

## Public Opinion.

Dundas True Banner (Lib.): Civil service employees, Dominion and Provincial, should keep out of politics. If they cannot keep out of politics, let them resign their offices.

Manitoba Free Press (Ind. Con.): If Mr. Foster's opinion of the liberty that ought to be accorded civil servants is to prevail we shall never have peace; what is worse may be, we shall never have a painstaking and efficient service.

Toronto Mail and Empire (Con.): Mr. Pattullo, the new member for North Oxford, is pledged to aid in the reforming of the school system. There is plenty of work for him, and it would be well if he would commence by advocating its separation from politics.

The Templar (Ind.) The Hon. Mr. Davis was sworn in as Provincial Secretary on Friday, August 28th. He will have control of license affairs, and if a record is worth anything his devotion to temperance promises well for a faithful administration of that department.

Montreal Gazette (Con.): Although some of the new members of the House of Commons have hardly found their parliamentary feet yet, it is by this time evident enough that in point of debating power the present House will compare favorably with most of its predecessors.

Ottawa Citizen (Con.): The decencies of public life demand that public servants should be neutral. The reasons for this are various. They are paid by the whole people; consequently they should do nothing to make themselves personally distasteful to one-half of their employees.

Toronto Globe (Lib.): The public revenues from the liquor traffic, Federal, Provincial and municipal, amount to several millions of dollars, and the loss of this source of income, while not to be weighed against the benefit of a really effective prohibitory law, is a matter to be reckoned with.

Brantford Expositor (Lib.): In the enforced absence of Mr. Laurier from the opening of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, the management acted wisely in securing the services of the Hon. A. S. Hardy. To such a duty the Premier adapts himself easily and gracefully, and his remarks on this occasion were felicitous and appropriate.

Toronto Mail and Empire (Con.): Officials should not take part in politics, further than to think as they please and to cast their votes as conscience may direct. By the same salutary rule officials must be treated by Administrations as public servants and not as politicians. The public interests demand that the old American system be not adopted here.

Quebec Chronicle (Con.): The politics of Quebec are largely the creation of the different methods of Provincial administration. Progress and purity of Government are needed rather than the bitterness of party struggles, and the development of our resources is more to be desired than the victory of leaders who plume themselves upon their affinity with one or the other of the great political parties in the Federal arena.

Ottawa Citizen (Con.): There is no evidence that the Upper House possesses any greater power, authority or fitness where it is elective than where it is nominated. Consequently it would be an unwise step to interfere with the constitution of the Senate in Canada. What is required here is that there should be a fair representation of both parties; but, above all, that the men placed in the Senate should be men of superior calibre and character.

Halifax Chronicle (Lib.): If there is one department which more than another should be kept aloof from the manipulation of either political party it is the militia department, which requires active sympathy and support from both political parties to keep it upon a proper footing, and nothing will cause it to

fall behind hand so quickly as the introduction of a system controlled by political bosses with a "pull."

Hamilton Spectator (Con.): It is all very well for Mr. Laurier to assure the people in general terms that he will so handle the tariff that it will be better for the manufacturer and better for the consumer: it is all very well for Mr. Laurier to promise that he is going to materially reduce the burdens of the people; it is all very well to say that the needs and wishes of every class will be consulted; but what the people want is some slight inkling of what is to be done.

Toronto Telegram (Ind. Con.): Corporations with the help of friendly State legislators, have stripped American cities of franchises worth millions. Corporations intent on robbing Toronto have not usually found the Ontario Legislature friendly, and it is simply justice to admit Hon. A. S. Hardy's leading and honorable part in the assertion of the Legislature's hostility to the idea of allowing Ontario municipalities to be plundered by corporations.

Montreal Gazette (Con.): The Government employees, as a class, are quite as intelligent as any other body of men in the country. They have the same interest in the proper administration of the country's affairs as any other citizens. They suffer from misgovernment and gain by good government as all other residents within the country do. In national affairs they pay the same taxes as do other people. There is neither logic nor justice in disfranchising them, in degrading them to a level below their fellow-countrymen in other occupations.

Canadian Baptist (Ind.): The proposal which is to come before our Parliament to increase the tax on the Chinese entering Canada to the prohibitive rate of \$500 a head raises some serious questions for thoughtful men. Of course China is not just now in a position to make very effective resistance to any course which a strong Western power may see fit to pursue towards her people. But the imposition of so outrageous a tax will be very hard to reconcile, notwithstanding American precedent, with Canadian or British notions of international fair play.

