TELEGRAPHIC.

VIA MONTREAL LINE.

OFFICE—*Exchange Building, St. Sacrament St.*

Reported for THE MONTREAL GAZETTE.]

NEW YORK, April 26.

The Collins steamship sailed to-day at noon, with 158 passengers, and $200,000 in specie. Among the passengers was Mr. William Thackeray.

CINCINNATI, April 26.

The Chagrenville and Lexington Railroad, with all the appendages, was sold at Lexington on Tuesday, for $501,000. It was bought by Mr. Tyler, agent of the first bondholders.

NEW YORK MARKETS—April 26.

Flour 12½ lower, with a limited demand. Sales 4000 bbls at 6.62½ a 6.75 for common to extra State; $6.37½ a 6.87 for mixed to good Western. Canadina dull at $6.25 a 8.75.

Wheat heavy. Sales 4,500 bush at $1.60 for good red, $1.75 for white Southern.

Corn firm. Sales 30,000 bushels at 86c a 86c for distilling parcels, 89c a 91c for old prime.

Pork firmer. Sales 3,000 bbls at $16.37 for mess, $15.25 for prime.

Lard firm. Sales 100 bbls at 9½ a 10½c.

Ashes steady.

Stocks active and higher. Money easy, and freely offered at 6 a 7 per cent on call.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

By Telegraph.—[Via Montreal Line—Office in the Exchange Building, St. Sacrament Street.]

[*Reported for* "THE MONTREAL GAZETTE."]

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

TORONTO, April 23.

REPRESENTATION BY POPULATION.

Mr. Brown rose to move the resolution of which he had given notice on this subject. He spoke for more than an hour in support of it.

Mr. Cartier took objection to the motion on the ground that it had already been decided this Session in the course of the debate on the Address.

The Speaker sustained the objection, and after some discussion the subject was dropped.

Mr. Hope moved the following resolutions :—

1st. That the House is of opinion that the penalty of death is a relic of barbarism which ought no longer to be visited on the present state of society as being repugnant to the feelings of humanity.

2nd. That the penalty of death for all crimes for which it is now inflicted by the penal laws be, therefore, abolished in the Province of Canada.

Mr. Dunkin said, although he hoped the time would come when capital punishment would be looked upon as unnecessary, yet the public mind at the present time appeared to be in a different direction, and it was found absolutely necessary to keep up the old system. (hear, hear.) He did not think that the Committee should be chosen exclusively from amongst those who had promised a strong opinion in favor of its abolition. It should be composed of impartial gentlemen, and the House would, however, but if it was agreed to he would recommend the attention of the hon. gentlemen forming the Committee to a report that was made by Mr. Sullivan, some years ago in the Legislature of the State of New York, upon the practicability of doing away with capital punishment. That report had cited all the views *pro*, and *con*; and it urged the abolishment of punishment by death, in the strongest terms. There were several other reports also, which should come under the Committee's consideration.

Mr. Brown enquired if the hon. gentleman was not to allow the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the propriety of the abolition of private acts by death be carried or not.

Mr. Dunkin replied he left the affair with the House.

Mr. Badgley was quite sure that the hon. Attorney-General was correct, and felt it to be a question open to discussion. There were a great many of his (Mr. B's) hon. friends who held the same opinion, but some other hon. members thought differently, and he himself was not prepared to vote on the question.

Mr. Gun Sarve thought the motion was not put in the proper shape. The assent of the Government was not given to the principle of the resolution, and he would not vote for them himself. He suggested an alteration in the hon. mover.—That the House should appoint a Committee to whom the resolutions should be referred without committing the House to the principles contained in them.

Mr. Dunkin did not want now to commit himself to the resolutions.

Mr. Cameron hoped that the House would grant the committee. The House ought not now to adopt any course of reference to the principle that it was going to take any step by which it would appear that it was prepared to entertain a discussion upon unsettling the present mode of punishment by death where life is taken away.

Mr. Mackenzie was surprised at this stage of the world to hear hon. gentlemen get up and attempt to argue upon capital punishment as a subject. Could the investigation of this committee do any harm? He would like to see an able report from them. Solitary confinement was at great a punishment as death. It was not the fear of death which prevented crime. There were higher motives to be looked at.

