

a commercial sense they are highly intelligent. Mothers-in-law are abolished by Act of Parliament—poor relations are unknown, and everything is done on a cash basis. Doctor's and druggists invariably transact their business on C. O. D. principles. Every time a child is born the happy father is donated ten cents by the Minister of Population. Poverty is unknown, and the amusement of the people is derived principally from thrills of emotion. Their literary tastes are various and instructive. The titles of some of the books in the Imperial Library are suggestive of their love of literature. These are the names of some of them:—"Discourse on the Character of Joseph;" "George Stephenson on Locomotion;" "Dr. Smith on the Want of a Subject;" "Bohne on the Sinew of the Nation;" "Inspirations versus Aspirations;" "Mills on Muscle;" "Mr. Plimsoll's Opinion of the 'Ancient Mariners';" "Grip from a Masonic point of view;" "Marryatt on the Swells of the Ocean," and many others. As in our own country, Toronto, for instance, the people get their religion, not by the Punahon (*Punchoon*) but by the Potts. The established religion here is mutual admiration and the self-sacrifice of all personal inconveniences. There is no want of the circulating medium here. A fine hospital, built upon the ruins of an ancient temple, may be seen. It was constructed for the safe keeping of those unfortunate people who are blinded by prejudice, as well as of those who are blind to their own interests. At the time I write it is only half full. The other wards are used for the safe keeping of victims of misplaced confidence.

The Department of Public Works is a credit to the country. A correct account of receipts and expenditures is strictly kept, and the Department allows no waste of the raw material under any circumstances. Self-made men are strictly shunned. People who start out in life without a stake in their pockets, are looked upon with contempt. Buildings are being run up with remarkable activity. Each man carries his own foundation with him wherever he goes. Most of the females carry on the business of auctioneers.

The Department of Marine and Fisheries keep a large supply of fresh fish always on hand, but there is no "coddling" done here. Sardines are looked upon as unworthy of cultivation. Piscatorial amusements are chiefly found in running waters.

The Finance Department is in active operation. The chief work of the Department is how to make both ends meet, so as to leave a surplus satisfactory to municipalities.

The Department of Militia and Defence is particularly careful of all the "old soldiers" who are pensioned off after an expiration of their term of service. They are usually employed in recruiting wasted energies and enlisting the sympathies of the people against the invasion of neighboring foes hostile to national progress.

The Department of Customs has the sole right of giving the people their just dues.

The duties of the Privy Council are to strictly preserve State secrets, and to control the Secret Service Funds in its own way. The Clerk of the Council is expected to swear that he will not publish or cause to be published memoirs of the Sovereign on any body else after death—except his own.

The Department of the Interior is excellently managed, on homeopathic principles.

The Supreme Court is organized for the special purpose of deciding the competency of the Judges of the Lower Courts.

The Patent Office is large, and is situated in the east wing of an inventor's brain. The cost of procuring letters-patent is but trifling, and many useful designs are daily registered. One of the best, which I saw working, was for removing elbow grease from old clothes.

The Department of Agriculture has a severe but admirable regulation for preventing the sowing of the seeds of discord among the inhabitants.

The Press is an unfettered institution, it can say or do anything it wishes. The local reporters have a knack, (known only to themselves), of discovering a murder or a robbery, long before it happens, and of ascertaining the existence of a burglary which nobody else ever heard of.