

# The Colonist.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1891.

## NO BENEFIT.

The Organ of the opposition in its article "Vernon vs. The Times" tries to make its readers believe that the people of the province are under an obligation to it for having at considerable expense to itself criticised the "methods of the Lands and Works Department." We do not think that thoughtful persons are of the opinion that personal attacks on public men in any way help to improve or reform the administration of public affairs. On the contrary, the tendency of such attacks is to lower the tone of public discussion in the Legislature, in the press and on the platform, and to foster a spirit of partisanship in the country, one of the effects of which is to reduce to a minimum the wholesome influence of criticism on the acts of members of the Cabinet and of public officials. When strictures on the Government and its servants show both by their tone and their language that the writers of them are actuated by personal dislike and vindictiveness rather than by zeal for the public good, those who read them are apt to pay very little more attention to them than they do to the abuse of a bar-room bully or the scolding of a street corner brawler. It is indeed surprising to see how little weight the public come to attach to the diatribes of abusive editors and corner grocery politicians. If fierce editorials, bristling with grave charges and crammed with strong epithets, could injure the reputation of a public man, there is scarcely a leading politician in the country who would have a rag of reputation left.

The article for which the Times was called to account showed in almost every line that the writer wanted to "get even" with the Commissioner of Lands and Works. The very portrait with which it was illustrated showed clearly that the writer was far more desirous of wounding Mr. Vernon's self-esteem than he was of doing the public a service.

For our part, when we think of the little effect which the tirades of abuse have on the public mind, we are surprised that the jury assessed the damage to Mr. Vernon's reputation at so high a figure as four hundred and fifty dollars. If the counsel for the Times took the same line of defence as Sir John Macdonald did when he, at a very early stage of his career, consented to defend a newspaper proprietor who had published a scurrilous article calumniating a respectable member of society he would perhaps have been more successful than he was.

"Instead of justifying the libellous article (we quote from 'Anecdotal Life') he called witnesses to prove that little regard was paid to its denunciations, and that Mr. McKenzie was so well known and so universally esteemed, that no amount of abuse from such a source could injure his reputation. To one witness he would say 'Did you read the article in the Argus?' 'No, I only heard of it.' 'If you had read it, would you have believed it?' 'No.' 'Do you think you could be influenced by anything appearing in such a paper?' 'Certainly not.' And so on, all the witnesses being called to throw ridicule on the bare idea of a man so generally respected as Mr. McKenzie being injured in the general esteem by such means."

The result was that John A. got his client off scot free, and the libellous man was perfectly satisfied. The Times need not lay the flattering unction to its soul that it does the public a service by publishing such articles as "Facilitating Vernon." Newspapers which practice that style of journalism, do neither themselves nor the community in which they circulate any good. They are, on the contrary, centres of demoralization, and they hurt the cause which is so unfortunate as to have them for its advocates.

## PARLIAMENTARY INDEPENDENCE.

It is greatly to be regretted that, when Col. O'Brien spoke approvingly of the report on the Cochrane case, he was misled by members of his own party. There is altogether too little independent action in our Dominion Parliament. Almost every question is looked at from a party standpoint, and if a member finds that his conscience and his principles will not permit him to vote with those with whom he is usually politically associated, he is looked at askance, and his loyalty to the party is called in question. This is the case with both parties. Independence of thought and action is, where the independence does not follow the party lines, frowned upon and discouraged in this Dominion. It is very different in Great Britain. In the British Parliament the independence of individual members is respected. A man is not expected blindly to follow his leader on pain of being read out of his party—or the next thing to it. If he does not approve of some measure or of some act of the Government he does not hesitate to express his disapproval and to record his vote against it. He is thought none the less of by the members of his party for showing that he has a mind and a will of his own. Such treatment as Col. O'Brien received at the hands of his political associates would be regarded as outrageous in the Parliament of Great Britain. In fact, we question very much if it would be tolerated there by the men of any party.

