

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHY.

WE learn from our English exchanges that active preparations are being made by the Post Office authorities to take up the telegraphic system of the kingdom under the act of last session. Various appointments have been made, and the persons appointed are being instructed in telegraphy. The several telegraphic instruments in use are also being tested practically for the purpose of selection. We shall look with much interest for statistics of telegraphic business as done under Government control and compared with the business now done by the companies. We have very little doubt but that the result will be perfectly satisfactory, more so even than was anticipated by the supporters of the bill. We hope our Government will avail themselves of the earliest reliable information they can obtain on the subject. They have postponed a decision, preferring to wait for England to furnish the experience before legislating finally; if the experiment prove successful in England, a trial will probably be given it here. The acquisition and absorption into the Dominion of so much new territory will render it all the more necessary to open telegraphic communication in all directions, and with less delay than would be likely to occur if the construction of lines were left to private enterprise. We think it therefore exceedingly probable that in order to bring all parts of the country into as close communication as possible, and to secure rapid and cheap transmission of intelligence, that our Government, with even moderate success attending the experiment in England, will prepare plans for the purchase of existing telegraphs, and for the carrying on through the Post Office department at reduced rates all the telegraphic business now being done.

BREEDING TROUT FOR MARKET.

AN enterprise of a somewhat novel character has been begun in Galt, in the County of Waterloo. Four residents of that flourishing town have purchased a piece of ground upon which there are numerous fresh water springs, which give rise to a small creek or burn—a tiny stream, but one quite large enough for the purpose had in view. Upon their property they have determined to test whether the artificial breeding of Brook Trout cannot be made a profitable speculation.

In several parts of the United States there are fish ponds of the kind, and it is a reasonable conclusion, that the owners of them do not work for nothing. Not far from Rochester a Mr. Green has thousands of trout in his ponds, which are described by those who have seen them, as an unusually interesting sight. The large fish range from one to three pounds in weight, and meet with a ready sale in any of the American cities, but particularly in New York, where the delicacy commands exorbitant prices. The process of raising the fish from the spawn, is a very interesting one, and requires very considerable intelligence and skill. The young members of the trout family require careful watching and attention; but after they get large, there is not much difficulty with them if they are properly fed and have abundance of fresh water. The trout in Mr. Green's ponds have become wonderfully tame, and when hungry, will come and take food out of a person's hand. Trout, it is well known, are very voracious—they have, indeed, a great deal of the cannibal in their composition, for the larger ones readily devour their own species. This renders it necessary to have several ponds, so that fish may be classified, and that each pond may contain only those about the same age and size. This prevents the destruction of the smaller fish, and at the feeding time ensures that each will receive a portion of the food distributed.

The projectors of the Galt ponds (Messrs. Robinson, Brown, Burnett and Allan,) intend to construct three as a commencement. The first one has already been completed. It is intended for the young fish, and is enclosed by a plain board building. This pond is 100x8 feet in size, and an average of 2 feet in depth. It has been stocked already with three or four hundred fish, and as a stream of water passes constantly through the enclosure, and food is supplied to them, they do not seem at all dissatisfied with their new quarters. The second and third ponds are to be considerably larger in every extent—the depth of the latter not being less than five or six feet. This is to be the home of the full grown trout, and they require considerable room, as the pond will contain several thousands of them at one time. The work of con-

structing the remaining ponds will be proceeded with immediately, and it is expected they will be finished and stacked before the winter comes in.

We understand that application was made to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Mr. Mitchell) by the Galt Company, asking special protection for their ponds under the 15th clause of the Fishery Act passed last year, as well as the privilege of stocking the ponds from the trout streams in the neighborhood of Galt. That gentleman manifested every desire to encourage the enterprise. Mr. Kerr, of Hamilton, Fishery Inspector of the district, has received instructions from the Department, to allow sufficient trout to be taken by means of the seine to stock the ponds, after which the proprietors will raise the fish from the spawn and thus keep up their supply. Notice will also shortly be given in the Official Gazette in accordance with the Act already mentioned, setting these ponds apart for the artificial propagation of fish, after which any person who wilfully destroys or injures them, or fish therein without written permission, will lay themselves liable to a fine of \$200, and in default of payment, to imprisonment for four months.

The gentlemen who have commenced this new enterprise, deserve much credit for their action. The experiment is one well worth trying, and if it does not prove entirely successful in a pecuniary point of view, will at least afford them much instruction and gratification, for Pisciculture is a very interesting study. Experience in the United States, however, would indicate that the enterprise can be made to pay. If Mr. Green succeeds with his ponds near Rochester, what is to hinder Canadians from doing the same?

SMITH TAKES HIS SUMMER TRIP.

"HOLLOA! Smith, where are you going?" So said a merchant to a friend as he took his hand at the Railway station the other day.

Had he waited a few moments, he would not have required to propound the query, for the appearance of sundry smaller editions of Smith, buoyant with youthful hilarity, and of a huge pile of trunks and band-boxes, told very plainly that the family were off to the sea-side, or—somewhere else.

