conclusion that Mr. Foster knows nothing whatever of their circumstances and surroundings. The argument that luxuries yield a large proportion of the revenue from Customs taxation is one which has been exploded over and over again. All but those who have been looking for increased subsidies from increased protection will be glad, however, to know that, satisfactory as protection has proved in the opinion of the Government, there is to be no increase of it during the present year. That is the most satisfactory statement in the budget speech. The financial showing will be regarded by most people as satisfactory. A year ago Sir Charles Tupper, then Finance Minister, anticipated a deficit for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1888, of about one million of dollars, but, owing to the expenditure having been kept below the estimate, the actual deficit amounted to only eight hundred and ten thousand dollars. Mr. Foster claims that as \$1,120,016 was carried to the sinking fund during the year that may be regarded as converting the deficit into a surplus. A little further on he tells how the net national debt had increased during the year by \$7,217,447, so that the small amount added to the sinking fund does not leave the country in a good position as it was a year before. For the current year which ends June 30th next, Mr. Foster looks for a surplus of one million nine hundred thousand dollars. He claims that this surplus is not a result of increased taxation. If the ratio of receipts from Customs to the value of the goods imported has not increased, we will be very much surprised. It matters little to the people whether an increase in taxation ensues from statutory changes in the tariff, or from orders-in-Council, from decisions of the Customs Board, or from some other cause; it is extracted from them all

the same. For the approaching fiscal year, that ending 30th of June, 1890, a surplus of \$2,075,000 is estimated. A fiscal policy which taxes the people to a greater extent than is necessary is an unwise one; there is, however, one source of satisfaction about these surpluses and that is they deprive the Government of any good excuse for increasing the Customs tariff and the burden of taxation.

MORE MILLIONS WANTED.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company is again in need of money, and its necessities, as usual, amount to millions. It does not ask the Canadian Parliament for a loan or a guarantee this time, the patience of the country, and even the Government supporters both inside and outside of the House, with the demands of the Company, having been thoroughly exhausted. What the Company ask for now is the passage of a bill empowering them to convert all their existing mortgage bonds, debenture, rental, guaranteed or preferred stock, and other obligations paying interest at from four to six percent, and maturing at different dates between 1899 and 1937, into a consolidated debenture stock, not to bear interest at a higher rate than four percent per annum, the amount to be issued in this connection to be limited, so that the interest shall not exceed the annual interest charges of the Company at present, shown by the schedule attached to the bill to amount to \$4,365,029. This issue will, therefore, amount to \$109,150,000, which is \$22,000,000 more than the present obligations amounting to \$87,428,436. The Canadian Pacific Company will be congratulated on all hands if it can increase its capital so materially without any increase in its liabilities. It is quite clear, however, that as the conversion of the mortgage bonds of the Company will not come within the region of practical finance for years as the dates at which they mature are very distant, the real purpose of the Company in asking for the passage of this bill is to be found in section 2(d) of Clause 3, which, if this act is passed, will empower the Company to issue, in addition to the above, debenture stock to the extent of \$2,500 per mile of all its roads for the purpose of building railways, elevators, sidings, workshops, wharves and so forth. As the mileage of the Canadian Pacific roads is now five thousand, this clause will empower the Company to borrow about twelve million five hundred thousand dollars. This amount of stock at four percent interest would increase the fixed charges by another half a million of dollars. Yet, as the schedule attached to the bill shows, the fixed charges already amount to \$4,365,000, while the net earnings of the Company for 1888 as given in the Company's monthly returns amounts to only \$3,870,000, or a deficit of nearly half a million of dollars. In this connection it is to be remarked that compared with the last annual report, that of 1887, the schedule in the bill shows an increase in fixed charges of about \$1,100,000 a year. Another extraordinary section is 2(c) of clause 3, which will enable the Company to issue additional consolidated debenture stock to the amount of thirty thousand dollars per mile "for the construction or acquisition of any branch railway or extension which the Company is authorized to construct or acquire in connection with any railway held or operated by it." The Company are simply asking for *carte blanche* to "acquire or construct" at pleasure. The Government may, as has been pointed out time and again, have to take over the whole Canadian Pacific Railway, lock, stock and barrel. The question, therefore, arises whether under these circumstances it is safe or prudent to give the Company *carte blanche* to enlarge its system to almost any extent and at a cost which can hardly be said to be limited by anything except its own discretion.

