

The Planet.

DAILY AND WEEKLY
Chatham, Ont.MR. MULOCK'S EXTRAORDINARY
INVITATION.

In the house of commons on Friday evening a couple of items were come across so characteristic of the "business is business" methods of the present administration as to fairly challenge criticism by their very titles. They were votes of \$2,500 and \$2,800 for wharves respectively at Coteau du Lac and the Cedars in the Soulanges Canal.

Mr. Bergeron, who has long represented the constituency on the opposite side of the river served by the Beauharnois Canal, raised a modest protest against the proposed expenditure. He told the committee that such wharves would only serve the convenience of a small local or coasting trade, which need not use the Soulanges Canal. And besides, apart from the purely local character of the improvements, they were essentially of a nature to create an impediment to navigation of an artificial marine highway.

Mr. Foster and Mr. Haggart argued against introducing the principle of expending federal funds for constructing minor works of purely local utility as distinguished from federal improvements to navigation and aid to transportation of the great lakes and seaboard.

Mr. Mulock took the ground that it was the same thing to build wharves on rivers as on lakes, as this happened to be an expansion of rivers.

"That," replied Mr. Foster, "is all clear. The honorable gentleman has been acting minister of public works, and has been wanting to get opportunities to spend public money, and at this moment he has made an appeal to every town and city on the inland waters of this Dominion. 'Come to this government and it will supply your wants.' And with that Mr. Foster read to the House the following circular:

Ottawa, Ont., 13th March, 1906.
"My Dear Sir,—During Mr. Tarte's absence I have been requested to take charge of his department for him, and it would be of great service in enabling me to keep his work if you would kindly write me at your earliest convenience, with reference to the following subjects: 1.—For what works in your constituency has there been a parliamentary vote? 2.—Have these works been begun? If so, in what state of progress are they? 3.—Not begun, what is your advice as to whether they should be begun? 4.—Are you asking for provision being made in the supplementary estimates for (a) new works, (b) carrying on or completion of works already authorized or begun? If so, what are your views (a) as to the sum required, (b) as to what work should be performed in case of any works not now under contract, but authorized by vote of parliament, please state whether you advise its being carried out by contract or by day labor."
(Signed) William Mulock.

Mr. Craig—Never got one of those.
Mr. Foster—No, because you are a Conservative, but there is not a heeler from the head of the great lakes down to the harbors of Cape Breton who has not received one of these invitations to make his raid on the public treasury.
Mr. Mulock had not a word to say to this. He allowed the discussion to proceed upon the principles involved until, criticism having been exhausted in a hopeless cause, the item carried.

IN A STATE OF CHRONIC LUNACY.

"Bryanism" is now the term applied to the Kansas convention and its nominee, Bryan himself. The old and respectable Democratic papers are now contending that Bryan does not in any way represent the old-fashioned Democratic party; that he is an interloper, a Populist in disguise, and so forth. Taken up at the National Democratic convention, which met at Chicago, 7th July, 1896, he was till then almost utterly unknown; he was a splendid actor, had a brilliant address, was a forcible orator, and literally bounced his way to the hearts of the delegates by his happy epigram of the people being "crucified on a cross of gold." His (unavoidable) reiteration of the silver plank at the recent Kansas convention has so disgusted the Eastern Democrats that they now want to shake him off as a party viper. As the N. Y. Post graphically remarks:—"The name of Democracy again attaches to ticket and platform, but it is only in name that any connection with the tradition and principles of Democracy is maintained." Such scornful sneers from old-timed Democratic organs are more biting, more injurious than all the denunciations of the Republican press. It becomes daily more clear that the solid south and the woolly west will cling to Bryan whatever his fate may be, thus widening the line of demarcation which separates the East from the West politically.

All that the Democrats have now to hope for is that another crushing de-

"To Err is Human."

But to err all the time is criminal or idiotic. Don't continue the mistake of neglecting your blood. When impurities manifest themselves in eruptions or when disordered conditions of stomach, kidneys, liver or bowels appear, take Hood's Sarsaparilla. It will make pure, free blood, and put you in good health.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

Feat may bring the party to its senses by the time the presidential contest of 1904 comes around.

The contemporary we have quoted remarks:—

"The sudden taking up of the young and unknown Nebraska, four years ago, by a convention which had lost possession of its senses, seemed like a display of emotional insanity, for which time would work a cure. The deliberate endorsement of his candidacy for the second time, without the slightest opposition from any quarter, means chronic lunacy. The impression of hopeless lunacy is deepened by the blindness with which the gathering 'reaffirmed and endorsed' the principles of the crazy platform which was adopted four years ago, and especially by the reiteration of its demand for a financial system out of touch with the rest of the civilized world, with 10 to 1 as its corner-stone."

ONTARIO'S CROP PROSPECTS.

Dr. Saunders, director of experimental farms, has handed in his crop reports for Canada. They are not favorable on the whole. This may change the combination on the lock of the elections. The reports in their special relations to Ontario are as follows:—

Hay—Generally light in Eastern and Western Ontario. Hay promises to be scarce and dear over a large part of Canada.

