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AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

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TORONTO, FRIDAY, JUNE 5TH, 1885.

MEN, WOMEN, AND THINGS IN GENERAL.

Sir William Dawson, the learned and energetic Principal of McGill College, is finding out the absurdity of allowing young men and women to attend the same institution and at the same time trying to keep the sexes separate. While in Queen's College, and University College, women are allowed the full privileges of these institutions without a single attempt at restriction, in McGill College they are compelled to attend separate classes and communication between the sexes is forbidden. The consequence, as any experienced teacher might have foreseen, is that while in Queen's and University Colleges the authorities have no trouble, in McGill they are already in hot water. It has been found necessary, in order to prevent free communication between the sexes, to forbid them from playing lawn tennis together, and the effect of the prohibition is to make the institution and its authorities look ridiculous.

A writer in the New York *Nation* has brought to light some interesting facts about the cause of Gambetta's failure as Premier of France. When he took office he found in full blast what is called in America the "spoils system" of politics. Each member of the Assembly was elected by a single district, and he had, as members of Parliament have in Canada, control of the offices in his district. The Government had to appoint his nominees or count on his opposition in the Chamber. Gambetta sought to break up this system. He announced what in America is called a "reform" of the civil service, and sought to introduce a system of representation under which each department would elect several members. The opposition of a Chamber elected on the other system was too strong however, and Gambetta was driven from office. The same Chamber, quite recently adopted the very law he failed to carry, and did it at the instance of Premier Ferry. But before the law went for ratification to the Senate, Ferry was forced to resign on account of the failure of his Chinese war, and the *scrutin de liste* still hangs in suspense. It is morally certain now that reform in the civil service and reform in the system of representation will both be postponed to a more convenient season.

That a system of larger constituencies, represented by several members, would secure a better Parliament than one of single-membered

districts, seems likely enough. The matter has not been much discussed in Canada yet, but it has received a pretty thorough ventilation in England in connection with the redistribution of seats. Mr. Gladstone being personally opposed to multiple-membered constituencies has put off the day of change, but, in all probability, the coming Parliament will be more Radical than the present one, and that in it the advanced reformers of the representative system will be able to effect their purpose by degrees if not all at once. The small end of the wedge has been inserted in Ontario by giving Toronto three members and each elector only two votes under the Redistribution Act of last session. If the plan works well it can easily be extended to counties which have three members, like Huron, Bruce, Grey, Middlesex, and Simcoe.

The Parliamentary struggle over, the Franchise bill at Ottawa bids fair to become one of the most memorable on record, not even excluding the efforts of the Parnellites in the English House of Commons to obstruct business. Here it is a fair and square effort to block a single measure, which blocks all other legislation by being urged on from day to day by the Prime Minister. After four weeks of almost continuous discussion the Government have got less than one-fourth of the clauses through Committee, and the Opposition avow their determination to keep up the struggle. Additional interest is imported to the struggle by the near approach of the close of the financial year, when all supplies lapse. How the confusion resulting from an event of this sort is to be guarded against, is a problem for the solution of which the public will look with much curiosity. I advise all who want to be deeply interested to watch the Parliamentary proceedings very closely during the next four weeks. ONLOOKER.

Our Casket.

BITS OF TINSEL.

Child in the train, intently watching deaf old lady who is being spoken to through a speaking tube: "Mother, what has that old lady got the gas laid on for?"

What is the difference between a leopard and a Methodist minister? One cannot change his spots and the other must.

"So you say that walking sticks came into use very long ago?" "Not a doubt of it; don't we read that Adam had a Cain?"

A popular clergyman in Philadelphia delivered a lecture on "Fools." The tickets to it read "Lecture on fool—admit one." There was a very large attendance.

A man was selling a horse, and the would-be purchaser, inquiring as to his leaping powers, asked, "Will he take timber?" "He'll jump over your head," was the answer: "I don't know what you call that."

"Why don't you come in out of the rain?" said a good natured dominie to a ragged Irishman. "Shure, it's av no consequence, yer riverence," returned Pat; "me clothes is so full of holr they won't howld wather."

A Physician was lecturing lately on the ignorance of their own complaints, and said that a lady once asked him what his next lecture was to be upon, and being told the "circulation of the blood," replied that she should certainly attend, for she had been troubled with that complaint for a long time.

"My son," said a mother to her little boy, four years old, "who above all others will you wish to see when you pass into the spirit world?" "Goliath!" shouted the child, with joyous anticipation, "unless," he quickly added, "there's a bigger feller there!"

When little Milly was about four years of age, an old gentleman, a friend of the family, said to her, "I'll have your long curly hair," making believe to run after her. She retreated into a corner and said, "I know what you want that for." "Well," he replied, "what do I want it for?" She answered, "To cover that raw place on the top of your head!"

"I shan't!" said little Mary to her mother, when given some command. "Hush," said the mother, "you must not use those saucy words to me." A short time afterward, Mary and Russell fell into a dispute. "I s'ant do it!" exclaimed Russell. "Hush!" said Mary, severely, "You mustn't use those tea-cup-and-saucer words to me."

"Doctor," said a wealthy patient to his physician, "I want you to be thorough and strike at the root of the disease." "Well, I will," said the doctor, as he lifted his cane and brought it down hard enough to break into pieces a bottle and a glass that stood upon the sideboard. It was his last professional visit to that house.

An Irishman in the vicinity of Sunderland was advised to take shower baths. A friend of his explained to him how to fit up one by the use of a cistern and cullender. Pat set to work and had the thing done at once. Subsequently he was met by the party who had given the advice, and on being asked how he enjoyed the baths, exclaimed, "Bedad, but it was soine; I enjoyed it greatly, and kept quite dhry too?" Being asked how he managed to take the shower and yet remain dry, he replied, "Shure, now ye didn't think I was going to stand under the water without an umbrella?"