

## OUR ATLANTIC SUMMER RESORTS.

Go where you will in this Province, East, West, or North, you will find the hotels and boarding houses occupied by the outspoken free American tourists. Five years ago our cousins across the border regarded Nova Scotia pretty much as they now regard Nova Zembla. Notwithstanding their public schools they had a hazy idea of the geographical position of the Province, being content with the knowledge that it was a land somewhere in the high latitudes, probably somewhere near to Greenland. But as our rail and steamship communication were improved, and venturesome Americans, seeking a restful holiday beyond the bustling fashionable summer resorts of Maine, turned their steps eastward and found in Nova Scotia the health and rest for which they were in search, the Province with its attractive summer resorts became widely known, so that to-day thousands of tourists are enjoying the fresh air and cool breezes in the many watering places along our extensive sea-board. But there are still many places in the Province which possess excellent facilities for boating, bathing, etc., which have not yet attracted their quota of American travellers. We refer more particularly to the towns between Halifax and Yarmouth, lying along our Southern and Western Shore; Chester it is true is well known, especially among the elite of Baltimore, but Lunenburg, Bridgewater, Liverpool, Lockeport, and Shelburne, in all of which good hotel accommodation can be had at a moderate rate, deserve to be more generally known. The sand beaches in the vicinity of some of these towns, notably Liverpool, are many of them wider and more extensive than the much advertized beach at Lynn, Massachusetts; upon these the pleasure seekers can drive for a distance of from one half to three quarters of a mile on a smooth, level, white sand beach, at a rate that would be considered dangerous if driving upon the public road. Liverpool has several of these beaches within easy reach of the town, and as they afford every facility for the enjoyment of surf-bathing they should, in conjunction with the other attractions of the place, induce many tourists to spend a few weeks on the banks of our Nova Scotia Mersey. Now that the steamer *City of St. John* makes her regular weekly trips between Halifax and Yarmouth and these south western towns, travellers will have no difficulty in reaching them with ease. The steamer itself is well adapted to the service, her cabin and saloon appointments being in every way first-class. The meals are well served, and the officers of the ship are attentive and courteous to all passengers. The inexpensiveness of this route, and the inducements it offers to tourists, should have the effect of turning the stream of travel along the shore, and thus aid in increasing the popularity of this Province as the great summer resort of the continent.

## CAN IT BE TRUE?

No one can long remain conservative in an age in which all his preconceived ideas of things that are and things that were are being rudely upset. From what we know about Africa we had always believed that the inhabitants of the dark continent were not given to extravagance in dress, in fact we had a fixed idea that a fig leaf apron and a skiver through the back hair were regarded as a full and complete dress for ordinary occasions; a bead necklace or a pair of spectacles being added for high days and holidays. The *Western Echo* shows, however, that the introduction of European customs has worked a mighty change round about Cape Coast Castle. It affirms that the following "distressing spectacle" presents itself to every foreigner on landing. "Young men with collars travelling to the North Pole; with boots of leather which is just upon the verge of being converted into looking glass by constant polish; with gold chains; with trousers of a quality which some M. P. in the height of extravagance would be likely to wear; and with shirts peculiar to the bosom of the fop." Truly, an awful apparition to confound the foreigner on his first visit. The Gladstonian collars "travelling to the North Pole" with a shining black visage breaking through them, would be sufficiently startling, even without the "Parliamentary pantaloons." If this love of dress becomes fashionable among the tribes in the heart of the continent, our cotton spinners and woollen weavers need have no fear of idle times. It is doubtless this prospective trade that has induced Bismarck to encourage German settlement in Africa, and the King of the Belgians to foster the Congo State.

## NOT A DEAD ISSUE.

Notwithstanding the I-told-you-so comments of some of the leading American journals, the result of the British elections was nowhere exactly anticipated. Before the contest, the numerous friends or admirers of Gladstone were quite positive in their prediction that the g. o. m.'s prestige and the magic of his name, would get him a majority at the polls. Other prophets had no hesitation in confiding to us their conviction that the cry of the Tories, "The Empire is in danger," would alarm and rouse into frenzy the British public, and that the indignation thus enkindled against Gladstone would leave him with scarcely a follower, but would give Salisbury an overwhelming victory.

The prophets on both sides have been disappointed. Gladstone has lost the battle, but the real Tories have not won a great victory. The working classes as a whole, and a respectable portion of the middle classes, enthusiastically voted for the advocates of Home Rule for Ireland. But among the great middle classes of England, thousands in sympathy with Gladstone on other questions were opposed to him on this, and so abstained from voting. James O'Kelly, M. P., in his cable to the New York papers, asserts in effect, that if the "Liberal aristocrats and shop-keepers" had worked

hand-in-hand with Gladstone, he would have won. Certainly, the abstentions alone were sufficient to defeat the once much idolized "William."

