

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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MEN, WOMEN, AND THINGS IN GENERAL.

The New Brunswick Legislature is a model of business capacity. It has this session dealt with a number of matters of importance, and has spent in its work only 40 days—about two-thirds of the time spent by the Ontario Legislature. Last year the New Brunswick Legislature got through in 32 days and the year before in 22. Had the Legislative Assembly of this Province applied itself to work from the beginning of the session as it did towards the close it would have got through in six weeks instead of eight.

The plea, of course, is that time must be given for notification of parties to private bill legislation. But that time can be shortened by requiring all applicants for private bills to have them printed when the House meets, and leaving them a year longer without the desired legislation if they fail to be ready. Why should the House wait on the convenience of people who can furnish no good reason for delay? If the Government would meet the House with their measures all in good shape, and if promoters of private bills were compelled to have them introduced within two days after the adoption of the address the sessions would be much shorter than they now are. The chief responsibility for their length must of course rest with the Government of the day.

President Cleveland has astonished the Republicans by re-appointing Mr. Pearson postmaster of the city of New York. He had proved himself to be a most competent officer, but when his place became vacant by lapse of time it was generally expected by the Republicans, and desired by the Democrats, that it should be given to a Democrat. By reinstating Mr. Pearson, the President has made it perfectly clear that he means to carry out civil service reform law in its spirit. Doubtless many outgoing postmasters will not be reinstated, but where they are not, it is safe to say that some good reason can be given for passing them by. If Mr. Cleveland continues as he has begun he will by the end of his third year have created a third party, made up of the best elements of both the Democratic and the Republican party, and comprising the majority of the whole people. It is refreshing in this age of partizanship to find a man high in station who is not deterred by the fear of unpopularity from doing his duty.

The Toronto Women's Medical College has now been in existence for two years, and the present indications are that it has come to stay. During the session just closed it had ten students, and the size of its constituency may be gathered from the fact that the winner of one of the scholarships was from Nova Scotia. The closing exercises this week were of a very interesting character. Speaker after speaker of the male sex got up to avow that whereas he was formerly prejudiced against the idea of women physicians his prejudices had been overcome, and the most cordial testimony borne by the members of the faculty of the College to the zeal, industry, and ability of the young women, who are taking the course. Fortunately for them, the College has for its Dean a gentleman, whose reputation is a guarantee that the work of the institution will not be

"scamped." Dr. Barrett is a good practical teacher, as well as an eminent physiologist. The College is fortunate, also, as other Toronto medical schools are, in its proximity to so excellent a hospital as the Toronto General Hospital is under the efficient management of Dr. O'Reilly. A good hospital is indispensable in medical education, and there are few better for this purpose than the one in Toronto.

It would be well worthy of the consideration of the faculty of the Toronto Women's Medical College whether special courses might not profitably be arranged for women who do not care to take the regular curriculum. There must be in this city many women who would like to make themselves acquainted, for instance, with the medical side of child-treatment, including diet; there are others who would like to learn what to do in the case of common accidents—as, for instance, the cutting of an artery, the swallowing of poison, &c. No minute study of anatomy would be necessary to enable them to master some simple and useful principle of surgery, nor would a minute knowledge of chemistry be necessary in order that they should master many useful principles in physiology. Women who can afford to do so might be willing to pay liberally for such courses of lectures, and in this way the College might add to its revenue as well as to its usefulness.

Everything at this writing indicates that there will be no general uprising of the Indians in the North-West, and if this should prove to be the case, the rebellion will be put down with comparative ease. Should things turn out differently, the situation would speedily become serious, if not critical, for the Dominion. Even as it is, the expense of quelling the riot will be very great, and at a time when the revenue is far from buoyant, this is of itself no trifling matter. Moreover a blow has been struck at the prosperity of the North-West, from which it will not soon recover. The mounted police will have to be increased in number. The Indians will prove each year more costly to maintain. Immigration will be checked, and business will be slow in recovering from the depression which will follow the present excitement. This is bad enough, but if the blood of the country's defenders is added, then public indignation is sure to be concentrated on some one, and that perhaps not the most culpable. The insurrection was clearly a preventable occurrence, and for it some one must be to blame. "Let no guilty man escape." The inquiry, after the restoration of peace, must be thorough and the punishment swift.

ONLOOKER.

Public Opinion.

THE COOPERS AND THE SCOTT ACT.

The coopers of Toronto are organizing to oppose the Scott Act, because they fear to lose their employment through the reduced demand for barrels. There was an argument against the Scott Act based on the idea that people will drink more whiskey when the sale of intoxicants is prohibited than they drink under the license system. But the coopers' argument will hardly stand investigation. It proceeds on the hypothesis that prohibition really prohibits; that the Scott Act will prevent the consumption of whiskey, and viewed in that light the prohibitionists will welcome it. Figure it out. A whiskey barrel is worth, say \$2, of which amount allow 50 cents for material and \$1.50 for labor. The barrel will hold 63 gallons of whiskey worth \$1.30 a gallon, of which the Government receives \$63, and the distiller \$18.90—say \$82 altogether. The saloon-keeper buys the whiskey and barrel for \$84. He measures the whiskey out to customers, giving about one-eighth of a pint for five cents. For the 5,040 horns the customers pay \$252, leaving \$168 to the dispenser for his services. Unless it can be shown that the whiskey is a food or a medicine, which increases the productive strength of its consumers, it is plain that there is no economy in taking \$252 from the earnings of the people in order that a cooper may get a job worth \$1.50. Nor is the dispensing of whiskey a profitable mode of collecting revenue for the Government or municipality. It is like burning down a barn to roast a pig. The moment the opponents of the Scott Act abandon the ground that prohibition does not prohibit, they throw away their case. They will find the coopers dangerous allies.—*Hamilton Times*.