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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOV. 2, 1907.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S CORRESPONDENCE.

The letters of Queen Victoria, which
 have been given to the public, throw
 many sidelights on her personality,
 and on the political movements and
 events from the beginning to the close
 of her long reign.

There are some chapters in her cor-
 respondence which deal with Canadian
 constitutional development. They il-
 lustrate the difficulties, both at home
 and in the mother country, which con-
 fronted the early Canadian Reformers.
 In a letter dated Sept. 9, 1841,
 the Queen tells her ministers that she
 "did not quite approve" of Sir
 Charles Bagot's appointment as gover-
 nor-general of Canada. From what
 she had heard of his qualities she did
 not think they were of a character
 "quite to suit the arduous and diffi-
 cult position in which he would be
 placed." Lord Melbourne, who replied
 for the Government, suggested that
 Bagot might rise to the occasion.

As it happened, Bagot was disposed
 to give the principles of responsible
 government a fair trial, and lent his
 support to the Reformers; but he had
 to face the rancorous hostility of Can-
 adian Tories, and the lack of sympathy
 on the part of the British court and
 Government. He died broken-heart-
 ed, but he has been vindicated by
 time.

The Queen had a high opinion of
 Metcalfe. In a letter to Earl Gray,
 dated August 3, 1846, the Prince Con-
 sort wrote:

"The subject of the Government
 of Canada is one which the Queen
 has much at heart. Canada has
 been for a long time, and may prob-
 ably still be for the future, a source
 of great weakness to this Empire,
 and a number of experiments have
 been tried. It was in a very bad
 state before the union, continuously
 embarrassing the Home Govern-
 ment, and the union has by no
 means acted as a remedy. But it
 may be said almost to have in-
 creased the difficulties. The only
 thing that has hitherto proved ben-
 efiticial was the prudent, consistent
 and impartial administration of
 Lord Metcalfe."

Metcalfe brought with him ideas of
 personal and arbitrary rule, acquired
 in governing the subject races of the
 Empire. He destroyed the work of
 Bagot by withdrawing his confidence
 from his Canadian advisers, and he
 precipitated a dangerous situation
 from which Canada was rescued by
 the wisdom of his successor, Lord
 Elgin.

When so enlightened a constitution-
 al sovereign as Queen Victoria was
 misled as to conditions in this coun-
 try, it is no wonder that the Reformers
 had a long and bitter struggle, even
 after they had won a moral triumph
 in Lord Durham's report. It is curious
 at this late date to learn that the
 Queen relied upon Lord Elgin to
 "secure the uninterrupted develop-
 ment of Lord Metcalfe's views."
 Happily Lord Elgin, as the man on the
 spot, saw the situation more clearly
 than his official superiors two thou-
 sand miles away. Lord Elgin under-
 stood responsible government in the
 real sense of the word, and during his
 regime the cornerstone of Canadian
 autonomy was well and truly laid.

THE POWER PROBLEM.

There are many new questions aris-
 ing in Provincial politics. A few years
 ago Sir William Meredith advocated
 biennial sessions, and there seemed
 reason then for the suggestion, but
 the clamor of the Province, the
 progress of old Ontario have created
 new administrative problems, and the
 mass of public business has become
 such as make annual sessions abso-
 lutely necessary.

The question of Niagara power is
 not the least of the latest questions
 that have come to the front. It is a
 serious one for the Province, and the
 municipalities. Since it became a pub-
 lic issue, much has been heard of gas
 power as a rival of energy produced
 by steam or electricity. The gas pro-
 ducer plans now in use at the Mc-
 Clary Works would appear to be a
 competitor worthy the most careful in-
 vestigation. If it can do what is
 claimed for it, it has a distinct bear-
 ing upon the Niagara power project
 which is now before the people of
 London for their decision. Represent-
 ative men from St. Thomas have ex-
 amined the plant, and have been ap-
 parently much impressed. The board
 of trade and city council might take
 the matter into consideration and
 secure reliable information, which can
 be given to the ratepayers before they
 commit themselves.

