Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, JULY 27TH, 1888.

A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

Hon. David A. Wells, a political economist of considerable note in the United States, arrived in the city last evening, accompanied by several notable gentlemen, mention of whom will be found in another column. At the early age of twenty Mr. Wells was assistant editor of *The Springfield Republican*, and in the office of that journal first suggested the folding of newspapers and books by machinery in connection with steam printing presses. The first machine for the purpose to be constructed and successfully operated was in part designed by him and built at his expense in the office of *The Republican*. The sale of his interest in this invention put him in possession of some means, so quitting journalism in 1849 he entered the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard University, becoming also at the same time a special pupil of Professor Agassiz, who had then recently made his home in America. On graduating in the Scientific School he received the appointment of assistant professor, and also that of lecturer on physics and chemistry in Groton Academy, Massachusetts. During his residence in Cambridge, Mr. Wells was one of the publishers of the "Annual of Scientific Discovery," and was also engaged in the preparation of a series of scientific school-books, which enjoyed an extensive circulation. Mr. Wells first came prominently into public life in 1864, while residing in Troy, New York, through the publication of an essay on the resources and debt-paying ability of the United States, bearing the title of "Our Burden and Strength." This essay, first read at a literary and social club in Troy, became one of the most famous publications of the war period. Coming at a time when the nation was alarmed at the prospective magnitude of the public debt, and apprehensive of an impending crushing burden of taxation, its publication and circulation proved a most effective agency for restoring public confidence and maintaining the credit of the Federal Government. On reading this pamphlet, President Lincoln was so impressed by it that he asked Mr. Wells to come to Washington and confer with him and Mr. Fessenden, then Secretary of the Treasury, on the best methods of dealing comprehensively with the enormous debt and taxation entailed upon the nation by the war. As a result of this conference a Revenue Commission was established, Mr. Wells being chosen chairman. It presented for the first time a full and exact statement of the curious and complex system of Internal and Customs Revenue which had grown up during the war, when the necessities for raising immense sums of money with the utmost promptness and regularity justified the maxim, "Whenever you find an article, a product, a trade, a profession, a source of income, *tax it*." In preparing its estimates of probable revenue the commission made the first practical attempt in the United States to gather and use statistics for national purposes. In 1886, by limitation of service, the commission passed out of existence. Congress was so well satisfied with the work Mr. Wells had performed that he was immediately appointed for a term of four years to an office created for him, under the title of "Special Commissioner of the Revenue." In this office, and invested with large powers, Mr. Wells entered with ardor upon the work of reconstructing and repealing the complex system of internal taxation, which had become terribly oppressive, and the longer continuance of which had become unnecessary. Under his initiation and supervision were originated nearly all the reforms of importance in the national revenue system that were adopted by Congress between the close of the war and the year 1870. At Mr. Wells' instance the National Bureau of Statistics was created, its first chief being General F. A. Walker, now President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston. In one of his earliest reports, Mr. Wells took earnest grounds against the attempt to collect a tax of two dollars per gallon, or 1,000 per cent. on the first cost, on distilled spirits, and maintained that fifty cents per gallon was the rate of tax which would be productive of the most revenue. When Congress, in the winter of 1867-8, becoming alarmed at increasing frauds, acceded to Mr. Wells' recommendation, the result proved his sagacity. Under a fifty cent tax the revenue immediately rose to two and a half times the amount collected under a $2 tax! His abandonment of his original position as a strong Protectionist and his adoption of the belief in Free Trade, made subordinate to revenue and progressively entered upon, led, as was natural, to a vigorous opposition to him, and he retired from office in July, 1870, an occasion which was marked by a singular compliment—the leading members of both Houses of Congress, without distinction of party, united in public testimony to the great value of his work and to the honesty and the faithful and untiring zeal which had characterized his public career. As soon as it was known that Mr. Wells was to retire from his office at Washington, he was appointed chairman of the New York State Commission to examine the laws relating to local taxation, and draft a new code. In 1877 he rendered the State further service as chairman of a commission to consider the subject of tolls on the New York canals, making an exhaustive and acceptable report. Mr. Wells has evidenced ability of the highest order, not only in public business, but in the equally intricate and difficult sphere of railroad management. In 1876, as a trustee and receiver of the Alabama & Chattanoga railroad, he rescued the corporation from bankruptcy, and improved and repaired the line without incurring an additional dollar of indebtedness. In 1879, whilst a director of the New York & Erie railroad, he was elected by the associated railways of the United States one of the Board of Arbitration to which the associated railroads agreed to refer all disputes and all arrangements for pooling or apportioning their competitive earnings. His services extended through a period of two years. Since the issue of his pamphlet, "Our Burden and Strength," Mr. Wells has taken a high place among American economists. Among his best known works are, "The Primer of Free Trade," "Why We Trade and How We Trade," "Our Merchant Marine," "Practical Economics," and a "Study of Mexico." Beginning with the July number of last year he contributed to *The Popular Science Monthly* a masterly series of articles on the "Economic Disturbances Since 1873." These articles, extended and rewritten, are to appear in book form next autumn. It is improbable that so keen an observer and lucid a writer will traverse the Dominion without finding material for his notebook. Personally, Mr. Wells is a man of less than medium height, with a very intellectual face and the highly nervous temperament of a New Englander. He is in his sixty-first year. His home is in Norwich, Connecticut, where he has one of the best economic libraries in the world.