It is obvious, however, that no mean portion of the British electorate thinks it is time to give some kind of Home Rule to Ireland. Look at the vote. The returns indicate more friendship towards Ireland than does a general statement of the result. 1,524,000 is the total of the votes cast for Conservative and unionist candidates; while in favor of candidates that sought support as favorers of Home Rule for Ireland, were cast 1,447,000. Take 39,000 votes from the former, and give them to the latter, and the Gladstonites have a majority over Unionists and Tories combined.

Is Home Rule for Ireland, then, a dead issue? Nay, it is not even sleeping. Soon we shall hear of it again. The work of the British House of Commons is already more than can be attended to as promptly as the local interests of all parts of the United Kingdom demand, and this work is fast increasing. That body, therefore, must soon delegate some of its powers to other bodies. As Gladstone observed last year, "We may as well live to see some form of local government in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland."

## OVERWORKED.

Very many persons engaged in the active pursuits of life have good reason to complain of the extra amount of work they are called upon to perform, but there are probably few public men whose patience has been taxed to the same extent as that of the "grand old man," as is apparent from the following letter recently sent by Mr. Gladstone to his private secretary:—

"August 4, 1886.—My dear MORLEY,—It is a pleasure to think that if it be agreeable to our party the relations which I have held with you during our short tenure of office will be continued now that we have resigned. But even apart from the action of permanent causes, the strain of the last six years upon me has been very great, and I must look for an opportunity of some change and repose, either in or beyond this country. But in one important respect I feel that relief must be sought at once, and must be made permanent. From circumstances it has been my fate to be charged with a personal correspondence in part highly interesting, but far greater, I am inclined to suppose, than has ever fallen to the lot of any other individual. My private secretaries, when I have been in office, have by hard labor carried on what I may call the work of a department. I can neither maintain the establishment nor promise the devotion of time and the surrender of personal liberty which the efficient conduct of intercourse by letter with not less than 20,000 persons in each year would require. I am, therefore, obliged to give once for all a general notice to my correspondents of my inability, which I am sure will be readily understood, either to make replies to letters or to return manuscripts or other enclosures which may be addressed to me; and my silence will be kindly interpreted to signify that I have nothing to say in the particular case. I am well aware of the courtesy of the conductors of our public journals in matters such as this, and all those of them who may be kind enough to insert this letter in their columns will at once confer a favor upon me and materially contribute in most instances to the convenience of some portion of their readers.—I remain, my dear MORLEY, sincerely yours, (Signed) W. E. GLADSTONE"

## JEWELRY IN INDIA.

Paradoxical as it may appear, the inhabitants of India are at once poverty stricken and wealthy, and this is more especially true of those dwelling in rural districts, dependent for their livelihood upon agricultural pursuits. India's population is larger, in fact so large in proportion to the area of the country that it seems marvellous how it can be maintained. The Indian agriculturist labors under difficulties, the demand for land is great, and its cost comparatively high. The labor of the farmer is handicapped by the heavy government tax upon land and produce, but despite these drawbacks poor indeed is the family that cannot display its wealth in jewelry. The household furniture may be scanty, the clothing of the children meagre, and the extent of the area under cultivation limited, but somehow or other a sufficient amount is annually saved to add to the stock of family jewelry. The wealth of individuals and families in Hindostan is gauged almost entirely by the value of the jewelry in his or in his possession. A bride may have a scant trousseau, but she is considered dowryless unless she can supplement her husband's wealth in jewelry. At the present time the value of this unproductive wealth in India reaches scores of millions of dollars, and if India continues to be governed wisely and peaceably as in the past hundred years, the aggregate wealth of the Empire's jewelry will soon reach a fabulous sum.

## DECLINE IN PRICES.

Speaking of the general decline in prices of almost all kinds of goods within the last few years, the *London Banker's Magazine* says that "Coffee has dropped more than 40 per cent., sugar fully 30 per cent., tea nearly 20 per cent., wheat about 40 per cent., butcher's meat about 10 per cent. Of metals, copper has fallen about 50 per cent., and iron about 25 per cent. Wool has fallen 30 per cent. Leather is almost the only article dearer now than it was fifteen years ago. Most of this large decline has taken place since 1882." Admitting this to be true, who shall say that the world is not just as well off so long as all values are properly equalized, and one hand is able to meet the necessities of the other? Inflation of prices does not always bring genuine prosperity, as the United States found out to its complete satisfaction during and subsequent to the late civil war.