

## The Semi-Weekly Telegraph

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E. W. McCREADY,  
President and Manager.

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph  
and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 10, 1912.

## HERE IN NEW BRUNSWICK

It should be profitable for New Brunswickers, and for investors and settlers who are looking toward New Brunswick at this time, to read what has been said about this province by Mr. R. H. H. Baird, proprietor of the Belfast Evening Telegraph, who visited us last summer together with several other British newspaper men, and who turns out to have been the most serious and practical of those students of our conditions. The Telegraph is publishing Mr. Baird's article on New Brunswick in its news columns, but it may be well here to direct particular attention to one or two portions of it, not because what he says is especially new, but because he is a trained observer and often facts that are too familiar take on new significance when we are reminded of them by a visitor whose judgment we respect. Mr. Baird's article is another proof of a statement often put forward here, and often disregarded, to the effect that New Brunswickers do not realize the richness of their own opportunities. Mr. Baird says, among other things:

"The opportunities for profitable farming by cattle and sheep-raising are unsurpassed by those of any other province in Canada, but are unfortunately very much neglected by the generality of farmers. As a consequence, a very large amount of the beef consumed in the province is imported from western Ontario, and the consumer has to pay such a price for it that were the same amount paid to the local farmers they would soon become wealthy men. Mutton is not eaten to the same extent as beef; hence the local mutton supply approaches to the demand. Pork is in great demand, and the farmer who has a good herd of dairy cattle, will find to consume the skim milk, will find himself many dollars in pocket at the end of his year's transaction. There is an insatiable demand for poultry and eggs at very remunerative prices, and a man who wishes to make his living on a farm has no need whatever to go farther than New Brunswick. It may be true that he cannot get 100 acres of prairie land given him free in that province as he can in the West, but he can get 100 acres of good, sound land for nothing, though he will in most cases have to clear a good portion of it before it may be put under crop. As a compensation for this, however, he is in the midst of civilization, schools and postal facilities within easy reach, instead of being somewhat alone on the prairie with his neighbor perhaps several miles away."

Mr. Baird says that while New Brunswick has great capabilities as a live stock country, he thinks its greatest opportunity will come from its fruit growing capacity. "Nowhere," he says, "is there a tract of country so close to the markets of the world and better adapted in both soil and climate for the production of apples and other hardy fruit of the highest quality. New Brunswick in this capacity is only just being discovered."

He gives in detail some account of those portions of the province best suited to fruit growing, and repeats Mr. A. G. Turner's estimate of the cost of an orchard of 1,000 trees together with the profit that may fairly be expected from such an investment, the estimated cost being \$1,718 in all, the profit from the sixth to the tenth year being \$2,250, from the

eleventh to the fifteenth year \$5,625, from the sixteenth to the twentieth year \$7,500, and from the twenty-first to the thirty-fifth year \$33,750.

Of our lumbering industry, of our natural gas, of our pulp and paper, of our minerals, of our opportunities for the sportsman, of our educational and transportation facilities, of our climate, of New Brunswick as a place in which to make a home, Mr. Baird speaks, from close observation, in terms calculated to impress his readers most favorably indeed. But Mr. Baird favors us with a little criticism, and as criticism is wholesome if it be offered in the right spirit, and as we should take the vinegar with the sugar, let us see what this criticism is. He says:

"Canada is a land of tremendous extremes—extremes of climate, of soil, of products, of people. That fact enormously increases the difficulty of presenting anything like a general picture of the country. Indeed, it largely restricts the range of criticism. New Brunswick province is so diversified that the phenomena of one area stand out in sharp contrast to those of another. The very ruggedness of the primal forest and of wild, untamed nature around them, has cast its shadows upon the habits and manners of some of its people, and imparted alike to adult and adolescent a certain hardness of manner and disposition which they, perhaps, do not realize, but which thrusts itself upon the notice of a stranger. I realize that in calling their attention to certain characteristics that appear to me to be unamiable I incur the risk of being described as a sorehead and jaundiced. It is my business to describe affairs as they presented themselves to me. If some of the views advanced in this article do not commend themselves to New Brunswickers, I ask them to believe that not one word has been written with any spirit of carping criticism; rather has the idea been to call attention to a candid, yet in a friendly way, to certain defects that have not been attempted. And there are these may be remedied. If they will read in that spirit what is here written no animosities will be disturbed. On the other hand, one may speak in terms of praise of cities like St. John, Fredericton and Woodstock, where the social surroundings and influences are agreeable and where courtesy and kindness could not be surpassed."