Mr. J. S. Macdonald was convinced that the manner the punishment was taken away which is to free the man who commits murder, a premium was offered for the commission of that crime. Under the present system it was very difficult to get a man hanged in this country, even if he had murdered his fellow-creature in cold blood. The Executive in such cases were implored by petitions to spare the life of the criminal, and that being granted he was sent to the penitentiary, and eventually was pardoned. In some of the Western States they did away with capital punishment for some time, but afterwards were obliged to repeal the law prohibiting it. Now if the House had taken the step of doing away once till long ago, ministers would not be commanded. He would consider the state of society to be a most desperate one were we to take away the power of punishing a man by death for a most atrocious murder; and he would never be a party, in or out of the House, to advocate the principle of allowing men to murder in cold blood, and seek Executive shelter. Why was it that the Attorney General East should entertain even a doubt on the question of capital punishment?

Mr. Fraser wished to say that, while he agreed that it was inexpedient to abolish the punishment by death, he could only express his regret that the leader of the opposition should wish to prevent enquiry.

Mr. M. Foley did not think there were many in this House who went for the abolition of the death penalty. Still, as there might be several who should desire to see some modification of the law touching this matter, he would move in amendment that a Committee of this House be appointed to enquire into the propriety of modifying the law which provide for the infliction of capital punishment.

Mr. Cameron could not understand any utility in the amendment. Everybody had formed an opinion, and he was altogether opposed to the abolition of the death punishment. In proof of the impropriety of adopting such a change, he gave an account of a murder recently committed in Three Rivers, which was perpetrated by a notorious felon, while undergoing the penitentiary effect of a detention in the penitentiary.

Mr. Dunkin said that the fact cited by Mr. Turcotte might, if the subject were examined, be counterbalanced by many other facts, and it was well-known that crime in the old days, when capital punishment had been rendered light. The most practical men in England, and especially in France had often been opposed to the punishment, and even among those who inclined to severity as a means of suppressing crime, it was very doubtful whether death was the most severe punishment. Man had mounted the scaffold like heroes while they had shrunk from banishment like women. In allusion to a statement by Mr. Turcotte, that the criminal he had spoken of had been pardoned after the jury had gone to see the Vice-Roys stamp—of the stamp of the opposition, he had said this was too serious a question to be made one of party. It was one to be approached in the sight of God, as a question with respect to life which He gave, and which man could take away but not restore. His opinion in favor of the total abolition of death was somewhat shaken of late years. He did not desire to have the punishment preserved in law for crimes for which it never was in force.

Mr. Lemieux followed in favor of the abolition.

Hon. Mr. Cartier said that precedents had been quoted by friends of the abolition of the death penalty for capital crimes from the United States, but they must not forget that there were no precedents on the part of Michigan had tried this system, but they had been compelled to re-establish the penalty of death. There was the case also of California, which thought of abolishing the penalty when a Territory, but when it became a State it was compelled to do so. He was willing, however, to accede to the proposition now before the House.

On a division, the motion for reference was carried by 56 to 34

The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to carry out the provision of the motion :—Messrs Turcotte, Loranger, Attorney General McDonald, Hon. M. Cameron, Attorney General Drummond, Poulet and Papin.

Mr. McKenzie rose to make his promised motion on the report of the Union between Upper and Lower Canada. The Union was an act of bad pay. The two portions of the country were essentially different in origin, in language, in laws and religion. The Union took away the power possessed over the Seasons. Under the old system the House had a right to fix its own quorum. Now one-third of the present House could legislate on the most important measures—as in the sectarian clauses of the School Bill passed last session. He approved of Lord Durham's opinion, that the out-numbering of Upper Canada by French was a lesser evil than the way of representation based upon population. The principal French members from 1840 to 1844, said the Union Bill was planned for what they now opposed. The Inspector General was to add 25 per cent to the taxes in order to build a £30,000 castle at Quebec. Look at the sums of money the people of Upper Canada had to pay for the purpose of paying the debt of Lower Canada. We had run up $30,000,000 dollars of debt in three years, a debt equal to that of the English monarchy when Queen Anne took possession of the throne. Why should we have to pay $20,000,000 for a road to Portland, when we could get to New York or Boston without paying a penny. The Inspector General knew that there was no necessity for raising £190,000 for collecting the revenue. Then there were the leading piers below Quebec, and the only use of them was to pay a number of Frenchmen to look after them. Look at our Legislature before the union, the Legislature sat at 10 in the morning—now our legislation was of the midnight kind When he saw the Presbyterian Church in Quebec spattered with blood, when he heard of 13 unoffending Presbyterians in Upper Canada Church shot down in cold blood, when he saw the jeering and mockery with which the Corrigan murder was treated ever by the Judge on the Bench, he came to the conclusion that we must have a dissolution. Governor Head was of opinion that cries like hon. Mr McKenzie and the French were an inferior race—should not the superior race then be separated from the inferior. He did not like an amalgamation of black and white and green—French and Saxon, Indians and Negroes. He was willing to call every French Canadian a brother, but when twenty of their counties send in petitions begging for seed wheat to put into their miserable soil, at the same time that they claimed as many representatives, although Upper Canada had thirty thousand more inhabitants, such a system should be put a stop to. Our bench, our laws, everything was apparent. Last year the Parliament gave the priests $50,000 for sectarian colleges to teach man to hate man—that was another reason why he wanted to part company with them. Mr. McKenzie concluded by reading a speech delivered by Sir A. McNab in 1840, complaining that Upper Canada was suffering under the domination of French masters. He was glad to follow the lead and routine the sentiments of the late head of the Government in this instance. He went heartily for a dissolution of the Union and wished to send all the French members back to Quebec, and he would be most happy to ship along with them the Postmaster General and all his colleagues. He was told that a certain exalted personage had made a great speech to night at the St. George's dinner in favor of the Union and of his Excellency. (Order) Well, if anybody had given as strong arguments for the Union as he had given against the, people of Upper Canada might be misled, but he scarcely believed that such arguments could be produced.

