IE TORONTO WORLD

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FRIDAY MORNING, NOV. 25, 1887.

The Business Aspect of It.

We have argued that that this country should have its own cable communication with Europe, independent of the United States, even should there be no money in the venture. That is to say the enterprise would pay Canada indirectly, in many ways, even should there be no dividends directly paid on capital stock. We cannot for a moment suppose it a likely thing that there would be any loss on running expenses; we take it for granted that the receipts would pay that much at least. Suppose the receipts to do this much, and no more, then we hold that the investment would be a good one for Canada.

But there are reasons for believing that the new enterprise would do a good deal better than this. The cable would have its western landing somewhere on the Canadian shore, of course, but overland connection with Boston and New York would easily be established. And the probability is that offices of the new cable in these cities would do a good business. In fact, a fair American business, as well as a Canadian one, may be counted on. Without depending upon anything very big in the way of American custom, we might still count upon enough of it to make us safe against loss on running, when taken along with our own contribution. We fancy there will be a general agreement among business men that it would do this at least. And if it did no more than this, it would pay; but we venture to think that it would do a good deal better.

We do not forget that something more than a new cable is wanted. There is wanted, besides a Canadian organization of live men, for press and for general business purposes, to bring work to the cable that will make it pay. Well, we argue this way, that Canadian management, having been at least fairly successful with railways, with ocean steamships and with land telegraphs, need not shrink from trying ocean cable business too. This country is not as big yet as the United States, but it is always growing, both in population and in amount of business done per annum. Even were the enterprize a little in advance of the time, we might safely count on the country's soon growing even with it. But on the whole we feel sure the prevailing consensus of opinion will be that the present demand comes not a bit too soon, but is abundantly justified by the stage of its progress which the country has now reached.

One consideration there is, which we have no hesitation in urging with all confidence. The mere fact that an independent cable was on hand and ready for business would do wonders in the way of *creating* a new Canadian business for it. We do not forget that, as things are, we might even now have a Canadian Press Association, and might use the old cables as we pleased, to the extent that we were able to pay for them. But it quite agrees with all we know of how things work to believe that the actual existence of a Canadian cable would powerfully influence the building up of a Canadian business. The latter *might* go on, in a manner, by means of the old cables, but we may still feel sure that it would go on to much better purpose with a new one. Let the horse in mind—that the efficient thing on of our own enterprize, in the spirit of National Policy, would go far to making it pay. Of course the inter- that should is strongly in opposition, but that should not deter us.

Deacon Buntborne's Malediction.

For months and months the Wimsniac advocates asserted that Sir John and his colleagues would in due time come out for Commercial Union, because they knew the people were for it, but yesterday the ridiculous old Globe propounded the theory that Sir John, Sir Charles, Sir Hector, and "the rest of the boys" are opposing the fad because they know the people are in favor of it. And The Globe shareholders actually pay editorial owls good money for grinding out such self-destructive rubbish as that!

But the funniest part of the exhibition is where the Deacon solemnly threatens Joan Baptiste, who a short time ago made him eat his own words about Riel. The Globe speaks of itself as "having run considerable risk in stemming an agitation directed against the constitutional rights of French Canadians"—the right to rebel and commit murder with impunity. The Globe not only took the risk, but also thrust that risk upon its party, to their defeat and demoralization. But, adds Deacon Buntborne: "If you fail me now, Jean Baptiste, if you aid in defeating my latest fad, I will do something terrible; I will *curse you!*" So there now! Of course the curse will have to be comprehensive enough to include the Liberal leader, Mr. Laurier, who fears that the adoption of the fad "might not be consistent with our duty to the Mother Country." Curse him, Deacon, curse him. He can stand it as well as the jackdaw of Rheims did.

Increased Subsidies From Decreased Revenues.