DISALLOWANCE AND THE JESUITS.

Sir John Macdonald and his Minister of Justice, Sir John Thompson, have refused to disallow the Jesuit endowment act on the score that it is distinctly *intra vires* or within the powers of the Legislature of the Province of Quebec. This is either a very ignorant or a very disingenuous plea, and the fact that it has been taken up by the whole orchestra of the Conservative press and echoed by that of the Reform party, which, being at least equally implicated in her crime, is found for once fiddling under the direction of Sir John's laconic, proves the party press of the country equally ignorant or equally disingenuous. In the first place, it is not *intra vires*, and in the second place the fact that it is *ultra vires*, or beyond the power of the Legislature, furnishes, if anything, a better excuse for Sir John to refuse his veto than his claim that it is *intra vires*. If he had said plainly that as the act was entirely unconstitutional all that was necessary was to carry it to the courts and, if necessary, to the foot of the throne, and that would, in such a case, be the more constitutional course, he would at least have been on plausible, though possibly novel ground. The solution of the question may yet be reached in this way. If the veto power has any meaning it is plainly meant to meet cases which the courts cannot well deal with, or cannot deal with at all. Sir John Macdonald's reason nullifies all his past courses, for he has over and over again vetoed provincial acts which were indisputably *ultra vires* of the legislatures that passed them. The acts which he has vetoed, however, have not been of the sort for which the veto was provided. They have largely dealt with matters of a kind that could be as safely confided to the legislatures as to parliament. The veto was provided distinctly to meet just such a case as the present, when a religious majority, particularly that of Quebec, might show an inclination to ride roughshod over the minority, or when such a majority showed a tendency to defy the constitution. Why do we say that the act is wholly unconstitutional, and, therefore, *ultra vires* of the Legislature. For several reasons which it needs no lawyer to understand or to state. First, that if anything is fundamental in the historical constitution of Canada it is that no religious body shall be endowed by the State. In the great struggle for the secularization of the clergy reserves, the de-

mand for which came largely from the Roman Catholics, this was the principle enunciated, and in the victory of that movement it was the principle established for all time. Secondly, it is a principle of the British constitution that no foreign potentate shall be called on to administer the laws of the realm. This provision of the constitution, than which none is more absolute, was directed specially against the Pope. From the time of the statute of *Premunire* in the days of King John, long before the Protestant Reformation, it has been a crime under the British flag to invoke the administrative authority of the Pope. The Province of Quebec has sanctioned by this law what the English people never admitted as a principle at any period in their history, namely, an acknowledgment of the Pope as an authority in the State. In a previous statute the Pope's authority was insinuated in the marginal index, apparently by some ignorant clerk, really by some sinister hand. Though the act did not bear it out, the margin of the printed law was inscribed, "these decrees of our holy father the Pope to be binding." A third reason why the law is unconstitutional is that it is based on a historic falsehood. Underlying the grant is the assumption that the estates of the abolished Jesuit Order wrongfully escheated to the Crown, whereas there was in the assumption of the lands by the Crown neither legal irregularity, moral wrong, nor personal hardship. So little was this the case that no complaint was made at the time from any quarter. The society was abolished by France about the time of the Conquest, and was proved in the French courts to have been by its own constitution incompetent to hold estates of any kind, on which finding all its estates in France escheated to "His Most Christian Majesty," the old Bourbon King. It was afterwards abolished by the Pope, and being by its own constitution absolutely under his authority, could not and did not pretend to survive the Pope's decree. There was no Society of Jesus even pretending to be in existence. There being no owner for the estates, they naturally fell to the Crown, which maintained the former members of the suppressed order upon them during the rest of their lives. The law is, therefore, on at least three distinct grounds, unconstitutional. It might be added that the Jesuits are since the days of Queen Elizabeth for good reasons outlawed under the British flag. This outlawry does not, however, appear to have been insisted upon in the early history of British power in Canada.

THE POPE ENDOWED.

