

# THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

## THE MATTERS THAT ENGAGED THE CITY COUNCIL LAST NIGHT.

Communications and Petitions—A \$100,000 Water By-Law—The Contract for Freeman's Water Pumps—An Afternoon Session Moved for.

The city council met last night, Mayor McMurrich in the chair. There were present Aldermen Adams, Bell, Blevins, Boswell, Boustead, Carlyle, Clarke, Davies, DeLoe, Downey, Evans, Evans, G. M., Hall, Irwin, Kent, Low, Long, Maughan, Ryan, Scarth, Sheppard, Taylor, Trees, Turner.

Communications were read from John Livingstone, inviting the members of the council to visit the Dominion Bolt company's works in Sherburne street, and the site for their new works on the Hamber, on Wednesday afternoon next; from Ross, McDonald, Merritt & Co., solicitors, on behalf of Messrs. Bryce Bros., threatening proceedings against the city unless their account for grading Givens street be paid; from Ross & Roaf, solicitors, on behalf of E. McDonogh, claiming compensation for injuries sustained by her on Markham street; from John Oliver & Co., respecting the lease of certain property on Wellington street; from John H. Hargrave, claiming compensation for damage done to his horse, caused by a defective ventilator on Adelaide street; from Dr. Geo. Wright, asking for the position of delegate to the sanitary convention to be held at Ottawa; from John Galt, C. E., in which he said that the Wellington pump, now under construction in the department, were not giving the satisfaction that was guaranteed; from the street railway company against the city for damage done by the tracks on Yonge street; from James Everard, claiming \$60 damages for loss of his horse, which was caused by its falling into a hole on Bloor street on Saturday night, 21st November; from the city engineer, saying that the hydrants on the Esplanade which the G. T. R. company wanted removed should remain; from H. B. Hollibaugh, assistant engineer of the G. T. R. company, asking for the removal of certain hydrants on the north side of the Esplanade.

Petitions were read from—O. C. Gleason, praying for permission to erect a house on corporation land; from John Ayre and others, for the construction of a cedar block pavement on Parliament street, between Carlton and Wellesley; from James Catharine, praying for the opening of St. Catharines street to Brock street; from David McCann, that the duty be between \$200 and \$300, a number of the garments are anything but good fits. There is no chance to "fit on" a coat during its making. Others say they did not get the goods they wanted. City tailors don't think much of the Strickland dodge, and those who boast to be Torontoians first, last and always ought to support home manufactures instead of outsiders.

A Humbug Lottery Scheme.—We have received a communication from W. H. Stevens of 87 Grange avenue, enclosing a lottery scheme from Hamburg, Germany, which he recommends. As he does not mention any other city and throughout Canada have received the same circular, we wish to caution them against forwarding money to purchase a ticket. It may be a bona fide scheme—but the probabilities are that it is not. Even if it is there are ninety-four thousand chances of not winning a prize and only one chance of winning a ticket. It is to be hoped no Canadians will be duped by this scheme.

Commander J. B. Coghlan, U. S. N., stationed at Mare Island, Cal., writes that he was subject to the most painful attacks of rheumatism, which totally unfitted him for the responsible duties of his office. He mentions several other surgeons failed to afford the slightest relief, until Dr. Hoyle recommended St. Jacobs Oil, which effected a complete and wonderful cure.

The Premier's Health.—From the Kingston News. Sir John states that he never felt better in his life than he does at present, and that he has been enjoying good health for some time. His appearance endorses the statement.

Mrs. Keeville gives London Tally.—From the Toronto Advertiser. "Why did you select London as a retreat?" "Because my medical adviser, Dr. J. P. Ross of Chicago, recommended your Forest city as a remarkably pleasant and healthy city, and such I assure you I have found it since my arrival."

Is the Mall a Crank?—From the Cornwall Freeholder. The leading organ of the conservatives started the provincial campaign with the crank-like cry that "Mowat must go." The crank Guitzen did not reiterate his set phrases with more pertinacity or with less of good taste than did the Mail its insensate declaration, now that Mowat, then that "cranks," and then again that some one else "must go."

Prayers in High Schools.—A complaint was made that the headmaster of the Grilla high school did not commence the day's work with prayer. Mr. Ryerson, the gentleman in question, thereupon wrote to the board as follows: "As the school is mixed of different denominations, I think it better to omit the opening prayer with prayer to introduce a denominational (protestant) religious exercise, which might be offensive to some of the pupils or their parents. The same course is pursued in some other high schools—Elm and St. Catharines are examples. After a long debate the board passed a resolution that the school be not only opened but closed with prayer."

