

HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS.

The West End and Particularly St. Ann's Ward May Suffer.

The Present Outlook Seems to Favor Extension in the Eastern Part of the City—A Note of Warning to Residents of Montreal Centre.

There has been a great deal of discussion in the press, particularly of late, about the contemplated improvements of the harbor and the carrying out in a modified degree of Mr. Tarte's Plan. No doubt the Plan amended or otherwise, is good, but the amount of good it contains must be judged by the practical effect it will have on the city generally. If carried out the proposed improvement will cause the expenditure of a vast amount of money and will particularly benefit that particular section in which the grand bulk of the work is done. Now, so far as the intentions of the Government have been developed, the idea is to spend a large amount in furnishing increased harbor facilities in the east end, in the neighborhood of Maisonneuve. There is not a citizen of Montreal but would be delighted to see every section of the city benefited by public works, but there are none so slow witted as to applaud the building up of one district of Montreal at the expense of another.

The situation, in a word, simply amounts to this: The adoption of the Tarte Plan, modified or in its entirety, means that the western portion of the city is to be practically destroyed in order to build up the eastern section. This is no sectional cry. It is purely a matter of common sense. Build up big docks, big receiving basins, etc., at Maisonneuve or Hochelaga and the shipping industries which now contribute so largely to the prosperity of St. Ann's ward and the other river divisions of the city will take flight to the more commodious quarters fitted up for them in the east end.

What is desired to be pointed out in this, that the Government, in adopting Plan No. 6, would be practically killing the prosperity of the West End, or at least retarding its growth for a space. The vested rights of the citizens interested in this, the most important part of the city of Montreal, are not to be jeopardized for the sake of an experiment and one which previous experience shows to be fallacious in principle and utterly opposed to practicability. If the natural course of events had intended the harbor of Montreal where it is now proposed to place it, then it would be so placed, but the undoubted western trend of everything so far as Montreal's commerce is concerned, has made itself too plainly manifest in the history of the growth of the city to permit of any unwarrantable interference with it.

If the Government, however, is pledged to the lines of Mr. Tarte's Plan, and that the eastern end of the harbor is to be improved, then let it not also neglect the western end. Here it may be said the whole shipping of Montreal is concentrated. From Jacques Cartier Square to Black's Bridge is one mass of shipping, while below that point or at least east of Bonsecours Market all that can be seen are a few tramp steamers and woodcows. Without for a moment deprecating the wisdom of the Government in improving the harbor facilities of the East End, the necessity for which it must be conceded are not yet apparent, it must be careful not to disturb vested rights, and in this instance those of St. Ann's Ward involving many millions of dollars, are concerned.

The TRUE WITNESS repeats, that the interests of the western harbor must not be neglected, and that dollar for dollar must be spent in fostering the prosperity of both.

It is not fair that the capital of men who have invested their fortunes in building up the west end of the city, in almost every instance with but little reward, should be swept away, in order that vacant tracts of land should be secured to create a possible benefit to the undoubted detriment of one which time and the natural course of events has long since made an assured fact. No Government or party can fight nature, and it would be well for those interested to recognize the truth of the lines: "Westward the march of Empire takes its way."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the TRUE WITNESS:

DEAR SIR,—On the 15th inst. there were circulated among our people copies of a weekly newspaper, published in New York, and bearing the title of The Irish Republic. The copies distributed were the issue of Sunday, July 12th, 1897. The paper seems to be a vile sheet of the fire-brand type. At least the number to hand is seething with odors of the most poisonous nature. Some of its articles breathe a spirit which must emanate from principles which are not only un-sound, but perfectly rotten.

It contains one article, however—the most harmless of all—which seems to have been the direct cause of this unusual and gratuitous circulation of the paper in our city. It is a one column report of the Queen's Jubilee celebration in Canada. It bears the date of June 21st, 1897, and was written by a special Jubilee correspondent, one "Shanet Abou."

This worthy scribe has just passed through a most crucial ordeal, all brought on by sorrow and grief. It seems he was prostrated for several days suffering from a very severe attack of gizzard failure.