It is for New Brunswickers to consider this criticism from a candid friend. The spirit in which it is offered should at least remove offence.

## THE PRISON FARM PROJECT

In common decency this community must undertake a betterment of conditions affecting jail prisoners and the administration of affairs having to do with vagrants, habitual drunkards, and others who fall frequently within the clutch of the law. A report printed last week made by a committee of the Municipal Council which recently visited other cities to secure information on prison farms and allied subjects, strongly recommends the purchase of a farm at Coldbrook for the purpose of maintaining there practically all the prisoners who are now housed in the county jail.

Recently this committee investigated the jail here and presented to the public certain very disagreeable facts, showing that, however degraded the prisoners may be, and however little they may be thought entitled to consideration, the conditions under which they are imprisoned cannot be regarded as other than disgraceful to a self-respecting community. No doubt careful thought will have to be given to the specific recommendations of the committee, but the Municipal Council, if it looks the requisite expenditure fairly in the face, and takes the position that a reasonable betterment must be had even if it requires considerably more money than is spent at present, will command the support of the community generally. The conditions which have grown up in these matters in St. John have produced a situation for which none of the existing officials can be blamed. Nevertheless, a mere recital of things as they are will, we have no doubt, be sufficient to convince any thoughtful member of the Municipal Council that reasonable action ought not longer to be deferred.

Modern experience shows that work is the one possible salvation for the waste product of humanity, and that, while work will not always produce the results desired, it is by far the best cure yet discovered for vagrancy, habitual intoxication, thievery, wife-beating, neglect, and kindred crimes and weaknesses. That he may work, the prisoner must be reasonably well fed, and decently clothed, and must live under sanitary conditions. This is not a coddling process, but rather the reverse; modern penologists are disposed to deal rather stringently with a very large class of minor offenders, compelling them to work for a time under severe public supervision so soon as they have proved by their conduct that they may not wisely be allowed to enjoy their liberty.

## BRING THEM BACK

Evidently there are a great many people in the Canadian West who left New Brunswick some time ago and who would be very glad to return, and evidently there are many other settlers in the West who came from the Old Country or from the United States and who have not found conditions in that part of Canada all that they expected. Mr. B. R. Armstrong tells of a letter on fruit growing in New Brunswick which he sent to the Overseas Mail, and which elicited replies from India, Africa, South America, the United States, and the Canadian West, chiefly Alberta. This is a very strong and practical illustration of the value of advertising, and of what can be done to attract settlers to New Brunswick by advertising its advantages and opportunities in those countries from which it is desirable to draw immigrants and investors.

For many years the transportation companies have carried people from the Maritime Provinces to the new West, making it a regular business to drum up parties of men here and carry them to other

parts of Canada at a lower passenger rate than is demanded for the return journey. In this way many of our young men, who would not otherwise have left this province, have been scattered through the West. Some of them have done well, because they had the necessary energy and ability, but we do not know that many of them have done better than they would have done had they remained at home and devoted the same amount of driving power to their business here. But a great power of these young men who have gone away are known to be quite as badly off, if not worse, than they would have been had they remained in New Brunswick.

It would now be only fair to propose to the transportation companies that, after New Brunswick begins to advertise properly, they should offer cheap fares to those leaving it. And, in this connection, a practical thing to do would be to collect from residents of this province who have friends or relatives in the United States, or in other parts of Canada, the names and addresses of these, in order that literature concerning the new outlook in New Brunswick might be forwarded to them. There are very strong reasons for believing many who would come within the scope of such a campaign would be very glad to make their homes here, now that they have had experience elsewhere and are in a position to make fair comparisons, and now that the tide has turned and an era of development has begun here in the East.