Wheat—Fall wheat in Western Ontario is ripening very irregularly. The crop will only equal 15 bushels to the acre.

Spring wheat promises a fair return. On the whole the total wheat crop of the Dominion is likely to fall much below the average.

Oats—In Ontario the grain is healthy and promising, though the straw will be light.

Barley is well headed in Ontario, but the straw is short.

Peas will give an excellent return in Ontario.

Indian corn will give a heavy yield of fodder.

Roots and potatoes are backward everywhere, but will do well.

Pastures in Ontario are looking drier than ever before.

Fruits—In Ontario peach trees will give an abundant crop. Apples promise well.

Next, he may make a selection of books which he is to buy as opportunity offers and his savings will allow.

I do not insist upon the order, but in trying to follow the development of the mind of my bookish boy I think this a probable order:

Maryat, Dickens, Scott, Fielding, Defoe.

Byron, Tennyson, Pope, Cowper, Milton.

Capt. Cook, Bruce, Marco Polo, Oliver Goldsmith, Addison, Macaulay, Washington Irving.

Lowell, Charles Lamb, Shakespeare.

Thackeray, George Eliot, Charles Kingsley, Smollett.

I say that his list would probably assume some such form as this. I sume that, boy-like, he will begin with Maryat, Dickens and Scott. He will go on to "Tom Jones." "Robinson Crusoe" will introduce him to Defoe.

Later on he will read other works by that unweary hand. In poetry he will read Byron and Tennyson, and Milton last. His travelers will be Capt. Cook, Bruce and that treasure-house of good things, the travels of Marco Polo. After early fiction, poetry and travel, he will fall among essayists.

Shakespeare will attract him when he is about fifteen. He will then go on to what we may call later fiction, represented by the names I have given. I purposely omit the names of living writers, although he will naturally read much of contemporary work.

A Case of Bank Ingratitude.

Nor does the wrong to our naval hero end by the wrong to promote them. Captain Clark's cruise of the Oregon from San Francisco to Florida stands unexampled in naval records. He was for many days in the same waters with the Spanish fleet, liable to meet it alone in deadly conflict, and to the matchless handling of his great battleship at Santiago must be credited the complete destruction of the Spanish squadron; but to-day he ranks lower in the navy than he did when he sailed from the Pacific shores, by reason of the promotion of the Manila officers.

But for the efficient handling and deadly aim of the Oregon's powerful guns the Oquendo, Maria Teresa, and Viscaya would not have been destroyed in time to overtake the Colon.

While the destruction of the Oquendo and Maria Teresa, it was the Brooklyn and Oregon which compelled the Viscaya to strike her flag just in time to enable Schley and Clark to hurry on and overtake the Colon. The failure to recognize the distinguished services of Captain Clark is a blistering stain upon the Republic.

It sometimes happens that when a man loses his mind he doesn't miss it much.

Wood's Phosphodine is sold in Chatham by all druggists.

COYNE
Merchant Tailor

Opp Grand Opera House Entrance

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

The Hon. David Mills is reported to have said that a fraud was perpetrated upon the government in the emergency rationing business. If he said that, he administered a rebuke to the Liberal majority of the committee and to the Liberal majority of the house of commons which adopted the majority report without amendment.

DEFIED THE MATCHES.

Washington Times.
A Catholic missionary in India some time ago, noticing that the people of the province in which he was laboring to instill the doctrine of Christianity into their hearts, were obtaining fire by means of rubbing two flints together, distributed among them several boxes of matches and instructed them in their use. His generosity was rewarded by the people in a peculiar way. After a brief absence the priest returned to the village and found the inhabitants worshipping the boxes of matches he had presented to them as deities.

CLIMATE CONDITIONS IN CHINA.

Leslie's Weekly.
The summers in North China are dry and hot. Then come a short period of torrential rains, and then a long, dry fall and winter. Frost will come about the middle of October, and the last of November the rivers will freeze up, to stay closed until the middle of February, though often till a month later. There is almost no snow during the entire winter—two or three little flurries, but never enough to cover the ground. The cold is comparatively brief, without the incessant freeze and thaw that we have in this country.

A LITTLE TOO SHORT.

New York Weekly.
Employer—What do you do with your Saturday half holiday?
Clerk—Oh, I have a good time thinking where I would go and what fun I could have if it were a whole holiday.

The Boy and His Bookshelf.

A boy's library must be, first of all, a collection of books that he will like to read over and over again. Next, it must contain books of reference. I myself, who have been collecting books since I was eight or nine years old, have a great many books of reference. There are dictionaries of all kinds—Greek and Latin, and modern languages, dictionaries of biography, encyclopaedias, gazetteers and many others.

But the most important thing is a good encyclopaedia. For my own part I found the Encyclopaedia Britannica too large for the space which I could afford on my shelves. I therefore bought Chambers's and find it a most excellent and trustworthy compendium of knowledge.

Next, he may make a selection of books which he is to buy as opportunity offers and his savings will allow. I do not insist upon the order, but in trying to follow the development of the mind of my bookish boy I think this a probable order:

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