

To the Editor of "The Ottawa Citizen."

SIR,—The report of the proceedings at the dinner given by the Mayor (H. J. Friel, Esq.,) on the 1st July, omits the various speeches delivered on that occasion; but, as the host, in proposing "The Day we Celebrate," elaborated some important political problems, you will please permit me the use of sufficient space in your valuable journal for the purpose of publishing a synopsis of the most prominent points made in relation to the important measures necessary for the future development of the Colonies linked together, for better or worse, by the Act of Confederation, as follows:

"The future welfare and present exigencies of British North America is necessarily a subject of surpassing importance to the people. It is not necessary in this connection to recapitulate the narration of those causes which have given rise to this anniversary, as it is a matter of historical notoriety, and as a measure of statesmanship and political experiment it is undergoing the crucial test of practical application. Connected with the press of the Province at the period of its inception, were some who gave it every opposition legitimately within their power, from the conviction that it was, at least, premature—might, possibly, be dangerous—and, at best, a political experiment not adapted to the wants of the country or the social condition of the people. But the measure being approved by the Imperial Parliament, and having received the sanction of Our Gracious Queen, it became the duty of every true and loyal subject to accept the situation, and lend every aid to the carrying out of its provisions.

"Previous to the inception of the measure of Confederation there were great Public Works necessary for the development of the commercial and manufacturing interests of British North America, which were, in some degree, local, but must now be considered, and are, of national importance.

"Foremost amongst them are three great undertakings, on the successful completion of which much of future prosperity depends: First, the Intercolonial Railway; second, the opening of the Ottawa Navigation; and third, the construction of the Atlantic and Pacific Railway, connecting Halifax in Nova Scotia, on the extreme eastern shore of this continent, with Puget's Sound on its extreme, western shore through British territory.

"Measures of this description are doubtless very extensive; but, when statesmen will deal with half a continent, they must not be surprised at the magnitude of the interests created, nor the questions necessary for their development; and therefore it will be utterly impossible to administer the affairs of the Dominion successfully without the completion of the measures indicated.

"The first has long stared Canadian politicians in the face, and, like Banquo's ghost, refused to be laid without being thoroughly appeased. The Act of Confederation has provided for quieting the monster, though it still haunts the Council Chamber. But its completion is a foregone conclusion.

"The second project is necessary for opening the communication between Chicago, where the trade in breadstuffs centres, and the Maritime Provinces, thus creating a valuable coasting trade, having return cargoes of coal, a prime necessity in Canada proper. It will also assist in directing emigration towards the Northwest and developing the manufacturing capabilities of the country—every fall—of which there are nearly forty in the river—furnishes an admirable site for

a factory; and as the navigation would reach by smaller channels, at St. Louis, on the Mississippi, the cotton of the South could be manufactured more cheaply on the Ottawa than at Lowell or Manchester. It is not necessary to speak of this great work in relation to its value as a line of defence, but it is one of its greatest recommendations nevertheless.

"As a necessary corollary, I think the Atlantic and Pacific Railway must be constructed to perfect the chain of communication and enable the affairs of the Provinces it would open to be administered with dispatch, as well as to promote their settlement and develop their resources.

"It is to be hoped that the statesmen of the Dominion are fully capable of achieving the accomplishment of those great measures so imperatively demanded by the magnitude of the interests called into existence by their acts.

"Leaving those questions in the care of that Providence which shapes our ends, rough hew them as we may, it is time to direct attention to the social aspects and interests by which we are surrounded. A city of yesterday (for it is not yet half a century since the first tree was felled on the site of Ottawa), the formation of that kind of society which exists in older settled communities is yet in the stage of adolescence. Composed as it is of busy, pushing business men, with little time to spare for a display of the more refined courtesies of life, it is no wonder that they are open to the charge of want of hospitality so often made against them by the members of the Senate and House of Commons; but it arises, not from any want of the virtue, but from a diffidence for which there is no sufficient reason. Men who have little time for social relaxation are averse to mingle with others whose ample leisure gives a greater apparent freedom to their actions. But the good sense and generosity of such of the citizens who can afford to act as becomes their station will, in future, correct this evil.

"The idea is fast gaining ground that it would be advisable to create a territory of ten miles square and attach it to the City, which should be elevated to the dignity of a Federal Capital with representation in the Senate and House of Commons. This movement would undoubtedly be one of great local and public importance: but in the meantime every effort should be put forth to render it worthy of its destiny. Many measures of internal improvement are required; and foremost amongst the number is that of a supply of water. Before the next meeting of the Local Parliament it will be necessary to place a Bill in the hands of our Local Member for the purpose of enabling the authorities to supply that want.

"It is to be desired that the next anniversary of this day will be celebrated by a Society composed of all the different nationalities; but to be known for that occasion as a Canadian Society. Such a movement would tend to amalgamate our people and unite them as one nationality."

It is needless commenting on the measures reviewed in this speech. Their importance in a political and social point of view is manifest; and the occasion was one which made their enunciation a matter of more than ordinary significance. On the recurrence of any such ovation in future, it is to be hoped that Her Majesty's responsible advisers will be present and shadow forth the policy by which the best interests of the public should be subserved.

Amongst the many benefits conferred on the City by the energetic administration of

the present Chief Magistrate, the inauguration of what it is to be hoped will become a regular entertainment must be reckoned as not the least.

A necessary element in the social politics of Canada is the elimination of those practical measures on which the development of the commercial and manufacturing industries of the country depends. Gatherings of this description would go far to provide a remedy for the indifference manifested with regard to such matters,

I am, sir,

Your obed't serv't, ...

INSPECTION OF THE BURFORD CAVALRY TROOP.

Col. Durie, D.A.G., inspected the Burford Cavalry Troop, commanded by Captain Bingham, at Burford, on Thursday morning last, at 9 o'clock. The troop were ordered on drill at 5 o'clock, a.m., and there were about 40 men and horses present, including three officers. The troop was exercised in several movements such as wheeling, &c. They were also formed up and singled out certain distances for sword exercise, then ensuing practice followed, the whole of which were performed in a most creditable manner. The Colonel was pleased with the several evolutions, and remarked that the condition and size of the horses were everything that could be desired; that he had inspected many troops, but that he must give the Burford Troop great praise, the horses were really fine animals. He also said that the accoutrements were in excellent order. It might be that the troop would be called out ere long for active service, but he hoped they would not, as it would be inconvenient for the men to leave their farms—as they were all hardy sons of the soil. He would observe, that if any of the men wished to attend the cavalry school at Toronto they could do so by applying to their Captain, and he (Col. Durie) would receive his applications with great pleasure, and would assist in furthering their views. He also promised that he would look after the balance of saddlery, clothing, accoutrements &c., of which the troop may be deficient. He suggested that the Captain would cut all cross belts, and do away with swivels, he thought it would be more convenient to the men on drill. He said he had no doubt ere long the troop would be called out for active service—perhaps to Toronto—for military drill, where they would have an excellent chance to improve themselves. He again complimented the troop on their fine soldierly appearance, and if they were called out in defence of their country he was certain they would give a good account of themselves. The Colonel then wished the officers and men good bye, and returned to Paris.—*Brantford Courier*.

TARGET PRACTICE.—During the annual drill of the 35th Battalion, the different companies composing it were out at target practice at the rifle range, about three miles from town. We give below a condensed statement of the total and average of each company. It will be observed that Drumbo took the palm in shooting.

	200.	300.	500.	Tl.
No. 1 Co., 44 men,.....	357	194	89.	640
Corp. Leo.....	12	14	6..	32