

The jealousy of city against city is not, it would seem, confined to the Maritime Provinces. The *Toronto Globe* having given a kindly recommendation to the people of Toronto to attend the Hamilton Carnival meets with but a surly acknowledgment from the *Hamilton Times*. Inter-civic jealousy and the rude and vulgar expression of it are a discredit to Canadian intelligence and good feeling, to say nothing of patriotism. All Canada ought to be able to rejoice ungrudgingly at the success and prosperity of any part of her wide Dominion.

A humorous claim has been attributed to the United States Assistant Secretary of the State that they have a right to the seals in the open seas because they have been bred in their waters. A writer in the *Christian Union* (an American paper) very aptly institutes as a parallel that "the same principle would establish a claim of the Northern States to authority over the robins when they go South in the fall," but a more distinctly international claim lies open to Canada. There are lots of robins which breed in the Dominion and they all go South in the fall.

It has long been supposed that the highest mountain on the face of the globe was Mount Everest in the Himalayas, the height of which above the ocean level is 29,000 feet. If more recent observation be correctly reported the distinction belongs to a peak in the Island of Papua or New Guinea. This monster is said to have been discovered by Capt. A. J. Lawson, of London, in 1881. According to him the new claimant for the mountain championship is 32,763 feet in height, being 3,781 feet higher than Mount Everest. The new giant has been named Mount Hercules.

We again raise our voice in warning to the Dominion Government on the Mormon movement into our N. W. Territories. Let the Government be fully prepared, and not have to deal eventually with an accomplished fact, always more difficult to deal with than if combatted in its inception. The foul idea of polygamy is the essence of the faith, if such it may be called, of these social miscreants. If there is the slightest winking at it the Mormon settlement in the N. W. will rapidly increase by immigration from Utah. Let the federal Government use a wise and comprehensive foresight.

The Canadian Pacific has taken the right course to rehabilitate itself in the good graces of the people of Manitoba by proposing to undertake the construction of certain branch lines of railway. The fertile and beautiful Souris District is, it is said, one of the first which will be benefitted by this decision. The railway hunger of the Pacific Province has been phenomenal, and it is astonishing how much facility of traffic has been accomplished under its urgency. The results will probably demonstrate the expediency of building railways to promote settlement rather than waiting for the demands of settlement to build railways.

"A recent cartoon in a New York paper," says the *Kentville New Star*, "hits off the present situation very well. John Bull is represented with a number of bags of gold hanging from his belt as approaching Uncle Sam with the remark—'It's a lot of trouble to buy you up piece-meal; what will you take for your whole blooming country, anyway?' Canadians cannot but wish that the British investor, in his own interest as well as in ours, would utilize more of his wealth than he now does in building up the great mining and other industries of which this country is capable, and which would afford him a safe and paying investment." The *New Star's* moral to the fable is aptly hit. We commend it to all Canadians.

The *London Times* has the following apt remarks on the Behring Sea seizures. They seem to sum up the case with considerable penetration:—"There is a curious want of seriousness about the Behring Sea seizures. It appears they are intended to frighten away Victorian sealers by sham formalities of capture, and not to exact the usual penalties. America appears to think this course will appease the Alaska company and please the Irish electors, yet not provoke British reprisals. But she has no right to play a game of 'bounce' with the weapons of illegal capture and search. Unless England takes some active step America will be perfectly content with an interchange of views till doomsday. Americans will not find us unreasonable on the score of preserving seals from extinction. If they persist in refusing to discuss any settlement our only course is to take vigorous steps to see that our rights are respected."

If, a few years ago, Canada was found incapable of sustaining a first-class magazine, it will probably not be long before such a publication might be again adventured upon with every prospect of success. In a recent article on "Intellectual Development" the *Toronto Empire* has the following entirely justifiable remarks:—"The last two decades have seen the pulse of literary activity stirring in Canada with no uncertain effect. A Canadian has taken the prize of a Russian Czar for the best work on cavalry, another has written a standard work on British Parliamentary System, still another has distinguished himself as a constitutional writer, a French-Canadian has been crowned laureate by the Academy of France, while poets too numerous to mention have dwelt upon the beauties of Canadian scenery, and sung of the deeds of Canadian history. Eloquent and interesting works have been written upon the Scotchmen and Irishmen in Canada, and now a gifted writer is engaged upon a history of our country as a whole. In science, in belles-lettres, in history, in drama, in poetry, and in all the departments of literary growth the progress during the last few years has been marked, and we are justified in believing that the development of Canadian literature will continue in its prosperous course until this branch of the great tree of British thought will have added to its parent's laurels a not unworthy chaplet of renown."

