

Our Curbstone Observer

ON SUMMER COMPLAININGS

HIS is a summer of complaints; everybody has been complaining this year. In all my observations, be it on a curbstone or elsewhere, I really believe I never met so many dissatisfied people as this year. And the fault has to be divided and attributed in part to the weather and in part to the long session of Parliament. In the first place, there was no end of complaints at the beginning of the season on account of the lack of rain. In the country the farmers feared for their crops, and their cattle suffered from drought. In the woods the lumbermen had not sufficient water in the creeks and tributary streams to drive down their logs. In the city the people complained of the dust that had accumulated several inches thick everywhere and was driven in mad cyclones into the houses and into the people's eyes. And in city and country every person was complaining about the dryness, the fires and the fearful devastations that they were committing. Then came the time to go to the country, to the sea-side, to any place out of the heat and into the cool open air. And with that time came the season of rain, of cold, of damp days and fearfully chilly nights. And the complaints grew louder and more general. In the country the farmer found that his land was being too much soaked and he dreaded the destruction of his crops. In the city the people complained that the mud was intolerable, the Saturday outings impossible, shopping a thing not to be thought of, and even the benefit of the parks an unknown quantity. And all who had gone to the seaside, or to country resorts, went to bed in the night, or to the city, and woke up each morning in the fond hope of seeing the sun and the blue sky, only to have such hopes frustrated. And stronger and more general became the complaints. Thus passed away July and August—not to speak of June. And the cold, the rain, the leaden skies broke up the many pleasure parties, closed up the summer cottages, drove away the frequenters of watering places, and they are flocked back to the city in the hope of finding a little domestic comfort at home. No sooner have they all got home than the August moon makes its appearance so near the end of that month that it is not into its first quarter when September begins. The real summer weather comes on, the bright days, the warm suns, the blue skies, the dry atmosphere; and here we are into the most perfectly enjoyable season of the entire year, and all the families are back from the country and destined to spend this grand period of 1903 cooped up within city boundaries and to worry to death for not having remained in the country. Surely they have had reason for so much complaining; it is so very disappointing to have such contradictions.

THE SEQUEL.—Well, after all these complaining, that began in May and ended with September, we find in reality that the human race is truly a dissatisfied one. I have not ceased my observations for all that. Seated the other day on a rail fence out on a farm, some twenty miles from the city, I noticed that the hay, which usually is cut in early July, had just been drawn in, and that the grain, which is not generally ready to be cut till September is advanced, was falling before the knives of a reaper. I asked the old farmer how his crop stood. He was jubilant. Had not had such a good crop in fifteen years. He saved it all without any trouble. The good weather came exactly at the right time. Well; he was one of those who had lamented and complained all during the early summer about the lack of rain and who had gone on complaining and lamenting for two more months about the lack of heat and clear weather. Still it has turned out that he has a rare good crop, will have well filled barns, and will spend a most comfortable winter. What then was the use of all that complaining? What does it boot a man to be eternally finding fault with conditions, with circumstances, with his neighbors, with nature, and, almost I had said, with Providence? In the end my long observations have shown me that God knows best what is suited to our needs and knows best how to supply our wants. I

will not go into the details of the futility of the complaints of the city folks and the frequenters of the summer resorts. All they have suffered has been a loss of certain enjoyments and pleasures on which they may have been calculating all winter. But I know of two cases, in which this unseasonable weather prevented a number of young people from taking part in excursions, which ended in most lamentable results. Had they been tempted to go by the fine weather, that usually comes at that season, one of them would have been drowned and the other killed, and instead of enjoying the fine autumn at home, they would be both sleeping under the sods of Cote des Neiges. So, after all, why should there be so much grumbling and fault-finding. In the end we invariably discover that what has been done by the Almighty, and done without the interference of man, has been for the good of the world.