VOTING FOR THE PRESIDENT.

In some quarters an erroneous impression seems to prevail that at the election of President and Vice-President of the United States, each is voted for directly—that is to say, the names of the candidates are placed upon the ballot paper and the elector marks it for those who are his choice. Such, however, is not the fact. The President and Vice-President are chosen by an Electoral College composed of electors of each State equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State at the time of the election is entitled in Congress. Under the Constitution Congress was vested with power to determine the choosing of the electors and the day on which they shall give their votes, to be the same throughout the United States. By an amendment to the Constitution adopted in 1804, the electors were constituted into Electoral Colleges, to meet not in one body, but in their respective States, and to vote by ballot for President and Vice-President. In 1887 an Act of Congress was passed regulating the manner of counting the votes for President and Vice-President, which was considered advisable in the light of the Hayes-Tilden complications of 1876. The Act provides that the electors shall meet on the second Monday of January next following their appointment. It is the duty of the Executive of each State to communicate, under the seal of its Secretary, a certificate of the electors appointed, giving their names and the canvass of the votes cast for each, and to deliver to the electors a like certificate in triplicate, which shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State of the United States, who is required to publish the same and to transmit copies thereof to each House of Congress at its first meeting. The principal details of the system of arriving at the result are thus outlined in the latest work on the Constitution of the the United States: "Congress is required to convene on the second Wednesday of February in the year following the presidential election; two tellers are to be appointed by each House, to whom shall be handed all certificates, and documents purporting to be certificates, after they shall have been opened by the President of the Senate, who is to act as a presiding officer at the joint meeting of the two Houses. The House meeting in joint session, the tellers are to arrange the certificates alphabetically as to the States and read them. They are called upon to compute all the votes and declare the result to the President of the Senate, whose duty it is then to announce the result, and such announcement is made by law a sufficient declaration of the election. All this is done in presence of both Houses. Upon the reading of any certificate the presiding officer shall call for objections, if any. Every objection is required to be stated in writing, which shall contain a clear and concise note of the objection, without argument, and be signed by at least one Senator and one member of the House. After such objection is made, the Senate withdraws, and each House considers the objection separately. In case of a single return from a State, concurrent action by both Houses is required to reject such return. If more than one return or papers purporting to be returned are made, then the dangerous conditions which existed during the Hayes-Tilden controversy of 1877 are provided against as follows: 1st, If there are two or more returns and there has been an executive determination within the meaning of the first section of the Act, within six days of the meeting of the Electoral College, such return only shall be counted. 2nd, In case of a return, however, involving a doubt which of two or more of the State authorities, after a conflict within the State, is lawfully authorized to determine what electors have been appointed, then only such votes of electors shall be counted as the Houses, acting separately, shall concurrently decide are supported by lawful authority. 3rd, If there have been two or more returns and there has been no decision by any State court which return is the lawful one, then only the votes are to be counted which the two Houses concurrently shall decide to be those of the lawful electors, unless the Houses, acting separately, shall concurrently decide such votes not to be the lawful votes. But if the two Houses shall disagree in respect to the counting of such votes, then, and in that event, the votes which shall have been certified by the Executive of the State under the seal thereof shall be counted. 4th, The count is ordered to be suspended until the objection to each State vote has been disposed of in the order in which the objections are made. 5th, The President of the Senate is made the presiding officer and no debate is allowed in joint session except the motion to withdraw for separate action. When the Houses separate to act upon the objection, debate is limited to five minute speeches, and each member is permitted to speak but once upon the question, and the main question must be put at the end of two hours after the action is taken in each House. Elaborate arrangement is made by the Act as to the seats of members of the two Houses for the joint session. The appointment of officers and their relative precedence in authority are also provided for. The taking of any recess is forbidden unless a question arises as to the count, and then a recess is not allowed beyond the following morning, except in the case of an intervening Sunday. If the joint session has lasted more than five days then all further recess of any kind is forbidden, until the count is completed." The elections take place on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, and the formal election of the President and Vice-President will take place in the manner above described, in February. Of course the result of the campaign will be known immediately after the election in November, as each party will have its "ticket" for the Electoral College. The Electoral College vote at the election of 1884 was as follows: Alabama, 10; Arkansas, 7; California, 8; Colorado, 3; Connecticut, 6; Delaware, 3; Florida, 4; Georgia, 12; Illinois, 22; Indiana, 15; Iowa, 13; Kansas, 9; Kentucky, 13; Louisiana, 8; Maine, 6; Maryland, 8; Massachusetts, 14; Michigan, 13; Minnesota, 8. Mississippi, 9; Missouri, 16; Nebraska, 5; Nevada, 3; New Hampshire, 4; New Jersey, 9; New York, 36; South Carolina, 11; Ohio, 23; Oregon, 3; Pennsylvania, 30; Rhode Island, 4; South Carolina, 9; Tennessee, 12; Texas, 13; Vermont, 4; Virginia, 12; West Virginia, 6; Wisconsin, 11; a total of 401, of which Cleveland received 219 and Blaine 182 votes.