One of the most important documents in the Jesuits' estates question is a letter from the Hon. F. Langellier, M.P., to the Toronto *Globe*. It is written in an authoritative manner, and may be taken as presenting the views of the Quebec Government on this important question. He begins by asserting that "never were properties acquired in a more legitimate way" than those now in question. Mr. Langellier has evidently overlooked a large portion of the early history of this country or he would not have made such a statement. He cannot have forgotten that the French Crown, on one occasion, actually made the Jesuits disgorge lands which they had illegally possessed themselves of, with all the solemnities due they had received, and that the only plea made by the order was twenty-five years' possession, which was disallowed. There is no denying that much of their lands were obtained by falsehood and craft and the strong arm of power. His second and main point in the Local Government's contention is this:—"Under the rules of the Catholic Church every kind of ecclesiastical property belongs to the Church at large, represented by the Pope. The particular institution in possession of it only holds it, if I may use that expression, in trust for the Church. Therefore, if that institution disappears, by abolition or otherwise, the property reverts to its owner, viz., the Church; and the Pope, as its supreme head and ruler, can grant it to any other ecclesiastical institution, or to any 'other ecclesiastical institution, or to any 'same if it is re-established." This is set forward as the strongest contention by Mr. Langellier and all succeeding arguments hang on it. It is admitted on all hands that these lands were given to Canada by the Crown for educational purposes. Yet now four hundred thousand dollars of their value is transferred to the loving care of the Pope of Rome; of course, for educational purposes. Mr. Langellier has brought out into clear light the greatest danger of this whole Roman Catholic question—that all the immense property owned by the Roman Catholic Church in Quebec, by a clause which has in this monstrous Act been sanctioned as a principle of law, belongs to the Pope and is controlled at Rome on behalf, not of this country, but of the whole Roman Catholic Church throughout the world. This astounding fact is stated again and again in this remarkable letter. Here is one instance of how it is emphasized:—"Now, if you read these documents, what will you find? A discussion, followed by an argument between the Church and the State, the Church represented by the Pope and the State by the Legislature of Quebec. It is true that the deed of settlement is signed by Father Turgeon, procurator of the Jesuits here; but if you read the other documents, you will see that it is to the Pope, through his Secretary of the Propaganda, that Mr. Mercier writes first. The Pope empowers the Corporation of the Jesuits in the Province of Quebec to act for him, and the Jesuits delegate that power to Father Turgeon. Therefore Father Turgeon has been acting simply for and on behalf of the Pope." This declaration of the Pope's ownership of the property is not quite strong enough for Mr. Langellier, and he immediately proceeds to say:—"It is so true that it is with the Pope, as head of the church, that Mr. Mercier has been dealing, through Father Turgeon, that there is proof among the documents accompanying the act that His Holiness might have been represented by somebody else. On the 13th October, 1884, he had appointed Archbishop Taschereau to represent him. On the 7th May, 1887, he decided to reserve to himself directly the settlement of the question. On the 27th March, 1888, he empowered the Jesuits to settle it." But Mr. Langellier

is gradually approaching the climax. He continues:—"If, as I have just proved, the settlement of the question has taken place between the Pope and the Province of Quebec, there is nothing more blamable in having made it subject to the ratification of His Holiness than in having made it subject to the ratification of the Legislature of Quebec." This is quite plain. In fact, after reading Mr. Langellier's letter, it is difficult to say what right the Legislature of Quebec had to it at all. But he continues:—"On both sides it is simply meant that, as the question was very important, it was desirable that it should be ratified by the principals." This score of proprietorship by the Pope is still further accentuated under the next heading. Mr. Langellier says:—"It seems to be taken for granted that the four hundred thousand dollars are going to belong to the Jesuits, and that appears to be the sting *par excellence* of the settlement now so much discussed. This is another mistake. Under the rules above stated, the four hundred thousand dollars having been paid to the Pope, through his representatives, it will be for him to decide what particular ecclesiastical body in the Province of Quebec will get it. It may be that the Jesuits will have the whole of it. But it is just as possible that they may obtain nothing at all, or a portion only." And this is how these poor Jesuits, who did such noble deeds in the early settlement of Canada, and got their lands so honestly, are to be despoiled of what they rightfully own! Mr. Langellier ought to be ashamed to admit it. Here is another consideration. If the Legislature is morally bound to pay over to the Pope a part of the value of the Jesuits' estates, is he not equally morally bound to pay over the whole sum, with accrued interest, say, six million dollars, more or less. Is this sum to go to the Pope, too, out of the impoverished exchequer of Quebec?

SURRENDER OR APPEAL—WHICH?