It has been well and truly remarked that the parties to the Quebec conference propose to burn the candle at both ends. Were their proposition to abolish the tariff implemented a heavy loss of revenue would ensue, while their complementary proposition to increase the provincial subsidies would place an additional burden upon a treasury almost bankrupted by an increase of subsidies. And the bulk of this additional bonus would fall upon Ontario, which Mr. Mowat and his papers have taught us to regard as "the milch cow" of the Dominion. The most superficial observer can see at a glance the monstrous absurdity of the "Little Tyrant's" assumption to speak for the whole people—"all political parties" when committing themselves to a policy designed to burn the financial candle at both ends. Every province in the Dominion would lose by such a combination of extravagancies, but this province would lose most of all. A straight declaration in favor of Annexation would have been more creditable to the intelligence and sincerity of the members of the conference.

Japan is getting a taste of foreign control in commercial matters, and a bitter taste it is. Years ago that country was wheedled and forced into treaties that practically divested it of the rights to raise its own revenue in its own way, with the result that the Japanese rulers are at their wits' ends to provide financial ways and means. Canada will never consent to be reduced to the miserable position in which Japan finds herself.

San Francisco is agitating for cable connection with Japan and China. Canada must not be caught napping in this connection. Cable connection means closer business relations and more of them. Canada needs such connection, not only with China and Japan, but also with Australia. Some people will say that this is impracticable, but they are the same people who said that the Canadian Pacific Railway would never be built, or if built, never successfully operated.

Maj.-Gen. Laurie of Nova Scotia who, by the way, is a candidate for Parliament in one of the by-elections down there, says that the Colorado beetles will not attack potatoes when they can find milk weeds to feed upon. If this discovery of his does not capture the farming vote for him, the horny handed electors of his constituency must be lacking in the milk of human kindness.

The letter signed Robert Spratt in Wednesday's paper on the barley question was written by Robert Sproatt, the miller.

Will the experience of Mr. Riordan's junior organ with fads put any common sense into the managers of his senior organ? It is at present going the same road that the other went headlong.

The Woodstock Standard says that those who urge Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Charles Tupper to exceed their instructions, to the extent or negotiating an anti-British commercial treaty "talk nonsense." They do, and with an air of make-believe that is most entertaining.

The Globe yesterday aped The Mail to the extens of threatening a disruption of the Dominion unless the Province of Quebec shall return a majority to its taste. The impotency and imbecility of such threats do not palliate their wickedness, because they are made for party purposes by defeated and desperate men who pose before the outer world as mouthpieces of Canadian opinion. The gang must be taught that any attempt to implement such threats would be promptly and vigorously stamped out.

Hon. No Brother John.

Editor World: In your Hamilton despatch of Thursday it is stated that "a man giving his name as John Chambers and saying that he was a brother of a railway conductor on the Grand Trunk who ran east from Toronto, swindled Messrs. W. P. Giles & Co. out of $40.45 by means of a forged check." As I am the only conductor of that name running east from Toronto, and as I have no brother "John," you would much oblige by making the above explanation.

JOHN CHAMBERS, G.T.R. Conductor.

The Reeve of Markham and C.U.

Editor World: In seconding the Commercial Union resolution in the County Council, the Reeve of Markham is reported in The Globe as stating that the N.P. had demoralized society, arrayed class against class, and caused rings and combinations to be formed for the purpose of fleecing the farmer, and that no trade or calling was free from the imputation. Now it would be interesting to know if this good old honest miller includes himself in the above indictment. I think the language of our worthy reeve rather strong on that occasion. I think the mass of the people of his constituency will compare favorably with a like number of people of any other country. If the N.P. has demoralized the people of this country, how much more has protection the people of the United States, the country to which politicians of our reeve's kind are disposed to look. I would respectfully request our reeve to point out a single combination of traders or manufacturers in Markham who are fleecing the farmers. The charge is utterly groundless and an insult to the good people of Markham township, who no doubt will remember the imputation next January and elect no man who cries down our country and charges her people with dishonesty. As an elector of the County of York, I protest most emphatically against the Council wasting the people's money in discussing a question beyond their control.

