



TRUTH FOR THE PEOPLE

OLD SERIES—17TH YEAR.

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“TRUTH” VILLA!

It is gratifying to find so many of our old subscribers renewing their subscriptions and entering the competition for our last great prize distribution. Show your friends the paper, and prevail upon them to participate with you in the benefits to be derived by becoming a subscriber to TRUTH. The list of awards this time is liberal almost to prodigality. By subscribing now you are more than likely to secure one of the awards, and possibly it may be you who will get the beautiful city residence, which will positively be given to some one. An illustration, together with a description and its location will be given shortly. Let no one fail to respond at once, and by sending along ONE DOLLAR secure for yourself the best literary weekly in Canada and the possibility of getting a city residence. See particulars on 22nd page.

WHAT TRUTH SAYS.

On Sunday next, Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Empress of India, will be sixty-six years of age. She was born at Kensington Palace, May 24th, 1819. She began to reign at the death of her uncle, William IV., June 20th, 1837; she will soon, therefore, complete the forty-eight year of her reign. Never before did any human being reign so long over such a mighty nation. Never did any King or Queen reign more loyally in the hearts of the people. The present stability of the Throne of Great Britain, while nearly all others have been trembling with revolution—may be largely attributed to the personal worth and good sense of Victoria. She is certainly not the most brilliant woman that has graced England's throne, nor does she now compare in this respect with many women her subjects, but she appears to have been gifted with good common sense, and inspired with a sincere desire to do faithfully the duties required of her position, and it is on this account her subjects remain so loyal to her person. An English writer has well said of her: No former monarch has so thoroughly comprehended the great truths, that the powers of the crown are held in trust for the people and are the means and not the end of the Government. This enlightened policy has entitled her to the glorious distinction of having been the most constitutional monarch this country has ever seen.

Queen Victoria enters her sixty-seventh year in good health, and with a fair prospect of many years of official usefulness yet before her. “Long may she reign” is the loyal response and earnest prayer of millions of her loyal subjects. Happily the chances are that when she has to lay down the reins of power they will be taken up by a worthy and judicious successor,—her son a man of ripe experience, carefully trained by his royal mother for the duties apparent to him. One of the glories of Queen Victoria is that she has proved a queenly mother as well as a motherly Queen. Her numerous

children have been all well and carefully educated, under her immediate personal supervision, and they have all showed themselves well possessed of the good judgment, the tact, the kindly heart and the obliging manner of their mother. They are all popular with the people on that account. No nation could be more proud of its Royal family, and no nation has had better reason to be proud and thankful in this respect.

The antipathy felt towards the Chinese population along the Pacific coast does not appear to abate. In British Columbia the white population—or some of them at least—are becoming so exasperated about the continued presence of the Chinaman there that a resolve has been published to drive them out by force, if the Dominion Government much longer refuses to take any action in the matter. In California the feeling appears to be still more intense. In San Francisco a good deal of indignation is being expressed because the courts have decided that American born children of Chinese parents must be allowed to enjoy educational advantages in the common schools in common with other children. One journal says the people don't object to sending missionaries to convert and elevate these people at home, but in the eyes of the average Californian it is a mean thing to do much towards the education or elevation of the same race if they happen to live this side of the broad Pacific. At this distance it is hard to understand why such a strong feeling prevails against the Chinese.

Here is a statement in regard to the overcrowding in Ireland, which tells its own story. As it is from reliable authority it is probably quite correct, and it certainly furnishes a strong argument in favour of some vast emigration scheme from Ireland. It is hardly probable that anything but emigration, from some parts of Ireland, will afford the people just the relief they need.—In Dublin 31,202 families live in 7,284 houses, containing 48,116 rooms. One hundred and seventy five Dublin houses, valued as freeholds at \$13,385 are let to poor tenants at an annual rental of \$41,555. Surely here are some of the wrongs of Ireland for Parzell and his friends to grapple with.

A respected reader of TRUTH calls attention to the fact that the beautiful poem commencing,

“I am old and blind” attributed to Milton, was not from the pen of that great poet, though it is often attributed to him, and is published in an Oxford edition of his poems. The authoress was Elizabeth Lloyd, a young lady of Philadelphia, a Quakeress. She afterward married Robert Howell. It was entitled “Milton's Prayer for Patience.” Probably John Milton did not write anything so truly touching or more beautiful in sentiment.

