

give it to him before he cries, but do not say "no, no, baby," and then when he howls for it give it to him with a "well, take it!" That kind of treatment establishes a habit very hard to break, and it is lamentably common.

Very chic tricycling dresses have short plaited skirts falling just below the tops of leather gaiters similar to those worn by ladies with hunting costumes. The jacket has a close fitted back, loose fronts over a tight-fitting simulated waistcoat. A jockey cap and riding gloves finish the costume.

Yours faithfully,

Boston.

DINAH STURGIS.

THE "WEEK" ON "THE FUTURE OF CANADA."

Assuming, then, that radical change must come, what shall it be? "True Canadian" does not tell us. Annexation is out of the question. On that, all, with insignificant exceptions, seem agreed. Imperial Federation as a grand idea has many attractions, but every effort to bring it down from the clouds, and within the limits of definite and practical conceptions, has so far failed. May we not go further and say that every such effort has thus far but resulted in making the impracticability of the dream more apparent? We have dealt with it before and need not repeat our arguments. Suffice it to say that one of its prime, indispensable conditions, the setting up of a power or tribunal of some sort superior in authority to the British Parliament, is such a condition that its mere statement is equivalent, for every one who recalls the history, traditions, and present *prestige* of the British Parliament, to a *reductio ad absurdum*. What, then, remains? Independence or—nothing. The gist of the arguments so forcibly urged against Independence may be given in three words, weakness, poverty, ingratitude. Independent Canada would, unquestionably, be weak in comparison with her mighty neighbor. What then? Has no nation, in this age of civilization and Christianity, any right to exist but that measured by its military and naval strength? Are there no free and independent weak nations, dwelling in peace and safety beside stronger ones, in Christendom? Did little Switzerland go to the wall when her autonomy was threatened the other day by her neighbor? Pushed to its logical conclusion the argument from weakness would leave room for but one nation in the world, as there can be but one absolutely the strongest. And so with the argument from comparative poverty. It is unfortunate, though perhaps, unavoidable, that Canada is so deeply in debt, but that makes all the stronger reason why she should do all in her power to attract capital and population for the development of her great resources. The idea that nothing could be done without an immense army and navy and a large and costly diplomatic service is an Old World idea. We see no reason why the New should not introduce a new and better order of things. Suppose, for instance, Canada's first act, as an independent nation, should be to enter into a treaty with the United States, providing that every dispute then existing, or afterwards arising, should be settled by arbitration in a manner definitely outlined and fixed. We have no great admiration for the character and methods of the professional politicians across the border, but we have sufficient faith in the good sense and Christian integrity of the people and the honest friendliness they would have for a kindred American nation, to believe that they would promptly enter into such an arrangement. And then what further need of costly armaments?

A word as to the argument from sentiment. Let us not be misunderstood. We are not, as "True Canadian" seems to imagine, urging secession, rebellion, or any other horrible crime against the Mother Country. We yield not even to our fervid correspondent in our loyalty to Great Britain, and our admiration of all that is grand and noble in her history and literature and in the character of her people. We appreciate, too, the wise magnanimity which has characterized her colonial policy, though our historical recollections fail to supply us with an instance in which her gallant sons have stood between us and a destruction that was not threatened us on her account, not our own. Nor, though we cheerfully and gratefully acknowledge that for our cherished freedom—our liberty to think, to vote, to speak, to act—we are in a real sense indebted to the example and assistance of Britain, are we able to recall an instance in which a concession in the direction of political freedom and self-government has been granted us save at our own urgent demand, if not almost under compulsion. But let that pass. Our sin is that we deem it wise for Canadians to look forward as well as backward; and that it may be, possibly, the first duty of a "true Canadian" to be loyal to Canada. We urge no hasty movement, no rash breaking with the historic past. But realizing that the day is drawing near, in the course of events over which we have no control, when a new departure will be inevitable; realizing too, that as an outcome both of sentiment and of lack of diplomatic and commercial liberty, Canadian *prestige* is lowered, and Canadian progress retarded by the disabilities inseparable from a relation of dependency, we urge that, when the day of necessary choice is fully come—whether in five years or in twenty-five—Canadians should be prepared to take the only course consistent with their own self-respect, and the brave traditions of their race. We contemplate no severance of the bonds of affection which now bind Canadians to the land of their fathers. And, so far from such a peaceful reception, under the parental benediction, tending to still further divide the Anglo-Saxon race, we make bold to prophesy that the independence of Canada, whenever it comes, will put her in such a position as a mediator and connecting link between the two great branches of that race as will make her the most powerful influence in drawing them together, and bringing about that great reunion—in sympathy and friendship if in no closer alliance—of the whole English-speaking race, to which we confidently look forward as one of the greatest blessings which the future has in store for humanity.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A VISIT TO THE POTTERIES OF HANTS CO.—A visit to the potteries would prove interesting to our people. They are to be found half a mile from Enfield station, Hants Co., or 1½ miles from Elmsdale station. The kind proprietor of one of the buildings showed your correspondent through the rooms, and exhibited the various steps in making an article—from the common clay used—to the completion of the work—resulting in an earthen pan, a crock, or a tea-pot. Mr. B. Prescott, the proprietor, is a genial man, and takes an interest in showing the process of making useful things from pure clay and sand. He has, near at hand, clay of the finest quality, and the bed is almost inexhaustible. At a short distance he gets sand of excellent quality. The fire clay for making Rockingham pots (tea-pots) is found farther off—about twelve miles away. The mill for grinding the clay, or making it fit for the potter's use, is run by a horse in one of the buildings I visited. It is cut up and all impurities got rid of. Then the men work it like dough. Taking a piece about ten inches in diameter, it is pressed by the hands, rolled, cut in two by a piece of twine, and rolled again until it is fit for the potter's mill. This mill is turned the same as you turn a grindstone, and looks not unlike a grindstone—turned over—flat side up. One man turns it, and another puts the clay on it, and with his hands makes it the shape he wants. The circular motion of the wheel causes the clay to take the form of a circle of clay—the hands being pressed against the stone in the centre, and a little water being used to soften the clay. In two minutes you have an earthen jar, a crock or a vase—with rim on the top, or neck and rim—all complete. These are now laid on shelves until they get dry, when they are all carried to the brick kiln, and subjected to heat for 30 hours. When cool they are as hard as any we use, but are in the rough state. After a time they are dipped into a large vessel of liquid composed of lead, manganese, etc., and taken to the second kiln, and under excessive heat they are thoroughly glazed, and are packed away—ready for market. These two kilns—the biscuit kiln and the glass kiln—consume a great quantity of wood. The articles made here, such as milk pans, flower pots, preserve jars, tea pots, cream crocks, liquid jars, etc., are equal to any found in the market.