One scarcely picks up any English, Scottish or Irish newspaper today without finding in it some advertising of one part or another of Canada, but as a rule there is no mention of New Brunswick; and, while a little advertising has been done, it is an undeniable fact that, as yet, the business of seriously advertising this province in the United Kingdom, in the Netherlands, in the Scandinavian peninsula, and in the western provinces and states, has not been attempted. And there are thousands of settlers and investors to be had if any one will carry out a well organized campaign for the use of printer's ink where it will do the most good.

## THE STEEL DUTIES

With their friends in power at Ottawa, the steel manufacturers are renewing their application for assistance in the way of bounties, although the country had understood that the bounty system was to be dropped entirely. President Harris of the Nova Scotia Steel Company, and Mr. Thomas J. Drummond, were interviewed in Montreal early this week, and both asserted that the steel trade was languishing because of competition and that it required to be bountied for some years longer at least.

The average reader who is inclined to pity the poor steel men will be relieved upon turning to a list of millionaires printed recently in Montreal, in which list the name of Mr. Thomas J. Drummond, and Mr. George Drummond appeared. Evidently the steel business has not quite impoverished all of those interested in it during the last ten or fifteen years.

In the United States there is a strong agitation to reduce the steel duties, and it is probable that Congress will take this step very soon. Meantime, in Canada, if the steel men are to have bounties, the fair thing to do would be to consider the iron founders and others who have to buy pig iron. They and the consumers are the people who are hit by the steel prices. The fair thing to do would be to take the duty off pig iron entirely if the bounties are to be continued. Then the trade will regulate itself, for the price will be fixed by competition. The bounty will be protection enough for the Canadian steel men, assuming that they need any.

## THE HOUSING PROBLEM

Those who are attempting to solve the housing problem of England have the satisfaction of knowing that nearly all the model tenements erected so far are on a paying basis. The experiment has extended all over half a century, and in addition to introducing enormous improvements in the condition of nearly a quarter of a million of people, it has paid about four per cent. The cry of the poor who wish to be clean goes up in what Carlyle calls the huge articulate question: "What do you mean to do with us?" Through municipal housing and model tenements reformers are seeking to find the answer to this question.

The London County Council have a special housing department, and they have acquired in lands and buildings property to the amount of over thirty millions of dollars. In the Tottenham estate, six miles from the city, they have 225 acres, and it is estimated that accommodation can be found for 42,500 persons in cottages and tenements that are being provided. The cottages are two stories in height, contain three to five rooms each, and each has its own garden. It is proposed to take advantage of the river Moelle, which runs through the eastern portion of the estate, and on some slightly rising ground upon its bank, which is difficult to build on, to arrange a public garden of about two acres and a quarter, with the river flowing through it. Four other smaller gardens will be arranged in other parts of the site, which will help to preserve the healthfulness of the estate. There will be a public library and other improvements, including cheap and easy access to the city. All the London boroughs have undertaken various housing schemes which other cities might well study and copy with profit.

In the matter of model tenements, the Housing Tenants' Cooperative Society, organized by a few Ealing workmen ten years ago, has done an important work in a line of its own, and has been so successful that many similar societies have been started. It built houses and made the tenants shareholders, with eight representatives on its board of eleven. Interest on shares cannot exceed five per cent, and loan stock four and one-half per cent. Any surplus that may remain after meeting these charges is credited to the tenants, insuring a rise in value, not to the land speculator, but to the rent-paying

tenant. The buildings are rented at a considerably lower rate than is usual and are in great demand. The Peabody Trust, which has built many blocks of tenements, houses nearly 30,000 persons, and its capital is about \$8,000,000.

But the efforts at solving the housing problem of England have done little more than reveal its magnitude. According to Sir Robert Giffen no fewer than one-fifth of the total population of United Kingdom exist under conditions represented by a family income of less than a pound a week. And we are told that a very careful calculation has been made showing that 600,000 English houses now occupied in towns and country are so rotten as to be utterly beyond repair; and no fewer than two and a half millions are living in London for whom better houses are required. Among the main reasons why country people flock into towns are the scarcity of cottages in their native villages and the foul and overcrowded state of so many country houses. The manhood and vigor of the country, side that hitherto have stood for England's staying powers are spending themselves in the towns and England's reserve is being rapidly exhausted. With all this desertion of sturdy men and women from the country, the homes they leave behind are far from adequate even for the people remaining. The cottages are rotting away faster than the people are running away.

