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WEDNESDAY.....AUGUST 3, 1887

All reports agree that the crops throughout the Dominion will be below the average. The reason assigned is the late long continued drought.

The Tory party is now recognized as made up of a section of manufacturers and certain railway rings, supplemented by a not very intelligent class that clings to the name, and louse fish that may be bought at election times.

The United States Geological Survey has issued a report in which it is stated: The total value of the products of the United States increased in round numbers from \$123,000,000 in 1885 to \$465,000,000 in 1886.

A NEW "Liberal Home Rule" daily evening paper is about to be started in London. The money has been furnished by a few rich men prominently identified with Liberal politics.

LAPRAIRIE must now appear fading in the distance to the vision of our pugnacious little friend, Joseph Tassé. He may learn, however, in time that personal abuse is not statesmanship, and raising rows not the best way of convincing electors.

HON. JAMES McSHANE met with a spontaneous and hearty welcome wherever he appeared in South Renfrew. His fellow-countrymen were particularly pleased to see and hear a gentleman who has demonstrated in a remarkable career the fitness of Irishmen to assume the highest functions of state when given a fair field and no favor.

ONE of the organs says: "The importation of Mr. McShane for the express purpose of playing upon the feelings of a particular class of the people demonstrates the utter weakness of the Grit cause."

THE Colorado beetle, familiarly known in this country as the potato bug, has reached Germany, and, in spite of all precautions on the part of the Government, threatens to carry destruction to vegetation in every corner of the empire.

THE necessity for unrestricted reciprocity outbalances all other considerations. To the artisans and working classes generally it offers the only solution of the difficulties that beset them.

open to us, there is but little doubt that these splendid water privileges would be speedily taken up and utilized. The principle benefit to the mechanics, however, would lie in the fact that our wage earners, instead of having to seek employment in the United States, would find plenty of work and equally good wages in Canada as they now seek across the border.

THE Hon. Mr. Mercier's speech at Laprairie on Saturday was significant and will not be read with very much relish by the Tories. The Provincial Prime Minister asserted confidently that not only would he have in the next Legislature his majority increased by ten votes, but that he would also have a majority in the Legislative Council.

We see by the Hamilton Times that Hon. Wilfrid Laurier has been invited to attend a picnic at Dufferin Lake proposed to be held in commemoration of the triple Reform victory in the Wellingtons, but owing to a pressure of engagements he has been unable to signify his acceptance for any definite date.

MONSIGNOR PESSICO, the Pope's special envoy to Ireland, has practically fulfilled his mission, and will return to the Eternal City in a few days. With him he will take the best wishes of the people of that distressed country, ever eager to manifest their attachment to the Holy See, and perhaps never so desirous of so doing as at the present time.

THERE is no greater humbug on earth than the statistical department at Ottawa. The system by which the figures are collected and compiled is worse than none at all and is supplemented by guesswork of the most whimsical kind founded on certain rules of probability invented by a late deputy.

AS USUAL the whitemen are sending rum along with their other missionary influences to civilize the Africans. According to Archdeacon Farrar in the Contemporary Review, the dark continent is being flooded with the vilest liquor.

THE return of the Nationalist candidate, Mr. Goyette, for Laprairie county at Saturday's election is a signal victory for the Mercier-McShane Government, and will have the effect of greatly strengthening their candidates in the elections to take place in Temiscouata, Nicolet, Maskinonge and Ottawa counties.

It is an old dodge to train certain animals for the purpose of decoying their wild and free relatives into the traps prepared by the hunters. So it is in political life. Sir John Macdonald has trained certain persons, whom he sends as occasion may require, to lead those of their own presumed way of thinking into his political net.

a very great deal. But we trust our people will not be misled by these false guides. Let them remember how often such persons have previously been employed by the Tories to do just such dirty work as these men are now engaged in, and how Sir John afterwards kicked them aside when he had used them. Needy adventurers looking for Government jobs are always to be found with active commissions among the Irish people at election times working the Tory oracle.