Hon Mr. Cartier moved the previous question.

Without dividing, the House adjourned.

TORONTO, April 24.

REPEAL OF THE UNION

Mr. Felton, in reply to the hon. member for Haldimand, said that the resolutions passed by the Legislature of Upper Canada, respecting the Union were to this effect: That she wanted to relieve herself from financial embarrassment, and to be able to complete her public works. Our resolutions set forth that it was desirable that there should be an equal representation of both Provinces in the United Legislature. The hon. member had stated that Lower Canada was heavily in debt. Well it was not heavier in proportion to its wealth than Upper Canada, at the time of the Union. She had a population at that time of 465 357, and owed a sum of money which would exceed considerably £5 a-piece for every man, woman and child throughout her whole breadth, and her income was not sufficient to pay the interest on her debt. Now, Lower Canada was not only able to pay the whole debt but her by Upper Canada, but also the interest on it. The hon. member had pointed Lower Canada as being worse than the country inhabited by the Kamschatdale as if the people were a beggarly lot of fishermen, and that it possessed a meagre soil and could not support itself. It was strange, if this was the case, that Upper Canada from the time of the Union had been enabled to pay her debts, raise herself up and walk ahead among former years, and that this pol itical fraud Lower Canada was obliged to pay Upper Canada debt at the time and was now responsible to pay her share of two and a half million principle and interest. And then as to Lower Canada getting the whole of the Revenue. That was not able to dip her hands so deep into the public purse as Upper Canada, which gave up the customs and municipal loan funds; and Lower Canada has to pay the piper so far as the administration of justice was concerned. It was true that the expenses in Lower Canada are greater than those of Upper Canada. But for the support of agriculture the latter got the most benefits, and she stocked the Penitentiary better than the lower section did. The latter had the advantage of a population of 890,261, of native born, and exceeded that of Upper Canada by 343,000, according to the census; and the emigration had not continued to increase since 1851. An insuperable difficulty was offered now to the dissolving of the Union, for the debts of the Provinces must be split. Lower Canada received at this moment about one half of the whole customs and revenue, and altogether her credit was equal to that of Upper Canada. He believed the House would not entertain the motion. The whole of the arguments, both in favor of the Union and for the advocates with a view to the interests of the Province, but to get up an agitation, which might in some way benefit the hon. member for Haldimand. He trusted too much in the knowledge and political wisdom of the people of Upper Canada, to suppose that they would endorse many of the sentiments of that hon member

Mr. Hartman denied that the agitation for the dissolution of the Union had been got up by the member for Haldimand to make some profit out of it for himself, but whatever might be the profit, the member who had just sat down had gone far to strengthen the position taken up by the member for Haldimand, who argued last night that Upper Canada suffered by a connection with Lower Canada, and now the member for Richmond's argument, if it amounted to anything at all, went to show it suffered with its connection with Upper Canada. He agreed with the hon. member for Haldimand that the time had arrived when the Union should be dissolved. He believed if it were accomplished already all the good it could accomplish, while the evils that daily accrued from it were many and grievous—