## "FIGHTING BOB" AND THE WAR LORD

"Fighting Bob" Evans, the American rear-admiral, whose death is reported in the despatches, saw some service in the Civil War, but it was not there that he won his sobriquet. The manner in which he did earn it is perhaps more or less legendary, but the story is that he acquired it by bluffing one of the South American republics. He was in command of a small cruiser which called at a South American port many years ago, and while the ship was there some of the American marines became involved in a street brawl and were arrested by the port authorities. Captain Evans looked into the case and discovered that there was some irregularity about the arrest, which gave him a right to demand that the men be released and delivered to him.

One story is that they had been taken away from a police party which was bringing them on board. However, there was an irregularity. Evans explained the point to the authorities and demanded the return of his sailors. The Spanish pride was offended, however, and he was told that the men would be retained by the civil authorities and must stand trial. The city was guarded by small fort, but the guns were obsolete and Evans concluded that a bluff might "go." He cleared his ship for action, and sent word ashore that he would open fire on the town if the men were not on board within six hours. It is said that he coupled with this message a somewhat violent assertion to the effect that if he was compelled to open fire he would extend to which Spanish was already spoken in the lower regions would be increased very noticeably within the next day or two. There was some one in the Spanish city whose knowledge of international law was great enough to cause him to recognize that the irregularity had vitiated the case from the Spanish standpoint, and the marines were restored to Captain Evans. The American newspapers, with characteristic modesty, made considerable of the incident, and Evans was dubbed "Fighting Bob" thereafter.

It was Evans who commanded the cruiser New York when she was sent at the head of an American squadron to participate in the opening of the Kiel canal, along in the nineties, and there "Fighting Bob" encountered with Emperor William became historic. The Emperor sent word to the American that he would come aboard the New York to dinner on a certain night. He came, and with him an escort of twelve admirals in full uniform. There was a state dinner in the commander's cabin, and the Emperor, sitting on the right hand of the host, carried the conversation over a vast scope of topics, during which he displayed astonishing familiarity with naval construction and allied subjects. He had previously inspected the New York from conning tower to coal bunkers, and had entered into an interested discussion of the merits of various firebricks, with one of the engineers. At about 1 o'clock in the morning, when the after-dinner amenities were about over, the Kaiser asked Evans how long it took to close the ship's water-tight compartments.

Evans replied that it required about two minutes. The Emperor expressed surprise, saying that it could not be done so quickly in the German navy, and his next remark seemed to imply, if not actually to express, doubt as to the accuracy of Evans' statement.

"Would you mind doing it now?" he asked. "Will Your Majesty take the time?" asked Captain Evans with alacrity. His Majesty produced his watch, and when he said "ready" Evans pushed a button behind his chair sounding a general alarm, and a moment later a man stood at his elbow at salute, and he gave the order to close water-tight compartments. The crew had been in hammocks, but they turned out at the alarm, and after a brief period of uncommon activity another saluting man stood before Evans reporting "Water-tight compartments closed, sir." Evans looked at the Emperor and the Emperor raised his eyes from his watch, with surprise in them, and said: "One minute and forty-five seconds. I congratulate you."

This story was told after the United States returned, and often it was greeted by the question: "But how did the Emperor know that the water-tight compartments really had been closed?" But that, of course, is going behind the returns. Evans, by the way, said of Emperor William that he knew more about more kinds of things than any other man he had ever encountered. Evans was something of a swashbuckler, but he was courageous and efficient, and had certain well-defined elements of popularity which made him a sort of public hero among his fellow countrymen.

## WOMEN AND REFORM

Women are coming to outstrip men in education, in modern democratic countries. In the United States, something like three-fifths of the high school pupils are girls, and in the larger institutions the study of history, foreign languages and literature is largely given over to women. They are rapidly becoming more conscious and effective factors in life, and it is little wonder that many are clamoring so turbulently for complete enfranchisement. The separate spheres which were so sharply distinguished and defined by tradition are not clearly defined today, and the bounds cannot be determined again, as in the past, by authority. They must be worked out and made apparent by the free play of experiment.

