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JOHN CAMERON, President and Manager.

ADVERTISING RATES
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LONDON - CANADA.God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.

—[BROWNING.]

London, Tuesday, May 30.

Do you expect to be knighted this summer? If so, you will have to wait until June 30, for the Birthday Honor List of the Queen will not be issued till that date.

The Toronto World (Conservative) reminds Mr. Meredith that he has had enough of failures, and that if he does not do better as leader of the Legislative contingent in the coming general election he will have to get out. If the World speaks with authority, then is the outlook dark indeed for our former fellow-townsmen.

The Windsor Imperial Federationists had to go to Detroit for a mover of the vote of thanks to Principal Grant on the occasion of his recent lecture. It would have been appropriate for someone to move that the proposed federation should include the whole English-speaking race. Then the man from Detroit would have been more in place.

The Hamilton Spectator dubs the College Institute "the people's college," and contends that without it a wage-earner's children would not have a fair opportunity to get higher education. The argument is a sound one, and should be reflected upon by those who are always anxious to minimize the usefulness of high schools and collegiate institutes.

The Empire reports that the 25 Methodist churches of the West Toronto district have suffered a decrease in the aggregate membership of 750, according to figures submitted at the late district meeting. A leading Toronto Methodist recently informed the writer that this loss is attributable to the exodus caused by lack of employment in the city and neighborhood.

A LIBERAL reward will be given to anyone who can tell what Mr. J. J. Curran, the Montreal M. P., is doing for his salary as Solicitor-General in the Dominion Government. For long years, Mr. Curran was a supplicant for an office of emolument, and for long years he was kept in the cold. When the exigencies of the party demanded it, however, he was given one of the new portfolios—that of Solicitor-General. This is many months ago, but Mr. Curran has not yet buckled down to work. He remains at Montreal while the legal work of the Government is transacted by outsiders. We have it on the best authority that Mr. Curran draws his salary with regularity and dispatch every month, but not even Mr. Curran's best friend can say that the money is not absolutely wasted.

PUNISHMENT FOR DRUNKENNESS

The Hamilton Spectator reaffirms that drunkenness is a disease, and argues that the man who becomes intoxicated and has to be taken charge of by the police should not be fined. We cannot agree with our contemporary that drunkenness, in its earlier stages, is a disease. The man who becomes intoxicated for the first time, or for a good many times thereafter, and renders himself such a nuisance to society that he has to be locked up, would not be held to be diseased if he were examined by a committee of medical experts. It takes some time to acquire what is known as the drink habit, and to render the internal economy of the drinker in such a condition that he may fairly be called a diseased man—a slave to the drink habit. For such an one, while liquor can be freely had, there may be no better treatment than to regard him as diseased, and to have him treated accordingly. This is the view now being adopted in Great Britain. In the Imperial House of Commons the Home Secretary has just introduced a bill to give the courts greater power over habitual drunkards. It will empower magistrates to order that drunkards whose conduct has satisfied them that they are not responsible for their actions shall be detained in curative asylums. This will doubtless be the most effective treatment for the drinker who has reached that stage. But surely our contemporary will not hold that there shall be no exemplary punishment meted out to such as are drunken and disorderly in the earlier stages, and while responsibility cannot be denied? We believe that but for the fear of arrest and punishment there would be far more drunkenness than there now is, and we can see no reason for holding that those who are guilty of offending in this regard should escape scot free. The sober man need have no fear. To him the problem of when he can plead irresponsibility for his condition and actions, while in a state of intoxication, is never presented.

Extremes not only do not pay, but they are not nice, they are not agreeable. An overheated room is a nuisance. A chilled room is a terror, but a properly cared for home is a delight. But how many of us could keep our houses at an equable temperature in the changeable weather of the last few days?

CARDWELL.

