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London, Saturday, Sept. 27.

ARE THE ELECTIONS AT HAND?

The activity of Ministers at the present time points to an early dissolution of Parliament.

The time is no doubt thought to be opportune. In Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba the farmers have been blessed with fairly good harvests—better, possibly, than can be looked for in all of these three Provinces next year. Then the situation in the United States may be regarded as favorable. Congress is not likely to pronounce an opinion on the subject of reciprocity with Canada this session, but it is almost certain to pass the McKinley Bill. Whatever the effect of this measure will be ultimately, they cannot be seriously felt by Canadian farmers before the close of the present year. It is easy for the present to say, as Ministers and their friends are saying, that no harm is going to be done to Canada, and that if we so desire we may readily find a good market for our products elsewhere. There is nothing like striking a dignified attitude and asserting our independence of the United States. Ministers will reason to themselves, "The people do not know any better; they cannot know better sooner than six months, anyway, and they will admire our pluck. Then if we go to the country before Congress has had a chance to declare for reciprocity we can say that the Americans do not want it, and point to the dropping of the Butterworth Bill and the Hitt and Sherman resolutions as proof that they do not." This, we firmly believe, is at the present time the Ministerial programme, and it explains the activity of Sir John Macdonald, Sir John Thompson, Sir Hector Langevin and their colleagues in various parts of the country. It has never been the First Minister's policy to spend his energies for nought. At his time of life he cannot afford to campaign the country a year ahead of the general elections, and he has the advantage of knowing precisely what he intends to do.

Meetings in Ontario, meetings in Quebec, meetings in the Lower Provinces, meetings in Manitoba, all going on at the same time, do not mean a frolic. There is going to be a dissolution of Parliament and a general election this year unless Ministers find that public sentiment is running very strong against them.

Meantime what are the Liberals doing? Where are Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright? Our counsel to them is to take the field at once.

A NEW MORMON REVELATION.

Either the Utah commissioners, who are agents of the United States Government, or Wilford Woodruff, "President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints," are guilty of stretching the truth to an unwarrantable extent.

The report of the commission for the year ending 1st September, 1890, gives a far from flattering account of the results of legislation in suppressing the evils of polygamy. The church, it is pointed out, still holds to the pernicious doctrine of plural marriages and denounces the National Government for its efforts at their suppression. No one is allowed promotion in the church unless he professes open belief in polygamy as its fundamental doctrine and is ready at any time to violate the laws which have been made against it, and the commission recommends that still further legislation in support of existing laws should be properly passed by Congress.

The Mormon Church President, on the other hand, denies that plural marriages are still being solemnized by the church authorities, or that the church in any way now teaches polygamy. He admits that he heard of one such case having taken place in the Endowment House, but explains that it was done without his knowledge or consent, and in consequence of the alleged occurrence the Endowment House was taken down. The Mormon President concludes by reiterating that the church means to obey the law forbidding plural marriages.

Time will tell whether this declaration is or is not made in good faith. If the chief of the Mormons tells the truth it is a strange thing that the Utah commissioners have been so badly misled. His declarations, which may have a wide effect in combatting the polygamous principle, are important to Canadians now that we have a genuine Mormon colony in the Northwest, with an ex-M. P. P. at its head—a polygamist in principle, and who defends plural marriages on every available occasion, though he has not yet ventured into matrimony of any description.

—Some idea of the exodus of Canadians to the States is afforded by the Lewiston (Me.) Journal, which prints a portion of its paper every day in "Canadian French." Maine is rapidly becoming Canadianized. This is practical annexation!

GIVE US RECIPROCITY.

If it is true that the Government at Ottawa favors free trade with the United States, why do they not take steps to obtain it? A chorus of Ministerial voices has recently been singing the praises of reciprocity, and telling friendly audiences that it is the very thing which their souls have all along desired. Well, if that is true, why do they not intimate to the Government of the United States that they desire to establish friendly trade relations between the two countries? We are sure that the Liberal party in Canada will not interpose any objection, granting that the terms are reasonable and that free trade is secured.

In so far as the Liberals are concerned, it is not a party triumph they desire, but a measure that will bring prosperity and contentment to the Canadian people and save them from the ruinous effects of high customs tariffs on both sides of the international line. But it may well be asked, if the Government at Ottawa desired to promote free commerce with the United States why did they bring in and carry the Foster Bill? Why did they in this matter set a bad example to the Congress of the United States—an example which was promptly followed by the production of the McKinley Bill? And why, if they have always favored reciprocity with the United States, did they speak against and vote down the resolutions proposed in Parliament setting forth its desirableness in the interest of all classes of the Canadian people? Why did they allow a member of the Government, so late as last session to declare against any measure of reciprocity with the United States, and to say that even reciprocity in natural products was a thing to be rejected by Canadians? They are not in favor of reciprocity. They are as hostile to it as they can be, and any professions recently made have no object but to deceive the people.