In spite of the hysterical spirit in which the militant suffragette seeks complete emancipation, and in spite of the ingrained feeling that men alone can give rational and stable government, woman suffrage is constantly gaining ground. It is the logical outcome of a long process of enfranchisement. The gradual breaking up of the old order is apparent when we consider that a comparatively short time ago marriage was, for women, about the only way to a respectable maintenance; today they enter nearly every profession and activity on equal terms. Much of the intellectual and emotional force back of the great modern reform is that of women; particularly is this true of the movement that has been inspired by sympathy with children and with the weak and suffering classes.

The change is probably more apparent in the modern attitude toward divorce. That divorce is more common today than in past times does not argue that the evils of which it is an expression are more common. Troubles arise in the past between husband and wife, but the remedy was not so often applied. Yet in the whole course of history a woman was never heard of as divorcing a man; "Thou shalt give her a bill of divorce and send her away," expressed the attitude of every race in every generation. Today this is changed. While the old idea was to rid a husband of an unfaithful wife, the new is to rid the wife of an uncongenial husband. It is one of the strongest indications of a beneficent rise in the standing of women. The fact that law and opinion now grants woman this right of revolt against marital abuse—a right which is most widely exercised when wholly neglected—indicates the decay of old traditions and conditions.

But the old order is decaying before the new is established, and the result is a great difficulty in finding the way. A foundation of routine is like a trail through the forest; a man can go further with less exertion when he is following a path than he can in the uncharted wilderness. The signs of the decay of the old order are probably the reason that the Dean of St. Paul's takes such a gloomy and pessimistic view of the outlook for the new year.

"Where have we any sure ground?" he asks. "What rock can we feel under our feet?" Landmarks have disappeared, frontiers are withdrawn, currents crossed and recrossed, and the old familiar surface of life is broken. But the changes which are so disturbing and which cause searchings of heart to statesmen and rulers may mean nothing more than the decay of old traditions and disciplines, and the establishment of a new order of human impulse and reason. Real progress must be an advance all along the line, and there is nothing more certain today than that there is an advance in the larger self-knowledge of mankind. We will not discover the philosopher's stone or the fountain of perpetual youth, but we will always hope that the deficiencies of the present day will be supplied by tomorrow and we will pursue with ever fresh eagerness the reforms that may be accomplished by an enlightened public will. It will always be true as one writer says: "The hope of our future civilization lies in the development, in full freedom, of both the masculine and feminine elements in life."

## NOTE AND COMMENT

The mercury went down so fast on Saturday night that it made people gasp. At last we have felt the touch of real winter.

It is officially announced from Ottawa that the Borden government is still unable to agree on a naval policy. The announcement does not cause the shock of a great surprise.

Every citizen who believes St. John is to experience a period of rapid growth should be an advocate of the election of the ablest men who can be induced to offer as the members of the new commission to govern the city.

The recent Ontario elections show very large majorities all over the province for by-laws favoring the distribution of power by the province. The hydro-electric policy of the Whitney government evidently is very popular. This method of regulating power rates will be of great benefit to manufacturers, and to the smaller users of power also.

A little journal published by the Canadian Peat Society shows that this country has in its immense area of peat bogs a potential asset of great value. The commercial production of peat for fuel appears to have been successful at the government plant near Ottawa, and the fact points to great possibilities of development in other parts of Canada.

One of the most interesting results of the change of government at Ottawa is that the Toronto Mail and Empire has become really quite sympathetic towards the New Temere decree.—Montreal Herald.

The conservative newspapers were formerly very fond of attempting to blame Sir Wilfrid Laurier for the New Temere decree. Now that Mr. Borden is at the head of affairs they sing quite another tune.

The Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson has confessed that he murdered Mrs. Linnell. After a long period of mental torture, the

horror of which may now to some extent be realized, he has yielded to the clamor of a conscience to whose warnings he had paid no heed before the crime was committed, and has admitted his guilt. It is a terrible story. Though not new in human history, it is the more revolting because he was a minister and she a trusting member of his congregation. Doubtless he will pay the full penalty of his crime, which has so darkly stained the annals of the state of Massachusetts.