Canada of ours. The effect was like that of an electric shock on our stupefied spectators. All the machinery in the region where the heart is supposed to be commenced to wobble. His patriotic boom heaved and surged like the billows of an angry sea. His little nodding tool (a) staggered, then reeling, and finally, it began to spin. Hence the sudden attack and hence the subsequent collapse. This explains why his important message received printer's ink in New York only about two weeks after it was so feelingly penned in Montreal.

However, let us thank God that we are not called upon to mourn the loss of our gallant hero, although he does disown our fair city as his home.

And now, my dear Shanet as you have been spared to us, like a good boy, wipe away those scalding tears, do be consoled and listen to a few words of friendly advice. I sincerely pity you, from the bottom of my heart, for you must be a really good fellow, indeed. You undoubtedly mean well; but hearken attentively while I softly whisper into your ear the cause of your trials and woes. Like the Pharisee, Shanet, you keep your self-righteous eyes raised far too high above ordinary things to see the practical side of life. This fault is all the more glaring if the calibre of your cranium be taken into consideration. It does not seem to possess too ample capacity for entertaining broad ideas, even when given fair play. Then, take down those eagle, soaring eyes; take them down to the level intended for them by Almighty God. Do this and you also may receive the privileged boon, conferred, of old, upon the poor publican. Then you may be able to develop sufficient mental power to do a little logical reasoning and to see things in their true light. Once you have accomplished this fact, you will readily admit that the Irishmen you now spurn are in reality the consistent and practical Irishmen of Montreal. You will then be able to see that on the occasion referred to they gave a tangible proof that Irishmen are not unworthy of the boon of freedom. And you will find when the occasion presents itself, that they are willing to give substantial aid, in bringing about the regeneration of the dear old land.

What stronger argument, indeed, could England produce for refusing Home Rule to Ireland, than the fact that it could be proved to be a fact, that Irishmen with Home Rule in Canada are also discontented and disgruntled?

But, pardon me, Shanet, perhaps you are not a disciple of the doctrine of Home Rule for Ireland. You may be sailing in the same boat as your friends of the Irish Republic, who advocate the policy of powder and shot. Perhaps you intend to knock the bottom out of the British Empire and to blow the whole business to blazes.

Now, my dear boy, try to see yourself as others see you. Without at all doubting your superb courage and bravery—when the battle-field is far off—it seems to me, when it comes down to real warfare, that you would prove a greater success as a mud-slinger or a blower of some wind instrument than as a soldier. Still, through sympathy for you, I would not advise you to persevere in this former occupation, in spite of your admirable aptitude for the work. In the first place, the calling is not looked upon as one of a very high order. And again, you know the mud would find a very strong natural attraction for yourself and would permanently adhere to you. As to your windy qualifications, they are undoubtedly of a very high grade. You might render some very good service in that line, should a vacancy occur. Even here an obstacle crops up. The general consensus of opinion seems to be that Ireland is not to be regenerated by wind.

What then is to be done? My dear Shanet, the situation seems to be a desperate one. In this whole patriotic business you are not in it, in fact you are left without a job.

Well, as Providence has not chosen you as the special instrument for the solution of the Irish problem, try to find the courage of resignation. Accept the inevitable; modestly step down and quietly look on. No greater service than this can you render to yourself or to your country. By this line of conduct you will avoid a two-fold danger. As an Irishman you will not be playing into the hands of the enemy at every turn. And then, as a Christian you will not be doing such good work in the service of the devil. Yes, dear boy, be as wise as you can, and above all, shun temptation for the future. However, if through human frailty you should again imprudently expose yourself to danger and become once more afflicted with soreness round the gills, just let us hear from you, Shanet. Ta-ta.

ERIN ABOO.

THE SULTAN DEFIANT.

Turkey Still Persists in its Claims—France Makes a New Move.

LONDON, July 19.—There is no reliable information available regarding the course of the Sultan on Eastern affairs. Reports from Constantinople continue to be sanguine one day and despairing the next; and it is safe to say that nobody will know the nature of the solution of the crisis in advance of the event itself. Least of all can the declarations of the Sultan himself, be they defiant or conciliatory, be taken as any indication of his real purpose. It is certain, of course, that he will insist upon his claim to Thessaly as long as there is any possibility of success, short of an actual resort to force against Europe.