POLITICS IN QUEBEC.

During the session that has just closed Premier Mercier and his government have pushed their fortunes after a fashion which astonished the more sober and respectable of their supporters. Queer things have happened in Quebec politics but Mr. Mercier has been able to beat the record. The Jesuit estates bill will directly cost the Province $400,000. The measure was proposed as a settlement of an alleged claim for property expropriated more than a century ago. The claim had no legal basis, as is readily admitted. Evidence that Mr. Mercier does not consider the payment as the settlement of a debt, is furnished by the fact that he has made a *pro rata* grant to the Protestant churches. The Protestants had no claim for appropriated estates, but if a free gift was to be made they had an equitable claim to a share. It is a gift and the government is out $500,000 in all on account of this matter. Then came the matter of Whyte of Megantic. Mr. Whyte was to be one of Mr. Mercier's ministers; it was therefore necessary that he should be provided with a seat in the legislature. He had been defeated in Megantic, but hoped that he might have better success if the sitting member could be unseated. A petition was filed, which the respondent covered with a counter petition demanding the disqualification of Mr. Whyte. Mr. Johnson was unseated for corrupt practices by his agents, Mr. Whyte was disqualified for personal corruption. This was a severe set back, but Mr. Mercier still thought himself equal to the occasion. He accordingly proposed to bring the matter up in the legislature with a view of passing an act to remove the sentence of disqualification. The first step was to submit the matter to the house committee on privileges and elections. This committee has nothing whatever to do with persons not members or claiming to be members of the legislature, but the premier did not propose to be headed off by such limitations. At this stage Mr. David, one of the members for Montreal, an influential supporter of Mr. Mercier, thought it time to protest. He did so with energy, and was seconded by another *rouge*, Mr. Lafontaine. Mr. David moved an amendment asking that the committee on privileges be only instructed to enquire into the grounds of the disqualification. This amendment was opposed by the premier and voted down, though with much less than the usual government majority. It turned out, however, that the majority of the committee were with Mr. David, and when the question came before the committee Mr. Mercier was obliged to back down and accept the identical proposition that he had formerly opposed. It is generally believed that Mr. Whyte will not be relieved of his disabilities after all. The sentence of disqualification was concurred in by three judges. The next departure taken by the Quebec government was to increase the sessional allowance from $600 to $800. The Quebec *Chronicle* vigorously protests against this grab which will cost the province $13,000 a year. Then there is another handsome little bill of $10,000, "Expenditure for the Interprovincial Conference." The gentlemen who sat around Mr. Mercier's table and produced those wonderful resolutions have cost the Province of Quebec something like five hundred dollars each including the Quebec representatives who were at home. Some interest is felt in the demand for details. Probably the junketings the ministers and their friends indulged in would account for so *liberal* an expenditure. On the whole, there seems reason to believe that the present order of things in the French province is destined to give way in time to a sound Conservative policy, in accord with the existing Dominion administration.

THE NEW ELECTORATE.

The Montreal *Gazette* notes the suggestive fact that the next election will see a new generation of voters in Canada. Then, for the first time, the young men born under the flag of the united Dominion will exercise the franchise. There will be a large body of them—over 71,000 male children are born annually—and as the 21 years of the Dominion's life extends, the control of the electorate will pass more and more into their hands. Our contemporary makes the inference that the party which shapes its policy to gain the confidence of these new voters will have a mighty advantage in the struggles for power that the future will see.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

THE BY-LAWS.

On Tuesday the 31st instant eight by-laws will be submitted to the property owners for adoption or rejection. They are all worthy the support of the community, and, except in one case, ought to pass. We have been endeavoring for a long time now to impress the public with the view that if our fair city is to maintain the proud position she has won for herself as the most beautiful on the Pacific Coast some adventitious aids must be brought to the support of those natural charms which she possesses. It is a false economy to refuse countenance to measures of overwhelming importance, which are calculated to advance the interests of the entire community. Some of our citizens, we regret to say, have imbibed the antiquated notion that the city treasury should not be drawn on unless there is a surplus on hand—they object to what they call "running into debt." A more unreasonable proposition was never heard of. Is property to depreciate in value in Victoria because the sewerage is defective? Is it fitting that a city of her dimensions should be without a proper water supply? Is her intellectual life to continue to be a standing shame to all thinking men and women? Is our fire department to remain longer in a crippled condition? Questions such as these will, if asked in the proper spirit, receive an easy solution from everyone who has an interest in the welfare of the place. All who desire to see the city go ahead will say that if the expenditure of a few hundred or thousand dollars will remedy existing grievances they must be had, and if the amount is not on hand, then it must be loaned on the credit of the city. This is just what the Board of Aldermen propose to do, and they will ask the consent of the property owners on the last day of this month.

