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REV. A. A. CHERRIER,  
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**Northwest Review.**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1898.

**CURRENT COMMENT**

Rev. Father Jetté, from one of  
whose letters a friend has al-  
lowed us to translate some inter-  
esting extracts, is the only son of  
the present Lieutenant-Governor  
of Quebec.

Father Jetté's extraordinary  
ability and merit, coupled with  
his father's wide reputation and  
exalted position, have contribu-  
ted to make his choice of the  
Alaska mission one of the great-  
est sensations among French  
Canadians since young Taché's  
choice of the Red River mission  
in 1845. Speaking at the Jubilee  
banquet of St. Mary's College in  
Montreal last June, Archbishop  
Bruchesi alluded to Father  
Jetté's self-sacrificing departure  
as a proof that the age of heroism  
was not yet closed.

Father Jetté left Montreal on  
the 26th of May and arrived at  
St. Michaels, an island near the  
mouth of the Yukon, on the  
25th of June. He accompanied  
Very Rev. Father René, S. J., the  
Prefect Apostolic of Alaska, and  
two young Jesuit priests going  
out to join the Alaskan Mission.  
Three other Jesuit Fathers came  
down from their missionary posts  
and met the new arrivals at St.  
Michaels, where, for the first  
time in the history of the Alaskan  
Mission, seven priests were  
thus assembled in one little  
house. Fr. Jetté, who can turn  
his hand, head and heart to any-  
thing, constituted himself their  
cook during the few days of  
their happy sojourn together.

Early in July Father René  
started for Dawson City in order  
to make arrangements for hand-  
ing over the Jesuit estab-  
lishment there to the Oblate  
Fathers. Father Jetté remained  
at St. Michaels to superintend  
the putting together of a steam-  
boat, the pieces of which had  
been lately purchased in San  
Francisco and brought up for  
missionary journeys on the  
—Yukon.

The majority for Prohibition  
becomes beautifully less as the  
count becomes more accurate.  
And yet the fanatics still talk  
of coercing Quebec which has  
shown itself the bulwark of

sanity in the Dominion. Of  
course, as the Tablet predicted,  
"nothing will happen," Quebec  
will not be coerced, the entire  
Canadian vote being ridicu-  
lously small; but it may not be out  
of place to recall here a favorite  
argument of the late D'Alton  
McCarthy. When fighting the  
Jesuits Estates Bill he stoutly  
maintained that it was not becom-  
ing for one province to pass any  
law that antagonized the public  
opinion of a neighboring provin-  
ce. Questionable though this prin-  
ciple may be and subject as it is  
to considerable limitation as to  
the reasonableness of some opin-  
ions, it was nevertheless allowed  
to pass unchallenged by the en-  
tire Canadian House of Com-  
mons. Now apply this principle  
to the case of Quebec overwel-  
mingly opposed to Prohibition.  
Here we have not only neigh-  
boring but all other provinces  
uniting to interfere with the  
liberty and the financial interests  
of a sister province. This is ten  
times worse, even from D'Alton  
McCarthy's viewpoint, than the  
case of Quebec paying a just  
debt to the Jesuits. This pay-  
ment entailed no expenditure at  
all on the other provinces, it in-  
terfered in no way with their  
liberty; and yet Ontario howled.

Now some fanatics in Ontario  
and other provinces are clamor-  
ing for the coercion of Quebec,  
when this coercion, if it were  
possible, would mean financial  
disaster to a number of honest  
citizens in Quebec and would  
interfere with the rational  
liberty of a province which  
has proved that it can use that  
liberty much more wisely  
than any other province in  
Canada. In other words, Mistress  
Canada is to be asked to punish  
the only one of her children  
that has behaved himself  
because the six others cannot  
be trusted.

**LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR  
FORGET.**

No appointment made by the  
present Federal Government has  
won such universal approbation  
as that of Mr. A. E. Forget to be  
Lieutenant-Governor of the  
Northwest Territories. The  
worthy recipient of gubernatorial  
honors has been deluged  
with telegrams of congratulation  
from all parties and all points  
of the compass. His Excellency  
Lord Aberdeen wired that Mr.  
Forget "must" come to Rideau  
Hall to be sworn in there; but of  
course this "must" is affectionate  
and laudatory rather than impe-  
rative, and Mr. Forget, whose  
appointment has been made with  
the least possible delay after the  
demise of his predecessor, is too  
faithful a servant of the crown  
and people not to hasten to Reg-  
ina for the disposal of accumu-  
lated arrears in government busi-  
ness.