We have exciting news from Cardwell county. This strong Conservative constituency is represented by Mr. White, of Montreal, who has been promised the collectorship of customs in that city. There has been considerable local opposition to the appointment, and as is generally the case the longer the office is kept vacant the more troublesome becomes the situation. Mr. White would have been appointed immediately after last session of the Dominion Parliament, but for the reason that serious disaffection against the Government was found to exist. This is partly due to the fact that Mr. D'Alton McCarthy was formerly M. P. for the county, and not a few of the electors are known to have personal regard for him, and partly owing to the unpopularity of the system of high taxation, against which Mr. McCarthy has recently been declaiming very strongly. In a late address, indeed, Mr. McCarthy challenged the Administration to open this stronghold of theirs. He said:

"Before long Cardwell may be opened. I hope it will be opened. I ask them from this platform to open it if they dare. I hurl a challenge at them here to-night. Let them give Mr. White the office they have promised him and not skulk. (Laughter.) If they do open it up they may have an opportunity of testing the feeling of the people, and perhaps there will be a candidate to oppose them who is not now very far from here. Gentlemen, I am willing to leave the issue to the verdict of the people of Cardwell. They could not choose a better constituency, Conservative as it is to the backbone."

This vigorous challenge has been left in abeyance while the party wirepullers laid their pipes. Our information now is that missionaries from Ottawa and from Toronto, representing the Administration have been touring the riding from end to end. It is these missionaries who have been scaring up farmer "interviews" for the Ministers when they go out to Cardwell on Thursday, and it is hoped and believed that by making believe that it is the intention of the Administration to throw the combines overboard, the rank and file may be kept solid in the ensuing election. Mr. McCarthy has an important suit before the Imperial Privy Council, and the moment it was discovered that he would have to go to England within the next three months, the decision was arrived at to so fix election day that the campaign should be conducted in his absence. What Mr. McCarthy's intentions now are has not been revealed, but it is known that Dr. Henry is determined to contest the constituency on the lines laid down by the member for North Simcoe and in opposition to the thick-and-thin Sir John Thompson candidate. There will be lively times in Cardwell.

DECORATION DAY.

To-day the people of the United States have celebrated one of their most noteworthy of public holidays. The graves of those who fell in the defense of the Union, or in the sustenance of principles that they believed to be right, were decorated with flowers by loving hands. It is a seemingly thing to keep in remembrance the sacrifices made by fellow-citizens, and though we do not participate in these ceremonies, we in Canada may well commend the thoughtfulness and spirit of generosity that prompts the maintenance of this anniversary.

The victims of the great conflict are to be found in every part of the United States and in some parts of the Dominion—for many thousands of Canadians, with one object or another in view, participated in the struggle—but the greater proportion of the nation's dead lie in the 82 national cemeteries. There lie 327,179 soldiers, of whom nearly one-half are classified as unknown. Twenty-one cemeteries contain over 5,000 each, and among them are the famous burial places at Corinth and Vicksburg, in Mississippi, two-thirds of whose dead are unknown. Of the unknown who are laid in the other cemeteries, Fredericksburg, Va., has four-fifths, and Richmond, Va., seven-eighths, and at Salisbury, N.C., out of a total of 12,132, only 97 are known. But at Andersonville, Ga., and Hampton, Va., more than nine-tenths are identified; at Arlington, Va., nearly three-quarters; at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., Marietta, Ga., and Nashville, Tenn., more than two-thirds; at the Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C., nineteen-twentieths, and at the little cemeteries of St. Augustine, Fla., and Battle Ground, Washington, D. C., all are identified. There are 9,300 Confederate soldiers buried in these cemeteries, principally at Camp Butler, Ill.; Cypress Hills, N. Y.; Finn's Point, N. J.; Fort Smith, Ark.; Hampton, Va.; Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; and Woodlawn (Elmira), N. Y. The largest number of burials is at Vicksburg, where there are 16,690 of the dead. At Nashville, 16,532 are buried. The smallest national cemetery is at Beverly, N. J., and contains only 164. Thus former friend and foe lie together, the known and the unknown, under long white rows of headstones, ranked and serried as when they fell in the fighting.