Mr. Mackenzie said, that if in Lower Canada such justice was administered as had been in the case of the murder of Corrigan, he did not wonder that the member for Richmond could convict U. Canada with contributing more convicts to the Penitentiary; besides, U. Canada was far more populous. The hon. member had alluded to the revenue. That was, like the other revenue contributed about £150,000 to the Customs revenue at an expense of £4,000, while the whole of the Lower Canada ports, except Montreal, collected together only £87,000 at an expense of £15,000 for collection. When he first knew Lower Canada it had an economical Legislature under a man whom he admired (Mr. Papineau). A man who kept the priests in order, and as firm a friend of civil and religious liberty as was King William the 3rd. But, since the Union matters had gone on very differently. He wondered how much revenue that fine railway from Trois Pistoles was to yield. He would be surprised if it yielded enough to grease the wheels of the locomotives. The hon. member said that the Great Western had got £4,000,000 of our money. He did not know that, but he knew the other day it declared a dividend of 8 per cent. Who ever heard of a Lower Canada Railroad giving a dividend? What they paid it for he could not find out, unless it was with the public money. He looked upon Lower Canada as a partner that furnished no capital and no labor, and at the same time swallowed up the dividend. He wanted to cut the partnership, and if they would give him representation by population he would bring forward no more such motions. Things would then go on more smoothly. They could then make L. Canada contribute some, by taking all her nunneries and monasteries and selling them by auction, which would yield an income of six or seven millions.

Mr. Marchildon had always opposed the Union as inimical to the best interests of Lower and Upper Canada. He was satisfied that the two populations could never live together in harmony.

Mr. A. A. Dorion said that any one who would compare the recent declaration of the Attorney General East, that Lower Canada, if representation, by population, were forced upon her, must seek for a new state of political existence, with the grave warning demand in Upper Canada for representation by population, must see that the union could not remain long on its present footing. He would not like the hon. member for Haldimand on the one side, or the hon. member for Richmond on the other, state all the evils of both parties arising from the union. Both either condemned the union, but in the population of the two sections, in their habits, language, in everything that constituted nationality but he saw difficulties in the way of a proper understanding between the two sections. Not a single member of Upper Canada could dare go to his constituents without pledging himself to advocate representation by population as they saw at the late election for Peterboro, and Renfrew. Every one had pledged himself distinctly to it, and he could not complain of Upper Canada insisting on it. It would not be fair or just to Upper Canada when she should have a population half a million or three-quarters greater than Lower Canada, that she should not have representation based upon population. The difficulty stared them in the face, but the difficulty could not be much longer evaded by any attempts on the part of the administration to shirk it by moving the previous question as they did last year or by raising a point of order as they did last night. It was the duty of every one who had the interests of the country at heart to see whether there might not be some means by which the difficulty might be met. There was a strong feeling against representation by population in Lower Canada, the feeling being that if that were granted, their rights, their religious feelings, their institutions, would be jeopardised. It appeared to him that the difficulty about representation by population arose from the nature of the existing legislative Union. He thought there would be no difficulty in finding a plan by which the commercial interests of the country, our railway interests, our public works, our trade and navigation, would be left to be dealt with by a general legislature representing the whole Province according to population, while at the same time legislation as to education and matters of a local character might be left to local legislation. In that way their rights and prejudices would be more prudence even solicited in respect—of each section, and would be fully guaranteed. The difficulties resulting from the Union were growing instead of diminishing. Advantages had resulted from it; but they had been overrated. They had contracted a habit of extravagance—a habit of spending money, by the growth of our population, and the increase of our taxation, we had obtained such a revenue as had accustomed us to a profligacy, which had brought us almost to the to the brink of ruin. Our debt had increased—before the Union, with a revenue of £150,000, Lower Canada was able to make more public works in proportion than since the Union. From 1814 to 1827, with a revenue averaging from £100,000 to £125,000 they appropriated to public works above £36,000 a year; and to show the difference in the age—he might mention that, while the St. Lawrence Canals now yield only £110,000 a year, the small Lachine Canal alone, twenty years ago, was yielding £5000 a year. He regretted that the administration should systematically endeavour to put down every senility; every discussion which had for its object the ascertaining whether nothing could be done to relieve us of the difficulty of the present Legislative union would not satisfy for any length of time. He said there was a growing feeling in Upper Canada in favor of representation by population. Any one who would consult the Journals of 1852 and 53, would see that all the gentlemen now in the Treasury benches from Upper Canada had voted for that measure. He would ask the hon. gentlemen to look at the speeches then delivered, and at the articles in the newspaper, which was then edited by the Post Master General, and say whether it was possible to believe that Upper Canada would not insist upon having representation by population, and that in a very short time Lower Canada might be satisfied that at the next election there would not be a single candidate for an Upper Canada constituency, who would dare to say that he would oppose representation by population. He did not think that a Federal Union of the British American Provinces would be at present a desirable thing. The late Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada united, were sufficiently large, had a sufficiently numerous population to admit of a subdivision for local purposes, and a general Legislature to represent general interests. Under such a system he believed we would enjoy better harmony, and spend a great deal less money wastefully, than we do now. However a sum of money had been voted to one section of the Province, an equal sum had to be voted to the other whether it was wanted or not. Thus in the last resolutions which the House voted £5000 to pay jurors in Lower Canada, an equal amount had to be given to the Municipalities of Upper Canada, and when £50,000 was voted for the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure in L. C., a like amount had to be given for the Municipalities in Upper Canada. In this way we came to have a debt which was frightening every one. He regretted that the hon. member for Haldimand had brought up the question in the shape he had. It would have been much better for a Committee to discuss the whole subject, and hear the views of different members. In Upper Canada the feeling with a very large majority would be,—we must have representation by population, or a dissolution of the union. In Lower Canada the feeling with the majority would be for a dissolution of the union rather than yield representation by population. But although he believed the present Union could not last long, although he was against the existing order of things, he could not vote for the motion much less endorse the arguments on which the member for Haldimand had based it. If the present union continued to exist it could only be on the basis of representation by population. He considered it was the only just system. A federal union he considered best, but second to that and preferable to the present order of things, he would say representation by population, in that respect with that of Upper Canada at the time of the Union. She had a population at that time of 465 357, and owed a sum of money which would exceed considerably £5 a-piece for every man, woman and child throughout her whole breadth, and her income was not sufficient to pay the interest on her debt. 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The Montreal Gazette.

MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 28, 1856.

☞ *See First Page.*

THE IMPORT TRADE OF MONTREAL.—We publish on the first page to-day a table of the imports at this Port for the last quarter, which our readers will peruse with interest. We learn from it :—

That the total value of goods imported during the quarter ending April 5th, 1856, amounted	£ 425,970
Ditto, for the corresponding quarter of 1855	154,597
Increase	£ 271,373

This increase is very large: the ratio is more than two to one.

Duties collected in the last quarter	£ 44,644
Ditto in the corresponding quarter of '55.	28,476
Increase	£16,168

This increase of revenue is much greater than that of the whole Province, if a telegraphic statement we received from Toronto, and published on Saturday, is correct, as by it we were told the increase of revenue of the whole Province, during the last quarter, was only £4,752, —making the ratio of increase in favor of Montreal three-and-a-half to one.

THE LETTER OF MR. HOLMES ON THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY QUESTION.—We publish on the first page to-day, a letter of Mr. B. Holmes, addressed to the House of Assembly, on the Grand Trunk Railway troubles. The question is of the deepest moment to the country, and Mr. Holmes' position is such as to give him a title to be heard. We have not space at disposal, o crowded are our columns, to review his scheme, which has the merit of being a magnificent one. He proposes to obtain the Imperial Guarantee and borrow £5,000,000 at 3 per cent, buy in all the Provincial Railway Bonds extant, and release the Province from its indebtedness to all Railways, as the first step to take.—Now, without inquiring if the Imperial Guarantee could be obtained, or if the remainder of the scheme is feasible, we should like to be informed how the Provincial Bonds, now issued, could be called in? They command a high premium in the London market; they are held by hundreds of persons who have invested their money in them, and who what to keep them obtain 6 per cent interest; and the attempt to call them in in the manner proposed by Mr. Holmes, would very much increase the present high premium upon them. This we fear is, on the threshold, a fatal objection to the scheme.

NOTES FROM THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

Editorial Correspondence of the Montreal Gazette.

The Ministerial Crisis, and the Intrigues of Factions, &c.

TORONTO, 22nd April, 1856.