POLITICAL COMPLAININGS.—How the members of Parliament have grieved this year because a session that was expected to have lasted about four months is now well into its sixth month. How they did cry over a whole summer gone and no pleasure, no relaxation. And they get \$1,500 for a session; what a pity they could not get five times that amount. But even that would not reconcile them to spending the summer at their legislative duties. They have no desire to sacrifice their holidays to attend to the business of the country. From their standpoint perhaps they are right. But then they do not think of the hundreds who are benefited by a prolonged session—the men who are paid by the day. I never could understand why a man should covet a place the duties of which are not to his taste. There is the very simplest way in the world for the member not to lose his summer's outings and his other enjoyments through protracted sessions of Parliament. He has simply to stay at home, to keep out of the field, to attend to his own business; no matter how very important a man he may be he need not fear that the country will go to ruin on account of his absence. When he dies the affairs of the country will go on all the same, so he is safe to keep away from the political arena. When he is complaining, just offer him this remedy and see how quickly he will remedy and see how quickly he will reject it. Do you take him for a fool to pass on the railways, his countless perquisites, his patronage, his good times at Ottawa, and his importance in the eyes of his fellow-men, simply because he could not go to the seaside for the summer? Not he. Then, in the name of all that is good, what is he complaining about? What are any of us complaining for? Just because we are dissatisfied, selfish, lot of beings and we never know when we are really well off.

Civic Progress And Great Men.

Sometimes we come upon olden bits of news that revive very pleasant memories. In October, 1869, the "California Pioneers," in the days of the gold fever, held a grand banquet at Delmonico's in New York. The first railroad across the continent—the Union Pacific—had just been completed. Among the first Californians to make the trip by rail were about two hundred members of the Pioneers' Association of San Francisco. Ever since the discovery of gold and the invasion of the State, in 1849, by thousands of "Argonauts," the Forty-Niners had celebrated the event. It was on the occasion of this banquet that Horace Greeley made that brilliant speech in which he gave the Irish full and deserved credit for their efforts in building up America. In view of the manner in which, during subsequent years, and especially since the fanaticism of A. P. Aism broke out, the Irish have been treated as almost aliens and enemies of the constitution, I would be well to revive the memory of that event and to recall the words of the great statesman who then so truthfully told the world all that the Irish had to do with American greatness. It was thus that Greeley spoke:—"I place a higher emphasis on the energies of the people than on their positions or their resources. The positions of the two States were the same centuries ago and their natural resources the same as now. But it is the energy of the race now inhabiting them that has given them so

great and rapid an advance to domination in the present and to hopes of still greater glory in the future. "In vain would have been the gold of California, in vain the commercial advantages and central position of New York, had there not been providentially directed to these shores and these resources races of men with intelligence and resolution to wrest from obstruction and obstacle and every kind of disadvantage victory, where to inferior and sluggish races would have been defeat. "California might have glittered with gold, might have boasted the climate of Italy and the fertility of a Western prairie for thousands of years or more, as she has done for thousands in the past, had it not been for the new infusion of the Anglo-Saxon and Irish blood which gives her her present proud position. "I recall these facts because, when we speak of the present or the expected greatness of these two remarkable cities, New York and San Francisco, I beg that it will ever be remembered that great cities are the expression of great ideas—that they grow out of the genius of illustrious men. Alexander, gave his name to the city that he founded, and that city bears his name and is memorable to this day. "Rome is mighty because of the Senate and the people that made her high and proud position—made her the Eternal City—eternal lingers over her hills, still is reflected in the sunshine that gleams on her palaces, and thus the shadows of ancient greatness recall to our minds memories and associations that make us nobler than we otherwise would be. If these two cities are to be great they will be great because of the men who have still the genius to preserve and extend the advantages which they have won. "Had there been no De Witt Clinton, had there been no Erie Canal, in vain would have been the central position and commercial advantages of this city. She was not the first city of America until her great men gave artificial extension and developed those advantages, and thereby fixed on her the honored advantages of being the emporium of the Western world.