A by-law will be laid before the people to enable the Corporation to raise the sum of $30,000 for sewerage purposes. A brick sewer will be constructed along Johnson street between Blanchard street and the harbor, and whatever other sewers it may be necessary to construct along such streets as intersect Johnson street. Is there a man, woman or child in Victoria who can deny that the sewerage, or rather lack of sewerage, is a disgrace to us. The foul smells which pervade the city, breeding disease which has already ended in death, tell more loudly than words of the necessity for reform, for a change which will convert the city into a sweet-smelling place, where sickening odors are unknown. Who will begrudge a few thousand dollars if so desirable a state of affairs can be effected? Let a beginning be made at once, and let the voters show their desire for progress, for needed improvement, by recording their votes in favor of the by-law. Victoria is looking forward to becoming the great tourist town of the North Pacific Coast. How is she to fulfil our expectations if the first essential to health-seeking, a good system of sewerage, is lacking?

Twenty thousand dollars will be asked for waterworks purposes. This sum of money is needed for purchasing cast iron pipes for the distribution of water throughout the city, and for laying these and other water pipes within the city. We do not suppose that anyone will cavil at this by-law. The bright and sparkling water is a necessity; every household must have it, and we are sure that when Water Commissioner Summerfield has consummated his labors they will have it. To obtain so desirable a boon as a good supply of water, money must be had and spent. At present the work is languishing for want of funds. The consent of the ratepayers to raising a loan, upon the credit of the city, of $20,000 will be asked on the 31st instant.

A new steam fire engine and other necessary articles in connection therewith is badly needed, and $15,000 will be asked for fire department purposes. It must be apparent to all who have property at stake in Victoria, that another engine is an absolute necessity. Who cares to take the chances of having his property destroyed because the service is inefficient? Not inefficient because of the department itself, but because of the lack of apparatus with which to cope with the flames. This by-law will come home to every voter because they are *property owners*. We may rest assured that it, at least, will not be sacrificed.

Beacon Hill Park! It is the glory of Victorians, renowned the world over for the beauty of its view, which casts over those who have ever witnessed it a glamor which leads them back to it again. The majestic, snow-crowned Olympic range on the American side, the straits shimmering in the sunshine, the glories which everywhere surround us, all these are familiar to our readers. Nature has been lavish in her gifts, but what has man done to enhance them? Comparatively nothing. So the City Fathers will submit a by-law enabling the corporation to raise the sum of $13,000 for the purpose of fencing and beautifying Beacon Hill Park. Who will vote against it? He who would cast his ballot against so pressing a work would be a "moss-back" indeed!

A by-law enabling the Corporation to raise $9,000 for cemetery purposes will be laid before the public. It is proposed to improve Ross Bay cemetery and acquire land to enlarge it. We commend this by-law to the support of the property holders. The demand it is called upon to meet is an urgent one.

The necessity for the erection of a building to increase the capacity of the Corporation buildings has long been apparent. For an addition to the City Hall buildings $8,000 will be required. A by-law enabling the Corporation to raise this amount will be submitted and will, no doubt, be successful. It is an imperative necessity.

It will be remembered that the subscribers of the Mechanics' Library Institute handed over their library to the city council as a free, and partially free, circulating library. These books, a very valuable collection, were only saved to the city through the exertions of ex-Mayor Fell. As at present, lying covered with dust, and in a fair way of being destroyed, it might have been just as well had they not been accepted. But there they are, and it is advisable that they should be put in such a condition as to be of use. The by-law will make it lawful for the council to assume control of the library, and to assume and pay any liabilities in connection with it, not to exceed $450; to establish and maintain a public, free or partially free, Library, of which the library accepted and taken over as aforesaid shall be the nucleus; to obtain suitable premises therefor, and from time to time to accept or purchase such additions thereto, and such furniture as the Council shall deem expedient; and to appoint a competent person to be the City Librarian, at such a salary as the Council shall fix, provided that the total expenditure under the authority of this section shall not exceed the sum of $1,200 in any one year. This bylaw was defeated when it was last placed before the ratepayers, but we trust it will meet with a different fate this time. Hardly a city on the continent, big or little, can be found which does not possess a public library. Even Vancouver, one of the youngest, is up to the times in this respect. How long will our people lie under the stigma? It is complained that our young men frequent places which injuriously affect their morals, and lead them into the paths of vice and sin. These are their resort in the evenings, and why? Because they have nowhere else to go; nowhere where they can spend a few pleasant hours in social intercourse amid their fellows. With a public library in a central location, well-lighted and made comfortable, the young men could meet together in the evenings and enjoy themselves. In the pleasant company of the writers and thinkers of all time they would grow up loving learning for its own sake. We appeal to the lady voters not to cast their ballots against this by-law and we trust they will lend the weight of their influence towards ensuring its passage. We sincerely hope it will not be defeated. It would be a crying shame did it not receive the sanction of the property owners.