The point has been reached when we must decide whether we are going to submit to the Jesuit bill or seek to have it set aside. That is a matter for the Dominion at large to consider. The allegation that the matter is a purely provincial one and affects Quebec alone, is a plea set up by professional politicians, who want the subject dropped. Is it a matter of purely local concern that an act has been placed upon the statute book which is inoperative until the agreement upon which it is based shall have been ratified by the Pope? Is it a matter of no consequence to the other provinces of the Dominion that a precedent be established that a grant of public money may be placed to the order of a foreign potentate? These are among the provisions of the bill, and it is vain to pretend they "only concern Quebec." The bill is no exceptional one; it cannot be said the like will be seen again, and, therefore, we may let it pass. The spirit of which it is the result has strengthened since it passed, as evidenced by almost daily incidents in the Legislature now in session in Quebec, where we see members tell, from their places, how they have consulted the Cardinal before introducing the measures in their hands, and have had Mr. Mercier's "official declaration" to the Protestant School Board of our city that he would permit no amendment to the Education Act that had not received the sanction of the Council of Public Instruction, which means, the Cardinal. If the Jesuit bill be allowed to stand, we shall have more like it. There are other orders thirsting for public money; there are others ready to trump up claims; there are departments of legislation beside the educational which it is in contemplation to place under the control of the dominant church. Already we see a priest installed as deputy Minister of Agriculture and Colonization, and the assault upon the integrity, not solely of our Eastern Townships, but of Ontario and New Brunswick, will be directed by men who hold themselves irresponsible to the Crown or the people, and sustained with public money. The Jesuit bill is no passing blow which will not be repeated. The assault is upon the constitution, and it is proper that it be met by constitutional weapons. With the wild talk which the bill has evoked we have not the slightest sympathy, and regard all threatening and blustering as an injury to a just cause. To say, as we are sorry too many in Ontario are saying, that the majority shall not be allowed to continue to rule in Quebec, is as absurd and subversive of constitutional government as the action of which we complain. We have no objection to the majority ruling in Quebec. Even to our hurt, we would not have it otherwise, for we perceive the danger of refusing to submit to the constitutional rule, that the will of the majority shall prevail. We are agreeable to that, provided the majority rule in accordance with the constitution. Our grievance is not that the majority rules, but that it rules in a manner unauthorized, nay, distinctly forbidden by the constitution. Let the majority respect the constitution and govern in accordance with it, and we will make no complaint. It is because the majority have overridden the constitution and brought us into a position which it was meant to preserve us from, that we rise to assert our rights. Our protest is not against French Canadian rule, but against being treated in a manner incompatible with the constitution. If they governed within the powers conferred by the act which brought the Quebec Legislature into existence, we would say nothing; when they go beyond their mandate and trample upon rights secured to us, we take our stand and seek a remedy. It is our duty, it is demanded by the instinct of self-preservation, that we compel the majority to return within the bars which they have leaped, and teach them, what they do not seem to understand, that their power is unquestioned only when exercised within the lines of the constitution. The Stamp Act case taught the Legislature a lesson as to the limit of their powers in levying taxes; there is crying need they now get one from the same court as to the rights of the minority. That the Legislature went beyond its powers in passing the Jesuit bill is self-evident. In the list of matters on which the Provincial Legislatures may make laws, we

