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A Land of Light. At the creation of the world, two great lights were made; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. But there is no night for the lesser light to rule in the Yukon at present. A correspondent writing from Fort Selkirk on the 29th ultimo, writes: "It is now eleven p.m., and I can see to write without a candle. We have daylight twenty-three hours of the twenty-four."

It is somewhat confusing to contemplate this nightless, night-capless, nightmareless existence in the golden North, and we find ourselves unable to determine whether its manifest advantages would counterbalance its disadvantages if such conditions of almost everlasting light prevailed in Montreal at this season of the year. It might lessen the work of the City Recorder; but it would certainly reduce the revenue of the gas and electric light companies. However, no game of baseball could be "called on account of darkness."

Popular Loans.

It is evident that Montreal is not alone in its experience of so-called popular loans. Yielding to the senseless clamor and impetuous demand for consideration of the interests of the people, our civic rulers recently tried the experiment of floating an issue of bonds suitable for small investors. It was a lamentable failure. The same plan was adopted by our neighbours to the South when issuing bonds to defray the expenses of the war with Spain, and the New York "Commercial Bulletin" thus refers to the result:—

"When this Government has occasion to sell some more bonds, we shall probably again have a tremendous noise made by newspapers that profess to be the particular champions of the people in favor of what they are pleased to call a popular loan. No one who stopped to reflect, ever supposed that a Government bond at 3 per cent. possessed any special attraction for people of small means who can get 3 1-2 to 4 per cent. from savings banks, and 5 to 6 per cent.

and in many parts of the country 7 or 8 per cent., for small loans secured by mortgage. But by making a great ado about Government bonds as a peculiarly precious form of investment, usually monopolized by bloated capitalists and soulless bankers, it is possible to make a great many people of small means feel that they would be outraged unless the bonds were issued to them. The statistics of distribution of the Spanish war bonds furnished by our Washington correspondent, show how large a part of these bonds are now registered, proving their possession by banks and estates holding them as permanent investments. The Government went to large expense to distribute these bonds as widely as possible among small holders, and within three months it was evident that a great part of the small holders had sold their bonds to financial institutions."

It is quite evident that the only difference between the popular loan and the loan sold to financiers is that the government do not get the premium which the banks, ultimately getting the bonds, pay.

A Strap, A Lap and a Law Suit.

Winter patrons of the Montreal Street Railway, who, although contributing fully thirty dollars per annum to the holders of a very valuable franchise, have long since abandoned the hope of securing seats in exchange for their fares, will rejoice at a recent legal decision in Philadelphia. The case submitted to an intelligent and sympathetic jury in the city of Brotherly Love, was that of a closed and crowded car, a fair woman, and a fat man. The man was clinging to a strap and the woman was seated, when the car "coming about" on a short curve, shot the stout strap-holder into the plaintiff's lap. What the fair woman said to the fat man we are not told. Possibly she had no breath left in her wherewith to express her injured feelings. However, when she recovered from the shock, a doctor, and, later, a lawyer were consulted, with the result that a jury has found her so badly bruised that they have awarded her \$2,300 damages. Now will street car companies be good, and provide proper facilities for transporting their passengers?