The only other by-law which will be placed before the voters on the 31st instant is one enabling the corporation to raise $30,000 for street improvement by building a stone retaining wall across James Bay from the end of Government street to Birdcage walk. There seems to be a grave difference of opinion as to the advisability of passing this by-law at the present time. Large sums of money have been spent on the James Bay bridge, and it is now undergoing repairs with the object of rendering it fit for traffic. When these are completed it will be capable of meeting the public need for some years. Just now when money is wanted for more pressing improvements it seems to be the opinion of the public that this $30,000 might very well be diverted into some other channel. Doubtless this matter will be well threshed out before the day set for balloting, so that the public may vote intelligently on the by-law.

We propose to deal with these by-laws in a more detailed manner during the week, pointing out the duties lying upon those who have votes. We have, however, every confidence that they will act like progressive citizens by giving their assent to all such as are demanded in the city's best interests.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

We referred a few days ago to the defeat in the British House of Commons of Sir Edward Watkin's bill providing for a tunnel across the channel to connect England with France. The London *Times* expressed satisfaction that Sir Edward's "audacious persistency" in asking the House to reverse its judgment so often recorded against the scheme received such an emphatic rebuke. It cannot be supposed, the *Times* remarks, that the public after reading the weighty speeches delivered in this important debate, will feel the least doubt that the House was right in coming to the conclusion to which the division gave effect. The *Standard* congratulates the country on the decisive action by which the House of Commons, for the fourth time, has declined to authorize the construction of the tunnel. It expresses the hope that the *coup de grace* has at length been given to a proposal which, in the present state of the world, is as mischievous as it is ill-timed. The *Morning Post* is convinced that the division will be cordially approved by the generality of Englishmen. The majority was crushingly large, and deserved to be so, for seldom has a more random or nondescript minority been gathered together to oppose the well-considered conclusions of previous parliaments. It hopes that this risky and fallacious plan is finally disposed of by the total defeat of the scheme in the House. The *Daily News* declares that Mr. Gladstone may well be said to have spoken for the bold and self-reliant Briton; Sir Michael Hicks-Beach represented the weak and timorous panic-making persons who are always shrieking at their own shadows; while Lord Randolph Churchill gave expression to the opinion of the majority that the hour has not yet come. The *Daily Chronicle* says the majority which rejected Sir Edward Watkin's bill makes it certain that the day is far distant when the construction of the tunnel will be sanctioned by Parliament.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Republicans assert that there is some reason to think that West Virginia may be carried for Harrison and Morton. That state gave its vote to the Republicans in 1864, 1868 and 1872; but in those years those Democrats who had assisted the Confederates were disfranchised; and the total vote was 33,000, 49,000 and 62,000 in the years named. In 1876, for the first time, something like a full vote was polled (100,000), and then Tilden's majority over Hayes was 13,767. In 1880, Hancock (Democrat) received 57,391; Garfield (Republican), 46,243; Weaver (Greenback), 9,079. The total vote had increased by 12,000, and the Democratic plurality has decreased by nearly 3,000. In 1884, Cleveland (Democrat) received 67,317; Blaine (Republican), 63,096; and the Greenback and Prohibition candidates between them had only 1,745 votes. The total vote had increased to 132,006, and the Democratic plurality had decreased to 4,221. West Virginia is an important manufacturing state, and the manufacturing interests are steadily growing. The agriculturists are largely Democratic in their views; but the iron-workers and other artisans understand thoroughly that wages and employment depend in a great degree upon the protection given by the tariff to home industry; and they, as a rule, support the party which promises to support them. Even the old Virginia farmer discovers that it is better to sell his products in a thriving manufacturing town than to live as he used to live "befo' the wah," and so gleams of economic light begin to irridiate the agricultural sections of the state. These changes in the industrial condition of the state explain how it is that while the Democratic vote has increased by 10,000 since 1876, the Republican vote has increased by 20,000; and give some color to the assertion of the Republicans that they can overcome the adverse majority of 4,000 and place West Virginia in the Republican column.

THE INDIAN TROUBLE.