The importance of the question need
 not be dwelt on. We had in this city
 some years ago a plant installed by
 the late Isaac Waterman to supply

heat, but owing to the extent of
 ground covered it proved unsuccess-
 ful. Block by block it most likely
 would have succeeded. It is suggest-
 ed that producer gas plants might be
 economically put in to supply, within
 a limited range, several plants instead
 of one only. This is detail, and would
 be part of the problem to be investi-
 gated and reported upon by the board
 of trade and city council. Let the
 matter be taken up in an authoritative
 way and the fact made known. The
 possibility of getting natural gas
 within a reasonable distance of Lon-
 don might also be considered.

THE THIRD DUMA.

The third attempt to secure the
 election of a Russian Duma that will
 be satisfactory to the bureaucracy, is
 proving successful. The elections are
 almost over, and the provinces and
 districts yet to be heard from cannot
 materially affect the standing of the
 parties. As a result of an arbitrary
 suffrage act and gerrymander that the
 Government will have at least 250 follow-
 ers in the new assembly, which in-
 sures it a good working majority, com-
 posed of Conservatives, Moderates,
 Rightists and a few advanced Consti-
 tutionalists, known as Octoberists.
 Not more than sixty seats will be
 occupied by the "Cadets," the domi-
 nant party in the former Duma, whom
 the Government found too reactionary,
 so that when they are joined by the
 fifty Leftists of all shades, the Polish
 and Mohammedan groups, as they are
 certain to do, the Opposition will not
 number more than 150 at the outside.

Of course, all classes, except the
 court and bureaucracy, are disappoint-
 ed at the result, as it is feared that to
 look for actual reform, activity or leg-
 islation calculated to give effect to
 the Czar's promises of freedom and
 constitutionalism from a body consti-
 tuted as the third Duma is, would be
 useless. At the same time some of
 the advanced Liberals are not without
 hope that the Duma, colorless and sub-
 servient though it will be, may possi-
 bly prove a blessing in disguise to
 the country. It is not unlikely that
 the Government will make some at-
 tempt at being practical and con-
 structive. Inflammatory language and
 denunciation will find no encourage-
 ment, and the Leftists may be ex-
 pected to give the Duma full latitude.
 If, therefore, the Government is in
 earnest and really desires to institute
 reforms it will find no obstacles in its
 way. If, on the other hand, it fails to
 put its opportunities to the best use,
 it will reveal itself to the world as
 insincere and impotent.

The strengthening of the founda-
 tions of constitutionalism is undoubt-
 edly Russia's first need. If necessary
 she can wait for other things, but the
 saving of the principle of popular rep-
 resentation is most vital of all. If,
 happily, the third Duma should ac-
 complish that, it will render Russia
 the greatest service possible. With
 semi-barbarian countries like Persia
 and Abyssinia, adopting constitutional
 government, surely Russia will not
 much longer remain in its present
 state of despotism. As at present con-
 stituted the Duma may be far from
 what is desired by the great mass of
 Russians, but the people's only hope
 of eventually gaining constitutional-
 ism appears to be in preserving that
 body as a fixture in the political sys-
 tem of the nation.

The Conservative press doesn't know
 what is in the French treaty, but is
 "agin" it on general principles.

Mr. Bourassa has formally resigned
 his seat. The House of Commons
 loses a dramatic figure and large
 quantities of red fire.

Montreal customs officials have
 seized \$4,000 worth of furs concealed
 in an oat bin. The price of farm pro-
 ducts should also warn customs of-
 ficials to look out for oats concealed
 in furs.

The civic light and heat committee
 has recommended the submission of a
 bylaw for the spending of \$235,000 on
 Niagara power equipment. Are the
 members of the committee quite sure
 they know all about it?

