

WHAT CANADIAN EDITORS THINK

A WORTHY BISHOP.

(Hamilton Times.)

THE choice of Rev. Dr. Charles Hamilton as Archbishop of Ottawa and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, made yesterday by the Provincial House of Bishops, will give much pleasure to the people of this city, where he so long resided and officiated as Bishop of Niagara. The new Metropolitan is a man who both in his ecclesiastical capacity and as a private gentleman, had a very wide circle of friends in Hamilton, and he enjoyed to a large degree the esteem and respect, not only of the members and adherents of the Anglican Church, but of all those with whom he was brought in contact. His friends here will wish him a happy and successful career in the high office to which he has been elevated.

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THOSE BAD BOOKS.

(Victoria Colonist.)

NOW and then someone writes a clean, fresh, wholesome book that sells; but those who can do this are few in number, while almost anyone, who can put words together, can be nasty in print. The excuse given by some people for reading these "problem" novels is that they wish to get a sight into actual life. There never was a more wretched fallacy than that which claims the truth to lie between the covers of nasty books. As a rule the writers know nothing more about actual life than any of the readers, but they give their imaginations rein and as a result produce pictures, which seem real because they are vivid. Moreover, if they were true, the truth told in them would only relate to a small fraction of society, for it is a fact that most people are decent and live honourable lives.

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THE NAUGHTY C. P. R.

(Winnipeg Telegram.)

OTHER corporations have to go before parliament when they desire to increase their capital stock. Why should the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, whose stock issues are so vitally related to its freight rates, enjoy special favours in this respect? The C. P. R. shareholders in these last two stock issues have cleaned up in addition to their handsome dividends, something like \$60,000,000. The public will pay interest on that amount in excessive freight rates. Parliament cannot remain indifferent to a condition of affairs in which at unexpected moments, the C. P. R. may engineer these stock issues, imposing as they do such burdens on the public. If there is to be any more melon cutting the responsibility should rest on parliament whose members will be directly answerable to the people.

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MACHINERY THE MAIN THING.

(Winnipeg Telegram.)

TAKE the woollen duties, for instance, which are a never ending source of concern to the government press. The favourite plea is that the Canadian woollen manufacturers are pressing for increased protection and that their claims are supported by the Conservative party. This woollen bugaboo has come to be a familiar figure. At regular intervals it is employed to make the public believe that in resisting the demand for increased woollen duties the government is dealing sledge hammer blows at protection. The Canadian

public is not quite so gullible. Woollen duties are not at present a matter of life or death to the people of Canada. So far as the farmers are concerned, and especially the western farmers, woollen duties do not begin to compare in importance with the duty on agricultural implements. If the Laurier Government with its professed friendship for low tariff, is so solicitous of the interests of the consumer and if as it argues, the tariff imposes a direct tribute on the buyer, why does it not apply the pruning knife to the duty on agricultural implements? There is no industry in Canada that can as well afford to stand the pruning knife as the manufacturers of agricultural implements. There is no industry which has so abused the tariff privileges it enjoys. How is it that the government and its newspaper organs which rant so loudly against the woollen duties, have not a word to say against the duty on agricultural implements? This is a question which the farmer will do well to turn over in his mind. All the fuss and furor about the phantom effort to increase the woollen duties is so much false alarm designed to divert the farmer's attention from protected industries which are more to be feared than the manufacturers of woollen goods.

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WHY NOT SWINBURNE?

(Victoria Times.)

WHY were the remains of the poet Swinburne not honoured with sepulture in Westminster Abbey? The all but universal opinion seems to be that some one blundered in denying to the dust of this gentle singer a resting place in Great Britain's Valhalla. Yet it may be that the fault, if there be any fault, does not lie with the custodians of the Abbey's sacred corner. The wishes of the deceased and their friends have usually to be taken into consideration in such matters. It may be that the departed poet himself left explicit instructions as to the disposition which should be made of his mortal part. He may have expressed a preference for the place in which he sleeps, described as one of the most beautiful, most peaceful and most bewitching corners in England. And it may be well to remember that the remains of a goodly number of Mr. Swinburne's predecessors in Britain's roll of immortals lie crumbling in comparatively obscure churchyards. The myriad-minded Shakespeare is not entombed in the Abbey. Possibly at the time of his departure he was not considered worthy of a place there.

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WOMEN AND WAR

(St. John Globe.)

AN objection very strongly argued by men against giving the franchise to women is that while women have much to do with the making of wars they have not the physical qualities which enable them to do duty in actual warfare. Of course this is a phase of the whole subject upon which much might be said. Perhaps man unconsciously pays woman a tribute when he says this. He does not revolt at the idea of the battlefield for himself. As a natural protector of woman he does not want to see her there. Possibly if the necessities of the nations compelled women to take up arms the system of warfare might be adjusted or modified so as to accommodate itself to woman's capacity. It is likely that very soon, if woman was compelled to the duty of warfare, she would fit herself to discharge that duty. Every man must note with consider-



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