Last night we had another Ministerial crisis in the House on the occasion of the explanations of the new Ministerial arrangements. Before this reaches you, you will be put in possession of the debate on the subject, so that I need not go over that. With respect to the question of the position of Mr. Morrison accepting a place in the Cabinet without office, the letter of the law and English precedents clearly justify the course which has been adopted. That upon broad constitutional grounds there may not be some grounds to justify the objection taken by the opposition, I do not deny. In fact, I am inclined to believe that this is an exceptional state of things, the frequent repetition of which might lead to inconvenient results. The argument used by Mr. Brown, however, was of no value. The instance on which the debate turned went to shew that it had no force. He urged that the only control they had over members of the Government, the only mode of expelling them, was by the refusal to give them salaries. If that refusal would have any influence, how is it that a man accepts office without any salary at all? If he would take office without salary, it would have no effect to deprive him of one which he might take. Oh! but the withholding of salary or supply is an expression of want of confidence, we shall be told. Refuse the supplies, or express want of confidence, and no one doubts the present Ministry will bow to the decision of the country, and all resign—Mr. Morrison quite as soon as his colleagues. The outcry then on this point is pointless. The *Leader* of this morning goes back to the celebrated resolutions of 1841 as the basis of our constitutional rights, and quotes the following resolution, to shew that Mr. Morrison's position is an unconstitutional one :

"That in order to preserve, between the different Branches of the Provincial Parliament, that harmony which is essential to the peace, welfare and good government of the whole, the chief Advisers of the representative of the Sovereign, constituting a Provincial Administration under him, ought to be men possessed of the confidence of the Representative of the people; and it is necessary to declare that the Provincial Government will, on all occasions, be faithfully represented and steadily conducted."

It then goes on to quibble on the word Administration, and holds that Mr. Morrison is not one of an Administration, because he has no department to administer. This is the merest *jeu de mots*. What department did his predecessor in the Cabinet, Mr. Ross, administer? What department did formerly the President of the Committee of the Council administer? They merely held nominal portfolios, but devoted their energies to the general administration of the affairs of the Province. As for the appeal to his constituents, which it is contended Mr. Morrison should make, the law clearly does not require this, though, as a matter of principle, it were better made. The resolution cited above as containing the broad constitutional principle, says nothing of this appeal as a manifestation of confidence. It only requires that Ministers shall possess the confidence of the "representatives" of the people;—that, Mr. Morrison obtained last night, by a vote giving Ministers a majority of 28, in a House of 106. To avoid any hasty decision of the House on the subject of the appeal to the constituency, Attorney General Macdonald moved a resolution affirming the simple question of the legality of Mr. Morrison's position, which few had the hardihood to deny, and this being carried, put an end to the discussion. So much for the debate respecting the new Minister's position. But the position taken by the retiring Minister, and that of the member who assumed to be his spokesman in the Assembly, merit more extended comment.