Substantially the *New York Herald* is in accord with the *London Times* in its opinion on the Behring Sea seizures—the policy in regard to which it does not hesitate to stigmatise as "buffoonery." This is what the *Herald* says:—"If the United States has a good title to Behring Sea it should send cruisers enough there to protect our rights in a businesslike manner becoming the dignity of the nation. Every sealer caught violating our rights should be brought into an American port as a prize. If it has no such title it should say so and stop harassing foreign vessels in those waters. Such burlesque business as seizing a vessel and then putting a prize crew of one seaman aboard that she may skip away to her own port should be stopped. It is simply buffoonery well calculated to do mischief and bring the authority of the United States into contempt."

We have had something to say now and then about the check-rein abomination, especially that which is made fast to the top of the head—the worst and cruellest form of it. We are glad to see that attention is now called by *Public Opinion* to "blinkers." We are wonderfully afraid of trusting to nature, and reasonable methods deduced from observation of it. No one rides a horse with blinkers, and it would be infinitely better if we drove them without those unnatural incumbrances. The eyes of the horse are quite unlike our own, they are prominent and placed on the sides of the head. The blinker has the effect of heating them and hindering the free passage of air over them. It causes the eyes to be always directed forward, and thus produces a most injurious strain on the delicate muscles. We know how painful a sensation is felt when we are obliged to strain our eyes either backward or upward for any length of time, and the horse suffers no less inconvenience when it is forced to keep its eyes continually strained forward. The closer the blinker—sometimes confuted by a cross strap—the worse the effect. Between dark stables and blinkers it is a marvel that nine horses out of ten do not go blind.

We are sorry to learn of a proposal to shorten cricket by making an innings end when five men are out. It is to be hoped it will not be entertained. We do not want to see cricket Yankeeified. It is remarked by the *Toronto Globe* that for amateur cricket "has some advantages over both lacrosse and baseball. The very slowness and leisureliness which Americans deride make it suitable for men whose muscles and wind are not in condition for violent exercise, and especially for men of somewhat advanced years. The Englishman plays cricket when he is fifty years of age, while a man over thirty is rarely seen on the diamond or the lacrosse field." This idea does not appeal to us; there is some amount of truth in it, but the call on the strength, wind, and especially the staying qualities, of a successful bat, who may have to make, say a hundred runs on his account, besides those he may have to traverse on his partner's, the continuous exertion required of bowlers and long stops, and the all round vigilance of fielders which can never relax, are not quite of the sort "suitable for men whose muscles and wind are not in condition for violent exercise." We trust our over-suggestive friends will leave cricket alone to its own merits, such as they are, and to its respectability.

The *Boston Musical Herald* has the following interesting remarks on "the golden harp":—"The harp is by common consent supposed to be the musical instrument of the angels, and many a clerical metaphor has been made regarding 'the celestial harps,' 'the golden harps,' etc., etc. The metaphor is probably taken by very few as a fixed truth, but is nevertheless to the musician an interesting and also a reverential one. At the time that the Scriptures were written the harp was the finest instrument possessed by man, and in ascribing it to the angels an effort was made to represent the music of Heaven by the noblest tones of earth. Were we to imagine celestial music to-day it would be the roll of heavenly orchestras, and some of the old Italian painters scarcely made a musical error in depicting their angels as playing on violins. The violin is the noblest earthly instrument, and is far beyond the harp in its representation of bliss. Meanwhile Schumann and Beethoven (in 'Faust') have used the harp to picture celestial joys, while Wagner has used violins in a soft tremolo in highest positions, combined with sweet tones of wood wind. Nevertheless association of ideas is much in music, and the harp must always call up the idea of heaven in the minds of many."

The Paris Medical Congress of 1888 appointed a Commission to study the best means of avoiding the contagion of tuberculosis—consumption. The report shows that one-third of the mortality in France is caused by tuberculosis, and says if mortality from tuberculosis is so great, it is because pulmonary phthisis is not the only manifestation of tuberculosis, as the public generally imagine. Tuberculosis is a virulent, contagious, and transmittable disease, caused by a microbe which penetrates into the system by the digestive organs with food, by the respiratory organs with the air, by the skin and mucous membrane after abrasions, punctures, wounds, and various ulcerations. Sundry maladies, such as measles, small-pox, chronic bronchitis, pneumonia, &c., predispose a person to contract the disease. It adds that the microbe of tuberculosis may be met with in the milk, muscles, and blood of animals used for food, such as oxen, cows, and especially rabbits and fowls. Raw meat and underdone meat should be prohibited, as the germ may be in the blood. For the same reason, milk should only be drunk after being boiled. It is to be feared we are getting to know altogether too much. Instead of "Eat, drink and be merry for to-morrow we die" science seems to be fast inculcating a more modern axiom which might well run thus—"Eat nothing, drink nothing, and hug your hypochondria closer and closer, and to-morrow you will die in due course, and be well out of a world hyper-science has made too wearisome to live in."