YORK.
Markham, Nov. 22.

National Bank Notes.

Editor World: After reading your timely article on the ever interesting subject of the circulating medium, perhaps a brief review of the history and effects of the American National Bank system may be in order. Originally devised as a war measure to create a home demand for Government bonds, it was a great success from that point of view. Another idea was to make as many persons and places as possible directly interested in national unity. But the greatest object was to supply a safe currency which would circulate without discount throughout the length and breadth of the United States.

The original modus operandi of the formation of these banks (it may have altered since) was for any number of persons to buy any amount of United States bonds at the market price of the day and any amount not less than $100,000 nor more than $500,000 and deposit them in the United States Treasury Department with a petition for banking powers. Thereupon the Secretary of the Treasury enrolled the corporators as, say "Sixth National Bank of Providence" or somewhere. The secretary also caused to be prepared notes bearing the name of the bank and of such denominations as requested in the proportion of $90,000 for every $100,000 of bonds deposited. The difference was intended to cover any likely difference between the value of the notes and bonds and in all cases has proved ample.

The bonds deposited now serve a double purpose. First as a security to the note-holders, for which purpose they are held by the Government, and the interest on them is a source of revenue to the bank. The bank also derives revenue from the loan of its currency to the public.

The effect of these institutions has been beneficial to the public in that they have given a safe circulating medium and by reducing the rate of interest on the public debt, they have lightened the burden of taxpayers. So far the system works well, but a serious defect is its want of flexibility as compared with ours. It will be understood that at the season of the crop movement currency is scattered all over the country, depleting the centres of trade, causing in them financial stringency which recacts over the country until the inflow of currency to the centres restores the equilibrium.

The problem is to find a method that will reconcile safety and elasticity.

As matter of fact the great times of failure on this continent are between October and December, when the crops have to be moved, and between March and May, when it is known how operations have panned out.

MERCHANT.

An Answer to Mr. Harris.

Editor World: When reading Mr. Harris' letter in The Mail of Nov. 21, I was struck with what appeared to me to be the weak arguments he used in favor of Commercial Union. He goes on to say that Mr. Chamberlain thinks that C.U. would create a breach between the Mother Country and Canada, and then says: "But sober sound thought must convince him that instead of any such result following, the effect will be to cement the bonds between us and the parent state by the removal of those causes tending to weaken and endanger the connection." Now, Mr. Editor, I must admit that I fail to see the force of such an argument. What, pray, are the causes existing between Canada and the Mother Country, so fraught with deadly peril to both and which C.U. would obviate? Would the diversion of our trade with Great Britain to the U.S. be likely to cause the former to entertain friendlier feelings towards Canada than at present? It seems to me it is synonomous with taking your custom from one grocer and by giving it to another expect the former to bubble over with gratitude and swear undying friendship for your doing so. Then Mr. Harris speaks about "free trade, free fish, free products and free interchange generally." It strikes me in the event of such a calamity as C. U. there would be too much freedom regarding our fishing industries, and the consequences would be that our avaricious neighbors would cause our fishing grounds to become as worthless as their own on account of their violation of the fishery laws by over fishing and fishing out of season. He then speaks of the abolition of custom houses, saying that we would save nearly twelve millions of dollars, five of which are now paid by us in order to get our merchandize into their markets, and the other seven millions are also paid by us on articles from the United States. Is it not somewhat singular that we should be the parties to pay both for imports and exports? Verily it is a case of "heads I win and tails you lose" for Uncle Sam according to Mr. Harris' way of looking at it, no matter whether Canada buys or sells. I fail to see, however, wherein matters would be changed one iota by C.U. Do we not now get as much for what we export to the United States as if C.U. existed? Simply because we have no market there for anything other than what they cannot produce, on account of which the market is not already flooded by their own manufacturers. Then as to the seven millions of revenue we receive from imports, which, is claimed, comes out of our pockets, but which goes into our national exchequer and consequently supports our governments. That makes the difference whether that seven millions goes to Ottawa in that way or gets there through direct taxation upon the citizens of this country. The Government has to be supported and until we have a surplus like the United States we can ill afford to do away with the revenue derived from this or any other legitimate source. The United States with its sixty millions of people and proportionate facilities, with a wealthy government, made so by a vigorous protession, may well afford to throw open its doors to its diminative neighbor, but the strong protective policy of all political parties on the other side goes to show that were we anything more than a midget in the manufacturing arena C.U. would receive a very different reception from our American cousins. They are scarcely the people that we can expect to receive a big bonanza from on.