In saying what he did of the course pursued by the Committee with respect to Mr. Cochrane, Col. O'Brien, we are quite convinced, gave expression to the views of nine-tenths of the intelligent men of the country. The conduct of that gentleman's election committee was mean in the extreme as well as scandalously and dangerously corrupt. We regard it as really a worse symptom of the political condition of the country than the bribery and other irregularities that have

disgraced some of the Departments in Ottawa, inasmuch as it showed that the "cancer of corruption" had spread its roots beyond the official circle into the very heart of at least one of the constituencies. There is hope for the country, if only a few officials in the capital are corrupt; but it is in a bad state, indeed, if the body of the people are tainted with political rottenness. It would be a dreadful thing if Canadian electors, generally, set a money value on their political privileges, and were ready to sell them to the highest bidder. The traffic in offices which was carried on in East Northumberland is one of the most dangerous forms of corruption, and Col. O'Brien only did his duty when he raised his voice against it, and tried to show Parliament that it was an offence which Canadians could not afford to treat with indulgence.

## PARTY PROSPECTS.

The British Liberals are counting their chickens before they are hatched. They confidently calculate on having a majority of at least one hundred after the next general election, whether it takes place in 1892 or 1893. It must be held before the expiration of the latter year. They have settled who shall be leader, and have formed their first ministry. Mr. Gladstone and Sir William Harcourt are to be for a time joint leaders, and when Mr. Gladstone retires, or dies Sir William is to take his place. Mr. Morley was the latter's only rival for the Premiership, but it was decided that he is not endowed with the qualities which a leader of the Liberal Party, to be successful, must possess. Lord Spencer is to be leader in the House of Lords, and Lord Rosebery is to be minister of foreign affairs. How the other offices are to be filled has not yet been divulged.

It appears, too, that the Liberals have some grounds for their confidence, for the August number of the Nineteenth Century contains an article on "The Next Parliament," by Edward Dicey, C.R., who, whatever he is, is certainly not a Gladstonian, in which he concedes that the Government makes what many will regard as a radical change in its policy, when the appeal to the people is made, the Liberals will come off victorious. He admits that the Liberal-Unionists deserve well of the country, but confesses that notwithstanding the goodness of their measures and the success of their policy, they have not succeeded in winning a majority of the people to their side. The record which the present Parliament has to show, he says, "is a fair—in many respects a brilliant—one" and then continues:—

"Under the present Ministry the reign of law and order has been re-established in Ireland. The prophecies of those who declared Ireland could never be pacified by coercion have been falsified by the events. Abroad, peace has been preserved, and the influence of the British Empire has, under Lord Salisbury's able statesmanship, been restored to its greatest pristine. At home there has been an abundant—in my judgment possibly a superabundant—amount of constructive legislation. The old system of county administration has been reorganized, if not reformed, and the management of the hands of the country gentlemen and entrusted to those of elected councils. The interest on the National Debt has been materially reduced by Mr. Cochrane's Conversion Scheme. The land question in Ireland has been settled, or, at any rate, thought to be settled, by an Act enabling tenants to become owners of the lands they occupy, on singularly easy terms. The interest on the National Debt has been materially reduced by Mr. Cochrane's Conversion Scheme. The land question in Ireland has been settled, or, at any rate, thought to be settled, by an Act enabling tenants to become owners of the lands they occupy, on singularly easy terms. The interest on the National Debt has been materially reduced by Mr. Cochrane's Conversion Scheme. The land question in Ireland has been settled, or, at any rate, thought to be settled, by an Act enabling tenants to become owners of the lands they occupy, on singularly easy terms."

One would think that, with such a record as this, Lord Salisbury and his colleagues need not fear to go to the country. But Mr. Dicey is of a different opinion. The majority of the voters, he believes, are blind to the good that the Liberal-Union Government has done. There is nothing attractive or striking in the work—good as it is—that it has performed, and though its leader is able and eloquent, he is not magnetic. If the Government wishes to become popular, and to obtain a majority at the next general election, it must do something more than, and something very different from, what it has already done. The work he cuts out for it, whether good or bad, is certainly not Conservative work, but he gives as his reason for advising the Government to undertake it, that, whether for good or for evil, the nation is on the democratic road, and that there is nothing for any Government to do, but to continue to walk on that road. He would have the Government, in the first place, before the dissolution, pass an Irish County Councils Act. He wants Lord Salisbury to reform the House of Lords, by the creation of a number of life peers, and by disqualifying the black shop of the hereditary peerage. He would retain the hereditary peerage, but he would add to the legislators by rights of birth, others, nominated on account of their merit, of one kind and another. He would set the Tories the task of altering the franchise in such a way that one man could have only one vote, and of redistributing the seats in the House of Commons on the principle of representation by population. And last, but not by any means least, he would set the Tories of Great Britain and Ireland to work to make a law establishing eight hours everywhere and in all occupations a day's work. The reviewer believes that if, during the next session of Parliament, Lord Salisbury's Government procures the passage of laws, making all these changes, he may go to the country with a reasonable expectation of