Says the Manitoba Free Press:—  
"The government have paid  
the people of the Northwest a  
graceful compliment in selecting  
for Lieutenant-Governor one of  
themselves. The appointment of  
Mr. A. E. Forget will be well  
received in the Territories, as  
it is in Winnipeg. Experience in  
administration, practical know-  
ledge of the condition of affairs  
in the Territories, and personal  
acquaintance with almost every  
official—all go towards equipping  
Mr. Forget for the duties of his  
important office. As the agent

of the Dominion government,  
practically the agent of the De-  
partment of the Interior, the au-  
thorities will be able to rely on  
Mr. Forget for intelligence of all  
kinds, and advice upon which  
they can, in any emergency,  
safely act."

This is good, as far as it goes,  
but for those who know Mr. For-  
get's incorruptible integrity,  
judicial temper, lucidity of mind  
and expression, perfect urbanity  
and devotion to duty, it looks like  
rather faint praise. He is a man  
whom all that have worked  
under or with, esteem, love and  
trust implicitly.

For the Catholic Church in  
the Northwest Territories it is a  
comfort to know that the re-  
presentative of the Crown will  
need no surgical operation to make  
him understand Catholic affairs.  
For the Catholics of Regina in  
particular the presence of His  
Honor and Mrs. Forget at Mass  
will be a stimulus and an ex-  
ample.

Both the Lieutenant-Governor  
and his amiable wife will do  
the honors of Government  
House with a fitness that has  
probably never been equalled  
and with a gracious ease that  
has certainly never been sur-  
passed.

**DRUMONT AND THE JESUITS.**

The following appeared in a  
cablegram dated London, Oct. 1,  
and published in the Winnipeg  
"Free Press" of Oct. 3:

"The interesting announce-  
ment is made that the Pope has  
ordered the papal nuncio at Paris  
to request the clergy and clerical  
organs to discontinue their op-  
position to a revision of the  
Dreyfus case. This is a blow for  
the Jesuits, who have been in-  
stigating the military authorities  
and who control the most viru-  
lent and most unscrupulous an-  
ti-revisionist newspaper, the  
Libre Parole."

That the Jesuits "have been  
instigating the military authori-  
ties", is an absurdly false asser-  
tion to any well informed Cath-  
olic who knows how preca-  
rious is their position in France  
just now. The other assertion,  
that they control the "Libre  
Parole," is still more ridiculous.  
On this point we fortunately  
have the explicit testimony of  
no less a person than the famous  
Edouard Drumont, editor of  
"La Libre Parole."

At the beginning of this year  
Mr. W. T. Stead, of the "Review  
of Reviews", commissioned M.  
Gribayédoff, the brilliant Ameri-  
can journalist and artist, to wait  
upon M. Drumont and obtain  
from him a direct and authentic  
statement of his views. From  
this interview, which took place  
at M. Drumont's house in Paris  
on January 23rd, 1898, we take  
this passage (English "Review of  
Reviews", Feb. 15, 1898, page  
137):

"I asked M. Drumont the con-  
cluding question on my list,  
which was whether he had any  
reply to make to the charge that  
his opposition to the Jews was  
based on religious grounds, and  
that his campaign was backed by  
the Ultramontanes, the Jesuits,  
and certain dignitaries of the  
Roman Catholic Church."

"Take this down word for  
word," he exclaimed, drawing  
himself up at full height. "These  
statements are pure inventions  
on the part of the Jews. I am a  
Christian and a Catholic, it is  
true. It is in my blood to be so, for

I was born a Catholic and am  
descended from Catholic stock.  
But what can this have to do  
with my anti-Semitic senti-  
ments, I ask you? Anti Semi-  
tism is an economic, not a reli-  
gious war. In our ranks you  
will find men of every religious  
belief, also Atheists and Agnos-  
tics. As to the Church dignita-  
ries or the Jesuits being interest-  
ed in our movement, I know  
absolutely nothing about that. I  
have no personal acquaintanceship,  
no relations with any card-  
inal, bishop or Jesuit. I never  
see any, and, in fact, the higher  
clergy are rather inimical to-  
wards the movement.....No,  
we are not clericals; and for my  
own part I would even hail the  
separation of Church and State  
as a salutary reform."

Here we have a solemn asse-  
veration from the editor himself  
of the paper which the Jesuits  
are accused of controlling, to the  
effect that not only he has no in-  
tercourse with the Jesuits but  
that they are positively opposed  
to his views. And he attaches so  
much importance to this dis-  
claimer that he makes Mr. Gri-  
bayédoff take it down word for  
word.

