

"Suburban," in which some improvements may yet be effected. Owing to there being only one car on this train, the smoke and ashes are blown into this lonely car through the windows, which are necessarily left open during this heated term. Also, owing to the lightness of the car and engine, the running is very uneven; the car sways to and fro, especially when going around the curves, and there is some danger of its "jumping" the track. These might be avoided by the addition of a baggage car, (in which could be placed the marketing, etc., now inconveniencing the passengers,) which would make the running more steady, while the passengers, being at a greater distance, would suffer much less from the smoke.

The Prentice sensation has been a nine days' wonder, and will soon be forgotten. Mr. E. A. Prentice woke one morning and found himself famous, whether desirably or so is a matter of opinion; that he had some vague idea of being able to overthrow the Chapeau Ministry is the only reason which leads us to think that he would acknowledge the shuffling which took place regarding the first loan. On the other hand, we are reluctantly forced to believe that Mr. Senecal must be a very generous man to advance fifteen hundred dollars knowing, as he says, that he would never get it back. The whole affair has a very charmingly innocent appearance, and is another evidence of how little certain Ministers may know when convenient, and also teaches us the psychological fact that a person may have a memory one moment and lose it entirely the next. It is our opinion that the charges made by Mr. Irvine have been substantiated, and the Committee have sought to divert public attention to side issues. The washing of dirty linen in public is to be deplored, and is undignified.

The Princess Louise, accompanied by Prince Leopold, sails on Saturday the 31st instant by the *Polynesian*. She will remain a week in England and then proceed to Mannheim, Germany. She has been advised by her physicians to take this trip, as she suffers from nervousness and sleeplessness, resulting from the accident last winter, which certainly was more serious than many had supposed. That she may be greatly benefitted by her trip is the sincere wish of every Canadian.

We have been deluged with pamphlets, circulars, etc., relating to Manitoba and the Northwest, through which we have waded in weariness in search of information. At last we have been rewarded, and amply so, now that we have discovered a really readable work; in fact, the only one of which we can speak favourably, one which is as readable as the excellent work of Rev. Mr. Grant,—*"From Ocean to Ocean."* We refer to Gordon's *"Mountain and Prairie,"* published by Dawson Bros. It is extremely pleasant reading, conveying a great deal of information in an attractive shape, and of a thoroughly reliable character. It consists of notes taken by Mr. Daniel M. Gordon, who accompanied a Government surveying party from Victoria, V.I., "to the mouth of the Skeena, thence across the northern part of the Province to Fort McLeod, thence Mr. Gordon came by Peace River Pass to Dunvegan and thence eastward." The information given concerning the Indians is very interesting and instructive; and the author writes very sensibly and in a Christian spirit of the Chinamen. The passage is worthy, together with many others, of reproduction:—"If it be objected that the Chinese come and work here in British Columbia only with the view of carrying their earnings out of the country, it may be asked for what other purposes are hundreds of Britons now doing business in China, and with what other object indeed have many of the anti-Chinese agitators themselves gone to British Columbia? Or, if it be objected that our civilization as well as our commerce may suffer, that the Chinese lower the general tone, then surely we have but little faith in our civilization and in our Christianity if we cannot hope rather to mould the Mongolian to a higher life. Even if we would we could not, with any consistency, close one of our ports against Chinese immigration, remembering the way in which the ports of China were opened for the commerce of our Empire; and before any serious wish should be expressed, or serious attempt made to exclude them, some more vigorous efforts for their improvement than have yet been witnessed are required of us, if we be a Christian people." The book is well bound and well furnished with excellent engravings and accurate maps. We can heartily recommend this work to every one,—to those who desire attractive reading, and to those who desire reading.

TORONTO AND ABOUT.

Is it a cause for congratulation or otherwise that the Local Government sees fit to increase to a great extent the appointment of Justices of the Peace? Latterly the increase has been very marked, and the new magistrates are by no means the best citizens of the community. This subject was under deep consideration a few years ago in Quebec; Justices of the Peace got to be as numerous as criminals, until the honour of having J.P. affixed to one's name was as little thought of as D.D. In all justice and equity let us not lack J.P.'s, but also let there be some sort of discrimination exercised in the selection and number; we surely do not wish to have a Justice of the Peace for every law-breaker in the settlement.

What can be said in favour of the morbid craving after sensational and vulgar reading, the like of which this last week appeared to excess in our three local important journals, the *Telegram*, *Mail* and *Globe*, viz.: The disgusting description of the hanging of the unhappy Bennett? Is it decent to compel people to read such degrading stuff? Not a soul in the city but knew through the daily journals that the poor wretch was to die a degrading death. City arabs shouted it in the streets, the workmen at their labour talked it over, clerks in their offices stopped in their employment to discuss the all-absorbing but degrading topic, and nothing was heard from the girls of the factories as they came from work but the hanging of the prisoner Bennett. School children and workmen alike commented and passed their unseemly jokes upon the deplorable event. Is it possible that any good can be gained through the publication of these shocking particulars?

Much comment has been made over the delay in the issue of the writ for the election of a member of the Commons for West Toronto in the place of John Beverley Robinson, the newly-appointed Governor of Ontario. The *Globe* is particularly incensed, and, I think, with some show of reason, for it is now forty days since the Supreme Court of the Dominion declared the seat vacant.

Although the city is made night after night the scene of most daring burglaries yet the Police Court as yet has seen nothing of the thieves. The thieves are not caught, but we know who pays the piper.

The Allan line's advertisement for 3,000 navvies for Manitoba is fruitful of much mischief; already the streets of Toronto are disfigured by the unemployed men. What is the sense of importing these men to work on the C. P. R. when our country is full of such labourers? In Toronto alone, before these navvies arrived, hundreds of labourers in vain sought employment. The Secretary of St. George's Society would, I fancy, be able to give the Minister of Agriculture some useful information respecting immigration and the importation of navvies and moneyless men in general. It is all very well to assist and encourage the emigration of farmers and farm labourers to our shores, but to have wilfully misled these poor men into the belief that work was plenty and their passage would be paid to Manitoba, was cruel and untrue, for the contractors have refused to have anything to do with this imported labour. The question has now arisen, and is difficult of solution, what are we to do with the navvies? Echo answers what?

We want a "Sabbath Observance" law in Toronto. Both laymen and clergy join hands in denouncing Sunday excursions and rowing and yachting on the Sabbath, and all such recreations: but just at present a difference of opinion exists amongst certain of the "cloth" and certain evangelistic laymen upon this important question of "Sabbath Observance." The Toronto island has been the subject one way and another, of much discussion lately, and in conjunction with the discussion of Sunday proposed improvements, certain clergymen have expressed a desire to hold public service on the Lord's day in the dining room of Hanlan's hotel. The idea has been carried out as suggested, and the consequence is the steam boats ply their business advantageously whilst the Bay is thronged on Sabbath afternoons with scores of skiffs and sail boats bound to hear the Macdonell-Rainsford preaching. Instead of the few scores of inhabitants attending the services, a pleasure seeking band numbering thousands take advantage