defy anybody to point out, in the subjects enumerated, one that authorizes making compensation for estates escheated by the Imperial authorities. When the Quebec Legislature sat in judgment upon King George and decreed that his taking possession of the Jesuit estates was an act of confiscation, and voted four hundred thousand dollars to the Pope in reparation, it was as far outside its jurisdiction as if it had undertaken to revise the militia laws or amend the tariff. The subject of the Jesuit bill is *ultra vires* of any provincial legislature. So also are the provisions of the bill, the most glaring being that which ordains that, out of the public money of the Province four hundred thousand dollars shall be taken "as a special deposit," until the Pope has given notification of how he wishes the money distributed. The case resolves itself into two points: 1st, undertaking to legislate upon a subject beyond its powers; 2nd, making the Pope the arbitrator and dispenser of money voted from the public chest. On these grounds an appeal may be based, and it is for the people of the Dominion to decide whether such appeal shall be made; whether they will raise the requisite funds to carry it to the Privy Council and have the bill quashed, or tamely submit to such a daring and dangerous assault upon their constitutional rights. It is vain to look for help from the politicians. Liberal partisans will not interfere because the bill has their ally, Mercier, for its author. The whippersnappers among the Conservatives will not, for to do so would be to reflect upon Sir John for permitting his Attorney-General's report to pass. It is different with the rank and file of both Conservatives and Liberals, who are not disposed to sacrifice everything to party. When a crisis like the present has arisen, when it hangs in the balance whether the will of the people is to rule or that of a foreign court; whether the public money can be appropriated to purposes alien to our constitution; whether, in short, Quebec is to be a British province, or have fastened upon it the shackles of canon law, and be ruled by a power that is irresponsible either to the Crown or the people; calm, thinking men feel that they are face to face with a duty to be performed irrespective of party or social ties, and for which they and their children shall suffer should they fail to rise to the level of the occasion. We have nothing to do with blusters on this subject, we have nothing to do with those who seek to make political capital out of it, or with those who see in it an opportunity for venting sectarian hate. Our appeal is to those just men of solid judgment in every part of the Dominion who realize the gravity of the situation, and who seek to solve it on the basis of civil rights, believing that in so doing they will not only serve themselves but the French-Canadians, for if history teaches decisively on a single point, it is that happiness and prosperity are incompatible with the politico-ecclesiastical Government which it is being sought to establish. To these it advocates of liberty and true lovers of their fellow-men, we put the question, Shall we surrender or appeal?

A NOTED CAREER ENDED.

John Ericsson, engineer and physicist, whose long and pre-eminent useful life has been brought to a sudden close, was one of those men who are always far in advance of the rest of the world in thought, but who, as men of action, keep in close touch with it. He was of Swedish birth, and when but twenty-three years of age he had not only gained the rank of a Captain of Engineers in the Swedish army but had invented what he then called a flame engine, the germ of his successful heat engine. To press this invention upon the world he went to England, and subsequently threw up his commission to become an inventor. He competed with Stephenson for the prize offered by the Manchester Railway Company for the best locomotive, and would have won it had not the originality and speed of his engine frightened his judges, and had not Stephenson's engine proved superior in point of traction. He invented the first steam fire-engine, the exhaust draft for boilers proved the feasibility of driving a vessel with a screw propeller, and made many interesting discoveries as to the laws of heat during his stay in England. In 1839 he went to the United States, having been sorely wounded by the refusal of the British Admiralty to make use of his inventions, and in 1841 built for the United States Government the first of modern war steamers, the "Princeton." After completing this vessel he devoted himself anew to his calorific engine, and although he failed to displace the steam engine with it, he produced one of the best of domestic motors and proved the possibilities of his idea. It was when the civil war came that Ericsson made himself famous. He made a contract with the Government to furnish them with an ironclad ship, and within one hundred days he sent into battle the "Monitor," a "pill box on a raft," a craft which outraged every principle of marine architecture, and which, in the first duel between armor-clad ships the world began, proved that she was the most powerful ship afloat. It was not the revolving turret alone that made Ericsson's triumph as an engineer so complete. The English Government were, indeed, at work on a "cupola ship" while the "Monitor" was building. It was the general design of the ship, and her adaptation to the work she had to do. With the exception of improving the monitors until they were not only fighting craft, but fit to go to sea in, and the invention of the "Destroyer," a vessel which attacks her enemy under water, Mr. Ericsson's later years have been mainly devoted to science.

THE WORKINGMEN of Milan, who not long ago issued an appeal to their fellows the world over to protest against the condition of latent war which now prevails in Europe, may not have had any more right to speak for Italy than the three tailors of Tooley street to speak for the people of England, but the defeat of Crispi's attempt to increase the armament of Italy is a proof that the public opinion of that country was much more truthfully given voice to by the workingmen of Milan than by the Opportunist politician who ridiculed them because they declared war to be wrong. There is in Italy,

leaving aside the great mass of inert citizens, perhaps the strongest democratic party that exists in Europe. The influence of Mazzini has not entirely died out, and although the young Italy that he created has been temporarily satisfied with a constitutional monarchy much better suited to its existing conditions than a republic, and with a royal house loyal to the core to the constitution it had bestowed, by advised statesmen of the highest order entirely answerable to the will of the people, it still finds itself very remote from the ideal set before it by its prophets and heroes. The united Italy of to-day, with its great battle ships, its army raised by conscription, and its heavy taxes, is not the fulfilment of their dream. It was to be expected, therefore, that from Italy would come the first effective manifestations of popular indignation at the military tyranny which is now crushing the peoples of Europe, and it would not be surprising if Italy should lead the revolt of the people against war, the revolt which must come if they are to be saved from destruction.