"MAJOR-STREET."

The Quebec Conference.

Editor World: I observe some remarks lately made suggesting that when at the late Quebec inter-provincial conference the subject of the tariff was discussed in connection with the resolution stating the advisability of restricted reciprocity with the States, the various provincial officials there assembled were interfering in matters with which they had no concern—and that, in fact, they had obtained their elections, in considerable part, by the votes of persons who believed these officials would have taken no such action.

This is a mistake. What was stated and understood was that they had no power to legislate on the subject. But as no one has ever suggested that they should be deprived of the right to vote, or to state their reason for voting for members charged with these affairs, so no one would conceive it desirable that, met to consider the means of improving the welfare of their various provinces, they should have remained silent on a matter of the greatest importance to them all. They would rather, it seems to me, have acted unfairly by their provinces if, believing a certain measure to promise them great advantages, believing the expression of their joint opinion would assist in obtaining that measure, and knowing they had full right to express it, they should have refrained from its expression.

I do not remember, since Confederation, a more clear, judicial and fair than the list of resolutions passed at the conference. These are by no means violent or partisan, but simply recapitulate facts which are undeniable. It is, indeed, noticeable that very slightly, if any, attempt at confutation has been made by opposition papers, many of which would have at once brought forward statements in contradiction, had such been at all producible. The resolutions say, as such should, what we ourselves in Ontario think. It is beyond a doubt, as they state that the Federal Government has frequently attempted to usurp powers which belonged to the Provincial Governments. The frequent and successive cases in which this was proved before the English courts, by the continuous verdicts given in favor of the Provincial Governments which had resisted, have placed the facts beyond question in the mind of all.

Neither is there any doubt as to the fact, prominently stated in the resolutions, that independence of thought—such as the public schools and universities exhibit—manhood suffrage, complete self-government and the absence of the rigid class distinctions which exist in older countries. All these have an important bearing on the present and future of the Church, both in regard to its general dogmatic principles, its liturgical worship, and the manner in which the pastor conducts his personal dealings with his people. Mr. Frost proceeded to show that greater activity and earnestness was required in the Episcopal Church in this country if it was to make further progress or even hold her own. He was rather severe on the press for publishing clap-trap sensational sermons in preference to sound gospel addresses, and added that for every column you see devoted to reports of the Church of England Synod, you find a dozen devoted to Presbyterian Assemblies, Methodist Conferences, Baptist Conventions or Congregational Unions. What the Church wanted was capable, earnest men in the pulpit, and not made-to-order, cut-and-dried, self-satisfied pharisees, who, in week days, are of the earth earthly, and on Sundays are of the church churchy. The essay was well received.

Mr. H. Skey and Mr. McGregor McCann took the affirmative side of the debate, and Mr. C. C. Owen and Mr. F. H. Falt, the negative. The arguments on each side were capitally sustained. Mr. Skey devoted his attention to proving that Roman Catholicism was ever aggressive, well organized and persistent, and left nothing undone to further its ends. He instanced the case of Lower Canada where Romanism predominated and worked assiduously to drive Protestantism out of the province. In the Scotch settlement of Glengarry they were able so but for the lack of help and weak stomach, but he is on the track all the time. Following is the 12 o'clock score: Littlewood, 439 miles; Albert, 417; Panchot, 400; Noremac, 376; Elson, 350.