Moreover, it has long been a  
matter of public knowledge that  
Leo XIII. is strongly opposed to  
the violent and virulent views  
of "La Libre Parole," the editor  
of which, in this very interview,  
hails that Separation of Church  
and State which the Holy Fa-  
ther has expressly condemned.  
Thus Drumont fails even in  
soundness of Catholic principles  
and in loyalty to the Pope.  
How, then, could the Jesuits,  
who, whatever their supposed  
shortcomings, have never been  
accused, even by their bitterest  
enemies, provided those enemies  
were intelligent, of disloyalty to  
the Sovereign Pontiff, have aid-  
ed and abetted the errors of "La  
Libre Parole"?

**PLEBISCITE NOTES.**

The Reverend Mr. Mc Beth  
says he is perfectly satisfied with  
Manitoba's vote on the prohibi-  
tion question, in fact he was  
never before so proud of his na-  
tive province. This is either ar-  
rant humbug and, therefore, on  
a par with a great deal that has  
been said and done lately by  
those who have posed as the  
conscience-keepers of the coun-  
try, or else it simply proves that  
Manitoba has the honor of poss-  
essing the one true and original  
rival of Mark Tapley immortal-  
ised by Charles Dickens on ac-  
count of his singular capacity for  
being happy and contented only  
under the most depressing cir-  
cumstances. We incline to the  
former opinion, for we cannot  
conceive that any prohibition  
fanatic can really find consol-  
ation in the returns which have  
been received from the polls.  
Take for instance Winnipeg.  
Surely an election was not need-  
ed in this city to prove that the  
"temperance" societies are able  
to muster fifteen hundred good  
men and true, and yet if the vote  
proves anything that is all it  
shows, with the additional in-  
ference which may be drawn  
from the small poll that there  
are about six thousand other  
voters in this city who are quite  
satisfied with things as they are  
and desire no change. And  
as with Winnipeg so with  
the rest of the country,

the appeal of the preachers  
has, so far as the masses of  
the people are concerned, been  
treated with undisguised con-  
tempt, and the honest electorate  
have deliberately turned their  
backs on the fanatics. We repeat,  
therefore, that in expressing sat-  
isfaction at the result Mr. Mc-  
Beth must surely have been sim-  
ply attempting to make the  
best of a bad job, and we would  
advise him and his friends, if  
they really wish to serve the  
temperance cause, to drop their  
extreme methods and take up  
something which may reason-  
ably be expected to have practical  
results.

Speaking at a "mass" meeting  
held in the interests of Prohibi-  
tion last week, Mr. J. W. Sifton  
informed his hearers that he had  
brought back with him tidings  
which should encourage every  
worker in the west. It was the  
general impression in Manitoba,  
he said, that a vote adverse to  
Prohibition might be looked for  
in Quebec, but much to his sur-  
prise he had learned that Que-  
bec was the moderate drinking  
province of the Dominion, the  
consumption of liquor being far  
less there per capita than in any  
other province, and especially  
nothing like so great as that in  
Ontario. From this he argued  
that it might well be expected  
that Quebec would vote in  
favor of Prohibition. One of  
his hearers took exception to  
this argument and pointed out  
to some others in the crowd that  
the fact that Quebec is the mo-  
derate drinking Province of the  
Dominion was the very surest  
indication that the vote there  
would be against Prohibition,  
inasmuch as the people there  
might naturally be expected to  
say: "Why should we, the mo-  
derate drinking province of the  
Dominion, be deprived of that  
which we know how to use and  
not to abuse, for the sake of  
other provinces which make far  
greater pretensions but which it  
now appears, from what their  
friends say, need an act of  
Parliament to make them sober".  
Events have proved that Mr.  
Sifton was wrong and his critic  
was right. Let the preachers of  
the other provinces take some  
lessons from Quebec in this mat-  
ter and they will find that there  
are ways which they now know  
nothing about in which much  
more good may be accomplished  
in this world than will ever be  
effected by that favorite method  
of Protestantism acts of Parlia-  
ment.

The Prohibition plebiscite was  
of course one of those choice oc-  
casions which the Rev. Mr.  
Pedley could not pass unnoticed,  
so he preached his usual series  
of sermons which were regularly  
presented to the public on Mon-  
day morning in the columns of  
the daily press. We cannot im-  
agine why the papers give so  
much space as they do to this  
divine. If we were to ask them  
it would probably be answered  
that they report him because he  
deals more than others with  
public topics of the day, but  
whilst admitting that the  
preaching of the gospel appears  
to occupy but a short portion of  
the time which the pastor of the  
Congregational Church spends  
in his pulpit, still we would ven-  
ture the assertion that even if a  
man does talk on everyday sub-  
jects what he says is only inter-