The Manitoba Charters.—From the Montreal Witness. Mr. Goldwin Smith, in discussing the terms of the contract with the Syndicate for the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway when it was before parliament, said that the greatest objection to the bargain was the clause granting a monopoly of the transportation trade of the country for a long period to the company, but this, said he, should not be regarded as an insuperable one, inasmuch as the Canadian north-west grew to feel the restraining bonds, they will rise with the strength of young giants and with that disregard for legal obligations which characterize young and vigorous western peoples, burst them asunder. This prediction appeared to us at that time to be a rather bold forecast, but we are glad to see that Mr. Goldwin Smith looked for, at the beginning of these troubles come.

# RELIGION AND THE BIBLE.

## Another letter from the Secular Society to the Board of Aldermen.

The secretary of the Toronto Secular Society has addressed a second open letter to Dr. Will on the subject of religion and the Bible, of which the following is a digest: The Rev. Dr. is accused of saying that "no man can give a single reason for denying the bible," and at the same time refusing to receive and criticize from his pulpit reasons which freethinkers are ever ready to give. He then turns the tables upon himself by stating in a letter of October 5 that this question has time and again been debated by men more learned than either he or the freethinkers of Toronto, yet the public retain their former opinion. In this he is mistaken again. Men and women may, after listening to a discussion, appear to be totally unimpressed either way. But seed is sown whose future growth is but a question of time. Freethinkers can afford to wait. It is not said and done his best, people will still have their own views, and after all are quite able to take care of themselves, the doctor unconsciously did himself an injustice. For why does he occupy Bond street pulpit if the people can take care of themselves? Has he so little faith in the power of the truths of scripture to reform man's nature as to state that, after all people will hold their own views.

Infidels have an abiding faith in the power of the truths they hold to regenerate mankind. A man has no ground for retaining an opinion if he is unable to refute opposite opinions. As Cicero says, he who knows only one side of the case knows little of the matter. The doctor is advised to fulfil the sum of the ten commandments only with respect to the last clause, viz: To love his neighbor as himself and show more leniency and respect for the opinions of those whose arguments he cannot or will not answer.

"A coward can be a hero at a distance; a promise of danger tests presence of mind." Presence of disease test the value of a curative. Kidney-Wort challenges this test always and everywhere, as far as all complaints of the bowels, liver and kidneys are concerned. It cures all, nor asks any odds.

Those Strickland Suits.—A number of our city swells are sporting round in their new London suits just sent over by Strickland, whose representative went out here a few weeks ago taking orders and measures. On one box of these goods passed through the custom house on Wednesday last, the duty was between \$200 and \$300, a number of the garments are anything but good fits. There is no chance to "fit on" a coat during its making. Others say they did not get the goods they wanted. City tailors don't think much of the Strickland dodge, and those who boast to be Torontoians first, last and always ought to support home manufactures instead of outsiders.

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# CIGAR MAKING.

## Something about the Smoking-Tobacco—A Visit to the Leading Cigar Factory of the Dominion.

From the Montreal Gazette. "He who does not smoke," says Lord Lytton, "has either no great griefs or refuseth himself the softest consolation next to that which comes from heaven." "What softer than woman," whispers the poet, "is the young man, woman half the sorrows which she bestows the privilege to soothe. Woman consoles us, it is true, while we are young and handsome; when we are old and ugly woman snubs and scolds us. On the whole then, woman in this case, the weed in that, Jupiter hang out thy balance and weigh them both, and if thou give the preference woman all I can say is, the next time Juno ruffles thee, O Jupiter, try the weed."