COMMENTING on the proposal made in European journals to refer international disputes to the Pope for arbitration, the N. Y. Catholic Review observes: "The safest and most disinterested international arbitrator is the Pope. Our Holy Father, Leo XIII., has been conspicuously successful as an arbitrator, as were so many of the successors of Peter. Rome—the Rome of the Pontiffs—is the historic and national centre of international affairs."

BRITISH SUBJECTS resident in Boston held a meeting in that city the other day to consider the advisability of their becoming American citizens, and therefore forswearing allegiance to every foreign power, prince and potentate, and more especially to Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India.

It is really astonishing that a sensible people, such as Canadians are supposed to be, should prefer to be misgoverned, ground down with taxation, and generally fleeced and fooled in the most outrageous manner by a characterless demagogue, rather than cast in their lot with the freest, most powerful, most progressive nation on the face of the earth.

Our people being energetic, intelligent and frugal, do pretty well in spite of a bad system. But with a good system they might do much better. Canada, with her resources locked up by restriction, is like a farmer ploughing his paternal acres over an oil well or a rich vein of metal.

It is impossible that national conditions like these can continue for any length of time. An end must come to government by bribery. The end fear is that when it does come, and the Macdonalds die nightmare passes away, there will be nothing left worth saving.

THE Salisbury Government is the most despicable piece of administrative machinery that has been charged with the conduct of the British nation under the present reign. It has become a mere combination of office holders.

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his colleagues, and so they keep on, trusting that some lucky chance will arise to extricate them from their difficulties and retain them in their fat places.

JOHN WHELAN, famous in his day for connection with certain "blind shams" and unpromising anti-party to the Home Rule while a member of the Commons, was lately interviewed by The Mail relative to reciprocity.

Really, I don't see how in the world we, as Conservatives, can go back on reciprocity. Why, that is what our party wanted when they were in opposition, and when the tariff of 1878 was passed a clause was put in authorizing the Government, without consulting Parliament, to take the duties of everything that the Americans could import.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE AND COERCION.

In order to successfully meet and render nugatory the Jubilee Coercion Act, under which Ireland has been proclaimed, the National League has decided on a definite plan of action. The law will be treated with all possible contempt and resisted in every way till the present Tory Ministry is overthrown.

WISE PHILANTHROPY.

The splendid donation of \$10,000 offered to the Fraser Institute and a like sum to the Art Gallery, by Mr. Molson and associates, on condition that these institutions be thrown open to the public on Sunday afternoons, are so manifestly wise and conducive to the general welfare of our citizens that we are astonished.

To the vast majority of the working people of our city, the institutions to which these gifts of \$10,000 each have been offered are little else than mere names of unexplored regions. They have no time during the week to visit them, and on Sundays the blighting spirit of man-hating Partisanship turns the key upon the treasures of art and literature, saying to the toilers—"Ye shall not refresh your souls at the fountains of the pure, the good and the beautiful."

A SPLENDID REBUKE.

Perhaps no incident in the present Irish struggle is so full of food for reflection as that related by the Drogheda Independent of July 16th. Mr. Hugh Holmes, it will be remembered, was Attorney-General for Ireland, and in his official capacity in the House of Commons frequently exhausted his powers of description in portraying the bloody terrorism and crime that he alleged were rampant in Ireland.

distinguished honor of replying to Hugh Holmes' arguments for the Coercion Bill in the most convincing, and, to him, the most execrating manner. Such irony as the present of white gloves was never reserved for a Coercionist Attorney-General for Ireland. With bloody hands, we may truly say, he stepped from the rostrum of the Commons, where he repeatedly stated that Ireland was reeking with abominable crimes, to the judicial bench in Drogheda, where he had not an offence, even a threatening letter case, to deal with.

IMPERIALISM IN CANADA.

Goldwin Smith's letter to the London Standard, published in yesterday's second edition of The Post, contains some very pointed truths concerning Canada, her relations with the Empire, her attitude towards the United States, and the policy by which she has been guided.

The policy pursued by Sir John Macdonald for many years, under British auspices, is fast approaching a crisis. To attempt the establishment on this continent of a nation on the European plan was a daring but futile experiment, and the tremendous sacrifices which the people of this country have been compelled to make for that object are only now beginning to be understood in their true bearings.