Two big men are needed by Ontario, says the Canadian Courier, a colonizer, and an educationist. It describes the work they are needed to do:

"The first must have nerve enough to ask the province for one hundred million dollars to provide ready-made farms and homes for a hundred thousand settlers in New Ontario."

"The second must be big enough to find enough and better teachers for the schools in the newer districts of the province, and also to put down all the one-roomed country schools in the province. He must also be big enough to insist that farmers' children be taught farming in consolidated public schools."

How many big men does New Brunswick need? Two of its pressing tasks are of the same nature.

Governor Foss of Massachusetts says that Boston is the natural port for Canada. Meantime, the exports through the port of St. John are greater by something like a million and a quarter than they were up to this time last year, and a larger proportion than previously consists in freight originating in the United States. As the traffic through this port, both Canadian and American, goes on increasing with the perfection of our transportation and harbor facilities, Governor Foss, and many more who deceive themselves as he does, will begin to understand that Canadian freight is going to be kept in Canadian channels. By the way, what has become of the proposal to limit the British preference to goods entering Canada through its own ports?

The Liberals of Prince Edward Island have received a severe defeat. Let it be hoped that the Dominion government will not accept the sweeping victory as evidence that it is safe to defer an actual and business-like start toward providing satisfactory communication with the mainland. If the Conservatives won by promising a car ferry, failure to provide it, or the discovery that it will not fill the bill, will be certain to bring a political reaction. The Island is pretty evenly divided politically, but it would easily have remained Liberal if the transportation question had been solved by the Laurier government. In tariff matters the Conservative tariff policy is poisonous from the viewpoint of the Island's real interests. Under all the circumstances a Liberal reverse was due. But it is well not to forget that the Liberal party in the Island, and throughout Canada, is still very much alive.

The dinner for real estate men and other optimists given last evening by Mr. L. P. D. Tilley proved a most enjoyable function and one productive of much inspiring speech-making concerning this city's progress and prospects. A glance at the speeches summarized in our news columns will show not only that the tone of the speakers was invigorating but that most of them advanced solid reasons for the faith that is in them. Mr. Likely sounded the keynote of the occasion when he said St. John's outlook today is the best in Canada. A dozen other speakers expressed equal faith and backed it up by facts and arguments which the enthusiastic company hailed with the most hearty approval. More of the spirit shown last evening is needed among the people generally—and there will be more. The ranks of the optimists are increasing daily. More power to them. Faith in St. John will work wonders and it will be justified abundantly.

## AGAIN, THE DEADLY FEMALE

Rouder blew his cash on "ponies." Now, he has none left to lose. All the change his wife can spare him goes for cigarettes and booze. The ranks of Mrs. Rouder keeps a hat shop. Though she's sickly, thin and pale; Yet: "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."

Patsy Brill quit school with brain-fag—That was twenty years ago—That he does is beyond his elbow—Where the amber bubbles flow: Sure, his sister Kate is working; Typing letters for Lawyer Gale; Yet: "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."

Old man Bear lives with the Sheriff—Pretty much throughout the year; While his wife takes in some washing; And goes scrubbing far and near. Off she talks about the "kiddies" As she wheels the mop and pail; Yet: "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."

But, old Bear will roll home some day; Make a rough-house—break the things; All the pence that Ma Bear hoarded To the froth-mill will take wings; Next day Bear will face "His Honor," And his wife go hunting bail; Yet: "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."

## THE RANGER.

INSULT TO INJURY.  
Joseph E. Widener, the Philadelphia horseman and collector, told a horse story at a dinner in New York.

"There's a grocer out Elkins way," said Mr. Widener, who is notorious for his wretched horseflesh.

"The grocer's boy is rather a reckless driver. He drove one of his master's worst nags a little too hard one day and the animal fell ill and died."

"You've killed my horse, curse you!" the grocer said to the boy next morning.

"I'm sorry, boss," he lad faltered.

"Sorry be damned," shouted the grocer.

"Who's going to pay me for my horse?"

"I'll make it all right, boss," said the boy, soothingly. "You can take it out of my next Saturday's wages."

—New York Tribune.