THE ABDICATION OF MILAN OF SERBIA has long been looked for. Except for kingcraft, in which he is an adept, he long ago forfeited the respect of all mankind. His political policy, that of preventing the growth of Pan-Slavic ideas and sentiments and attaching Serbia to the Austro-German interests in order to checkmate Russian designs, was, on the whole, a good and wise one, and in carrying out this policy in the teeth of a strong Russian party backed up by Russian money, he displayed a great deal of ability and acuteness. An "old Parliamentary hand" could hardly have shown more tact and resource than he did a few months ago in the constitutional crisis which then occurred. He blamed his ignominious failure in war on the cowardice of his people, for which he had abundant reason, and they blamed their lack of patriotism on him. Utterly debased in private life, no one could esteem him, and, variable in his purposes, and false to his engagements, no one could trust him. The central powers, whose pliant tool he was, had to give up all confidence in him, and his own people have made it so plain that they did not want him that, given over to pleasure and nervous prostration, he has retired from the uneasy tenure of a crown which brought him no honor. With the abdication of King Milan Austria's influence in Serbia and the Balkans will be weakened, but the little kingdom is well within her grasp whenever she likes to seize it. That will not be until Russia makes a step toward Constantinople.

THE RAILWAY COMMISSION of the State of Massachusetts has presented a most elaborate report on the level crossing problem, as it exists in that State, to the Legislature. There are in the State two thousand two hundred level crossings, of which one thousand three hundred and ninety-three are entirely unprotected by either gates or flags, and only seven hundred and forty-eight crossings at which the rails cross the roadway at a different level. During the ten years ending with 1888, only seventy-five level crossings were abolished, and as one hundred and fifty-five new ones were constructed there was a loss, not a gain, during the decade. The commission are of the opinion that the level crossings are in every case a dangerous nuisance, and that legislative action is necessary to bring about their abolition. It would cost something like forty-eight millions to do this at one swoop, and this expenditure the commissioners are not prepared to advise. What they do advise is that, as a first step toward reform, the railway companies should be prevented from laying down new crossings on the level. The next step should be to divide the level crossings now existing into classes, and to deal with a certain number, say five percent yearly, until all have been abolished. The cost of this work should fall not upon the railways alone, but upon the railways and the townships, and a special tribunal should be appointed to decide the proportion to be paid by the two interested parties.

ARTICLE No. 27 of the Articles of Capitulation, in which the free exercise of the Roman Catholic religion was asked, concluded with this request, "that these people (Roman Catholics) shall be obliged by the English Government to pay to the priests the tithes and all the taxes they were used to pay under the Government of His Most Christian Majesty." This note was appended by General Amherst: "Granted as to the free exercise of their religion. The obligation of paying tithes to the priests will depend on the King's pleasure." The right to collect tithes was not given till the passage of the unconstitutional Quebec Act of 1774, some thirteen years later, which Act actually abrogated the right of habeas corpus and trial by jury in civil cases, in which and in other respects it has been amended. It is not impossible, therefore, that it may be amended in respect to the collection of tithes. A few years ago there was a society amongst the French-Canadians for this purpose which, however, died out after the Roman Catholic Church had assumed a new relation to the State by the action of the Ecumenical Council at Rome.

THE NATIONAL PROHIBITION PARTY of the United States have just held a convention at Louisville, Ky., attended by over 700 delegates, representing all parts of the country. Confidence in the ultimate outlawry of the rum traffic was manifested in every speech and discussion. Plans for thorough organization for the campaign of 1892 were adopted. The Chairman of the National Committee, Prof. Dickie, is a native of Ontario. The National Secretary, Mr. John Lloyd Thomas, is of Welsh birth. The Committee have national headquarters permanently established in New York, open daily. A national staff of one hundred lecturers is at the command of the organization. This timely example of the American Prohibitionists in preparing for the next national struggle should not be lost upon the Canadian temperance forces, and it is to be hoped that the provincial branches of the Dominion Alliance and other temperance organizations will work and plan equally with a view to the Federal elections, so that when the Do-

minion Council of the Alliance meets in September at Toronto the situation will be so grasped that Prohibition may be made the question of the hour in every constituency.

