

especially when the facts are deduced in court that a license to practice has been obtained from a doubtful American source, Canadians generally accredit women with all the suffrage they desire, but delicacy forbids the introduction of female physicians into the bosom of their families. This has been an interesting question in the capital of the Province for some time, and the solution to the problem has generally been to the effect that this sort of thing does very well for the States, but its introduction into Canada is thoroughly un-English.

Just now Toronto is flush with considerable ecclesiastical scandal, though of late there has been a paucity of interesting cases until within the last week.

Bishop Sweatman has been acting very foolishly in respect of his action towards the Bible Society, and his conduct is very severely criticised and censured in the public journals and private circles. He consented to speak at the Bible Society's meeting, but when it became known that the place of meeting was in the Presbyterian Church, he indignantly refused to have anything to do with the affair. This sort of bigotry becomes intolerance, and is about on a par with the persecutions of the Church of Rome. When a Christian minister refuses to sound his voice in a Christian house of worship, non-episcopal for the reason of its non-episcopal creed, he makes himself open to the severest reprehension, and his conduct cannot be too severely commented on. Such is the case of Bishop Sweatman, and through this unaccountable proceeding he has placed himself in rather an unenviable situation.

With respect to the Rev. T. W. Handford and the "Church Scandal," the particulars of which are being brought to light, I would say that reporters of daily journals exceed their liberty when they take upon themselves the office of tale-bearers and mischief-makers. To inquisitively seek out particulars which would be manifestly injurious to church and pastor, to satisfy the craving of the morbid appetite of newspaper gossips, is unquestionably beyond the province of a public journal. Until such time as the deacons and members of the church have decided the matter satisfactorily, and in consultation with their pastor, have discredited, forgiven or reprimanded him, as the circumstances of the case may warrant, the reporters of papers have no right to lower the dignity of the Press by their inquisitive, mischievous and unwholesome reports.

The *Mail* in its advocating those principles of Political Economy, which more particularly have reference to a protective tariff, was inconsistent when the company employed an American architect to superintend and carry out the new printing establishment. Conservatives and Reformers have marvelled much upon this style of "protection."

The Ontario Government, on the other hand, is to be lauded for the consistency of its principles. Acting upon the principle of Free Trade, they employed an American architect to prepare plans and superintend the erection of the School of Practical Science in the Park. This is the most ungainly looking red brick structure in the city, and being in close proximity with the University College, the appearance of this staring red building is positively hideous, if I might be allowed the term. Another monstrosity of the Ontario Government is the alteration of the Upper Canada College by the same architect, although this is an improvement on the School of Practical Science, the alteration and additions are sufficiently uncouth to make the good citizens of Toronto wrathful. This sort of Free Trade, carried to excess, is rather aggravating. It is but fair, when there are competent men in the Province to carry out public works they should be employed, and not seek in Buffalo or Detroit for favourites of college principals to carry out local improvements.

The Mercer Reformatory for Women is very nearly completed, when the women will be brought from the Kingston Penitentiary here. The building is designed to accommodate one hundred females, and for the small accommodation the building is about twice too extensive. The building is by no means so substantially built as the Central

Prison. It is but another instance of the unwisdom of the Ontario Government, and I suspect in a few years it will be a standing example of the folly of Mr. Mowat's administration.

The recommendation of the Standing Committee on Railways to withdraw the Telegraph Company's Bill appears to be worthy of consideration. I should be inclined to doubt the good faith of a Canadian Telegraph Company proposing the construction of a new system of lines just now. There could not be a shadow of a paying chance for another extensive company in Canada at present. And this manœuvre to procure the passage of the Bill savours of a desire to be bribed over by existing companies. A good example of this sort of proceeding appeared in Toronto a year ago, when a new gas company was incorporated, in the face of an existing company supposed to have the monopoly of the city; no one ever imagined the new company would amount to anything beyond a name. The thing was patent to all that the company was to be bought over.

I am truly thankful to know that the Ontario Government has acceded to the request of Toronto architects to throw the design for proposed Parliament buildings open to competition. Though an excavation was commenced in the park and the bricks are under way at the prison, yet there is some chance of a design being accepted that shall be a credit to the Province. The better way would have been, as was done in the case of the Westminster Palace, to have employed some ten of the best architects of the Dominion and have given each of them \$700 and the best design to be selected, the designer of which to have the superintendence of the construction.

Queen City.

THE POLITICAL DESTINY OF CANADA.

BY JAMES LITTLE.

And now, coming back to our own section of this great Dominion, the *Toronto Globe* says: "Work was never before so hard to get and so poorly paid as it is this winter, the retail traders are disheartened, and the wholesale merchants less confident than they were a few weeks ago," and a recent issue says five hundred of the citizens are kept alive on soup furnished from the public soup kitchen; and the complaint comes from Ottawa—the seat of a Court—the Dominion Government and Parliament, the public offices, the centre of the receipts and disbursements of twenty-five millions of dollars a year from taxes, besides millions of dollars paid out for public works, that every other house and store in the city is "To Let," while 250 able-bodied men are knocking at the Parliament gates for work to keep their families from starving; and the same cry is heard from Quebec. Stores, in the business part of the city, which usually rented for \$800 to \$1000 a year, are now offered at \$150 to \$250, hardly enough to pay the taxes. Montreal is not in a much better state; it lost eight thousand of its population in the last two or three years, and more would be on the move if they had the means to pay their way; and, to close the catalogue with our industrial and trade collapses, Dun, Wiman & Co. inform us that the number of bankruptcies of the year just closed amounts to 1,902 against 1,697 of the year before, and 294 more than the States of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska, with a population of sixteen millions, and the great commercial cities of Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati; and while the liabilities of the whole of the United States had decreased from \$234,383,132 in 1878 to \$98,149,053 in 1879, ours had increased from \$23,908,677 in 1878 to \$29,347,937 in 1879, or one-fifth more in a single year. And now, if with all the appliances of crops fifty per cent. larger than ordinary, a good demand at high prices for every kind of produce, with the means to boot in the expenditure of so large an amount of money, the country is reduced to so deplorable a condition as is complained of, and the above figures show, is it not frightful to think of the state it would be in if those fortuitous circumstances had not so opportunely come to our relief? It is safe to say one-half of the business community would have been whirled into the Maelstrom of bankruptcy, which, as the daily Press shows, continues to draw in and swallow up a steady increase of victims.

Must we go on borrowing money and broadcasting it all over, as we have been doing, to keep up the fiction that any measure of prosperity it may bring arises from the legitimate industries of the people, fostered by the National Policy? Can we be certain of a failure of the crops in Europe, and good crops at high prices in Canada, in coming seasons? The reverse is more likely to be the case. And when the farmers of Ontario and Quebec are met with wheat laid down in Liverpool from Manitoba at 80 cents a bushel by Lake Superior, and 70 cents a bushels by the Hudson's Bay route—which a