The other pottery here is owned by Mr. Jas. Prescott. He manufactures drain pipes, drain tiles, chimney tops, stone jars, in fact stoneware of every description. Work has been going on for six years, giving employment to 8 or 9 men, making a market for firewood—besides farm produce. The facilities for loading are good, a siding is here so that goods can be loaded on the cars. This industry should be encouraged by Nova Scotians. Halifax, 28 miles distant, is chief market for earthenware. Truro purchases largely of drain pipes, tiles, etc. Encourage home manufacture—GAMMA in Hants Journal.

A flourishing New Brunswick industry is the extensive brick-manufacturing concern of Messrs. G. A. and H. S. Flett near Nelson village on the Miramichi River. Messrs. Flett's works stand on their property of 100 acres facing on the Miramichi which contains an excellent brick-clay stratum averaging a depth of ten feet, which rests on a stratum of clear sand, and there is a copious spring of clear water within 50 feet of the engine-house. The facilities for loading are all that could be desired. The yard has a drying capacity at present of 250,000 bricks, and 500,000 can be burned at one time. As the working continues the capacity is constantly increasing. The working capacity is 15,000 a day for common and 6,000 per day pressed. Fifteen men and some boys are employed in the Nelson yard and they are paid once a month.

A few weeks since Messrs. Flett purchased the extensive brickyard at Nappan, owned by the Maritime Chemical Pulp Company, where the bricks for the Pulp Mill were made. This property was taken over almost as a going concern and is now being carried on under Mr. G. A. Flett's supervision. It turns out from 20,000 to 22,000 bricks a day, employing about twenty-five men.

Messrs. Flett have also the property known as the Boss brickyard at Bathurst, which is alongside of the Intercolonial Railway, about a quarter of a mile south of the station. Here they have always a quantity of bricks on hand for northern points, the product of the season being about 175,000.

The firm manufacture for the present season will be about 1,000,000 bricks. To give an idea of the bulk presented by that number we may say that they would build a wall a foot thick, ten feet high and more than a mile long. They go to different points in the Maritime Provinces, largely to contractors for government works at Sydney, Pugwash, Wallace, Tatamagouche, Moncton, Campbellton, Dalhousie, etc., besides those entering into local consumption. The Nappan works are now engaged making bricks exclusively for Messrs. Rhodes, Curry & Co. of Amherst, who are using them for a round house at Moncton. We are indebted for these particulars to the Miramichi Advance.

Building stone is being shipped from Nova Scotia to Buffalo and Chicago.

A NEW INDUSTRY.—It gives us pleasure to announce that a new and permanent industry is about to be inaugurated near Bridgetown. A company has been formed with three American gentlemen and two of our citizens to carry on brick and drain tile manufacturing. For this purpose the company have already bought the site known as the Denison brick yard, and purchased the good will of the brick business heretofore carried on by Mr. Edwin Walker and son. A 25 horse power engine and the necessary machinery have, we are informed, been ordered to be ready to be put in place early in the spring, when operations will be commenced.—Bridgetown Monitor.