His most earnest protestations no longer command any respect or credence from the Ambassadors or the public. Even his unconditional promise to evacuate Thessaly would carry no weight, and England now refuses to believe anything short of the fact itself. Few believe he has yet exhausted his powers of procrastination.

PARIS, July 17.—The Chamber of Deputies held two sittings today, both being occupied by discussions of the Eastern question. MM. Boyce and Cochon criticized the action of the government. M. Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, replied that the European concert would maintain the territorial integrity of the Balkan Peninsula in defence of the rights of the European community. The

question of indemnity once settled, Turkey would withdraw from Thessaly and accept the frontier proposed by the Ambassadors.

Premier Maline, replying to a remark by M. Goblet, said that the policy of the concert had been safely. Without that policy there would have been a general conflagration. Peace once signed the powers would guarantee Cretan autonomy and measures of administrative reform.

The Government's declarations were approved by a vote of 354 to 114.

Private advices from Constantinople declare that nothing has so exasperated the Sultan recently as the news, which has only just now come out, of the refusal of the French Government to receive Nedjib Melhame Bey as councillor of the Ottoman Embassy in Paris. His Majesty feels strongly that what is good enough for him ought to be good enough for a wretched republican government. But he will certainly have to swallow his feelings, for M. Hanotaux says he won't have Melhame at any price.

The French Foreign Office has already had enough of Melhame. He used to loaf about the cales of Tunis, editing between times a violently anti-French newspaper. A year or two ago he ostensibly joined the young Turkish party, but in reality he was a spy on the movement, and the attempt to make him councillor of the embassy is merely a reward for his services. Under all the circumstances the appointment of such a man to the Paris embassy is a pretty impudent piece of business, and an intimation to that effect has been conveyed to the Sultan.

MRS. SADLER TESTIMONIAL.

Subscriptions may be addressed to the chairman, Sir William Hingston, M.D., Montreal, P.Q.; the secretary, Mr. Justice Curran, Montreal, P.Q.; or to the treasurer, Mr. Michael Burke, 275 Mount-ain street, Montreal, P.Q.

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COMPLICATIONS OVER AN ESTATE.

HUSBAND AND WIFE WERE DROWNED, BUT IT IS NOT KNOWN WHICH DIED FIRST.

Interesting complications have arisen over the efforts to settle up the property of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Orth, who were drowned in the Erie Canal near West Rome, N. Y., on June 30, when their horse took fright and jumped off the towpath. Mr. Orth's sister, who was riding with them, was also drowned. Mr. Orth left about \$4,000, all of which, by a will which he had made, was left to his wife. He also had \$1,000 of life insurance payable to his wife if she survived him. Different administrators have been appointed for the estate of each. The question is, which died first? If Mr. Orth, all his property went to his wife, and her administrator would be entitled to act upon it and distribute it to her heirs. If Mrs. Orth died first, the property would go to Mr. Orth's legal heirs. No one witnessed the accident, and it is not known which died first. The first person at the scene of the accident saw Mrs. Orth floating on the water. Her husband did not come to the surface. This much is known. The relatives of each claim the property and each side has had an inventory made. Possession of the homestead has fluctuated between one side and the other, according to the superior strategy employed by each side. At present Mr. Orth's relatives have possession of the farm, stock and other property, and are keeping the other claimants off the place.

GERMAN DESPOTISM.

A MAN GETS INTO TROUBLE FOR SPEAKING LIGHTLY OF A RAILROAD BY-LAW.