"If New York is to maintain this position she will do it because she will have great men continually able to keep her in advance. As she has seized the canal, telegraph and railroad and pressed them into her service, so she must be ready as new inventions are presented to seize them and turn them to her advantage. As it is with New York, so it will be with San Francisco. "Let us not believe that because this city has quadrupled in population in the last half century it is in the order of things and must continue. She will maintain her position, for her great men have the power to plan new enterprises and her great financiers shall second those efforts. "So with San Francisco. The great railroad recently achieved would never have been had there not been men in that city who saw capacities and improved opportunities and possibilities which the multitude did not see. If you had asked ten years ago if there would have been a railroad connecting these two cities, they would have said, 'As much of a railroad as to the moon.' But there were men who had faith which will remove mountains, as it always has and does. "I trust it will be so in the future. I trust that we shall comprehend and realize that there is a future for the people who make that future, who believe in their destiny and in their ability, and show their faith by their work. In this belief I heartily concur in the sentiment and trust that the future of these two fine predictions."

Our own city has reached a stage when there is urgent need for a few great men in our City Council; men of broad ideas, men of enterprise and courage; men who are capable of estimating the advantages which position of old Montreal affords.

HINTS AND EXAMPLES.

A TIMELY MOVE.—For some years there has existed in Montreal a society for the protection of women and children, and one that has done remarkably good work within the sphere of its labors. But its work has been confined to the English-speaking and Protestant elements. We all know that the large majority of the city's population is French and Catholic, and to these the benefits of the existing organiza-

RAILROADS.

GRAND TRUNK RY.

EXHIBITIONS

Toronto and Return

Sept. 5 and 7.....\$7.00
Sept. 4, 6, 8, 9, 10.....\$10.00
Return Limit—Sept. 15, 1903.

Sherbrooke and Return

Sept. 5 and 7.....\$2.50
Aug. 29, 30, 31, Sept. 1, 4, 5.....\$3.25
Return Limit—Sept. 7, 1903.

Special Train Service—Sept. 2, 1903—Going—

Leave Montreal 7:00 a.m.; arrive Sherbrooke 10:30 a.m. Retaining leave Sherbrooke 10:30 p.m. On Sept. 3 special train will also leave Sherbrooke 10:30 p.m. for Montreal.

Regular Train Service—Going—Leave Montreal

8:01 a.m., 4:10 p.m. week days, 8:01 p.m. daily. Retaining—Leave Sherbrooke 3:45 a.m. daily, 9:38 a.m., 8:50 p.m. week days.

LABOR DAY

SEPT. 7th.

Round Trip Tickets will be issued at **SINGLE CLASS FARE**

Going Dates—Sept. 5th, 6th and 7th. Return Limit—Sept. 8th, 1903.

CITY TICKET OFFICES,

127 St. James Street. Telephone Main 460 & 461, and Bonaventure Station.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

HARVEST EXCURSIONS

to the **Canadian NORTH WEST**

Return Fare Colonist Class

Winnipeg	\$28.00
Waskada	
Elgin	
Estevan	
Arcole	
Bismarck	
Wawanesa	
Mooseomin	
Minot	
Grand View	
Valin River	
Regina	\$30.00
Mooselaw	
Yorkton	\$35.00
Prince Albert	
Calgary	
Medford	
Red Deer	
Strathcona	\$40.00

From all Stations in the Province of Ontario and Quebec, on **SEPT. 15th and 25th, 1903.**

Good for return until Nov. 16 & 26, '03.

LABOR DAY

SEPT. 7th.

Round Trip Tickets will be issued at **SINGLE CLASS FARE**

Going Dates—Sept. 5th, 6th and 7th. Return Limit—Sept. 8th, 1903.

CITY TICKET AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE,

129 ST. JAMES STREET, next Post Office

tion did not extend. On Monday last took place the inauguration of a society, on somewhat similar lines, which has been formed by a number of well known French-Canadian citizens. The old Ryland property, on Dorchester street, near St. Andre street, has been secured by the society and fitted up as a shelter or home for those who are destitute. One of the purposes of this society is to free the city of beggars and to assist the deserving poor. The president is Mr. J. H. Creque; first vice-president, Dr. Rottot; second vice-president, Joseph Hoofstetter; secretary and manager, A. Rivet; counsel, C. Rodier, and J. O. Fournier; directors, F. D. Monk, M.P., Senator Javard, J. M. Fortier, L. Z. Benoit, A. Ledue, E. l'Archeveque, N.P., Dr. L. B. Durocher, F. Lapointe, Ludger Gravel and L. Gravel. The physicians are Drs. N. Fournier, T. l'Archeveque, G. H. Desjardins and A. l'Archeveque. No doubt that the organization, started as it has been under such pleasant auspices, and in view of the great scope there is for its activity and usefulness, will be quite a boon to the city. We have ever had to suffer from the presence of too many beggars in our streets, and the more institutions we have for the care of these unfortunate people the better for them and for society.