Now, we regard Smith as a sensible man. He is in good circumstances—owes nothing but what he can promptly pay—has a clear surplus on his year's transactions, and, therefore, travels at his own and not at his creditors' expense. Why should men so situated not take a short annual trip? What is the use—as many merchants and others do—of everlastingly poring over their dusty Ledgers, never allowing themselves a week's relaxation from the cares and toils of business? What pleasure is there in life when business is made a treadmill upon which life and energy are worn out? What satisfaction is there in adding dollar to dollar, without even putting them to the only use for which they were created—spending them? Many men there are who make business their god, and become as much its slave as any poor African who ever felt the lash of a Legree; but far more sensible is Smith, who, not less industrious or successful than his neighbours, has the wisdom to leave the dust and din of the city during the "dog days," and spend a part of the fruits of his honest labour in recruiting his languishing strength by a dip in the salt water or a sniff of the sea breeze.

Let us not be misunderstood. Here we may require one of poor Artemus Ward's "nota bene's." The above is not "sarkasm," as that irrepressible joker was wont to add to some of his paragraphs; it is sound philosophy, but we wish it to be distinctly understood that it does not apply to any individual whose Ledger does not shew a balance on the right side, and who, when he travels, necessarily does so at the expense of creditors who have been unfortunate enough to trust him.

But where is Smith going? That's the rub! It must be apparent that it would be invidious to single out the destination of any person in particular, so we cannot with propriety reveal where friend Smith is at present "vegetating;" but there is abundance of places in Canada now in which a few weeks during the hot weather can be very agreeably and beneficially spent. We can now boast of numerous "watering places," the excellence of which is annually attracting large numbers of American visitors. A most delightful trip is a run down the St. Lawrence to see our Nova Scotia bride, who is fortunately no longer "kicking and squealing," as one of her representatives in Parliament once described her.

New Brunswick, too, possesses many objects of attraction, a sail up the noble river St. John being a trump card.

If the end sought is rest and quiet rather than travel, after going to see the grand scenery of the Saguenay, what could be more rejuvenating than two or three weeks spent at Cacouna, Murray Bay, or some other of the ports of the Lower St. Lawrence? The beneficial effects of relaxation from the cares of business, and a change of air and of food, can hardly be over-estimated, and enables tourists when they return home to engage in their occupations with renewed energy and determination to succeed.

But Smith may have gone westwards, not to the east at all. If so, he will there find plenty of places—and on Canadian soil, too—where he can pleasantly spend his holidays. Possibly he might be found on some of the fine steamers which traverse the sparkling waters of Lake Ontario, keeping quite cool amidst the watery breeze, whilst others on shore are running the risk of *coup de soleil*; if you look in at the Mineral Springs at the embryo city of St. Catharines, Smith, and the little "olive branches" as well, might possibly be seen flourishing in that locality; or, if not to be found in either of these places, certainly you ought to search about the wonders of Niagara Falls before giving up hopes of discovering his lurking place.

We know no finer trip that Smith could have taken than a run from Toronto to Collingwood, and from there up to Lake Superior. There are now two excellent steamers, the "Algoma" and the "Chicora," constantly running up to Fort William, at the head of the Lake, and a more delightful and invigorating trip could hardly be taken. Along the shores of that magnificent inland sea, with its waters so limpid that you can see the bottom distinctly at forty feet. Nature can be seen in all its grandeur and wildness. There can be fully realized the Poet's expression:

"Lo! the poor Indian, whose untutored mind
Sees God in clouds or hears him in the wind."

During some parts of the voyage it is so cool that the overcoat is gladly called into requisition, which is quite a novelty in the middle of July. All along the route, at the Sault Ste. Marie, at Michipicotton and other Hudson's Bay stations, and at Fort William itself, the tourist will find objects well calculated to delight and instruct.

Smith may have gone to—but where may he not have gone? Canada is full of localities admirably adapted for a holiday tour. In this respect we have nothing to envy on Uncle Sam's plantation over the way. Saratoga, with its heat and horse racing, is about played out; Long Branch is too fashionable and expensive; New York—who would go there in summer? No! let Canadians who purpose to take a short relaxation stick to Canadian soil, or, at least, Canadian water. Our "watering places" are looking up. Good hotels are now to be found at most of them, and you can obtain every comfort of the season if you pay for it. There is no insinuation in this last remark that the little bills run up fast, only a gentle reminder that no person has yet been found so philanthropic as to supply visitors for nothing.

We say to all who can afford it—follow Smith's example. The country is never so beautiful as at this season of the year; the city never so unattractive; business never so dull. Let *Paterfamilias*, then, unbutton his pocket, and take a summer trip. The money (if your own, mind you,) will be well spent. You will come back livelier, healthier, better—and you will entertain the same profound respect for Mr. Smith which we have. If you should meet him during your travels, give him our compliments.

BANKING SYSTEM OF THE DOMINION.

No. IV.

WE have attempted to show wherein the system proposed by Mr. Rose, the principal feature of which is the basing all circulation on Government Debentures, is preferable to the present somewhat unsatisfactory system. Let us now examine briefly some of the most important objections brought against it by its opponents, and endeavour while giving them all the weight that is due to them to prove that they are not of such a character as to be fatal or even very prejudicial to the success of the plan proposed.

The most commonly raised objection against issues of notes based on Government Securities, is the want of elasticity, the rigidity so to speak, which would prove an insurmountable impediment to furnishing the necessary circulation for moving the crops to market.