The rank despots of the Government of Germany is well illustrated by a case based upon the fact that it is nothing short of treasonable to criticize the railroad regulations of the country, no matter how absurd they are. A Frankfurt man who was travelling in a sleeping car of the Eastern express charged the guard to wake him at a particular station. The guard forgot the passenger and he was carried beyond his destination. He demanded that the station inspector give him a free ticket back. The claim was disallowed on the strength of a by-law declaring that the railway authorities take no responsibility if a passenger passes his destination. The Frankfurt man pointed out that the by-law obviously relates to ordinary carriages, not to sleeping cars. He had not paid extra for a berth in the sleeping car in order to listen to the names of stations throughout the night. He wrote to the Royal Prussian Railroad that the law was nonsense and did

not meet the facts of modern travelling. The Royal Railroad replied with an injunction for libel, it being treasonable to speak of His Majesty's by-laws as nonsensical.

The rash Frankfurt man escaped punishment by a provident loophole regarding the "protection of just interests," but he is still awaiting the return of his fare.

ONE WAY TO SILENCE A BRASS BAND.

From the McKeesport Times.

Did you ever, in a spirit of friskiness, suck a lemon in full gaze of the members of the Electric Band, while they were engaged in rendering those sweet and seductive strains for which they have become noted? Well, don't. Nor before any other band, for it may not be such a scathless escape as a boy met with who figures as a principal in a story a friend relates.

It was when the little German band was playing for drinks before saloons and incidentally picking up small coin of the realm at other business houses. In front of a Demmlershop they started to tear the "Wacht Am Rhein" to pieces. They faced pretty well and had switched off to "Sweet Rosy O'Grady," when a small boy, who had evidently been put up to do the trick, made his appearance and stood near the band. He was sucking a lemon, and at his appearance a look of disgust spread over the faces of all the members of the band. One by one the musicians gradually and reluctantly dropped out of the game until at last there was left only the bass horn player. He had to quit after a little while. It was raining, and this, with the lemon episode, rather combined to put the bass horn player in a bad humor. He walked over to the boy, and, catching him by the ear, he said: "Vat for you come aroun' here mit a lemon and kveer der whole tam pand? It's tough luck to stand about in der rain mitout being kveered by a poy mit dot tam lemon."

There was subdued laughter in a store near by as the German band left for other worlds to conquer. It is a fact slightly known that the presence of any one sucking a lemon in front of a band will cause a panic. The musicians' mouths fill so rapidly with saliva that they cannot play.

HIS PAY IS ONE CENT A YEAR.

SAWYER, OF FREEDOM, N. H., CLOSES A MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

A question which may give the post office authorities at Washington considerable trouble is how they are going to arrange the quarterly payments of mail contractor Sawyer. Sawyer began on July 1 his contract of carrying the mail between Freedom and Centre Ossipee, the nearest railroad station, for one cent a year. As the mail contractors are paid quarterly, the question has arisen at Washington how Sawyer is to be paid, but the department is understood to have passed it over for the time being, as the officials say they are not crossing a bridge until they come to it.

Another interesting phase of this novel mail contract is being discussed by the patrons of the office. The question is being asked how the department is going to retain any of the contract money in the event of Sawyer missing a trip. Uncle Sam is very close-fisted in these matters. The mail contract is an ironclad agreement and excuses don't go for not collecting or delivering mail. For each trip that is missed Uncle Sam reserves a portion of the contract money. The probabilities are that payment for the first three-quarters in Sawyer's case will be omitted, and for the year ending on June 30, 1898, the whole cent will be omitted.

There is an interesting story connected with this mail contract. For six years Charles B. Danforth carried the mail between Freedom and Centre Ossipee. Danforth runs the stage coach and local express between this town and Rochester, N. H. He received \$160 a year from the Post Office Department for the work. Freedom is almost nine miles from Centre Ossipee. Carrying the mail means that the carrier must be up with the birds and drive over the rough country roads, meeting the first east-bound train at Centre Ossipee at 7 A.M. The mail from Boston arrives at 1 P.M., and by the time it is delivered at Freedom it is nearly 3 P.M. This has to be done every day in the year except Sunday. There were several bids for the place this year. Danforth has a mortal enemy named Sawyer, who is also his neighbor. He heard Sawyer was after his job. So as to be sure of beating Sawyer he put his figure at \$5 a year. When the bids were opened last he was chagrined to learn that Sawyer's bid was one cent a year. Sawyer got the contract and on July 1 entered upon the performance of his new duties. Sawyer has no business that calls him to the railroad centre daily, so this is one of the cases in which a man is willing to work for nothing to spite a neighbor.—New York Sun.