A mining company in the west has
 been fined \$200 and costs under the
 Lemieux act for locking out its em-
 ployees. The company is now con-
 vinced that the Lemieux act has teeth
 and can bite.

The Liberal candidate in East
 Northumberland complains that he
 lost votes because Hon. George Gra-
 ham told the electors the Trent Val-
 ley canal would be completed whether
 a Liberal or Conservative won. The
 circumstances are more creditable to
 Mr. Graham than to the party candi-
 date.

In his Toronto speech last night,
 Hon. A. G. MacKay referred to the re-
 sults of producer gas plants in this
 city and Berlin, and says the Govern-
 ment should thoroughly enquire into
 the subject. This is a business-like
 suggestion. The people want the
 cheapest power whether it comes from
 Niagara or some other process. They
 should not be rushed into any scheme
 before the fullest information is laid
 before them.

LUNCH.

[Harper's Magazine.]
 It was the hour of the spelling lesson,
 and the teacher of the primary grade was
 pronouncing the words while the small
 persons in front of her laboriously wrote
 them down. According to the usual cus-
 tom, she called for volunteers to define
 each word as it was pronounced.
 "Lunch. Now, who can tell me what a
 lunch is?"
 There was a long period of silence, then
 a hand went up.
 "Well, Johnny, you may tell us what a
 lunch is."
 "A lunch," said Johnny, "is lunch is what
 you have for dinner when your father is
 away."

WAITING.

[Chicago Tribune.]
 "Oh, Julie, Julie!" sighed a despairing
 youth. "How many more times have I got
 to ask you to marry me?"
 "How can I tell, George?" she faltered.
 "You haven't asked me this time yet."

EASILY PLEASED.

[Chicago News.]
 Miss Castaigne—You evidently have a
 pleasant disposition, Mr. Sapsleigh. At
 least, you seem to be easily pleased.
 Sapsleigh—Why do you say so?—I am—
 aw—easily pleased?

Miss Castaigne—By the way in which
 you laugh at some of your own remarks,
 I am sure you are easily pleased.

HE KNEW THE ANSWER.

[Philadelphia Press.]
 "I suppose," said the tenderfoot, prepar-
 ing to mount the bucking bronco, "this
 horse may behave all right with me, and
 then again he may not. What do you think
 of it?"
 "Well, yes," replied the wise cowboy.
 "It's a toss-up."

NEEDLESS WARNING.

[Houston Post.]
 The Fortune Teller—"Madam, beware of
 a man with black eyes."
 "Huh, he ain't dangerous! That's my
 husband. I gave him them eyes last
 night."

BE GLAD.

[James Whitcomb Riley.]
 O heart of mine, we shouldn't
 Worry so.
 What we've missed of joy and calm we
 couldn't.
 Have, you know!
 What we've met of stormy pain
 And of sorrow's driving rain,
 We can better meet again
 If it blow.

For we know, not every morning
 Can be sad;
 So, forgetting all the sorrow
 We have had,
 Let us fold away our tears,
 And put by our foolish fears,
 And, through all the coming years,
 Just be glad.

CHINESE PUNISHMENT.

[Cheu (China) Daily News.]
 The other day the Chinese police court
 punished one of its female subjects in a
 novel way.
 The woman referred to assaulted an eld-
 erly man by dragging his pipe from his
 mouth, thereby causing the loss of two of
 his front teeth, and for this she was
 compelled to defray the expenses of a
 Chinese theater for two days, which per-
 formed in the temple close to the main
 gateway.

LITTLE BOY JIM.

[P. A. Connolly, in National Magazine.]
 Out of the angel land he came,
 Little Boy Jim.
 Without any clothes, not even the name
 Of Little Boy Jim;
 Left all the brightness of heavenly skies—
 Just borrowed enough for his heart and
 his eyes.
 And, maybe, some nectar for tears when he
 cries.

Little Boy Jim.