It will be seen by a dispatch from our Ottawa correspondent in this issue that there is not a word of truth in the story which appeared in the *Times* as to Gen. Middleton's reported statements with reference to the Indian trouble in the North. Upon so baseless a fabrication our contemporary builds one of his exceedingly silly articles, and will not have the grace to announce to-night that he was somewhat premature in attributing the sensational telegram to the press correspondent's dispatches from this city. Only the *facts* were sent from here. Every attempt of the *Times* to injure the press correspondent, and they have been many, has only recoiled upon itself. The *Times* has made a sorry bungle in its whole policy with regard to the lamentable difficulty among our provincial Indians. It seems to have lost its head.

WHERE HAS HE BEEN?

The *Vancouver Advertiser* asks, "Who is the Attorney-General of British Columbia at the present time? Is it the Hon. A. E. B. Davie, or is the position still occupied by a temporary *acting* Attorney-General in the person of the Hon. Theodore Davie?," and then proceeds to make a scurrilous attack on Mr. Theo. Davie, Q.C., in connection with the Squatters' Arbitration. Where has our dense contemporary been of late that he does not know that Mr. Davie long ago resigned his position in the Government, and is now a private member of the House? Really such ignorance of current events is inexcusable.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

It has been discovered that Harrison's name spelled backwards gives "No, sir-rah."

A New York contemporary says that if real "swells" want to be "really English," they must carry their respective left hands buried to the wrist in their respective left trousers pocket.

There is a story current in Breslau that "Our Fritz," after attending the examination of a village school, was presented by a little girl with a posey of flowers. "Well, my child," said he, "to what kingdom do these flowers belong?" "To the vegetable kingdom." "And this piece of gold?" handing her a coin. "To the mineral kingdom." "And I?" he asked. "To the kingdom of heaven." A truer answer never came out of artless lips.

Hon. C. H. Tupper, the new Minister of Marine and Fisheries, fairly annihilated Mr. Otto S. Weeks, M.P.P., on the stump in Colchester during the recent bye-election. When it is remembered that Mr. Weeks was a former attorney-general of Nova Scotia, an old politician, and a powerful orator, it will be readily seen that Sir John had a pretty level head, as usual, in calling "young Charley," a chip off the old block, to a cabinet position.

A Liverpool paper announces the departure from that port of the Rev. W. S. Green, who formed one of the expedition party for the recent deep sea explorations in the Atlantic. He is accompanied by the Rev. H. Swanzy, of New York. Their ultimate destination is British Columbia, where they are commissioned by the Royal Geographical Society to make a rough survey of the unexplored glacier regions of the Selkirk Range. The expedition will be assisted by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. They are also commissioned by the Royal Dublin Society to collect information in the United States on the fish trade and fisheries, with a view to developing the home industry in Ireland.

The St. John, N. B., *Globe*, a staunch Liberal journal, opens an article on "Nova Scotia Politics" with the grave announcement; "At the present moment there is demoralization of the Liberal party in Nova Scotia." It traces events from the defeat of the party in the province at the last Dominion general election, when the repeal cry received its *quietus*, to the re-election of Mr. C. H. Tupper, in Pictou by acclamation; and then alludes to the failure of the party to nominate a candidate in Cumberland to oppose Mr. Dickey. On this point the *Globe* says; "In the county of Cumberland nominations were made yesterday to fill the seat left vacant by Sir Charles Tupper, and the main issue on which the election is to be run is not a Dominion issue at all, but the question of a prohibitory law, which is not just now a parliamentary question. The vacillation apparent is not good. It is not healthy, nor is it calculated to develop healthy political action in the best interests of Canada." Who can doubt, now that the most ultra-opposition organ in the Dominion has spoken, that the Liberal party is practically dead in the Maritime provinces?

The Baptist denomination claims a notable growth in the United States as shown by the *American Baptist* in the following table:

1770	Churches	77
1784	Churches	471
	Ministers	424
	Members	35,011
1888	Churches	31,891
	Ordained Ministers	20,477
	Members	2,917,315

The receipts for foreign missions have been, since the organization of the denomination in the United States down to 1887, $10,515,072.

THE POLICE.

To the Editor:—If the statement in your paper to the effect that for a day and a half after the Work Estate burglaries a policeman did not put in an appearance to examine the premises, measure the footprints or interrogate the inmates as to the losses and description of the stolen articles, is true, a sweeping change in the department of police has become necessary. The mere fact of inattention and neglect should be sufficient to insure prompt and effective action.

The police force has been largely increased of late. With what result? An increase of inefficiency. Citizen.

WHO WILL FOOT THE BILL?

To the Editor:—In view of the expensive and extensive character of the military operations against the Skeena River Indians the question I have placed at the head of this letter becomes one of great importance to the taxpayers of the province. I believe I am correct in saying that the Dominion government has refused to bear the expense of putting down Indian outbreaks in British Columbia; and that Ottawa officials confidently rely on this government to defray the expense of the Skeena "war," which is likely to cost, in case of resistance being offered to the gallant fellows who have taken the field, a large sum before peace is restored.