In decorating the graves of their soldier dead, our neighbors have long since ceased to indulge in recriminations regarding the war and its causes. They are contented to pay a tribute to bravery in face of danger and death wherever found. Their method of celebration is commendable. It does not excite blood-letting as a national characteristic, or glow over victories as personal achievements of great merit, as did the first Napoleon. He boasted that he gained 60 battles, ten more than Caesar, and had expended during the wars of the Consulate and the Empire 1,700,000 lives. When he visited the battlefield of Magdeburg, and saw the piles of dead remaining, he said to Count Rapp: "What is the regiment that has fought so well?" and upon the reply, "The Thirty-second," stopped and said meditatively, "How does it still survive? I have killed so much of that regiment—in Italy, in Egypt, and everywhere—that there ought to be no

more of it left." Napoleon looked upon his fellow men as so much food for powder. General Grant was so considerate of his fellow-countrymen that after the final battle with Lee, he sent the disarmed Confederate forces home to their wives and families. He was a soldier, but he detested war the moment after it was absolutely necessary to resort to it. Such, too, was the view of Lincoln, who often wept as he spoke of the slaughter that was deemed necessary to preserve the republic and abolish slavery. Not even John Bright could have been more averse to bloodshed than was the stalwart Lincoln, but it seemed to be impossible to wipe out slavery without its agency. And now, 30 years after the heat of the conflict, Decoration Day finds in the neighboring republic as well as in this Dominion a greater dislike to bloodshed than ever. Mr. Gladstone has expressed the opinion that never again will the various branches of the English-speaking race go to war with each other for the settlement of international disputes. They are even now settling the nations of the earth an example of how easily and fairly an international dispute can be settled by the arbitration of statesmen who can be relied on to hold the balances evenly. And as slavery has been abolished in all English-speaking countries, and democratic self-rule is year by year taking the place of autocracy in every shape and form, so may we hope that external disputes being settled by friendly arbitration and mutual concession, internal disputes may be fairly adjusted by the agency of an honestly counted ballot.

We have faith in the future of the English-speaking race wheresoever found.

CRINOLINE.

[By "Mazeen," in Wives and Daughters for May.]

The study of what is best in art and nature is now so universal that the mandates of fashion may no longer be unquestioned. Women now use their reasoning faculties to ward off attacks of those "minor madnesses" that a few years ago were epidemic.

A certain number of adherents fashion may always rely upon to follow her dictates; they await her fiat only to rush forth in cap and bells.

Women also may be found to throw pensils of oil on the scolding waters of women's magazines. When controversies arise they advise submission to the capricious decree. Take Lady Jeanne's able article in defense of crinoline, for instance, in which she informs us that "crinoline, like cholera, is recurrent"—"we may strike till we are hoarse, but it will be adopted." There are many who, for personal reasons, will welcome its return.

What answer can we make to such powerful arguments? Simply that as we set our houses in order to prevent the plague of cholera, so will we banish crinoline to out crinoline. Those who hasten to adopt this latest caprice of fashion, who "welcome it," we are told, "for personal reasons," are the same slaves of the despot who trailed the "microbe skirt" in our streets—he it said to the shame of womanhood.

These same "street scavengers" (quoting) having at last discovered the advantages of cleanliness, veer about at the first breath of change and cry out to us: "The most prejudiced opponents of crinoline, on hygienic grounds alone, must acknowledge its advantages. It is so cleanly." Having been cleanly, "the prejudiced opponents" need not the plea, so it falls to the ground as far as they are concerned.

Lady Jeanne next recommends it as "so easy to walk in. There is nothing that impedes movement like clinging skirts." The skirts of reasonable women don't cling. Whereas, during the last reign of crinoline two cumbersome skirts, and voluminous underclothing as well, were worn beneath the cage for decency, the structure was then curtailed with starched and be-floated skirts, several in number, to prevent transparency; over this was finally stretched the "dress!" We acted as dumb clappers to those bell-like creations, which swung to and fro, according to circumstances, exposing one to all sorts of humiliations on account of their unmanageableness. "The hoop lends grace and dignity to the wearer," goes on Lady Jeanne with her arguments. Why mention "dignity" in connection with crinoline? It is synonymous with "elevation of mind."

"Grandeur of mien." Connect it with shackles like the hoop! No, dignity of costume is found in flowing lines, in drapery's subtleties, not in bell-like trammels, that fetter us with that rigidity that is sometimes mistaken for the dignity of reserve. Repose is the friend of art and physical culture. Rigidity is their foe. We gain repose of manner more as we give ourselves less cause for mortification.

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