Party squabbles are becoming so much the rage that it seems as though public interests are often but a secondary matter of consideration. In New York State, just now, there is such a squabble about the

appointment of three thousand census enumerators that it begins to look as though no census at all will be taken. Every ten years a census of the state is required by law, and it has been quite the custom for the Secretary of State to appoint the enumerators. It so happens that the present Secretary is a Republican and the Governor is a Democrat. Each official is anxious to control the appointment with a view to serving the future interests of the party. The Governor has vetoed a bill appropriating \$400,000 for the census, and the Secretary and his party seem unwilling to pass any bill through the Legislature favouring the Governor's desires in the matter. That much confusion comes from the election by the people of both Governor and the heads of the Department. Of course under our Canadian system of responsible government just such a dead lock could not take place.

So far as the Halfbreed rebellion in the North-west is concerned, the probabilities are that it is about at an end. Last week our noble volunteers did their country good service in driving the rebels out of their entrenchments at Batoche, and in capturing the arch-rebel, Riel. The solitary lesson the Halfbreeds have been taught will not, it is hoped, soon be forgotten. The accounts go to show that the number of them slain or wounded at Batoche was large, while our own men escaped wonderfully well. Some of our noble young men were killed, some others maimed for life by the wounds they have received, and others slightly wounded. All this is to be deplored, but it must have been expected. How it was possible to accomplish so much with so little sacrifice of life is all but a mystery. Gen. Middleton was evidently more desirous to save his men than to gain a reputation for bold dash by sacrificing them. Now that the strong hold has been taken and the chief captured it is to be hoped that farther bloodshed among the Halfbreeds may be averted.

What disposal will be made of Riel now that he has been captured? It is certain he cannot be trifled with again. Sir John did the country an irreparable wrong in his temporizing policy regarding the agitator after his former rebellion. Not only was the people's money wrongfully taken to pay him off at that time, but it was, indirectly, the means of much, if not all, the present expense and bloodshed. The opposition, in the amnesty business, were less blameworthy. Both sides appear to have been too much actuated by mere time-serving motives in the whole business. The country is not in a mood to tolerate anything of that kind again, and probably the party leaders are well aware of the fact by this time. The rebellion was evidently allowed to ripen in consequence of the incompetency and neglect of the Government officials in the North-West, and possibly at Ottawa too. Had they been as vigilant as it was their duty to be it might have been nipped in the bud. The pity is that some share of the punishment that has fallen on the country, on the unfortunate settlers of

the territory, and on hundreds of deluded Halfbreeds, should not fall on the heads of those whose unfaithfulness to plain duty allowed the trouble to grow into such alarming proportions.

In the interests of the whole people the government should at once acquaint itself with all the facts of the case so as to obtain clear information who among their servants were unfaithful and who were faithful. It will not do to allow the same men to go on administering affairs in the same manner in the North-West. The country will hardly be satisfied to learn that the Lieut.-Governor is spending weeks of his time off-duty in Ottawa, as in former years, or, still worse, in British Columbia “visiting his Mother-in-law,” as the Premier so cheerfully informed the house last year. Such an announcement made sport for the Premier's admirers at the time, but the same grim humour cannot safely be indulged in again.

Canada has certainly good reason to be proud of the bravery of our volunteers. The young men of the country nobly and heartily responded to the call of duty when their services were required, and in no instance do they appear to have flinched for a moment to march into the thickest of the danger and battle. Their coolness and discipline, too, has been of the most creditable character, and the cheerfulness with which they have endured the great fatigue and privations so necessary in such a campaign, in such a climate and in such a country, deserves our highest admiration. All honor to our noble volunteers. Unfortunately too many of them will never return to us again. What a pity that such noble lives must be sacrificed because of the acts of such mean men, and in defending our country against such an uprising!

There is a great deal of shrewdness left yet in Connecticut. Every body has read, at some time, of the sharpness of the people in that “down east” State. The last evidence of it is furnished in the fact that the select men of Middleburg have recently adopted a resolution requiring that every tombstone erected in the country there shall contain, among other things, the name of the physician who attended the deceased. Whether the medicos will look with favor on this innovation, TRUTH has not been informed. A good deal of gratuitous advertising will be done in this way, but whether it may turn out to be to the doctor's advantage may be quite another thing. It will be a curious study to see how many men died without the aid of a doctor in a given time, and what diseases facilitated their take off. Some one here has suggested that all newspaper death notices should contain the name of the performing doctor, just as every marriage notice gives the name of the performing minister, but somehow the suggestion has not been acted upon generally. The Middleburg select men are evidently wrestling with some such great question just now.