The British North America Act and the terms under which the province was united with Canada cast the obligation of maintaining and managing the natives upon the Dominion government. It is expressly declared in the B. N. A. Act (page 32) that "the exclusive legislative authority of the parliament of Canada extends to all matters" pertaining to "Indians and lands reserved for the Indians." In the Terms of Union (Clause 13) it is provided that "The charge of the Indians and the trusteeship and management of the lands reserved for their use and benefit shall be assumed by the Dominion Government."

In keeping with these provisions the provincial legislatures have never attempted to legislate for the Indians. They are exclusively under Dominion control, subject to Dominion laws and Dominion officials. The Skeena "war" arose from the action of a Dominion magistrate in unearthing a year-old crime and attempting to force a tribe of savages who had never been brought under the influence of civilization to suddenly set aside customs and tribal laws that had prevailed for centuries and accept in their stead the laws of the Dominion. The accused, it appears, killed a native doctor who had failed to cure by his incantations a sick relative of the slayer. The murderer afterwards atoned for his crime, according to Indian law and custom, by compensating his victim's relatives. Then the Dominion law-dispenser stepped in and sought to subject the murderer to trial in accordance with civilized law. The tribe resisted; the murderer fled; special officers were sent after him and as he was flying to the bush he was shot down. Hence the rebellion and the dispatch of an armed force to the scene.

I do not desire to be regarded as justifying the murder of the medicine man, because, according to the laws of his people, his life was forfeited. The hideous practice cannot too quickly be put away; but the Indians ought not to be expected to understand the principles of British law and justice until they have been fully explained to them. What did Sir James Douglas do in 1859 under similar circumstances? The chief of the Songish tribe was one King Freezy. He was a great warrior and a valiant, albeit he was a much-married man. On a certain day one of his eight wives offended him. He tried her by tribal law, convicted and condemned her to death and in the presence of the tribe and a number of whites who chanced at the time to be strolling through the reserve, cut her head clean off.

The matter was referred to Sir James Douglas. That astute ruler sent for the king and after explaining to him that he had committed a crime against British law, dismissed him with a caution not to repeat the atrocity. Till the day of his death King Freezy was a law-abiding subject, and his tribe ever afterwards accepted civilized rites and laws in preference to their own.

Had a caution been administered instead of a bullet at Skeena there would have been no "war."

Now, sir, I contend that when the Dominion assumed the guardianship of the tribes; undertook the administration of their lands; appointed a staff of officials to govern them and denied the right of the Province to legislate concerning them, it took upon itself the *responsibility* and *cost* of keeping the natives in order. The Province should not be called on to pay one dollar on account of the expedition now at the north. The Indians are Dominion wards in rebellion against Dominion laws and officers and the duty of putting them down belongs exclusively to the Dominion. M. P. P.

TRUTH STRANGER THAN FICTION.

North Yakima, W. T., May 26, 1888.

Dr. J. Eugene Jordan,—Dear Sir:—Allow me to add my testimony to the many thousands who have already testified to the virtue and success of your medicine.

In April I was taken with bilious fever. I had severe pains in the back of my head and neck, extending down my back. Had a very high fever. My feet and limbs were very yellow. My finger nails were as yellow as the yolk of an egg. My face looked as if it had been steeped in saffron. I commenced taking your Histogenetic medicines according to directions in the book, and after taking twenty-four hours the pains were all gone, and in three days could see a decided improvement in my complexion, and in three weeks was able to be out again.

About two weeks ago I strained the muscles of my right leg, which terminated in sciatica rheumatism. I suffered untold agony. I could not turn or be turned without adding to my suffering. Again I sought and found relief in your Histogenetic medicines. After taking it two days the pain was entirely gone, and now I am able to be about my work as usual.

Too much praise cannot be said in behalf of your system of medicines. Your book of Entire Revolution of Medicine should be in every family in the land, as it would save many a large doctor's bill and much unnecessary pain and suffering; as it will tell just the kind of medicine they need for their complaint; for your medicines are a success in acute as well as in chronic cases, for I can truthfully say your medicines work like a charm in acute cases, and will knock any disease, if taken at the beginning, in a very short time. Chas. A. Gano.

Subscribed and sworn to before me May 26, 1888. Edward Whitson,
[seal.] Notary Public.

Seattle, W.T., April 24, 1888.

Dr. Eugene Jordan—Dear Sir: I came to your place in a horrible condition about two weeks ago. What I suffered from those pains through the head, and had for the past six or eight years, and especially after catching a fresh cold; then it would commence in good earnest, and for a few days no tongue can tell the fearful sufferings through which I would pass, until what seemed to me to be a gathering over the eyes would break, and then with the exception of a dull, sleepy headache, I would have relief until I would catch cold again. For weeks since the first of last August I lived on graham mush and half milk and half hot water in the morning; for dinner and supper cold graham bread and crackers, not daring to eat as others could, knowing the penalty would be three or four hours of the most terrible torture—there seeming to spring up, as it were, a fire in the stomach, the flame every few minutes shooting up into the throat. It seemed to me my throat with this.