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A YOUNG WIFE LED ASTRAY.

Fashionable Circles in Montreal Agitated Over a Great Scandal.

MONTREAL, Nov. 24.—Fashionable circles in Montreal are greatly agitated over a scandal that affects one of the leading members. Prof. Prume has long been known as one of the most talented of Canadian musicians, and he moves in the best French Canadian society here. Four years ago he was united in marriage to one of the reigning French Canadian belles, Miss Martelle, who also belongs to a well-known musical family. She was beautiful and accomplished. A musician herself of considerable promise, she desired to finish her education, and to do so her husband desired to take her to Paris and have her instructed under the best masters. Prof. Prume and his wife took up fashionable quarters in Paris, and soon became favorites in society. The beauty of the bride, who was hardly over 20, attracted many admirers. Among these was one Count De Vechi, a man of leisure and wealth, who soon became assiduous in his attentions to her. For days he followed her in the streets of Paris, thinking how to obtain an introduction. At length he resolved upon a bold stroke, relying upon the young wife's innocence and trustfulness to assist him. On one of the boulevards of Paris he saw her Baker, were both Princeton men, and no disposition was shown on either side to kick at their decision. The contest was remarkable for hard and skilful work, but Yale had the best of it, and when time was called stood the winner. Score: Yale 17, Harvard 8.

Knockdowns on the Football Field.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—A large crowd were at the Polo Grounds this morning to see the match between the University of Pennsylvania and Wesleyean college teams. These contestants were tied for last place in the college tournament, and the game was rough and slugging was freely indulged in. In some cases actual knockdowns occurred. The score: University of Pennsylvania 4, Wesleyean 10.

Victory for the Ontario Team at Newark.

NEWARK, N.J., Nov. 24.—The Western Association of Ontario defeated an amalgamated 11 of the American Football Association here to-day by 5 to 0.

Sport's Trophy Belongs to the Torontos.

Sport this week says its trophy belongs to the Toronto Lacrosse Club, but that the world's championship is still undecided. "We have," continues Mr. Lowe's paper, "no further claim on the trophy and should a match or a series of matches be arranged next spring, it is entirely optional with the Toronto club to offer the trophy for competition."

Littlewood Ahead of the World's Record.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 24.—The management of the pedestrian match profited largely by the Thanksgiving holiday. Littlewood continues to do good work and to-night is ahead of the world's record. Albert and Panchot are also in excellent condition, Noremac is suffering considerably from a bad leg and weak stomach, but he is on the track all the time. Following is the 12 o'clock score: Littlewood, 439 miles; Albert, 417; Panchot, 400; Noremac, 376; Elson, 350.

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Fashionable Circles in Montreal Agitated Over a Great Scandal.

MONTREAL, Nov. 24.—Fashionable circles in Montreal are greatly agitated over a scandal that affects one of the leading members. Prof. Prume has long been known as one of the most talented of Canadian musicians, and he moves in the best French Canadian society here. Four years ago he was united in marriage to one of the reigning French Canadian belles, Miss Martelle, who also belongs to a well-known musical family. She was beautiful and accomplished. A musician herself of considerable promise, she desired to finish her education, and to do so her husband desired to take her to Paris and have her instructed under the best masters. Prof. Prume and his wife took up fashionable quarters in Paris, and soon became favorites in society. The beauty of the bride, who was hardly over 20, attracted many admirers. Among these was one Count De Vechi, a man of leisure and wealth, who soon became assiduous in his attentions to her. For days he followed her in the streets of Paris, thinking how to obtain an introduction. At length he resolved upon a bold stroke, relying upon the young wife's innocence and trustfulness to assist him. On one of the boulevards of Paris he saw