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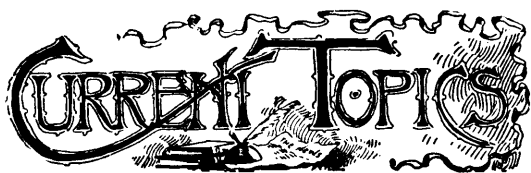
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Maritime Legislative Union.

To the great mass of the inhabitants of the Maritime Provinces the abolition of the present cumbrous and expensive provincial legislatures, and the establishment of one central government, would be an unmixed blessing. No solid argument can be raised against it; and yet, although much discussed, no definite action has been taken to bring it about; if but a moderate degree of energy and unanimity were shown in the matter, its accomplishment would be a matter of a very few years. The saving in expense, and consequent reduction in taxation, is obvious; not only would the outlay made from the provincial treasury be vastly reduced, but a saving would result to the Dominion exchequer in the lopping off of salaries paid to two of three lieutenant-governors; this may be but a small item, but it is one which, with many others alike unnecessary, aggregate to a considerable figure, which could well be put to more practical purposes. When we consider that the total population of the three provinces is barely a million; that three lieutenant-governors, twenty-six executive councillors, forty-seven legislative councillors, and one hundred and nine members of the legislative assemblies are considered necessary to concoct local legislation, apart entirely from matters of more general interest, attended to at Ottawa by another large body of Provincial representatives; and that the whole of the territory involved is contiguous, or almost so, and forms a block of no very great area, it appears to many that such a wealth of legislation might be well reduced to at least one-third of its present dimensions. The powers of provincial legislatures—as defined by the British North America Act—are purely local; and no such diversity exists between the residents of the three provinces as to render it at all probable that the true interests of any one section would suffer at the hands of the others. With the brilliant exhibition of the high form of statesmanship that has been given by Lower Province representatives in Parliament since Confeder-

ation, there is every reason to believe that the various questions submitted to a Maritime legislative union would be treated in a dispassionate manner, and with a view to the best interests of the community.

Slang in Canada.

The announcement of a volume purporting to be "a Glossary of Indian and Colonial Slang" naturally draws thought to Canadian offences in this direction. The author of the work in question omits British North America entirely from this range, probably on account of his lack of familiarity with the vernacular here. This is much to be regretted, as probably no work has ever yet appeared showing our lapses from orthodoxy in this matter; and, while thinking with good reason that the use of slang words and phrases is less common in Canada than in either India or Australia, it is still so prevalent as to require a strong remedy. Such a corrective would undoubtedly be a printed list of words in common use which are incorrect, and which should be discarded by all who wish to speak good English. There is need of such a publication. Who will supply it? Our proximity to the United States, where the use of slang has attained a degree of general use unapproached in any other country, has rendered it inevitable that a free indulgence in the habit should also exist on this side of the frontier; this has assumed such proportions as to demand serious attention. There is already far too general a repetition here of American words and phrases, and many persons who should know better seem to pride themselves on their use. Such a habit deserves strong condemnation, and, unless corrected, will result in the children, as they grow up, acquiring a foreign manner of speech.

An Unfounded Charge.

It is surprising that a man of MR. TARTE'S calibre should write such rubbish as appeared in *Le Canadien* of the 12th inst. By his general liberal tone on race questions, he has in the past earned a reputation for breadth of view unapproached by scarcely another French paper in the province; his remarks in question have therefore awakened a good deal of genuine surprise, and of sincere pity that he should have adopted the tone of papers like *La Patrie*, *L'Electeur*, &c. To say that a feeling of hatred against the French-Canadians exists in the hearts of the Canadian Tories is as absurd as it is false; from no party have our French-speaking brethren, as a class, obtained so many privileges, and by none to a greater degree than Conservatives have loyal and patriotic Canadians of Gallic descent been admired. Any ill-feeling that may exist is directed only against those who continually indulge in anti-English sentiments—who adopt a revolutionary and independent tone as offensive as it is silly—who are continually parading the "race and religion" cry, and ignoring the protection afforded both race and religion by Britain at the conquest—and who give undue prominence to a foreign flag (the tricolour) in preference to using and honouring the flag of Canada, our common country. Any irritation that English-Canadians may feel on the question of race is due to the efforts of many French-Canadians to extol their ancestry at the expense of their allegiance, by their apparent non-recognition of the fact that this is and will remain a British country; that each every soul born here is a British subject, and that the flag which should invariably fly at the post of

honour is that of this Dominion. Nothing is more galling to anyone who desires the real unity of all Canadians and a steady growth in patriotism than to see national holidays ignored, and foreign colours flown in preference to those of the nation.

Our Christmas Number.

To avoid any misunderstanding we beg to notify our subscribers that the Christmas number is an extra one, and is sent only when specially ordered. The price is fifty cents, and we would recommend that early orders be placed.

Literary and Personal Notes.

Lord and Lady Tennyson will pass the winter and spring at Farringford, in the Isle of Wight.

A new volume of Australian poetry entitled "In Middle Harbour and other verses," by Thomas Heney, has just been published in London.

Another book of Canadian travel is out, under the auspices of Bentley & Son; it is "My Canadian Leaves," by the Hon. Mrs. Richard Monck.

Mark Twain will shortly contribute to the *Illustrated London News* a series of letters based on some recent experiences in Continental travel.

Outing for November is an excellent number throughout. Among a variety of interesting articles is one on sport in Ontario by a well-known Canadian, Ed. W. Sandys, entitled "How I Lost My Thanksgiving Turkey."

The principles involved in the "The Training of Dogs" will be given by Dr. Wesley Mills, of Montreal, in the December *Popular Science Monthly*. The article will contain pictures of a number of champion hunting-dogs.

A German publishing house—Messrs. Kakula & Trubner, of Strasburg—will soon issue a calendar giving names of all the university professors and librarians in the world. It is intended to make the publication an annual one.

Frank A. Munsey, of New York, announces that *Munsey's Weekly* is changed to a monthly publication under the name of *Munsey's Magazine*. This is probably a wise departure. Mr. Munsey appears to be a man of bright ideas, but eccentric methods.

Walter Blackburn Harte will contribute an exhaustive account of the "Journalists and Journalism of Canada" to the December *New England Magazine*. Mr. Harte served a long apprenticeship in Canadian journalism and he knows whereof he writes. The article is to be finely illustrated.

Although rather late in the day we congratulate Mr. P. D. Ross in his assumption of the sole control of the *Ottawa Evening Journal*. The paper has been noted for its manliness of tone and perfect independence in matters of politics, features which have been Mr. Ross' aim to establish and deepen.

It is stated that in the later years of his life the *Century Magazine* offered Lowell \$1,000 each for as many essays as he would write for its columns, and that *Harper's Magazine* made him a proposition of \$5,000 for six essays. This shows the capacity of the great magazines to pay money, and their liberality in paying it. It also shows, in the opinion of a contemporary, the indifference of Lowell to money. Partly, perhaps, but we are inclined to think it shows also the fastidiousness of the man about his literary work, and his dislike of doing any such work to order. It was extremely difficult to satisfy Lowell himself with his own writings in his later life, and therefore he wrote little. His production was far less than that of Longfellow, Whittier and Holmes at the same age, though he was very fond of literary work in his youth.—*Boston Herald*.