being returned by a good majority. When Lord Salisbury appeals to the people on such a platform as Mr. Dicey has erected for him, the people of the Three Kingdoms may begin to look out, not for a general election, but for the end of the world or, at any rate, the beginning of the millennium. Some of these changes are more radical than even the Radicals themselves would, a few years ago, have ventured to propose.

## THE SESSION.

The Dominion Legislature will be prorogued to-day. The session has been a remarkable one in many respects. The absence of the Old Chief created a void which was greatly felt, not by the men of his own party alone, but by the whole House of Commons. Sir John Macdonald had come to be looked upon as the Mentor of the House. There were many matters in which his opponents, as well as his friends, had become accustomed to look to him for guidance, and his buoyant spirit and cheerful manner gave life and animation to the debates. That he was every hour of every day missed by the men who had for so long been used to look to him for advice and encouragement can readily be imagined. The void which the death of Sir John Macdonald has made in the Legislature of the Dominion will continue to be felt for some time to come. It is not at all probable that Canada will see his like again for many a long day.

The session of 1891 will long be remembered as the scandalous session. The whole country was surprised and shocked at the revelations that were made. It was believed in a general way that politicians, and those who haunted the corridors of the House of Commons, were not at all too scrupulous, but many of the stories that were told, and the suspicions that found expression were regarded as the exaggerations of partisans who were bent on doing all they could to injure the reputation of their opponents. The people generally, therefore, did not believe a tithe of what was said to the discredit of leading politicians and Government officials. They had, indeed, something more than a suspicion that the men who gave the politicians such a very bad character did not themselves believe their own representations. But, when the charges were enquired into and revelations were made day after day, supported by the strongest evidence, honest Canadians of all parties were first indignant and afterwards disgusted. When they found that corruption had spread over so wide an area and so many that were, therefore, unsuspected of wrongdoing implicated, they began to suspect that the whole Government service is a mass of rottenness and that the number of honest men in office is very few indeed. There were indications that from the extreme of confidence, they were in danger of oscillating to the extreme of distrust. When, however, it was seen that the Administration was determined to punish all offenders and to take such measures as are calculated to cleanse the civil service and to make it a matter of great difficulty for contractors and others dealing with the Government to bribe officials and to defraud the public, the people refrained from condemning the men in office, and resolved to wait until they saw what action the Government would take, and how it would deal with those who had proved unfaithful to their trust. This is, as far as we can see, the present attitude of the people of the Dominion with respect to the Government and the men who give it their support. They are waiting and watching. They hold their judgment in suspense until they see what the men in power will do towards removing the reproach that has been brought upon the Dominion, and towards giving the people honest government.

## NEWSPAPER OMNISCIENCE.

The omniscience of American journalists, if it were real, would be miraculous. They know everything. They have no idea what doubt and uncertainty mean. The future is by them as easily read as is the past. They are quite familiar with what is going on in the most distant countries. The cabinets of kings have no secrets from them, and it is the easiest thing in the world for them to read the hearts and discern the intentions of ministers of state.

Negotiations for reciprocity between the United States and Canada are to be renewed on the 12th of October. Some of the newspaper men of the Great Republic know all about the whole question—how Canadians feel, and what they want, who are to be the negotiators and what their instructions are. They also know what the Government and the people of the United States think about closer trade relations with Canada, how the Canadian negotiators will be received, and what will be the result of the conference. The whole business is as clear to them as the sun at noonday. Canadians, says one American newspaper, want reciprocity with the United States, and believe that all they have to do is to ask for it to get it. They think that they have only to make their demands and the United States will hasten to concede to them every thing they want. In order to secure what can be so easily obtained the Canadian Government is going to send its best men to Washington. But this omniscient newspaper says, rather inconsistently, that Canadians "will await with much anxiety the result of the labors of their Commissioners."