Plucked from the golden street a brick,
 Did Little Boy Jim.
 Got a big angel that knew the trick,
 Cute Little Jim.
 To turn it into a heart of gold—
 The angel scoured Heaven to get the best
 mold,
 And put in a piece of his own heart, I'm
 told;

For Little Jim.

And he had it fitted in a perfect key,
 Little Boy Jim.
 To keep it in constant harmony,
 Wise Boy Jim.
 And all the time that he is away
 The Heavenly choir will sing and play,
 But he hears the echoing melody—
 Lucky Boy Jim.

That is the reason a part of each day
 Little Boy Jim.
 Ceases his baby prattle and play—
 The angel in him
 Is listening, while into his eyes will creep
 A wistful look and tender sleep.
 The angel voices are singing—Ah, sleep,
 Little Boy Jim.

HARD TO GET ROUND.

[Hamilton Spectator.]
 But if they start many more Canadian
 Clubs in this country it will be physically
 impossible for a visitor to dine at all of
 em.

THE DIFFERENCE.

[Dallas News.]
 The statesman leads the masses. The
 masses lead the politician.

A SOUND DOCTRINE.

[Toronto Globe.]
 Chief Justice Falconbridge laid down the
 dictum in the recently-tried murder case
 at the Hamilton assizes that "drunkenness
 is no excuse for crime." He is not alone
 among jurists in taking this view; indeed,
 it is general enough to be regarded as a
 maxim. It is fortunate that it is so, for
 otherwise the man who plans when sober
 to commit a crime would be under induc-
 ment to intoxicate himself in order to
 escape the penalty that usually follows
 conviction.

A MYSTERY SOLVED.

[Chicago News.]
 The Venus of Milo explained.
 "Got them wrecked off hanging on to
 straps in the subway," she vouchsafed.
 Herewith she glared reproachfully at the
 sterner sex.

LESS LAVISHNESS.

[Washington Post.]
 "Do you think your insurance company
 is being conducted more economically?"
 "I'm sure of it," answered the hopeful
 citizen. "It doesn't send me nearly as
 many blotters and calendars as it used
 to."

HELP!

[Exchange.]
 Clark—Will you have the soap scented
 or unscented?
 Misdearant (from a foreign shore)—I
 take it wide me.

THE RAPID REDS

[Ottawa Journal.]
 The Lusitania beats every record across

You Will Be in A Safe Company

A man who insures in the

LONDON LIFE

Insurance Company, London, Canada,

has the satisfaction of knowing that it is a safe company. Of its investments 87% consist of first mortgages on Real Estate. No speculative securities of any kind are held; a high rate of interest has been maintained for a long period of years. The profits paid on present rates are very liberal and are equal to Estimates.

Write, and we will send details respecting our special plans of insurance.

GEO. McBROOM INSPECTOR

J. F. MAINE SUPT. INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.

The Atlantic, and brings back to Britain the "blue ribbon" held by Germany. It's a trifle over four days from land to land now. But, bless you, when the "all reds" get going on the Canadian route you will hardly have time to smoke a cigar between ports.

PAINFUL STORY.

[Puck.]
 Grandma—Now, Johnny, sit down and tell me why your father whipped you.
 Johnny—I'd rather stand up and tell you.

COMPATIBLE.

[Le Rire.]
 "You haven't described your fiancée. Is he a blonde?"
 "No, aunt; he just matches my new furs."

A STRONG TEAM.

[Ottawa Journal.]
 Mr. Lemieux and Mr. Mackenzie King are going to Tokyo about this Japanese influx. And if these two past masters in the art of the glad hand can't bring the Mikado around to the proper way of thinking, nobody can.

THE DEAR CHILD.

[Megendorfer Blatter.]
 Teacher—A proverb says, "All is not gold that glitters." Give an example.
 Fritz—Please, sir, your nose!

A DISGRACE TO LONDON.