There is foolish talk indulged of our suffering no loss by the operation of the McKinley tariff, and that we have only to look for equally good markets in other countries to get them. We find that even Lord Stanley, the Governor-General, has been brought forward to speak upon this subject on the same lines as his Ministers. The Governor-General ought to know better, and the Canadian people will expect him to mind his own business. This is a matter that, so far as the interests of Canada are concerned, they intend to settle in the way which they think is best, and we can tell him and his advisers that the days of Foster tariffs are well nigh at an end.

THE M'KINLEY BILL BECOMES LAW.

The Conference Committee of the two Houses of the United States Congress has agreed upon and reported the new Tariff Bill, leaving the taxes of special importance to Canadians substantially as they were when the measure passed the Senate. The taxes on horses and mules has been increased from 20 per cent. to $30 per head; cattle over 1 year old from 20 per cent. to $10 per head; cattle under 1 year, which have been free will now be taxed $2 a head; hogs will be taxed $1 50 a head instead of 20 per cent.; sheep over a year old will be taxed $1 50 a head instead of 20 per cent.; under 1 year old, 75 cents a head, instead of 20 per cent.; all other animals remain as now —20 per cent. Hay will be taxed $4 a ton, instead of $2; eggs, now free, will pay a tax of 5 cents a dozen; barley, 30 cents a bushel, in place of 10 cents; flax seed, 25 cents a bushel. And so on, throughout the entire list. The taxes on oats, oatmeal, cheese, beans, onions, apples, potatoes, poultry, straw, and every other farm product have been increased. Nickel will be free; that will help the mines at Sudbury, Ont., where there is a rich "find." A duty of ⅜ cent per pound is put on fresh and salted fish, now admitted to the States free. On the other hand, the fresh fish caught in the western lakes are duty free, provided they are taken in nets, seines, boats, etc., of American ownership. The labor may be performed by Canadians. The lumber schedule is left just as it passed the Senate, with two exceptions: There is a reduction of the duty on cedar, and telegraph poles and fence posts are to be admitted free. If the export duty on logs is continued by any country, then the duties on lumber are to be at a higher rate. It is expected that this will force the abolition of the export duty on logs imposed by the Dominion Government. The cost to the Dominion lumbermen of the continuance of the export duty will be $1 per 1,000 feet on white pine boards.

It is provided that the new scale of duties shall take effect from Oct. 6, next. All goods in bond on Oct. 1 can remain in bond to Feb. 1, next, and may be withdrawn at any time on payment of the old duties where there has been an increase of duties; but that cannot be done if the old rate has been reduced. They cannot be taken out after Oct. 1 and pay the reduced duty. Between Oct. 1 and Oct. 6 is a non-bonding period. Goods cannot be put into bond between those dates, that is to say, and be taken out except on payment of the old rate. No provision is made for goods on shipboard or in transit. All goods that arrive in port on Oct. 6 will pay the new rate of duty.

If the authorities at Ottawa had occupied their time in promoting complete reciprocity with our neighbors, instead of in passing laws to prevent Canadians from interchanging products with their neighbors, it might have been possible to save our people from the great injury which will be worked by the operation of this new scheme of taxation.

THE WINTER EVENINGS.

"Knoxonian's" contributions to the Canada Presbyterian are always bright and interesting. In the last number he approaches the young man of the period with the pertinent inquiry, "How do you propose to spend the evenings of this coming winter?" The question deserves the most careful consideration. Anyone can "put in the time" by going out nearly every evening. Making every allowance for social duties, a vast amount of time for the best reading might and ought to be secured between October and April. Biography, books of travel, history, standard poetry and high-class fiction—no one should go astray with those to choose from. The habit of spending winter evenings in reading the best literature will result not only in added stores of information, but in the development of self-reliance and self-control, and in the attainment of a serious purpose in life.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

—The world moves. Sweden has declared in favor of free trade in the general elections just held.

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—The advantage of working at lowly employment is that when you are thrown out of it you haven't far to fall.

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—Queen Victoria is very tenacious of the rule that she shall hear at least once a week from members of her family absent in other lands. Do those members who are not absent letter alone?

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—The newspapers which have been stating that Hon. Mr. Harcourt, the new Provincial Treasurer, belongs to the Baptist Church, were mistaken. The honorable gentleman is a member of the Church of England, and, according to the Telegraph, published in Welland, Mr. Harcourt's home, he "takes an active interest in the Sunday school and other departments of church work, and also in non-sectarian evangelical effort." Hon. Mr. Dryden, another of the new Ministers, is a prominent member of the Baptist body, and Hon. Mr. Bronson a Presbyterian. They are all good men.