The same authority represents the Americans as being most unwilling to listen to the Canadian proposals, that they have made up their minds that the profit of reciprocity is to be all on the side of the Canadians, and that what the Canadians will gain the Americans will lose. It declares that no inducement that Canada can offer will be sufficient to prevail upon the people of the United States to enter into

such a one-sided arrangement, and winds up by saying: "If Canada really wants commercial union, she can have it by consenting to political union first. All she will have to do is to ask admission into the Union and she can procure perfect and complete reciprocity." We are quite at a loss to see how political union can change the commercial aspect of the question of reciprocity. If reciprocity without political union is a disadvantage to the United States, if all the gain of free trade between the two countries is to be on the side of Canada, and if the United States is to sustain a loss corresponding with and proportionate to Canada's profit, we cannot comprehend why our American contemporaries are so willing that their country should take upon itself such a burden as, according to their own showing, Canada would be if she became an integral part of the United States. There is no alchemy in political union to transmute a trade loss in dollars and cents into a trade profit.

But American newspaper men do not know everything. If they did they would see that the more intimate the trade relations between two countries situated as Canada and the United States are, the better it is for both. It may appear to them strange that there are transactions in trade that are profitable to both the parties engaged in them—that the gain of one is not the loss of the other—but, strange as it is, it is nevertheless true. According to their own theory of reciprocity, the unrestricted trade that exists between the different states of the Union is unprofitable, and the best thing that the several states can do, is to leave off trading freely with each other, and to set about erecting trade barriers between each state and its neighbors on every side. This, the American journalist will say, is nonsense. And so it is. But it is the logical conclusion to which his own reasoning about reciprocity with Canada leads. Let him try and figure this out, and, if he has brains enough, he will see that he is right.

## AN INDIGNANT CRITIC.

The Argonaut is disgusted with the manner in which the United States Government treated Chili while its patriots were struggling against the usurpations of the Dictator Balmaceda, and it expresses its feeling in a usual trenchant style. It says:—

"There has been no mourning in the country over Balmaceda's defeat except perhaps, on the part of President Harrison, and his Cabinet. And even in that quarter no tears will be shed for his miserable end. The Administration has certainly reason to feel chagrined at the obliteration of the dictator and his cause. From the outbreak of the war, the treatment which the Congressional party received from the United States Government was not only in opposition to a universal popular sentiment, but shabby, unfriendly and hostile. The pursuit of the Ista and her capture in a Congressional port by threats of force was an incident that our hard-fighting patriots never forgot. The United States will not be apt to forget. We had a new marine toy called the Charleston to play with, and the eagerness the Government displayed in seeking to see how it would work was a sub-current in river and ocean. We had a new marine toy called the Charleston to play with, and the eagerness the Government displayed in seeking to see how it would work was a sub-current in river and ocean. We had a new marine toy called the Charleston to play with, and the eagerness the Government displayed in seeking to see how it would work was a sub-current in river and ocean."

We have earned the hatred and contempt of Chili for a generation to come, and lowered immensely the prestige on which we relied to make of ourselves a sort of arbitrator-general for the settlement of quarrels among the other republics of the hemisphere. If Chili were strong enough to indulge her feelings, she would undoubtedly open up a new and very profitable trade with us. It is gratifying to see that there is, at least, one American newspaper on the Pacific Coast that realizes the contemptible inconsistency part which the United States played during the struggle for liberty in Chili. It was not even an indifferent and apathetic spectator of that struggle. It took care, in a way that could not be mistaken, to show that its sympathies were with the destroyer of Chili's Constitution, and the robber of the liberty of the Chilean people.

## VIGOROUS OLD AGE.

Mr. Gladstone seems to be trying an experiment which is of interest to men everywhere. He appears to be bent on showing the world how long the human machine can be kept in good working order. Here he is, an old man of 82, immersed in business. He has on his aged, and one would think enfeebled, shoulders the burden of the leadership of a great party, in a great nation, at a very important crisis. The few men who reach his age are only too glad to rest in peace and quiet by the fireside, with faculties so weakened as to be unconscious of their own decay. But this tough old Briton is just setting out on a political tour, in which he will, no doubt, make speeches which even to deliver, would strain the energy of much younger men, who pride themselves on their vigor. While at Newcastle and other places in the North, he will instruct and stimulate men in the prime of life, who are looked upon in the several circles in which they move as more than commonly able and energetic. He did this in his famous Midlothian campaign, and there is no reason to believe that he will not do so on the tour in the North of England, which he is now making.