MOVING OUT OF CITY.—On Sunday afternoon last a very interesting, though somewhat private ceremony took place at Outremont. The event was the blessing, by His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi, of the cornerstone of a new convent for the Sisters of Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Several priests were present. The edifice is to stand on the Western slope of the mountain, and it will occupy one of the most healthy and picturesque sites in or around the city. It is understood that the intention is to transfer the boarding school from Hochelaga to the new convent.

SCHOOL HOURS.—It is an injustice to our little girls to keep them in school until four o'clock. Two hours after mid-day is quite long enough. The hour for dismissal, each day, should not be later than 3 o'clock.

A BOSTON CENTENNIAL.—In commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the first Catholic Church in Boston, the Catholic Historical Society of New England, and the various Catholic congregations of Boston are combining to worthily celebrate the event.

S. CARSLY Co. LIMITED

A SPECIAL PURCHASE OF MEN'S RAINPROOF COATS

The "new management's" special price for \$9.00 to \$14.00 values will be.....\$7.95

Made in Scotch Tweed and Fawn and Dark Gray Venetian effects, in Raglanette style, some half lined, others lined throughout. A thoroughly good and reliable garment, in sizes 34 to 42 in chest measure. Regular \$9.00 to \$14.00 garments, offered for.....\$7.95

LADIES' KID GLOVES.

The "Countess," with 2 stud fasteners, in new shades of tan, gray, brown, fawn, black and white, with white, black and self silk points. Per pair.....97c

MEN'S FELT HATS.

Fur Felt Hats, in suitable weights for wearing in the fall, up-to-date modes, Panama and Derby shapes. Usual retail price \$2.00 and \$2.75. Sale price, \$1.65 and.....\$2.15

Some of the New Ready-To-Wear Hats for Fall

Shaded Camel's Hair Hats, with satin ribbon across front, buckle in centre. Sale price.....\$1.70

Blue Camel's Hair Hats, rolling brim effect, with fold of velvet on edge, high crown, 2 quills on crown, with buckle. Sale price.....\$2.40

Boys School Suits for \$2.65

Made of navy serge and fancy tweed, 2-piece Suits, fancy pleated coats; also, 3-piece Middy Suits, and 3-piece Suits in sack or double breasted style, all well lined throughout. Prices range from \$3.25 to \$4.00. Special sale price.....\$2.65

34c WINDOW SHADES 23c.

These are obtainable in all the leading colors, and are 37 inches wide x 72 inches long, furnished with spring roller and lath, ready to put up; will work to your thorough satisfaction, Regular 34c. Sale price.....23c

SASH CURTAINING 19c.

20 pieces White Bobbinet Sash Curtaining, with Torchon lace and insertion, heavily ruffled 30 inches wide. Regular 24c yard.....19c

S. CARSLY Co. LIMITED.

1765 to 1783 Notre Dame Street, 184 St. James Street, Montreal

CARPETS

Fall Openings, Curtains, Rugs, Beds and Bedding and a large assortment of Carpet Squares, made up Carpets, at large discounts.

THOMAS LIGGETT, EMPIRE BUILDING, 2474 and 2476 ST. CATHERINE STREET

In announcing the event one of the non-Catholic organs of Boston gives us some very interesting details from which we extract the following few passages, that certainly are creditable to our co-religionists in that city:—

"Just a century ago the determined efforts of the small band of Roman Catholics then struggling for religious toleration in the heart of Puritanical New England first found fruition in the erection of the Church of the Holy Cross on Franklin street, but in that 100 years the Catholic Church in Boston has made tremendous strides.

