

THE OBSERVER.

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[Where letters to the Editor are to be addressed.]

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THE OBSERVER next Saturday will be Enlarged to Twelve Pages.

JNO. W. NETTLETON, PROPRIETOR & BUSINESS MAN'G.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 1891.

"THE OBSERVER."

We make the gratifying announcement to-day that THE OBSERVER will next Saturday and for the future be increased to never less than twelve and generally sixteen pages. Our reception by the public has been most gratifying. We flatter ourselves that so far each issue has been an improvement on its predecessor, and it will be our constant endeavor to be able to truthfully make this boast. We also will announce next Saturday in these columns the particulars of our interesting guessing contest. THE OBSERVER will offer a prize of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS to any one of our subscribers who will most accurately guess the number of a specified letter in a specified number of our paper. We shall place the awarding of the prize in the hands of a committee of our subscribers, to be appointed by the subscribers themselves, so that there can be no manner of question as to the genuineness of the award. It is our intention to continue competitions of this kind. We ask our readers to be kind enough to note that full particulars will be given in THE OBSERVER of next Saturday, December 12.

We desire to say a few words about ourselves. Having engaged on our staff some of the most able newspaper men in Canada we have resolved, while of course preserving a general tone of accord in the paper, to allow our principal writers to express their own opinions in their own way, without any toning down or editorial curtailment, by which a writer's work is often emasculated and spoiled. Our principal writers are "VIOLA," a lady of high musical and dramatic ability, and one of the best critics in London and New York, in both of which cities her work is quite familiar. "MARC MARIUS" is a prominent Canadian journalist and as Canadian in sentiment as in birth; this clever writer has already shown by his work in this journal the quality of his power. "WILFRID WISGAST" has been familiar to newspaper readers both in America and Europe for many years, and his terse but

energetic comments on all kinds of subjects will be one of the features of THE OBSERVER. We conclude to-day an interesting article by MR. RICHARD B. MALCHEIN, the popular *Maitre d'Armes* of our Toronto Fencing Club, "On Fencing"; and we intend to give frequent articles by specialists. But for the fact that MR. HORACE SMITH passes much of his time in Europe, we should announce him as a regular contributor, still, whenever available, he will contribute, and this gentleman writes, "I am only too glad to be on the staff of a paper that is plucky enough to be intelligently saucy and sensible enough to be independent."

We have received offers of assistance from "Fairplay Radical," "Marie Stuart," and several other Canadian writers of note. With such a staff it is not at all necessary to boast of the fact that we shall turn out in every respect the most racy and smart paper in the Canadian Dominion. We are Conservative in tone, Canadian in our sentiments and hope, but we are thoroughly independent, owning no party and being owned by none.

SUNDAY CARS.

The article we published last week by HORACE SMITH on "Sunday Cars" has swiftly brought two of the city papers to time. The *World* promptly replied to us, and seeing the force of our arguments and stung by our remarks it has come out flat-footed on the popular side. We quite understand what was meant by "the letters of numerous correspondents, some of whom complain that we have neglected their interests." Mr. W. F. MACLEAN is a sharp newspaper man, but we also fancy that some of the tricks of the trade are not unfamiliar to ourselves. It was THE OBSERVER that brought you up to time, Mr. W. F. McLEAN, and very glad we are to be able to say so, because we value your support. All our readers are requested to sign the petition printed in *The World* and return to the *World* office. Let the citizens stand by each other, and we shall have not a victory, for there will be no real fight; but we shall have a simple walk over. But no time should be wasted, and not an effort neglected to settle this question straight away. We will submit no longer to the gross outrage of not being allowed to ride on Sundays. Go ahead, Mr. W. F. McLean. THE OBSERVER forced your hand and will stand by you. On Wednesday the *Globe* also replied to us, and by its despairing tone shows that it is quite aware that it has to lead a very forlorn hope. The *Globe* quotes our remark that people quit the city on Sundays to the detriment of the city, and the *Globe* admits we are right in making the statement. We know we are right. The *Globe* opposition will only intensify the fun. We are winning, and we mean to win. Every working man and woman in Toronto is interested in this movement; it is the only holiday they have, and they are forbidden to use it; the only time in all the

week that they possess a few spare hours, and when the country and the fields and God's fresh air should be free to them, the bigotry and selfishness of a few Sabbatarians practically forbid the workingmen and women, with their often sickly little ones, to leave the purlieus of the city. Let every reader of THE OBSERVER at once support the Sunday car movement; there is no time to hesitate. Let us act.

CIVIC MELANGE.

There is very little change in the situation at that temple of fame, the City Hall. The only new move since last week was the attempt made by ex-Ald. McMillan's supporters to get Mayor Clarke to show his hand. A deputation waited on Mr. Clarke, and told him if he would step out they would support Mr. McMillan. Mr. Clarke, like the coon, refused to come down, and as the deputation was not loaded for bear, they are as wise now as ever. On Tuesday evening another meeting of Mr. McMillan's supporters was held, and another deputation started on the same errand. Mr. McMillan announced himself as a candidate anyway.

The *News* is out advocating the claims of ex-Ald. Fleming, and Mr. Fleming will poll a big vote. The *News* as a factor in the coming struggle is not to be ignored.

Mr. Beatty has held some meetings, and is meeting with a fair degree of success in his canvass.

Ald. William Bell has smoked the pipe of peace with Mayor Clarke, and a deputation will no doubt come down from St. Stephens' Ward in a few days to wait upon the prodigal son. Mr. Bell is a factor in this fight too, and he can command a larger individual following than any single alderman in Toronto.

Mayor Clarke will be a candidate, for Ald. McDougall is not in good health and he cannot stand another campaign. The Reformers will knife McDougall for Fleming every time, still they would like to see him in the field if they thought it would keep Mayor Clarke out.

CANADIAN SENTIMENT.

The only annexationist in Canada worthy of the name is Sol. White, M.P.P. of Essex. If Mr. White lived a hundred years ago and went up and down the country offering to hand us over to a foreign nation he would be put in a dungeon cell, and the chances are Parliament at its next meeting would bring in a bill of attainder and his head would fall.

Hon. Oliver Mowat came out with a strong letter denouncing annexation, and as a result when Mr. White talked annexation in the town hall at Woodstock in Mr. Mowat's and Mr. Cartwright's constituency he was metaphorically snowed under. The town hall at Woodstock has seen many strange things. A year ago it witnessed the great Birchall trial, but Mr. White is the biggest fool that figured in it since.

We often wonder what the theprists who are so constantly wanting to change "the destiny" of