The vitality of this grand old man is truly wonderful. How has he managed to brim up so well and make it last so long? Of course he must have begun life with a splendid constitution. But he has been a great worker. He never seems to have spared himself. His life has been what many regard as a wearing one. He has had excitement, more than enough one would think, and his worries and annoyances must have been numberless. We, every day, hear of men whose lives have been plaid

and leisurely compared with that of Mr. Gladstone, giving way from over-work and over-excitement. Their nerves have not been able to stand the strain put upon them, their minds have given way and their bodies have broken down. But we find Mr. Gladstone, after a good deal more than half a century of hard and trying labor, sound and sane, doing the work of a strong man with spirit and alacrity. How has he managed to keep himself in good working trim so long, is a question which capable men will, by and by, endeavor to answer. Let us hope that they will find a solution of this problem which will be of use to mankind.

## STRANGE SEA STORIES.

Ships Tossed on Unruly Seas in Fine Weather—A Querry Current.

The one writer of sea stories who of all others has a regular constituency, so to speak, among the seafaring people; the one whose stories, no matter how strange or unusual they may be, are always read with attention and respect; the one, moreover, that is the most prolific of all sea writers, is the hydrographic officer at Washington. There are two things to be said of the stories which commend them to seafaring men; they are true and they are short. Besides that, some of them are exceedingly strange. If George W. Cable or some other writer would collect a few of the stories told by the hydrographic officer, he would find the task fascinating to himself and the result interesting to the reader.

The last publication of the Hydrographic Office—the periodical for September—is a fair sample of the story-telling ability of the hydrographer. It contains three strange stories, besides a host of tales of such thrilling interest in storm as would make a landman's hair stand on end were they related in graphic detail. On the 26th of August the British steamer Robert Harrowing, Capt. Hughson, was about 750 miles east of the Cape of Delaware. It is a quiet part of the sea, not at all specially subject to storms or unusual happenings such as one might look for in the Caribbean Sea, but at 10:30 o'clock that morning, although the wind was light, the sea suddenly became so much agitated that the waves poured over the ship's sides, filling her cabin completely full. Then the sea subsided again, and by one p.m. it was a dead flat under a calm.

The British ship Ben Cruick, Captain Roberts, had a similar experience on the 25th of April last. She was then in the Indian Ocean, about half way between Ceylon and Sumatra, when at 5:41 o'clock in the afternoon, without any previous warning, the ship began to tremble as if in collision with some hidden wreck, and so continued for 75 seconds. A heavy swell from the south-east arose, while there was an unusual convulsion of the water in addition to the swell. According to the hydrographer, both of these experiences were due to earthquakes.

Another strange story that is quite as remarkable as, though less striking than, the others was that related of the German steamer Scandia, Capt. Kopp, which at 8 o'clock on the morning of July 19, in latitude 44 deg. 05 min. north, and 48 deg. 33 min. west, encountered a strong current about a third of a mile wide, a sea river, running from north to south with such velocity that it was between Ceylon and Sumatra, when at 5:41 o'clock in the afternoon, without any previous warning, the ship began to tremble as if in collision with some hidden wreck, and so continued for 75 seconds. A heavy swell from the south-east arose, while there was an unusual convulsion of the water in addition to the swell. According to the hydrographer, both of these experiences were due to earthquakes.

Among the tales of perils by storms was that of the British steamer Tynedale, Capt. Love. She was in the Gulf of Lyons when a gale came on very suddenly, with such force that the vessel was driven to the south-west, and there rolled in the hurricane for two days wholly unmanageable. The case of each ship was as near hopeless as the other. The vessel was driven to the south-west, and there rolled in the hurricane for two days wholly unmanageable. The case of each ship was as near hopeless as the other. The vessel was driven to the south-west, and there rolled in the hurricane for two days wholly unmanageable.