Good Blood

Is essential to Health. Every nook and corner of the system is reached by the blood, and on its quality the condition of every organ depends. Good blood means strong nerves, good digestion, robust health. Impure blood means sorority, dyspepsia, rheumatism, catarrh or other diseases. The surest way to have good blood is to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. This medicine purifies, vitalizes, and enriches the blood, and sends the elements of health and strength to every nerve, organ and tissue. It creates a good appetite, gives refreshing sleep and cures that tired feeling. Remember,

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the Best—In fact the One True Blood Purifier.

AGRICULTURE IN BRITAIN.

Interesting Statistics Regarding Live Stock, Grain Areas and Pasture Land.

The agriculture returns for Great Britain relating to the year 1896 have just been issued as a Parliamentary paper.

The collecting officers' reports show that the absence of voluntarily supplied information necessitated resort to estimates in only 3.43 per cent of the total number of returns, indicating a somewhat smaller proportion of default on the part of occupiers of land than in 1895. The area of land, the distribution of which was thus estimated in the absence of direct information, amounted in England to 5.4 per cent of the cultivated surface, in Scotland 1.9 per cent, and in Wales to less than 0.3 per cent. For Great Britain as a whole, more than 95 per cent of the area under crops or grass would thus appear to have been accounted for by the occupiers' schedules without resort to estimating. It would appear that in Great Britain

WOODS AND ROUGH GRAZINGS

or mountain pastures cover more than 15,000,000 acres, or 27 per cent of the entire surface, and that the cultivated area under crops or grass, covered, in 1896, 32,562,000 acres. A 20 years' retrospect of the relative proportions of arable and pasture land shows that the arable land in Great Britain was a million acres less in 1886 than in 1876, and more than a million acres less in 1896 than in 1886. The actual figures for arable land were: In 1876, 18,028,100 acres; in 1886, 17,050,000 acres; and in 1896, 15,836,000 acres. The total number of acres under cultivation was 31,544,000 in 1876, 32,501,000 in 1886, and 32,562,000 in 1896. As compared with 1895 the returns for 1896 showed a decline of 15,000 acres in the cultivated surface. The report says: "The difference of 15,000 acres on so large a surface is not in itself of material significance, particularly if the customary causes which annually withdraw certain areas from culture, for building and other purposes, be allowed for, and the net reduction is less than that reported in 1895. But, as shown in previous reports, this net reduction of area represents the extent by which the diminution of land returned as arable—on this occasion 131,000 acres—

—FAILS TO BE BALANCED BY AN ADDITION—

amounting to 116,000 acres—to the category of permanent grass. The loss of arable land occurs this time mainly in what was before returned as clover or grass under rotation, and some of the collectors' reports suggest that larger areas than before of what were denoted temporary grasses are being regarded in name as well as fact permanent. Under other heads the general changes for the country as a whole, very nearly balance, there being a small recovery in the area under corn and under green crops, and some extension of small fruit, to be set against reduction in bare fallow and loss in the surface under hops."

The returns of the live stock on the farms of Great Britain in 1896 show increases in horses, cattle, sheep and swine, as compared with those for 1895. During the year the price of British wheat averaged 20s. 2d. per quarter, a recovery to the extent of 3s. 1d. per quarter, and of 3s. 4d. per quarter respectively above the low averages of 1895 and 1894. There was a rise of 1s. per quarter in barley, and of 3s. 1d. per quarter in oats. It may be observed that the important changes arose in the last three months of this past year. With respect to the importation of agricultural produce, the report states that:

"The latest statistics of imported agricultural food show a further increase over those of the immediately preceding year, alike in the groups of live animals, of dead meat, of dairy produce, of eggs, and of poultry. In the aggregate there was also a larger receipt of grain—a reduction in the totals of wheat and barley being overbalanced by arrival of maize in greater quantities than ever before, while there was some addition to the imports of oats and peas."