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—The Protestant Oka Indians, who have been told by the Dominion Government that unless they move away from their old location in Quebec Province, or become members of the Catholic Church, they will get no further assistance from the Government, have sent a strong reply to Ottawa. They point out the inconsistencies in the various letters sent them from the department, and refuse either to change their religion or move to Muskoka, as the Government desires. They add: "We want you to tell us that you will treat us at Oka just the same as if were white people or as if we were Roman Catholics."

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—May a clergyman interest himself in horse racing and baseball? A pastor in Saranac, Mich., has been enthusiastically supported by his flock in his contention that horse racing is not incompatible with the work of the Christian ministry. Of another sort is a congregation of Rockland, Pa., also a Methodist, whose minister's passion is for baseball. They, when they were invited to attend a game to be played for the benefit of the church, rebelled and locked their sporting preacher out of the meeting-house. Whatever may be said in defense of an innocent fondness for horse races and baseball contests, deprived of the accessories of gambling, drinking and swearing, it is certain that there is nothing which is doing so much to check the progress of the Church as the increasing disposition to make the opportunities for personal gratification in the pastoral life equal to those of any secular calling.

OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

THEY ARE SCARED.

Moncton, N. B., Transcript.

The principal opposition to dissolution comes from the Tory M.P.s who are afraid to face the music. A dissolution would indeed be hard upon them, as a large proportion would never see the legislative halls at Ottawa again.

A GOOD PREVENTIVE OF EXPLOSIONS.

Canada Presbyterian.

Disguise the fact as we may, the press is doing a large part of the work heretofore done by the human voice. Had the Federation question not been thoroughly threshed out in the newspapers, the General Conference would have taken two weeks to settle it instead of five or ten minutes. There was nothing new to be said on the question, and the Conference had too much good sense to spend time in going over the old ground. As Dr. Douglas remarked, not a vote would have been changed by a month's debate. There is one distinct advantage in this modern method of handling burning questions. The steam is pretty well blown off before the court meets. Had all the heat that escaped through the newspapers been condensed in the human breast until Conference met, the explosions would have shaken Canadian Methodism, and might have lasted until Christmas.

Impurities of the blood often cause great annoyance at this season; Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood, and cures all such affections.

News Items from the Canada Business College, Chatham, Ont.

We must apologize for not sending any news items for the past three weeks. We have been so exceedingly busy since we returned from our summer quarters as Courtright that we could not find time. Everything is now in excellent running order in the whole school, and intending students would find it greatly to their advantage to join us as soon as possible. Many of those who were with us last summer have returned to take an extended term with us. We have now an excellent attendance for this season of the year, and the prospects are exceedingly bright for October. Many distant points are now represented with us, and applications have been received within the past few days from Northwest Territories, Montana, Manitoba and Illinois. Mr. Cunningham, of Hancock, Mich., brought his son here for a course of instruction with us a few days ago. Miss Gates, of Vyner, and her brother Thomas have recently commenced with us. She has entered the shorthand department, while her brother takes the business course. These make four we have had from the same family. Our work and our students prove our best advertisements. Miss Flo Smith, of Morpeth, has commenced a course with us to-day. Our attendance of shorthand students is fully double what it has ever been before at this season of the year. Miss Marie Weir, from Nissouri, Oxford county, has returned to complete her shorthand course.

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Coughs, Sore Throat, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Croup, Bronchitis, Asthma, and every affection of the Throat, Lungs and Chest are speedily and permanently cured by the use of

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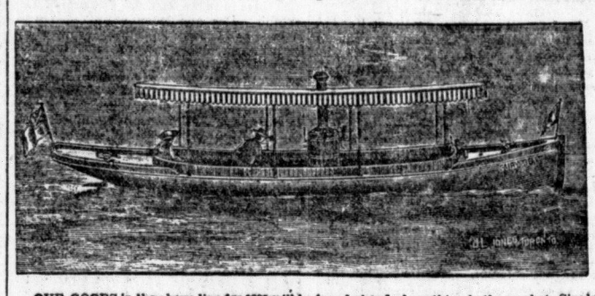

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...w days with visitors from the ... parts of the States and Canada, who were ...ent on seeing London and the wonders of ...he Western Fair.

The coming of each succeeding number ...f the Daily ADVERTISER, as in it is now ...arefully delineated each day's proceedings ...f the Birchall murder trial at issue at ...oodstock, is looked forward to with much ...agerness here.

Wm. McDiarmid has left Nilestown for ...s new home in Cleveland, Ohio. He has ...e best wishes of a host of acquaintances ...d friends.

The next matter of burning interest hereabouts is the holding of the North Dorchester Agricultural Society's show, on Wednesday, Oct. 1. Everything has been done to secure its success.