The last strange story to be told is that of the great hurricane at Martinique. It was a terrible disaster, and the loss of life and property was enormous. The hurricane was driven to the south-west, and there rolled in the hurricane for two days wholly unmanageable. The case of each ship was as near hopeless as the other. The vessel was driven to the south-west, and there rolled in the hurricane for two days wholly unmanageable.

Reports received by telegraph state that a very severe hurricane was experienced in Martinique on the evening of August 18th, causing great destruction of life and property and the loss of numerous vessels. The official report is said to state that the loss of life was 878 and of property \$10,000,000. The date thus far received are, however, incomplete to allow of plotting the track of the hurricane with any certainty, although it appears to have moved about west north-west over San Domingo, and thence northward and eastward. It is desired to collect as complete information as possible, in order to publish a more complete account."

## MR. SPURGEON.

A Buffalo gentleman who heard Mr. Spurgeon preach last February expressed surprise that the latter did not break down long ago. Says he: "The evening that I went to hear him was wretchedly cold and damp, with a cutting wind. The tabernacle was not heated, except by the gas jets and the stoves. The great gathering was open, a flood of icy air poured in at all points, and from first to last of the service there was a constant chorus of coughs which I did not dare to interrupt. The great gathering was open, a flood of icy air poured in at all points, and from first to last of the service there was a constant chorus of coughs which I did not dare to interrupt. The great gathering was open, a flood of icy air poured in at all points, and from first to last of the service there was a constant chorus of coughs which I did not dare to interrupt."

## THE DARDANELLES SCARE.

Turkey Urged to Revive the Controversy Respecting England's Position in Egypt.

This Step Would Compel Britain to Take Part in the Eastern Question.

LONDON, Sept. 29.—The Dardanelles scare has at last died out, but it is now stated that the alleged Russo-French intrigue at Constantinople will undoubtedly force England into an uncomfortable position regarding the vacating of Egypt. A despatch, which gives much satisfaction at Berlin and Vienna, states that the Porte is being urged to revive the controversy respecting England's position in Egypt. An uneasy feeling has been created at the British Foreign Office by the news, but in view of the *entente* between Russia and France, it is well understood at both the latter places that such a step will again compel Britain to take an active part in the Eastern question. Russia, embroiled with England, would be unable to pursue the policy to Austrian interests, with which she is credited by the extremely alarmed politicians of Vienna, and the Central European powers might stand quietly by until they saw their way to interfere with Russia's policy. Since it has been determined that Egypt is a point at which the war scare is to come to a head, a reference to Egypt is detected in everything, and the Continental Powers now find in the rapid transportation of mail from Yokohama clear proof that Salisbury is uncertain of his position regarding the Suez canal, and has been engaged in developing the Western route in view of the day when he may find himself forced to vacate Egypt. The interest in the achievement lies almost entirely, from this point of view, in the significant relation which is thus made of the attitude of the British Foreign Office to the Egyptian incident, and the evident admission which it carries that England, in her heart of hearts, sees the eventual loss of her preponderance in the Mediterranean. Lord Salisbury is praised for his wise and provident line of action, and the interest has been shown by the British public in the new mail service is ascribed to a magnificent appreciation of his policy.