Hamilton Herald (Ind. Con.): The principal reason why the result of a plebiscite could not be regarded as binding on the members is that there would be grave suspicions as to whether it was a genuine indication of the people's will. When the Ontario plebiscite was taken it was well known that many Tories voted in favour of prohibition for no other purpose than to embarrass the Mowat Government. They didn't believe in prohibition; they didn't want prohibition; but they hoped to be able to "put Mowat in a hole" by rolling up a majority in favour of prohibition.

Montreal Star (Ind.): We are not, of course, arguing for the continuance of the present Franchise Act. The sooner that dies the better. It is costly, clumsy, and slow. It is almost certain to compel the holding of important elections upon stale lists. It is only a trifle removed from manhood suffrage, and it keeps up the difference at an enormous expense. The common sense course for this Liberal Government would be to boldly enact manhood suffrage for the Dominion and provide a simple and inexpensive system of registration. This would be nearer to Liberalism than the reactionary proposal of the Ottawa platform.

Guelph Mercury (Lib.): There has been considerable interest shown in the constitutional points in difference in the Aberdeen-Tupper correspondence. Perhaps it is because the questions are not worn threadbare, as most of our political issues are, that they attract more attention. Outside of the party press, the most notable deliverances on the matter so far have been those of Goldwin Smith and Principal Grant. Both agree that the Governor-General was within his rights in his action, but the former doubts the expediency of the reasons advanced by Lord Aberdeen, while the latter endorses him through and through.

## Literary and Personal.

John Langdon Heaton, the literary editor of The New York Recorder, is to have his verses published under the title of "The Quilting Bee, and other Poems."

Hon. Mr. Harcourt, Provincial Treasurer, has returned from Europe, where he spent seven weeks. He visited Paris and Edinburgh, but spent most of the time in London.

Dr. George Stewart, who has been editor of the Quebec Morning Chronicle for the past seventeen years, has severed his connection with the Chronicle and intends, it is said, to start a Liberal evening paper in Quebec.

Mr. Blackmore has just celebrated his 71st birthday, George Macdonald is his senior by one year, Mr. Meredith and Mrs. Oliphant are each 68, Miss Braddon is 59, Sir Walter Besant is 58, Ouida 56, and Mr. William Black 55.

The Century Co. has just issued a new edition of the pamphlet "Cheap Money," containing the various brief articles which have appeared in The Century, giving a history of many of the cheap-money experiments which have been tried in many countries.

Professor Nathaniel S. Shaler has just completed his work on "American Highways," and it will be issued in the autumn by The Century Co. It will be a practical book, containing a great number of illustrations and diagrams, and appealing to all persons interested in good roads.

It is said that 200,000 copies of a selection from Matthew Arnold's poems, published by Mr. Stead in his "Penny Poets," have been sold in less than six months. When Mr. Stead put out the selection he admitted that he "wondered greatly whether a poet so exclusive and so cultured would meet with a welcome from the masses."

Marion Crawford has written a new story specially for The Century. It is called "A Rose of Yesterday," and it will begin in the November number and run for six months. The story opens in Lucerne, and while it is entirely separate in interest, some of the personages that appear in it will be familiar to readers of "Don Orsino." It is wholly romantic in character.

It is proposed to erect in Paris a monument of Paul Verlaine. A bust by Niederhausern is to be placed in the Luxembourg Gardens, near the statue of Henri Murger. The money is to be raised by international subscription. Stéphane Mallarmé is president of the committee and the Chap-Book has been appointed to receive subscriptions in America.

G. P. Putnam's Sons will publish at once in the Series of Questions of the Day, a monograph by Judge Tourgee, entitled "The Battle of the Standards, or Coin and Credit the Antidote for Coin without Credit." They also have on the press a revised edition of Wheeler's "Real Bi-Metallism, or True Coin versus False Coin." A new edition of Shaw's "History of Currency" will be ready shortly for publication in New York and London.

Commenting upon Gaston Paris's unanimous election to the French Academy at the same time as the appearance of his scholarly new book, "Penseurs and Poetes," the St. James's Gazette pays a very pretty compliment to French thinkers and scholars in general. It says: "Frenchmen seem to possess a secret art of robbing learning of its terrors for the unlearned, of casting the robe of a most captivating simplicity and ingenuousness over their intellectual greatness. To begin with, they have no airs and they have common sense. They do not regard the fact of their being an authority in the College de France or the Academy as a reason for rendering themselves rude and insupportable in a drawing-room. The superior Englishman might do worse than study the manners of these simple savants from across the Channel."