The fight against nature and manifest destiny has been long and strong, but the very efforts that have been made to keep Canada isolated have brought about a state of affairs that must soon cease to be endurable. The Dominion is too big to be made a side-show for played-out European aristocratic institutions.

FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL PARTIES.

When the Reform party, so-called, took office in the Province of Ontario, it was laid down as cardinal principle, by which the leaders all over the country were to be bound for all time, that so far as Dominion politics were concerned the strictest neutrality should exist.

WEALTH OF THE UNITED STATES.

The United States is now the richest country on the globe, having passed England, with all its accumulated wealth of centuries, some years ago. What they will be in the future can be imagined from the fact that they are adding to their wealth each year more than any other country, but as much as the three wealthiest countries in Europe—Great Britain, France and Germany. Mr. Mulhall, the Eng-

lish statistician, estimates that the annual increase in wealth of each of these countries per year is: Germany, \$200,000,000; Great Britain, \$225,000,000; France, \$375,000,000; and the United States, \$375,000,000.

The New York Tribune, from its investigation of the matter, is convinced that Mr. Mulhall is below rather than above the figure. The census placed the annual increase of the last decade at \$1,357,000,000. Only a small portion of this, about one-third, was the increased assessment on the value of real estate, the rest being due to investment in railroads, factories, furnaces, machinery, etc.

It is not only to consider that, in spite of all the luxury that is witnessed, that in spite of the slow and slender gains of the people in many parts of the country, the nation may, nevertheless, be adding yearly a thousand millions to its wealth. But while waste and luxury have increased, it may with some reason be doubted whether these have grown faster than the productive industries by which they are supported.

A SEVERE CONTEST.

It is evident that the Government regard the result in South Renfrew with the deepest anxiety, and it would certainly be a matter of great consequence should they not succeed in electing their man. A correspondent on the spot informs us that the Tory corruption fund is practically unlimited, and that the agents working for Mr. Ferguson are literally awarming over the riding armed with every possible means for securing votes.

The absence of Mr. McIntyre, the Opposition candidate, is a great drawback, but his cause is ably advocated by Hon. Peter Mitchell, Hon. Wm. Macdougall and others. These two gentlemen, formerly members of the Government, they now oppose, are well fitted to expose the evils brought upon the country by the most extravagant, unscrupulous clique who now maintain so slipshod a hold on power at Ottawa. In this connection it is amusing to read in the Citizen of how the redoubtable C. H. Mackintosh, assisted by Peter White, M.P., demolished Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Macdougall, two of the best speakers and ablest men in the country. Evidently the brilliant apostles of Boodeism are anxious to trumpet their prowess in advance, so that, should Ferguson be elected, they may exclaim, "We did it!" and thus establish another claim on the gratitude of the Old Man. Those who have heard Mackintosh speak his party platitudes, and Peter White grunt his denunciations of the "Grits," will be amused to learn of their having achieved so astonishing a success. But men of sense will apply Hume's celebrated dictum—when a person tells a story contrary to reason and experience, it is more certain that he lies than that it is the laws of probability have been violated. The same report tells us that Mr. J. J. Curran's presence at a meeting, held it does not say where, caused a row. This we are prepared to believe, for it agrees with probability. A politician whose repertoire consists of two speeches and a song—one speech in praise of Brian Boru, the other in glorification of Sir John, and "Old King Cole," is hardly the sort of person to pervert the intelligence of the people of South Renfrew. These incidents, however, may be long more to the humors of the campaign than to its serious side. But, however, the result may be this evening, we may be sure the Tories have not left untried any of those methods for debauching the electorate for which they are famous. The odds against the Liberal candidate are tremendous. Local influences, controlled by a great lumbering and railway ring, unlimited command of money, all the power and patronage of the Federal Government, are combined as they scarcely ever were before to win this seat. Considering that at the general election last February, Mr. Campbell, the most popular local man in the riding, only defeated Mr. Ferguson by 66 majority, it will be astonishing, indeed, if all the power of the Government, focused as it now is on South Renfrew, does not carry the day. On the contrary, the defeat of the Tories would be a disaster of portentous magnitude.

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