Some French lawyers are trying the experiment of giving legal advice free at the Palais de Justice, on the same principle as medicine is dealt out at dispensaries. The idea is a revival of the Bureau of Charitable Jurisprudence, planned by the Constituent Assembly in 1790, and it has been in operation for nearly two years. There are several departments, each managed by a lawyer of ten years' standing, with two young men as his assistants. The office is open one morning and one afternoon a week. Last year, from January to December, 1,964 persons applied for advice; 1,600 of them merely wanted answers to some legal questions, 17 were lunatics, and 37 well-to-do people were seeking assistance under false pretences. The lawyers took up, however, 166 delicate and complicated cases, and succeeded in settling 61 of them to the satisfaction of their clients; the other 105 were lost after a trial.

LINES

BY T. J. O'NEILL, ON THE DEATH OF HIS MOTHER, WHO DIED 17th JULY, 1897.

Of all the sorrows, griefs and cares,
That quickly follow one another,
The hardest of them all to bear
Is when death parts us from Mother.

When death claimed Father, years ago,
For her our feelings we did smother,
Endeavored by our kindly acts,
To cheer the dear, kind heart of Mother.

Without a thought of pain or toil,
She soothing us, sister or brother,
Who might have filled an early grave,
Were it not for the care of Mother.

Her ceaseless work is finished here,
Her eternity begins in another,
May the Lord have mercy on her soul,
Is the prayer I ask for Mother.

19th July, 1897.

Philip Sheridan, B.C.L.

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ANNUAL IRISH CATHOLIC

Pilgrimage

ST. ANNE DE BEAUPRE

Under the Direction of the Redemptorist Fathers of St. Ann's Church, Montreal.

SATURDAY, July 31, 1897

(For Men only.)

Steamer "THREE RIVERS"

LEAVES RICHELIEU Wharf at 7.00 P.M.

TICKETS: Adults, \$2.10; Children \$1.05.

Tickets and Staterooms can be secured at St. Ann's Presbytery, 32 Basin street, Montreal.

JAMES A. OGILVY & SONS'

ADVERTISEMENT.

OGILVY'S JULY SALE

We are offering Summer Goods at July Sale Prices.

SPECIAL.

Received a shipment of:
All Linen Grass Linens.
All Linen Grass Lawns.
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All Linen Grass Crash, 26 in. wide.
All Linen Checked Crash, 25 inches wide.
These desirable summer goods, so appropriate for the hot weather, were received too late for our usual trade. Therefore we have marked them at July prices.

LINENS.

Special Linen Huckaback Towels, all pure Linen made from polished yarn, ensuring the best wear, and the highest quality.
20x40, \$1.75 per doz.
22x41, \$2.25 per doz.
These three lines are without an equal to-day for value.

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Our Special Line of

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Worth about 15 yards, is the best value in the city

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Pretty designs in handsome Parasols, 20 percent off.

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The Largest Exclusive Dry Goods

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THE Best Yet Offered IN REED ROCKERS \$4.95 Only. Regular value \$8.75

We have 5 different patterns equally good which we will close out at \$4.95 each. Special value, in all lines of Furniture for the balance of this month. We will store your purchases free till wanted.

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652 Craig Street

SMILES.

"I suppose," said the amateur botanist, "that orchids are the most expensive plants in the world."

"I am not so sure of that," replied Mr. Dinwiddle. "I have seen the assertion that \$500,000,000 is invested in electric light plants in this country."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

"Who is that man who writes communications every day and signs himself 'Constant Reader'?" said one citizen.

"I don't know who he is," replied the other, "but he's a misnomer. He comes a great deal nearer being a constant writer."—Washington Star.

"What does that man Slickly do for a living?"

"For board and lodgings he does the hotels, and for clothes he does his tailors. Outside of that he does the best he can."—Detroit Free Press.

Kallow—I tell you there is just as good writers in the world as ever there were.

Dillon—How about Shakespeare? Kallow—A piece of luck on his part. He happened to be born at the right time, when there weren't so many writers as there are at present.—Boston Transcript.

Miss Friaby—I am now convinced that