HERE IS A CURIOUS SCENE in the freest country in the world. As a funeral was just about to start from a Brooklyn door forty hackmen engaged for it refused to start till another hackman, not of their society, was dismissed, which, of course, had to be done. If a Czar an Irish squire had exorcised such a piece of tyranny over the free rights of men the American press would have handed it about as an exasperating instance of the way Old World populations are trampled upon, and would have hinted that it was unreasonable to expect that men so enslaved would not turn upon their tyrants with any means within their reach. Because it was done under command of a "walking delegate," and in the interests of a combine, it is felt that it must be humbly endured. We are inclined to think if this Brooklyn performance had been tried in an English town it would not have been repeated in the same generation.

MR. MERCIER is a magician of consummate skill. If we may judge from the cold blood expressions of their organs with regard to the Jesuit appropriation he seems to have enlisted the Ontario Liberals in the cause of the Jesuits. They do not openly espouse that cause, but they ask their readers to believe that it is nothing to them if the Province of Quebec put its neck, in defiance of all the principles for which their fathers struggled, under the yoke of these enemies of all civil government. Mr. Mercier has not brought one party but both into the toils. He has thrown his Jesuit endowment in the face of Sir John Macdonald, and dared him to veto it. And Sir John has hastened to declare his approval. Having thus secured both political parties Mr. Mercier places his thumb to his nose at the Protestant majorities. The Jesuits are very astute.

MR. MERCIER has declared war against the best people of all classes of society, of all creeds and of both races. Those who declare war in fits of rage are generally those who are first to sue for peace. War Mr. Mercier certainly has. He has called the liquor people to arms and put himself at their head. It appears that liquor makers and sellers, with all their following of the mob and rabble of the vicious and degraded, is the force which he chooses. The forces headed by the most prominent leaders in the churches, in commerce, in social and moral life are what he has placed himself in antagonism to. There can be but one end to such a conflict. Hitherto Mr. Mercier has kept his head and his temper; he appears now to have lost both. Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad.

MR. BENJAMIN HARRISON became the President of the United States under the shadow of an umbrella, and, judging from the tone of his inaugural address, he will not pass from beneath the shadow of an umbrella until he becomes plain Mr. Harrison again. He is said to be at heart a tariff reformer. If so, he finds it necessary to shade his views under the party umbrella, held for the moment apparently by Mr. Blaine. There is a tremendous difference between President Harrison's modest little essay on the Republican party and President Cleveland's analysis of the position and conditions of the country whose Chief Magistrate he was, and his courageous definitions of needed reforms; all the difference, in fact, that there is between progress and reaction.

THE MONTREAL BOARD OF TRADE in memorializing the Government for a law to send United States defaulters back to that country only speaks the universal wish that our country should not be peopled by wealthy thieves and that the importation of stolen wealth should be put a stop to. It is demoralizing even to saloons and gambling rooms to have these gentry walking in and out, with hands in pockets full of other people's money, while in respectable places, from which they cannot be excluded, they are a snare to the young Canadians whose society they court.

THE CONSERVATIVE MEMBER of the Imperial House of Commons who has obtained new light on the Home Rule question since the exposure of Pigottism and writes to the *Times* recommending what is equivalent to an arbitration between the Parnellites and the English Conservatives may, of course, be a phenomenon, but it is more than possible that he has only given voice to a feeling that for the moment possesses John Bull. It takes the bluff old gentleman a long time to discover that he has been kicking the wrong box, but when he does the boy runs great risk of being spoiled.

WE SINCERELY CONGRATULATE the *Mail* in being sued for libel by the Jesuits, if only the case is such as to allow of a full enquiry into the tenets of that order. It would be very easy showing from them that the testimony of a Jesuit in behalf of his order is utterly valueless, and it seems to us that whatever form the case may take, this circumstance, should any member of the society be put into the box, would open the way to a very considerable overhauling of their records and tenets.

THE GLEEFULNESS with which the French press rejoices in hauling people down from Toronto to be judged by Montreal juries has a reverse side in the intense hatred of everything belonging to Quebec which it cultivates in Ontario. There may be some "Nationalists" who may contemplate with pleasure anything which may tend to disunite Canada, but no true Canadian can.

SAUNDERSON ILL.