## The Earl of Nova Scotia.

(From the Australasia, Melbourne.)  
The back door of the peers over the Veto Bill is disappointing to all who have any reverence for a coronet. Many people had gone the length of regarding them as so many noble martyrs, quite prepared to sacrifice even the peerage to their political convictions. But when the pinch came the pride of long descent, and possibly the pathetic appeals of their women folk, were too much for patriotism. Even the smart blows of the stalwarts look suspiciously like a demonstration in force to cover the retreat of the main army. I have it in strict confidence that it was the presence of so many colonial statesmen at the coronation that caused disquiet. The fact that most of them professed advanced political opinions, the fear that Mr. Lloyd-George might deem it a suitable opportunity for scattering titles of nobility broadcast over the empire, was the prospect that first brought fears to Mayfair.

They never flinched nor faltered. They were fighting to the death. Till the Overseas contingent came to town. But a Duke of Baddaginnie Made 'em fairly gasp for breath. And a lot of noble lords climbed down.

To talk of letters patent—Just the same as Lord Tom Noddy—For a person who was simply Mr. Brown! When they whispered Viscount Yarra, Or the Lord of Tuddawaddy, You should just have seen the peers climb down.

The Earl of Nova Scotia Or the Duke of Ballarat Might have passed with just a deprecating frown. But a Duke from Papua In a South Sea Island mat Was enough to make the peers back down.

For the sake of arbitration, And the movements of the day, They might pick some pushing Yankee of renown.

Say a Duke of Vanbriggan, Of Hoboken, U. S. A.—Do you wonder that the peers backed down?

Although coronation honors were rather sparsely bestowed, and Adelaide is still within a lord mayor, some Australian visitors found compensation abroad. "In America," said the tourist, "they treated us very handsomely. I tell you they've got enterprise. We stopped at a town one night, and next morning, when I opened the paper, there was my name and the list under portraits of Portorico Diaz and Madame Melba. I'll swear, though, that I never said, nor even hinted, that I was popularly regarded as the coming man in Australian politics, and next prime minister of the commonwealth."

## The Land Tax.

(Collier's Weekly.)

The other day on the stump a cabinet minister said, regarding the great apostle of single tax:

"A very good man he was, but he had a bee in his bonnet. He wrote a book, and died some years ago. This is a jaunty way of getting rid of Henry George. He did not die, as the sentimentalist says, of Progress and Poverty, but from natural causes, and the bee in his bonnet, or something very like it, has got into a lot of other big bonnets since he set it buzzing. The promoters of Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia have approved a system of land taxes as opposed to the taxation of improvements; in Vancouver such a system is in actual operation; and in Ontario there is a strong agitation on both sides of politics to amend an assessment act that gives the land monopolizer all the best of it. Most of our provincial assessment acts are antiquated crack quills and need making over. Henry George's body, like John Brown's, may be mouldering in the grave, but his book lives and the idea goes marching on. The very class of men that formerly looked upon him as a dreamer, and as a crank, are now wondering only just how close it will be possible to approximate to his ideal."

The more superficial of us reserve our silences for the great occasion of life, not realizing that this form of "wise passiveness" proves the reality of friendship, love, sincerity, Silence is none the less a virtue because the press is, by the very condition of its existence, forbidden to practice it. De Vigny wrote in his journal words on this theme:

"The press is a mouth forced to be always open and to be always speaking. Hence it says a thousand things more than it has to say, and often wanders and exaggerates. It would be the same if obliged to speak without interruption all the year long."

Occasional silences are becoming even to politicians. Carlyle tells us that if Speech is silver and Silence is golden, it is even truer that Words are of time, Silence of eternity. Yet Silence is the bane of little minds. Says Matthew Arnold:

"How many ordinary friendships have no other foundation than the hatred of Silence?"

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The foods used for feeding the poultry should be varied in accordance with the time of year, since animals are suitable for food and others for warm weather; some, too, that are admirable for winter are not only unsuitable during the summer, but are positively dangerous.

Office Optimist—"Any way, boarding-houses are not so bad. At ours, for instance, we can eat as much as we like (Cantankerous Crank)—So can we but there never is anything we can possibly like!"

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