

those who are sufficiently profane and practical as to weigh them at their proper value? The case of Col. Baker is, however, different from that of these men. All that most of them have at stake is their guinea or other fee for attendance at directors' meetings. With Col. Baker, it would appear to be vastly different. He was personally interested in realizing upon something like 18,000 acres of land, his own property, less the mortgages with which it was encumbered.

But there is more in it than this, unless the Col. shows the contrary to be the case. In the Public Accounts Committee's report recently published, there appears a voucher from Col. Baker for \$1,000 covering "expenses" in connection with his mission to England to represent the Government of the Province at the opening of the Imperial Institute and other matters of public interest. The details of the voucher are:

Fare from Victoria to New York	\$ 67 00
" Montreal to Victoria	63 00
" New York to Liverpool	100 00
" Liverpool to Montreal	100 00
Travelling allowance, 67 days at \$10.	670 00
Total	\$1,000 00

I am not disposed to question the absolute correctness of the voucher; but there are those who venture to inquire whether or not a by no means inconsiderable portion of the 67 days for which \$10 per diem travelling allowance was paid, were not consumed under the heading of "other matters of public interest" in working up the land scheme regarding which the leader of the Opposition had the temerity to make inquiries. It may be that, as a correspondent of the *Colonist* suggests, "Colonel Baker has reason to congratulate himself that the *Victoria Times* has published his Cranbrook estate properties, as it speaks for itself as a straightforward business document, and proves that there is nothing to conceal."

But, if the Colonel himself is of this opinion, perhaps he will take an early opportunity of satisfying the public that he did not occupy the time for which the Province was paying his salary as well as his travelling allowances in working up the Cranbrook estate project and preparing the prospectus which was headed "for private circulation only." Again, possibly, he may be inclined to state why it was that there was incorporated in that prospectus a report on the property prepared by an official, salaried by the Provincial Government and not at all remotely connected with the Colonel's own department. Was it strictly honorable for the Honorable Colonel to utilize the services of a Provincial officer for such a purpose, and is he acting honorably with the British investing public when he, who with his defenders insists so much on points of honor, caused such a document to be incorporated with his prospectus?

Generally speaking, the present Government should receive the support of those who desire to see the Province advance, and I hope the Hon. Theodore Davie and his colleagues will not court defeat by retaining a man who uses his position as a member of the Government to float a land scheme, which, though it may enrich

Col. Baker, cannot benefit the public to the extent of even the paltry sum of \$1,000.

There has been considerable discussion of late regarding the silver question. The interest in the subject has not been confined to the United States, for Canadians devour with eagerness anything pertaining to this matter, which is of such moment to our American neighbors. This, together with the fact that a member of the local Government has recently written an essay on bimetallism, leads to the interrogation, how would people manage to get along if all the money in the world were suddenly withdrawn from circulation? It would paralyze business and ambition, upset governments and make a mess of things generally, as the big ball does when it strikes the king pin of the pyramid in the bowling alley. Money has no value of itself. The necessities of barter and exchange have given it an artificial value which by common consent could be given to sticks or stone, or shell, or corks, or anything else, almost as well as to gold and silver and copper, but it is not at all likely that anyone will try to do it. For many years now the currency of the world has been established on a gold basis, the price of gold fluctuating less than the price of any other metal, and it was the attempt of the United States to upset the gold standard and establish a silver standard that has brought about the present crisis in the States and is causing all the trouble. If money were to be permanently withdrawn from circulation, human beings would have a hard time of it and men would be reduced to a common level with a vengeance. It has taken the world a great many centuries to evolve its system of currency as it stands to-day, and if we all had to go back to the old original system of trading a pair of boots for a hat, and the like, it would be awkward and bothersome all round. Some men who live on the fat of the land nowadays would probably have a hard time of it to keep from starving to death.

A talented contributor to the literature of the present day asks this important question in a recent issue of the *New York Sunday Mercury*: "Will intellectual development make women ugly?" I have heard that Ouida is decidedly plain-looking, and it is said that many of the leading authoresses almost approach hideousness in appearance. Coming nearer home it is an indisputable fact that the brainiest women in Victoria are by no means the most beautiful. Intellectual pursuits as a rule do not create ugliness, but homeliness. They will certainly destroy in time the beauty of most women. The process is retarded in highly sensitive poetical natures such as was Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Browning. Poetry of itself is refining, but it cannot preserve beauty in age.

The more women desire and work to fill the intellectual places of men, the more they will become, like men, coarse, or partly coarse—in fine, masculinity will engraft itself on the female growth. Men become rugged from interior thought. Were a man an Apollo he would grow

into ruggedness as years roll on. Human beings resemble the vegetable kingdom as well as the mineral and animal. Trees of great age become knotted and ill-favored. Man's face is lined and knotted as time goes on, anyway, but if he has been a hard thinker his face will show it. He grows ugly, while a female thinker grows homely. The interior beauty of woman, which she derives from generations of ancestry, streams out and discloses itself in her face, or sometimes in her eyes, and often in her bosom and limbs. Yet the great beauties have, with few exceptions, been the greatest fools. This is a hard fact Saxonly written. In man, thought inflows and leaves the exterior anything but charming; in woman, delicate thought or inclination, particularly love and hope and other beautifiers, outflow and leave her poor within but opulent without. Man does not admire a female thinker; he raves over women who is all over womanly as a being to pet and protect even with his life. There are few magnetic women who are intellectual. Touch the majority and there is no warmth. A feminine mathematician is the aversion of most men; so is a book-worm, and so is every woman who is strong-minded and non-productive.

Canadian girls if they will hold their own with the imported article should impress upon Sir John Thompson and his government the necessity of placing a heavy duty upon foreign females coming into Canada. According to Captain Hamilton, of the Tower Hamlets, London Emigration Society, a working English housekeeper resident in Canada eleven years says: "Send out some girls," is the cry on the prairie and in British Columbia, and this woman-emigrant repeats what some others have said before her, that the prospects for hardworking, healthy young women are excellent. A Northwest settler said to one of the tenant farmer delegates who was in this Province last year, "For Heaven's sake send us some girls," while Miss Shaw, the colonial correspondent of the *London Times* in a paper before the Royal Colonial Institute, on the subject of colonial needs, said: "One of the needs of society appeared to be young unmarried women, and in visiting the homesteads and finding young men engaged in washing dishes, scrubbing kitchen tables, feeding the fowls, or attending to the flower garden, one cannot but think that for such colonization as this there would be a good deal to say in favor of allowing the girls of big families to accompany their brothers."

To my mind, there is very little need of more females in this country. In Eastern Canada, and even farther west, there are hundreds of young women who would make excellent wives, who are compelled to lead lives of enforced spinsterhood simply because they are not in demand. I would suggest to Canadian women, to hold a convention and formulate a strong protest against immigration of the character proposed, which must surely result in adding to the already too large number of unmarried females.

The question of dealing with the unem-

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