For the past twelve or fifteen years there was a distress across the kidneys. This latter trouble I can find no words to give the faintest idea of what I suffered. Only those who have or are suffering from kidney disease know anything about it. I gave out on the L. S. & E. road last fall, and have not been able to do a good day's work since. No life, snap or vim until about a month ago, after taking your medicines about three days as directed, then a day now and then, when I thought of it, taking two or three doses at a time, because I would forget it. This I kept up for about two weeks, which gave me the first and only relief for years. I have only had slight touches of headache since—only a little trouble in the stomach. Can sleep on either side, my kidneys giving me but little pain. I am coming to see you and get more medicine, for I am fully satisfied you will cure me. Yours respectfully, D. S. Lambert.

CAUSING FALLING OF THE WOMB.

North Yakima, May 25, 1888.

Dr. Eugene Jordan, Seattle, W. T.

Dear Sir:—About twelve years ago, in lifting a heavy carpet, I strained myself, which completely prostrated me. Not getting better, I tried the use of alum, thinking to contract the womb and draw it into place, which it did, but owing to the inflamed condition it caused congestion and terrible pains. At last the agony was so great I consulted a physician, by whom I was treated for five years, but instead of getting better I grew worse continually. A complication of female troubles set in, which almost set me crazy. My stomach was in such a condition that I could not retain the most simple food; had fearful distress in the stomach, and was continually belching, which was very annoying. Liver was so enlarged it seemed as though there was a rope around me and I was being cut in two, and was continually throwing up bile. My kidneys were in a fearful condition, and I thought I was going to have Bright's disease. My urine was very scant and afforded no relief; had a desire to urinate continually. Was never free from headache; it seemed as though the top of my head would come off. Had very severe backache, and a constant and terrible bearing down feeling; was in such misery life became a burden to me. I consulted some of the most eminent physicians in the United States, among whom was Dr. Pierce (of Pierce Medical Dispensary, Buffalo, N.Y.), Dr. Eddie, of Oswego, N.Y., who told me, as others had, they could not help me, as, with my troubles, I had cancer of the womb and could not be cured. Went to a hospital in Boston, where they strapped me to the operating table, cut and slashed me till I thought I should die, and said if that did not do they could not help me. I continued to grow worse. I have been treated by physicians in Springfield, South Charlestown, Findlay, Ohio, and Delaware, Pawtucket, and Providence, R.I., and Williamantic, Conn., embracing doctors of all the old schools of practice.

When I arrived in Seattle, W.T., every one was loud with praise of Dr. J. Eugene Jordon and his Histo. system of treatment. I grasped at the word Histogenetic—rebuilding tissue—as a drowning man grasps at a straw. Could not rest until I saw you. At the first visit I was encouraged. Your theory was so beautiful, and on inquiry among your hundreds of patients, I found it was in actual practice, as it had cured hundreds who were pronounced incurable by all old school physicians, in diseases of all kinds and conditions.

I commenced the treatment, and after taking the medicine faithfully for three months I find myself able to eat anything and everything, enjoy it, and retain it on my stomach. My head is clear. I sleep like a child. My kidneys are in good condition. My liver is in good working order, and the pain is all gone. In fact, I consider myself well after twelve years of untold misery, arising from a complication of female troubles. For several months the cancer has given me very little trouble, and although you did not say you could cure it, yet I firmly believe that it will also succumb to your wonderful medicines.

I send you this solemnly sworn statement that the thousands of women who are suffering with female troubles may know that there is a cure for them in your wonderful Histogenetic medicines. Words will not express my gratitude to you, and as soon as you wish I will give you one year of my life as nurse in your hospital, or anywhere else where I can serve you, free.

Earnestly hoping the prejudice against all new discoveries will soon be overcome and the whole world know of your Histogenetic Discoveries, I remain, yours very gratefully,

Mrs. Olive B. Hanks.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of May, 1888.

Fred Parker,
[seal.] Notary Public.

Orillia, W. T.

My little girl was badly affected with bloody dysentery for three constant years. We employed a half dozen of what we considered first-class medical aid, but it proved no good. She got so she could eat nothing. After eating a bite of anything the pain would strike her stomach and she would have to desist. We concluded that we would not be able to raise her. At last, I went to Dr. J. Eugene Jordan, stated the case, leaving the girl at home. I had not a bit of confidence in doctors, but I did know of apparently great cures of Dr. Jordan. Well, my little girl took the medicine for one month and has entirely recovered. This was seven months ago. She is now perfectly well. I state this for the good of others.

R. E. Smith.

Broken Down.

"After suffering with Dyspepsia, Kidney Disease, loss of appetite and pain in the head until discouraged, I heard of Burdock Blood Bitters, took two bottles and am happy to say feel as well as ever." Mrs. Rufus E. Merry, New Albany, N. S.

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