Lord Lytton, no doubt, wrote this praise of tobacco when the young man, woman was merely set forth in the strongest light the advantages of a quiet pipe or a fragrant cigar as a mental alternative, and as David could reach no higher flight in his attempts to secure an imagination of the depth and purity of Jonathan's affection than to say that it surpassed the love of woman, so the noble novelist could pronounce no greater eulogy on the weed which he never met his fabled spirit than to set its worth above that of man's best comforter. It is a compliment which the gallant smoker, without hesitating a moment, will accept thoroughly understood. He also knows the comfort that may be procured from a smoke. It is, indeed, no ordinary ill of mind or body which the present age will not, to some degree, alleviate. Tobacco as an anodyne has, moreover, the rare quality of universal fitness. It suits the prince and the peasant, the soldier and the laborer, the doctor and the patient. It is adapted to seasons of joy as well as of sorrow, to solitude as well as social intercourse. It has brought to the wanderer who never met his fabled thoughts of home and cherished forms, inspired his heart with hope and given strength to his weary limbs. The student finds in it an aid to calm reflection, it quickens the man of action to the execution of his formed purpose, it gives utterance to the gossiping group, and it is a tonic between men who never met before. Oblige me with a light! has become the initiation of many a life-long friendship.

Thoughts such as these occurred to the mind of the writer as, in company with the courteous senior partner, he recently went over the celebrated cigar factory of MESSRS. DAVIS & SON, on McGill street, the most extensive and complete of its kind in the Dominion, and the home of the "Cable," of which we speak first as being the cigar which first made the name of the factory famous. The foundation of a trade which includes, in addition to it, brands now almost as universally popular and as widely known. First a word or two concerning the building, which is a fine specimen of the architecture of the western best one of the first profits of the growth and extent of our native industries. The factory is situated at the corner of McGill and Wellington streets, is constructed of red brick with stone dressings, is seven stories in height, and is of an eminently substantial character. But why weary the reader with a description of a building so well known as the widespread lithograph plates which one may see in every smoking car on every railway in Canada have made the name of the factory famous. The first floor is occupied in the natural course of progress is the ground floor, whereupon are situated the handsome and commodious general offices, and the storerooms, which are furnished with every requisite for business use, the desks and tables, we may observe, being from the firm's own box factory, and most creditably made. The work done there, the storerooms, which, as we have said, occupy the rear portion of this flat, are devoted to the storage of leaf tobacco and cigars. Both necessarily have on hand large quantities of goods there is ample accommodation. Before ascending to the manufacturing rooms a descent to the basement floor may be made. This floor is occupied by a named a basement, inasmuch as it is level with the sidewalk, roomy, light and airy. Herein are situated the dining rooms, with their work, and most interesting in the progress of the leaf as it passes through the skillful fingers of these girls and women, some of the latter of whom have been in Messrs. Davis & Son's employ for many a year. Turning from the contemplation of this part of the work, and passing through an arched doorway into another part of the factory, we are struck by the manufacture of the smoking weed, and one more advanced. Here we find some one hundred and fifty skilled men, mostly from the cigar-makers union, engaged in forming the sheet, rolling, packing and covering it with the wrapper, the operations being performed with an amount of expedition that is truly marvelous, when one takes into consideration the vast quantities to be gone through, but then the men's workmen are all thoroughly skilled. Taking again the downward path but only for another flight of stairs, we arrive at a flat where the medium grades are made. On this flat most of the new somewhat of a "cigar" is made. However, we return to the main floor, and see the cigars in this manner, and no other treatment has been given to them. The application of the remedy is made in the house, and the present

and packing are done. Here the various colors, the "Colombians," "Mudros," "Oceanos," etc., are determined and packed accordingly. Here too the "Cables" are stamped by an ingenious process, and here also these cigars which have paper labels encircling them are arranged in that attractive form in which they meet the eye. The "Seneca" is opened. Here again hundreds of thousands of cigarettes are put by the fingers of half a hundred young women, who with this we have reached the last stage in the manufacture of the cigar which not only needs to be sold and smoked, but which will quickly occur, to complete its history. Before we reach the object we may remark, though to do so is almost superfluous to the utmost delicacy and order which marks Messrs. Davis & Son in all its various departments, as "some one has put it, so are these cigar factories and cigar factories. It is only out of such a class as that, of which we speak, that we can expect to get a cigar which will not, to some degree, alleviate. Tobacco as an anodyne has, moreover, the rare quality of universal fitness. It suits the prince and the peasant, the soldier and the laborer, the doctor and the patient. It is adapted to seasons of joy as well as of sorrow, to solitude as well as social intercourse. It has brought to the wanderer who never met his fabled thoughts of home and cherished forms, inspired his heart with hope and given strength to his weary limbs. The student finds in it an aid to calm reflection, it quickens the man of action to the execution of his formed purpose, it gives utterance to the gossiping group, and it is a tonic between men who never met before. Oblige me with a light! has become the initiation of many a life-long friendship.

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