Mr. Ross' own explanation of his course is now before the public. I do not care to stop to ponder and discuss each word of it. It will be better and a more satisfactory mode of dealing with the subject to go back over the history of the events which have led to this resignation in so far as the veil has been lifted and the public permitted to see the truth. Every one knows now that early in the session members of both wings of the Ministerial supporters became dissatisfied with Sir Allan MacNab's leadership; that they made their complaints heard; Sir Allan was ill, and it came to be believed that his retirement from the cares of public life was shortly inevitable. It was thought that a blot only was necessary to secure that result, and a choice of leaders was at all events necessary in case the present Premier went out. Accordingly meetings were held and delegations waited on Messrs. Macdonald and Spence assuring them that if changes such as had been spoken of out of doors took place, they would enjoy their confidence and a reconstruction with their assistance would have their active support. Mr. Macdonald, as Sir Allan's more immediate friend, answered in the way which good faith prompted. He could refuse to listen to any advice tendered by those political friends who had put him in office and maintained him there by their confidence and support; yet he could not consent to be a party to any scheme for his personal aggrandizement at the expence of the man whom he had accepted as his chief. From the first day of his entrance into the Ministry down to the present day his colleagues will, I am sure, bear witness to the fact that he has done nothing to deserve the censures which some members of the House have endeavoured to cast upon him. If any person conversant with all the circumstances of his position blame him at all, it is that he has not listened to the advice of friends who wished him to take steps to assume the first position in the Upper Canada section of the government. He owed a duty to his friends and to the country which many fels he ought not to sacrifice to the generous impulse of personal friendship, or to the too scrupulous sense of duty to a colleague. It was but natural that this impatience should be most strongly felt by the Reform supporters of the Ministry, or that those who represented them in the Cabinet should have felt inclined to be more impatient of their position than Mr. Macdonald. The Duval case came on. It seems now that Mr. Ross advised his colleagues to resign upon it, and desired to do so himself. This advice and desire of his is not to be regarded as dictated by the vote upon that subject solely, but it should be considered by the light of the previous conflict of opinions already alluded to. A dissolution of the Cabinet then might lead to a re-construction on a more satisfactory basis. That advice was, however, wisely overruled. I have already pointed out how disastrous an appeal to the country on such a subject would have proved. Mr. Ross acquiesced in the decision of his colleagues, and was bound constitutionally, as the Attorney General pointed out last night, to have ever thereafter held his peace. Then came the Grand Trunk letters, and the threatening aspect of affairs consequent upon them. Every one then felt, at once that Mr. Ross' position, as President of the road and one of the concoctors of the scheme, supposed to exercise an influence over the conduct of the government towards the Company, was one neither altogether pleasant for himself, nor (seeing the great unpopularity of the Company at the present juncture,) profitable to the Ministry. To resign upon it, would have been political destruction; to remain in, would involve difficulty in dealing with the claims of the Company. This sort of comment on the position was current in men's mouths. The *Leader*, whose proprietor is a director of the Company, came out in favor of extension of aid to the Company one day, and soon after began abusing the Inspector General for dealing unfairly with the Company. It echoed Mr. Galt's cry of the necessity for a more vigorous management of the finances. The sources of its inspiration were apparent There was a renewal of the caucusing. The *Leader* had offered to lead the way in a game of break up, and the Reform supporters of the Ministry were called together at the house of the proprietor, to be taught their lesson, and consult how best to follow out that policy which had been thus inaugurated. At that caucus, unlike the previous, it was resolved the deputation appointed should wait upon Mr. Ross as well as Messrs Spence and Macdonald. That was done, and next day Mr. Ross announces that he has serious thoughts of retirement. In two days more, spite of the remonstrances of his political friends—spite of the declaration of the deputation that waited on him that they had no intention of requesting him to resign—he quits the Cabinet. To justify that course, he prepared the letter which has since been given to the world. In that letter, the grounds alleged for the resignation, are the message of the deputation and the Duval case. Now, to an unprejudiced mind it would seem, after scanning narrowly the facts I have related, that Mr. Ross eagerly accepted the pretext offered by the message of the deputation to retire from the Cabinet. Those who suspect that the *Leader*, in adopting the course it did, acted upon his behalf, and partially and indirectly, if not wholly upon his inspiration—that it sought to oust Mr. Cayley because he had not sufficiently favored the Great Railway Company, (and rumor has asserted repeatedly that he was desirous of having Mr. Galt brought in in his place—a change which would have so much strengthened Grand Trunk Railway influence in the government of the country,) have not hesitated to state their conviction that the caucus was got up for the express purpose of affording Mr. Ross other grounds of resignation than those which were to be found in his intimate alliance with the Grand Trunk Railway Company. Thus it was he came to place a different construction upon the message of the deputation than his two colleagues, who were also addressed on that occasion,—thus it was he was more sensitive than they to the hint, that unless changes were effected Ministers might some day find themselves deserted by a portion of their following,—that he would not accept of the explanation offered, but sticking to his own interpretation of the original message, offered it as the ostensible ground for his resignation; but, as if feeling that that was after all insufficient, he referred to the position he had taken upon the Duval case, being then even, no doubt, seeking a pretext for ministerial changes. A determination on the part of the *Leader* to strengthen the Railway influence in this government or break it down altogether. Fortunately for the country it has, as yet, succeeded in neither of these darling projects. Mr. Jackson has consented to lead the new *Leader* party in the House, and he has found two followers in two members who have always been astride the fence, as often voting against as for Ministers—Mr. Patrick and Mr. Bell. Mr. Cameron and Mr. Rankin had already left the ranks to avenge their personal griefs. Ministers can spare all these, and yet be strong, if they will but pursue a policy as sound in other matters as with respect to the Grand Trunk Railway. Mr. Daly put the question to be proposed to the country very strongly last night. It was whether they were to have a Coalition Government or a Grand Trunk Government? I fancy the people would not be long in making choice, and that on the opposite side from Mr. Jackson. Rumour has assigned to this new leader ambitious designs of his own—and the Hamilton *Spectator* directly charged the *Leader* with a desire to put him into Mr. Cauchon's place—a charge which the *Leader* has never, so far as I know, denied. Now Mr. Jackson's antecedents have prejudiced many people against him. He was a Crown Lands Agent for some time, and evil tongues have not been wanting to allege that he was a land speculator as well, and at the same time. Indeed Mr. Turcotte alluded last night in the House to the fact that rumor had hinted at the transfer of the Crown Lands to a land speculator. It is not matter of wonder, then, that Mr. Jackson found so small a following in the House; but that the great body of Reformers on the Ministerial side chose to follow, instead, their long-tried and ever true-hearted friend, the member for Niagara. Even the members of the opposition could not withhold from him a tribute of respect, Mr. Brown, speaking in a highly complimentary manner of him. That he has judged wisely in not following the *Leader*, that he behaved honestly in advising Mr Ross not to resign—in remonstrating with him in the warmest terms against such a course, and then, when all failed, giving his his assistance to his remaining friends in the Cabinet,—no one but the prejudiced will deny. He rushed gallantly to the rescue when others were prepared to fly, and has earned the thanks of his party by doing so. The declaration of confidence in him by the House was a most flattering one. Of the three points of Mr. Jackson and the *Leader's* charter, he was prepared to accept but one, and was not prepared to do anything ungeneerous or unjust to obtain even that. These are, as I understand them now,—Sir Allan MacNab's retirement; a "vigorous" administration of our finances, with a view to urging on the Grand Trunk Railway and other public works; and a "vigorous" administration of the Crown Lands by Mr. Jackson. I mistake the temper of the people of Canada, if the mouthing sentences of this Canadian imitator in a small scale of the London *Times* will lead them off to follow any such follies as these. Talking of an imitation of the *Times*, it were well to remind our new-found Canadian Boanerges, when putting on the airs of the great *Times* of the old fable of that unfortunate crow, who, seeing an eagle carry off a lamb in his talons, pounced upon a ram himself, in imitation of the kingly bird; but instead of soaring up into the sky with his prey, he became intangled in the wool of the animal on which he was perched, and so fell a prey to those who guarded the flock—*verbum sap.* The *Times* may break down Ministers at will. We have no *Times* in Canada.