## THE CASE STATED.

Montreal Gazette, Sept. 10. To understand the situation at Quebec it is necessary to review the events that led up to the Lieutenant-Governor's demand for an explanation from his ministry and a commission of enquiry into all the acts connected with the division of the money granted by the Legislature to the Baie des Chaleurs railway from that enterprise, first to Paquet's pocket and then to the payment of obligations for which the Premier of Quebec was responsible. The first commission formed to construct the Baie des Chaleurs road found itself unable to execute the task. Negotiations were entered into for the formation of a new association to take over the work. This was the work of Mr. J. McDonald was at the head of one syndicate, and Mr. A. M. Thom was the chief representative of another. The rest of the story is tersely told in the Senate committee's report. In January last, Mr. C. N. Armstrong stated to Mr. Picaud that the arrangement with Mr. John J. McDonald appeared to have fallen through, and asked whether, if any other persons could be found to do the work, the Premier would be prepared to deal with them on the same terms. Mr. Armstrong asked Mr. Picaud on what terms the latter would obtain a settlement of the matter, and Mr. Picaud stated that he would obtain a settlement of \$100,000. It was, thereupon, the evidence shows, agreed between Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Picaud that the latter should make the arrangement for Mr. Armstrong, and that Mr. Picaud should be paid \$100,000. It was arranged that Mr. Picaud should see the Premier in regard to the matter. This he did on board a train bound for New York, there being present Messrs. Mercier, Charles Langelier and Shepley, all members of the Government. As a result, on the 17th April, Mr. Angus M. Thom submitted an offer to the Hon. Pierre Garneau, commissioner of public works, and the Premier, to complete the railway upon payment of the company of the subsidies granted by the Legislature. It provided that the legitimate and privileged claims then existing should be paid by a person appointed by the Government for that purpose. The offer was accepted, and Mr. J. Chrysostome Langelier was appointed commissioner to pay the recognized debts of the road, out of the proceeds of the subsidy already voted. On the 23rd April, Mr. Picaud was informed by the Hon. Mr. Garneau, and by Mr. Simon Leasage, the deputy commissioner of public works for the province, that these letters of credit had been issued, and he was by them directed to endorse over and pay the proceeds to Mr. Charles N. Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong, the report declares, had no claim on the Government in connection with this subsidy; the Government presumably knew this, and the money was paid to him only in consideration of his promise to pay and payment to Ernest Paquet of \$100,000 out of the said \$175,000. After some difficulty arrangements were made to obtain cash on the letters of credit, and on the 29th April, 1891, J. C. Langelier, C. N. Armstrong and Ernest Paquet met at the office of Mr. Paquet in Quebec. At this meeting J. C. Langelier drew five cheques of \$20,000 each, which Mr. Armstrong then and there endorsed over to Ernest Paquet and delivered to him. The proceeds of the \$75,000 letter of credit were paid by Mr. Langelier to certain former shareholders of the old company for that purpose. The rest of the business is concisely described in the Senate report.

"On the 6th May, 1891, Ernest Paquet discounted with La Banque du Peuple his note for \$20,000 endorsed by P. Valliere, dated July 18th, 1891, secured by one of the cheques for \$20,000 which were drawn by J. C. Langelier on the Union bank in favor of C. N. Armstrong. On the 6th day of May, 1891, Ernest Paquet, of the proceeds of such discount, paid a note of \$20,000, endorsed by Ernest Paquet, for \$150, and a note of one James Carrel for \$150 due on

the 8th May. On the 11th of May Ernest Paquet paid, out of such proceeds, a note of G. M. Dechene for \$150 and a note of J. Tarte for \$1,000. On the 16th of May, out of such proceeds, he paid \$7,000, on account of the purchase of a house fronting on the Dufferin terrace, Quebec.

"On 15th of May, Ernest Paquet discounted with La Banque Nationale his note for \$20,000 endorsed by P. Valliere, dated July 15th, 1891, secured by another of the five cheques for \$20,000 above mentioned, and on that day, out of the proceeds of such discount, paid a note of \$5,000, made by himself and endorsed by the Hon. C. A. P. Pelletier, Honore Mercier, Charles Langelier and Francois Langelier, which note fell due on the 18th May. On the same day, Ernest Paquet, on such proceeds, purchased and resold to the Hon. Honore Mercier, in Paris, a bill of exchange for 25,500 francs.

"The three remaining cheques for \$20,000 each were held by the Union bank on collection, on account of Ernest Paquet, until the 11th day of July, when they were paid, and the proceeds thereof placed to his credit. On that day Ernest Paquet, out of the proceeds of such three cheques, paid a house purchase note of \$20,000 to the Hon. Charles Langelier \$3,000. On the 8th of August, Ernest Paquet withdrew from the Union bank the sum of \$25,000."

Thus it is seen that a large sum of money obtained from the provincial treasury in the carrying out of a corrupt bargain, is to a large part of it, went, some directly to the Premier, some to retire notes for which he and another member of the Government were responsible, and some to pay for a house purchase by a corrupt bargain, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec asks him to explain and to assist in procuring an investigation under circumstances that will satisfy the province that it is a straightforward and honest transaction. The Lieutenant-Governor, in doing this, is guarding the province's honor, no less than the public's money.