[Hamilton Times.]
 There is a young man in the last stages of consumption in Victoria Hospital, London. He is both poor and friendless, and is too sick to be moved, yet, according to the rules of the hospital, he must be removed. No wonder the doctor in charge says he is in a dilemma and that it is a disgrace to the country and to the Government that there is no place for a dying man in this wealthy country. He might have also added that it is a disgrace to London, which is well able to provide an isolation hospital for such unfortunate.

HAD HER NERVE WITH HER.

[Lustige Blatter.]
 There was a dinner party at the mayor's and the servant had the misfortune to drop the turkey when bringing it in.
 "It is all right, ma'am," she cried, with great sangfroid, picking up the turkey and going out with it. "I will bring in the other one."

TODAY'S SPINNERS.

[Baltimore American.]
 Grandma—In my day, women didn't fly around out of doors as they do now. They would sit at home and spin.
 Gladys—But now they go out and spin much better, if they have a good fast auto.

HIS FRANK CONFESSION.

[Chicago News.]
 She was an heiress, and he was poor, but otherwise honest. "How much do you love me, dear?" she asked, after the manner of her sex.
 "I love you," he replied, in a tone replete with candor, "for all you are worth."

SYMBOLS.

[The Bohemian.]
 Ere yet the city's dim exultant rose
 Upon a morning hushed with drifted
 snows,
 A shaly bridge that led into the town
 Felt wagons six come slowly rumbling
 down.

First passed a sleepy milkman's oaks in full array.
 A florist's wagon gorged with blooms for nuptial gay;
 This followed by machines stacked on a cumbersome drag,
 When came a high-piled with scenery for a play.
 Next slunk a prison-van, half closed to light of day,
 And then an undertaker's wagon went its way.

Chapman's

7 to 10 o'Clock Tonight

Join the ever-increasing throng of satisfied west-end shoppers here Saturday night, when we, as usual, are open until 10 o'clock. A store full of attractive things in all lines at all prices, but of one standard—THE BEST.

Hosiery Handkerchiefs Underwear Gloves—Immense assortment of Hosiery at popular prices. Vast quantities of Handkerchiefs to select from. Six of Canada's leading manufacturers' brands of Underwear. Fownes', Rouillon and Pewney's standard makes of Kid Gloves.

New Hand Bags
 Among the novelties in New Hand Bags, bought especially for our Christmas trade, are the following handsome styles:
 MATINEE BAG of green velvet, crocodile, with opera glasses, mirror and powder puff, moire lined. Price \$8.00
 Velvet Crocodile Hand Bags, 5 to 10 inches long, in green and fawn; satchel and new flap style; beautifully lined. At \$3.00 to \$5.50
 Black Morocco Hand Bag, in new flap style, small size. Prices \$3.00 to \$4.00
 Gazelle Hand Bags, real skin, tan color, small size. A beauty at \$4.00
 Real Bear Hand Bags, in green and castor. At \$3.00
 Velvet Crocodile Hand Satchel, large size, with lock and key, fitted with smelling salts bottle, powder box and fan, coin purse and cardcase, inclosed. Mocha lined. Price \$10.00

Squaw Bags
 Children's size 25c
 Ladies' Squaw Bags of tan and brown mocha, fringed ends, with and without beads. At 50c, 75c and \$1.00
 At Front Counter, Main Entrance.

Extra Handkerchief Values
 Embroidered Hemstitched Handkerchiefs. Regular 15c. Tonight, 2 for 25c
 Unlaundered Initial Linen Handkerchiefs. Worth 15c. To clear, 3 for 25c

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SCHOOL MAKING PUGS

Football Polite Term for Prize Fighting, Says Kankakee Lawyer.

Kankakee, Ill., Nov. 1.—A bill to restrain the authorities from permitting prize fighting in Kankakee public schools was filed in the circuit court today by Stephen R. Moore, dean of the county bar.

