

his judgment beyond that of the professional critic. He is a cultivated man and a gracious one, and possesses what too many are lacking in, human sympathies. His library is just such a room as one could desire for him. There is a wide, hospitable fire-place, and a great brass coal scuttle stands reflectively at one side of it. The generous bookshelves have carved mountings about them and soft draperies dependent from glittering rods. There are several revolving cases, each holding treasures in hundreds of volumes, and a busy, learned-looking desk with piled manuscripts that give evidence of large interests. The chairs have depths that correspond to the thoughts one should think in them, and delightful bric-a-brac here and there engages the wandering eye.

Dr. Bourinot's greeting was so kindly and unaffected and his interest so evidently sincere that I cannot but express my sense of gratitude for it. There is a mistaken idea prevalent that he is a French-Canadian. True, he is of Huguenot descent and a native of Cape Breton, but his father was an Englishman and came from one of the Channel Islands to that other in Acadia, where his old home still stands facing the rocks and the sea. I was surprised to learn, when I questioned him concerning his leisure for original work, that much of it is prepared in his seat at the table in the Commons. "They all have opportunity to leave but myself," he said laughingly, "even the Premier can be spared; but I, I go on forever."

"And is it possible that you can work in the midst of such—such mental perturbations?"

"Oh, yes, I know all about them, I assure you, but it is a relief to keep my attention divided." I agreed with him, for I acknowledge that of late I have taken a book to the gallery for reference during weary "between whiles." And indeed it is no secret that the alert Sir Richard himself always has a new novel on his desk, and that his papers sometimes lie under it. Many people came in to consult Dr. Bourinot while I sat luxuriously in his big chair, and I saw how varied were his duties; and even in the stroll home to the hotel through the still softly-falling rain, and the animated crowds on Sparks street who did not heed it, an old man followed to whose solicitations the Doctor gave kindly attention.—"Pharos" in the *Globe*.

NECKAR ISLAND.

The fable of the race between the hare and the tortoise has recently been exemplified by the race for Neckar Island, 400 miles from Hawaii. It appears orders were sent to the British cruiser to establish a station on Neckar Island upon which to land the Pacific cable. The Hawaiian Government getting wind of the instructions sent a swift launch to forestall it, and when the cruiser arrived they found a young Hawaiian in charge. This is likely to prove a fit subject for the Conference to tackle. What has Sanford Fleming been thinking of all this time? He should have realized there is a boom on islands in the Pacific, and to be bluffed by the successor to Liliokilanni is *infra dig*. If a title a day old is worth anything, a title a century old should be worth more. Was it not Captain Cook who planted the British flag in Honolulu? Honolulu is undoubtedly the proper place for the cable to land if satisfactory arrangements can be effected.—*Vivandier*.

PUBLIC OPINION.

London Advertiser: General Manager Walker, of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, in his recent annual address to the shareholders, pointed out that the great dairy interests of the Province had practically saved the country from serious financial stringency. That is a fact. Times have been hard. Trade has been dull. Work has been hard to get. But the troubles of employers and employed, of farmers and of citizens, would have been vastly augmented if we were without our great cheese industry.

Regina Leader: Demand from England for Canadian flour is unusually active, indicating that John Bull is beginning to look out for his future bread supply. During the past year the expression "As good as the wheat" almost lost its original meaning, owing to the extremely low price of the cereal. North-west farmers will be pleased to hear of the advance in price, and the present prospects are that, while it may not go as high as in 1888, it will reach a mark which will leave a fair profit after deducting the cost of production. At any rate, North-west wheat will command the highest price in the market.

Halifax Chronicle: There is a silver edging to the cloud of commercial depression which hangs over the country—the reports of crop prospects, notwithstanding the cold and backward spring, are of a highly satisfactory character, so far as the crop situation can be gauged at the present time. The hay crop, especially on good and well cultivated farms, promises to be very heavy. And if blossom signs are not deceptive there will be a large fruit crop in Nova Scotia this year. Already we note that bankers and business men in the west, in referring to the generally excellent crop prospects, do not fail to point out how much Canada's prosperity depends upon the prosperity of our farmers and the successful prosecution of the various branches of our agricultural industry.

Manitoba Free Press: The death of Archbishop Tache removes the most prominent survivor of a fast dwindling group of men whose names are inseparably associated with the history of the North-west in the latter half of the century. To his clergy and those of his religion more intimately associated with him his loss will be mourned as a personal bereavement, and in a hundred homes of poor unlettered half-breeds from York to the Mackenzie river as well as in those of more cultured friends far out of hearing of the bells of St. Boniface the death of "Monseigneur" will be felt as that of an old and valued friend. The Archbishop was, if we may so express it, the father of the "old timers." The men whom he found here, from Fort Garry to Peace River, when as a young priest he selected the North-west as the field of his labours, have all passed away and many who were his later contemporaries had also preceded him on the last journey. That his popularity with all classes was due to his personal amiability will not be difficult to understand.

He who loves an enemy makes him a means of good.—*Carleton*.

Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.—*Franklin*.

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come from healthy mothers, and mothers will certainly be healthy if they'll take Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Nothing can equal it in building up a woman's strength, in regulating and assisting all her natural functions, and in putting in perfect order every part of the female system.

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DR. R. V. PIERCE: Dear Sir—I took your "Favorite Prescription" previous to confinement and never did so well in my life. It is only two weeks since my confinement and I am able to do my work. I feel stronger than I ever did in six weeks before.

Corda Culpepper

Buffalo has 40,000 Poles, living chiefly in a quarter of their own where English is little spoken, and many business signs are in Polish or Russian. The colonists retain many of their native characteristics and slowly conform to American ways. The colony is one of the largest foreign elements to be found in any American city of the third class.—*New York Sun*.

The "Great American Desert," which occupied a vast area on the maps of the time when school children were taught that perhaps sooner or latter lines of stage coaches would convey travellers from the Atlantic to the Pacific, has gradually dwindled. It was still formidable on the maps of thirty years ago, but now it is confined to an area of a few hundred square miles in Utah, west and southwest of Great Salt Lake.

To the *Financial Chronicle* the fact that the gold in the Bank of England is larger in amount now than ever before seems a circumstance very favorable to the coming business revival. The net increase of Great Britain's gold holdings in the last three years and four months was \$112,500,000. The Bank of England holds \$180,210,000 of gold and other English banks have also increased holdings. India is beginning to export its gold, and much comes from Australia and South Africa. The comparatively small demand for money for business in the United States causes the exportation of some of our gold. With a revival of business this gold will come back to us, and it is pleasant to know that there is plenty more where it comes from.—*Baltimore Sun*.

The "zone system" of passenger rates has been abandoned as a failure on the only railway in Great Britain on which it has been tried—the Cork and Blackrock. Passengers travelling over the whole route liked the plan because the fare was considered lower than it had been under the station to station system, but the short distance passengers objected loudly to paying the same as was charged those who travelled much farther and the company found that the increase in the number of passengers carried did not make up for the loss from the reductions in fare. The "zone" theory means charging as much for a short haul as for a long haul and involves a discrimination between passengers which in this country, at least, is not looked upon favorably.—*Railway Age*.

Minard's Liniment is the Best.