"All over the city churches and schools devoted to the propagation of the faith have sprung up and flourished, while over the entire State enterprising Catholics and their priests have raised the stately edifices under the auspices of their faith.

"But in Boston particularly has the growth of Catholicity been an amazing one, as a census of to-day gives the members of the Roman Catholic Church a total of 65 per centage of the population, making the most Catholic city in the country.

"Of course, but a small portion of these can necessarily be reckoned as the descendants of the founders of the first Catholic Church, although 90 per cent. of the number, it is claimed, are of Irish birth or of Irish extraction. And the vast numbers of immigrants continually coming to this city from Italy and other places promise to make the percentage even greater.

"Accordingly, to celebrate this wondrous growth in a fitting manner the Catholics of Boston have chosen the hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the old cathedral as the date for the big observance."

When we consider the ordeals through which the Catholics had to pass, and all that they suffered for their faith in New England, from the very founding of the colony, it must be a glorious vindication of their faith to be thus enabled to hold such a celebration, and to have such a testimony from a Protestant organ.

We have a complete assortment of Infants' Brushes, Combs, Powder Boxes and Feeders—everything that could possibly be required.

Infants' Muslin and Silk Bonnets. Were from \$1.20 to \$3.75. Now

HALF PRICE.

Refreshment Room on 2nd Floor.

Mail Orders Promptly Attended

JAS. A. OGILVY & SONS,

St. Catherine and Mountain Sts.

Some Types of Non-Catholic And The Prejudice

(By a Regular Contributor)

The very discordant monic chorus serves the more the musical it has rudely marred. V of the world are raised it of praise or lament both, the uttering of a shocks the ear and the it serves to emphasize harmony that it has d the occasion of the de XIII, the world was u praise, in admiration a sions of regret. These o ly from Catholics fro humble to the most ex came also from Protest and not a single non-C spoke or wrote on the was loud in his tributes ory of the wonderful m had been closed at such age and in such an exa It would have been str not been some harsh-so but it would seem as if scendent personality had his very life and death, criticism. Yet there was Venice—that Venice that her Patriarch to succeed Pontiff, that Venice so lo of the Adriatic and the s ble art and generous sen Venice there lurked, in the Christian clergyman, the and bigoted and miserable had the courage to assai character of the dead Po fable of Lafontaine has illustrated; the living do kicked the dead lion—for he could kick the dead w ity. The name of this cr Dr. Alexander Robertson with two titles, a reveren common reverence for a doctor with the rudimen education.

The article appeared in don Christian." We cannot what ground any org claim the title of Chris could sink sufficiently into of hatred and misrepresent give publicity to such a But unlike the irreverent d Christian was not a sole The New York "Weekly Wit produced the article, and d form that indicated only t the spirit with which that animated. We have no inte turn, not even for the pur refutation, to send the vil further on its way. But, it might be suspected of deal harshly with its author, an der to give our readers a f of the evil-mindedness that can engender, we will take tracts from its columns. In passage we cite this Rev. I ander Robertson (we repeat I and titles so that they may forgotten) says:—

"The notices in the English papers do credit to the gene heart of the writers, but do credit to their judgments and lects. Unconsciously they history, and obscure great m tions; in a word, they pleasing fiction, not solid fa me give a few facts about the Pope, in the words of Italian knew him personally, and w eye-witnesses of his deeds."

This is the preface to a who of infamous lies, put into the of Italian Illuminati, or mem those very secret societies th executed Pius IX, and instiga spoliation of the Church. point Leo XIII, as a silent a soul murder when he was Arch of Perugia; of being a miser, ant, and a heartless and over enemy of the House of Savoy. in the hour when the royalty ally sought reconciliation. Th no need of going into the deta is enough to say that the mo ter pen could not trace harder to fling at a Nero, a Henry VI a Cromwell. But we must give sample of this man's baseness. do not object to his repetition old, old slanders on the Church, no self-respecting Protestant to-day repeat, and that have no frequently disproved, that mere fact of advancing them, suffices to stamp with the seal of faith any writing or expression contains them. But it is the fa