Attorney Moore filed his bill after he had watched the high school football team play one or two matches. He failed to see any difference between the gridiron game, as the boys played it, and prize fighting, except that possibly it was rougher, and more dangerous to life and limb.

To Attorney Moore's vision the high school gridiron is simply an enlarged prize ring in which two sets of youths so mauled and disabled that the other is declared a winner. And since prize fighting is illegal Mr. Moore fails to see why the subterfuge under which it is carried on should be permitted.

The bill for an injunction is directed against L. W. Smith, principal of the high school, and F. N. Tracy, superintendent of city schools. It is specifically designated "a bill for an injunction to restrain prize fighting in the public schools."

Attorney Moore carefully ignores the polite term "football." What he objects to is the encouragement given by the school authorities to prize fighting. He points out in his bill that the purpose of the board of education is to provide a common school education for persons between the ages of 5 and 21 years, and that no authority has been conferred upon the board or on any teacher or principal to train the pupils as prize fighters.

The bill declares that "L. W. Smith, employed by the board of education in the capacity of principal of the high school, has organized a team out of the school staff travels from place to place in the state if Illinois and engages in contests of prize fighting with scholars of other schools."

WEDS COACHMAN

Income of \$500,000 for Life Granted to Straight Gift of Half-Million.

Riverhead, L. I., Nov. 1.—Because Mrs. Lena Head Bodley married a coachman against the wishes of her mother and George C. Taylor, who employed her mother as housekeeper, Yale, Harvard, Williams, Princeton and Hobart Colleges will each lose \$100,000.

Instead, the Moses Taylor Hospital of Scanton will receive the \$500,000, and \$250,000 additional, under the will of George C. Taylor, which was filed. Mr. Taylor, who lived in Islip, left an estate estimated to be worth \$2,000,000. A number of years ago he brought Mrs. Betsy Head and her daughter Lena from Europe to Islip and made Mrs. Head his housekeeper. In his will, drawn up in 1900, he bequeathed \$2,000,000 outright to Mrs. Head, and the income of \$500,000 for life to her daughter. At Miss Lena's death the \$500,000 was to be shared in lots of \$100,000 each by Yale, Harvard, Williams, Princeton and Hobart colleges.

Then Miss Lena married Frederick W. Bodley, Mr. Taylor's coachman. The millionaire thereupon drew a codicil to his will, in which he revoked the bequest to the five colleges and to Mrs. Bodley, and substituted therefor a bequest of \$750,000 to the Moses Taylor Hospital of Scanton, Pa., which was founded by his father, Isaac much as Mrs. Head died before Mr. Taylor did, the \$2,000,000 bequeathed to her reverted to the Taylor estate.

Under the will Mrs. Bodley, the wife of the coachman, receives nothing, but it is said that in lieu of the bequest Mr. Taylor gave her a large sum—possibly \$500,000—before he died.

WOODS' FAIR

Good Things at Special Prices In Our Basement This Week

WOODENWARE !
 Our New Patent Sleeve Board
 Is 23 inches long, made of best selected basswood, fastens on the table with a patent fastener, and is a very useful article. Special price 35c
Adjustable Ironing Tables
 Five feet long, 12½ inches wide, adjustable to any length from 35 to 45 inches; made of clear basswood. A special table. Price, each \$1.25
Towel Rollers
 Clear hardwood, 20 inches long, roller brass with 2 rods and brackets, oak finish. Special price 1.50
WOODENWARE !
Clothes Rack
 Clear hardwood, with 6 independent 18-inch arms, riveted to polished steel, hinged back, and when not in use, arms drop down. This is a very useful article. Price 1.50
Map Holders
 Spiral Spring Map Holder, with round slide collar, polished hardwood. Price 15c
Hat and Coat Racks
 Four inches by 32 inches, best finished hardwood, very strong, with 6 hooks and hangers. Price 15c
 Thirty-six best hardwood clothespins for (all this week) 5c

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KIND TO BABES

Two T