LONDON, March 9.—Major Sanderson, member of Parliament for Armagh and leader of the Ulster Orangemen, is in bad health and will shortly go to the south of France to recuperate. He will return after the Easter holidays.

and give her fasting one and one half pinte of raw linned oil and two ounces of turpentine. After this has operated give her one of the following powders night

and bicarbonate of soda, and two drachms of powdered gentian. Poultice the leg for two or three days, then apply a little zinc ointment twice daily.

SWOLLEN SHEATH—SHARP TEETH—PILES.
C. S. H.—O—1. I have a horse about eleven years

swelling up of the sheath. Have been doctoring him

3. Without effect. Driving reduces the severity of the blow, but even the most experienced men need fling! 4. Also have a pig four months old which has the piles. Please advise. Ans.—1. Examine the horse carefully, if it is not too far gone, it may be cured with soap and warm water. Feed him on bran mash for two days, then give him seven drachms of Baratocoe aloes, and one drachm of powder made into a ball with mild or soap. After the physic has worked, give him, night and morning, three drachms of powdered nitrate of potash in his feed. 2. If the sheath is much swollen and inflamed, wash it with warm water and salicylic acid. 3. See that the horse gets regular exercise. 2. They often do. 4. Give injection, bathe with tepid salt water, and press back his head on sloppy food.

★
LEGAL.
 ★

(ONTARIO.)
 FATHER AND SON.

J. W. SENE, FULTON, Ont.—Q.—1. A son leaves home before coming of age. After several years brings home a wife and family. Goes to work at his own will for his father. Not a partner in the business. Is given priority of 150 authority given him for doing any business. Works when he likes—goes when it pleases him. Is paid more than ordinary wages. If he dies, the father and son are equal in the estate. Can the father prevent him? 2. Has he any claim on personal or freehold property? 3. If any just claim, what percentage? Ans.—1. No. 2. No. 3. None.

★
A REAL ESTATE CLAIM.
 ★

A. S., Peterborough, Ont.—Q.—1. settled on 150 acres in the year 1846, and has had a son in the year 1873. Has held possession from that to this. They were three parties of us on the 300 acres. My deed covered the half of it more or less; the two other parties covered 10 acres each, and no more. There was an overplus between us in the middle of the concession of 1-4 acres. I bought the seven acres and held a separate deed and that along with my own. The dispute at this time is about the other seven acres. I had had possession of these seven acres since the year 1873 to date, and has had no claim. My lawyer tells me my claim is lost. Can I hold it over twenty years. My lawyer did inform me I bought by getting a quitclaim deed from the person I purchased it from. I was told that I was to get the deed for the other 100 acres more. The disputed piece of land is worth about \$600 per acre. You will oblige much by informing me what I can do. I have the advice of my lawyer, but I am not sure, and he has already given me an opinion. Such being the case we have only to recommend you to take also from that lawyer the advice you seek regarding your course of action.

★
A MORTGAGE SALE—A MORTGAGEE PROPOSING TO PURCHASE.
 ★

S. SCHREIBER, N. Carolina.—Q.—1. Would it be legal to foreclose a mortgage (i. e., to exercise the power of sale in it) by advertising the sale without having the ven-

For a full and complete description of this property and for full particulars of the sale, apply to the undersigned, or to the agent, at the residence of his agent: 2. Can a vendor legally buy in the property in his own name? Ans.—1. Yes. 2. No—nor can he through an agent.

ISSUING MARRIAGE LICENSES—AN AGREEMENT IN WRITING—IN INTEREST.

QUEENST., Ont.—Q.—1. If I am appointed issuer of marriage licenses at any place of residence, can I still issue licenses if I remove to another town, judicially connected with the same county? 2. Is an arrangement for sale of land duly signed and witnessed, but on which no money is paid, binding? 3. And can it be enforced in law if necessary? 4. If I should agree to pay 15 per cent on a small loan, and afterwards refuse, can I enforce payment for full rate, or only six per cent? 5. If I should agree to have a copy of your appointment before us in order to speak definitely. 2. Yes, for some purposes at all events. 3. Yes, if you can legally compel payment of the full 15 per cent.

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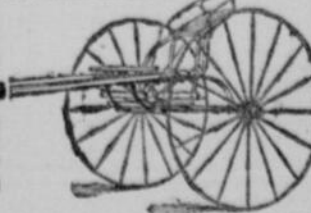
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