The following is the report of the Government Engineers on the Grand Trunk Railway :—

[Copy.]

TORONTO, 10th April, 1855.

SIR,—We have the honor to acquaint you for the information of His Excellency the Governor General, that on the 7th of last month we met at the office of the department of Public Works in this city in compliance with the request of the Commissioners that we should proceed without delay to enter upon the duties connected with the office to which His Excellency has been pleased to appoint us, involving a general examination of the line of the Grand Trunk Railway, in pursuance of the 4th sub section of the first clause of the statute 18 Vict. Cap. 174.

Having consulted and arranged with Mr. Killaly, as to the course to be adopted that would most facilitate the procuring of the necessary information, and acquiring the knowledge of the details, we adjourned to the office of the Contractors, where a room was at once placed at our command, for our meetings, and the plans, sections, specifications, monthly estimates, contracts and other documents, showing the state and progress of the work were unreservedly laid before us.

Knowing the desire of the government to have our report and estimate as soon as practicable, we have laboured assiduously, and are now enabled to submit the result of our examinations.

From the documents above adverted to and the data furnished us by the Chief Engineer of the Company, we proceeded in the first instance to form an estimate of the cost of completing, and equipping the line from this city to Brockville, being the portion to which our attention was more particularly directed by our letter of instructions from the Commissioners.

From these data, which give in detail the quantities of work of all classes, including stations and other buildings, remaining to be done on the first day of February last, calculated at liberal rates, it appears that the cost of completing the line from Toronto to Brockville exclusive of rolling stock and contingencies would amount to £363,644 currency, at that date.

Having concluded these calculations, our next step was to proceed to Montreal to inspect the rolling stock finished and in progress, and then to return along the line in order to judge from personal inspection of the character of the several works, and the manner in which they have been executed, and also by seeing the actual state of the excavations, embankments and other works, and comparing it with the sections furnished us, on which the estimate of completion is based to be enabled to determine how far they were safely to be relied on.

At Montreal we devoted three days to a careful inspection of the Depot grounds and buildings, which are constructed in a most creditable and substantial manner, and which, when fully completed will be found second to none that we have seen on this continent.

The several workshops are admirably provided, and every appliance is at hand to turn out a large amount of work, of the best description.

To the rolling stock we also gave the attention which so important a branch of Railway work demands; the result of our scrutiny was highly satisfactory both in regard to style of construction and the suitableness of the materials.

After taking leave to accept the am