## FIGHTING A MAD WOLF.

A Dangerous Guest Hidden in a New Mexican House.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. My room was at the end of a long hall. I was familiar with every crook and turn about the house and didn't need a light, so I passed into my room and closed the door. I observed to me that the door was ajar. I felt around in the dark and found a cigar and struck a match to light it. The next minute I think you could have knocked me down with a feather. Away down in the darkness under the bed I saw a shadowy outline like a burning coal just for that brief moment that the match was burning, and then it went out. Before I had time to think the creature was upon me and was springing for my throat, the most savage animal I had ever met. I felt rather than saw what it was. The creature was a wolf and it was mad.

Several animals afflicted with hydrophobia had been seen in the neighborhood during the past few months. There was no animal more formidable than a wolf when it has the rabie, and I knew with what I had to contend. I had to struggle with a large wolf shut in a dark room, and that the slightest wound from its sharp teeth meant sudden and horrible death to me. As it came to me first I threw out my hands, and by some good fortune happened to strike its neck. I got both my hands about its throat and managed to hold away from my face, but it was all that I could do. I was nervous, I suppose, and the wolf was far stronger than it would have been under ordinary circumstances. The froth was dripping from its mouth, and I saw my face as it struggled. It was the most desperate struggle of my life just to hold that wolf and keep it from my face and throat, at which it constantly leaped in the most furious and unrelenting way. From the moment it sprang at me first, I had been calling and shouting at the top of my voice. There was very little hope of doing any good with it, as the servants were too far away, my room was at the opposite side of the house from their quarters, but that was the only chance.

It was very evident that I couldn't let go my hold for an instant. It was just as evident that I couldn't hold it in this way long, and that unless help came after a while my strength would eventually give way and the wolf would tear my throat, as it was struggling then to do. And how long do you think I kept my hold? For two hours, or there, fighting for my life with the savage wolf and shouting for help most of the time. A hundred times I thought my strength was gone and that my arm would surely sink under powerless the wolf's momentum, yet I always managed to hold him off a little longer.

At last, just as I was in complete despair, one of the servants was aroused by my continual shouting, and came running with his gun in his hand. I managed to hold the wolf while he made a light, and then I held him while the man put the muzzle of his gun against the wolf's head and killed him as dead as a fector. And then went to my sister's room and had a spell of something that would have been hysterics if I had been a woman. Being a man it was nothing but a case of nervous prostration.

## SEPTEMBER DAYS.

From September's misty days,  
Growing on the furrowed ground;  
Come the cheery cricket's sound;  
While from twisted, growing trees  
Apples fall.

And the warm and windy winds,  
Turning white the roadside weeds,  
While the leaves are drawn by winds  
From the mellow, hazy air,  
Blue jays call.

Over the meadow's aftermath,  
By the August rains made green,  
Harvest spires with golden wheat  
Showing wet, like fresh-drawn root,  
Spread to dry.

Thriving from the summer's work,  
Golden-red September weaves,  
Biting in the drawn leaves,  
Sparrows trailing flight from trees  
Through the sky.

Butterflies with showy wings,  
Rising from the asters white,  
Look like petals to their light,  
Or as souls of summer flowers  
Passing by.

Nina Shaw, in Ladies' Home Journal.

## LOCAL.

Hereafter a full list of B. C. will be sent on Fridays only, order takes effect.

Adjourned. The committee on the establishment of a new meeting place for a week.

Standstill. So great was the last night, that it turned away, and refused to be a magnet.

To be late. The new steam lately built, will be this week. She will be in of her machinery after the launching towing purposes.

Every member. Every member of the Club is, weather permitted, to be at Trousseau avenue morning, for grounds, where Full uniform is required.

Buckled. "Boss" Ross passed through route for Montreal and boarded the train, but he did not enter the station, as he came forth.

A match was Deasy of this swept all the pe Saturday into his ng decided at grounds on Thursday.

The order. Chinese children, and while men ed from their day the order was a true son of Bri police court of Chinamen, and with hard labor.

Only T. The sealing sc reached port, Se any sealing in having been seen. The Teresa has the season, and hood of 900. T are now the only

Arrangements. The excursion to from this city, on under the patron and City Council, ing, including a will be only \$2. secured for the on Thursday of