

The Toronto World, published every morning at five o'clock No. 4 King Street East. Terms: Five cents per copy. Single copies one cent. Sold on the streets and by newspapers in every city and town in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.

AN ENGLISH JOURNAL remarks with considerable force that if intendants were not so profitable to the sellers there would be less intemperance.

AT NIGHT TIME the Winnipeg repairs to a hand saw and buys town lots. He is not a friend of going out to a friend's house or attending prayer meeting. They talk about nothing but land and lots and acres.

MIDDLESEX (England) not long ago had an asylum for insane; now it has five, and a sixth is building. One authority says there is a significant increase in insanity, traceable directly to the excessive use of alcohol.

OUR INDUSTRIAL FAIR is a splendid success, creditable alike to the numerous exhibitors and the city under whose auspices it is held. The attendance is large, and exhibitors are free in their expressions of satisfaction both with the display and the treatment they receive in the city.

SENATOR BURNHIDE died at Providence, R. I., yesterday. He was born in Indiana in 1824, and graduated at West Point in 1847. He entered the army in 1861, and after Bull Run became a brigadier. He was not a successful general. In 1867 he was governor of Rhode Island, and since 1876 he has represented the little state in the U.S. senate.

THE AMERICAN PAPERS continue to pay wonderful attention to our great Northwest. A Chicago Tribune correspondent, in writing from Winnipeg, speaks of the gigantic enterprise of that city, the fertility of the province and the country west of Manitoba, and the push which characterizes the construction of the Canada Pacific. The illimitable wheat fields of Canada produce no small potatoes.

THE TOWN OF BRANDON is an illustration of the remarkable speed with which towns spring up in the Northwest. Just three months after its first building was begun it possessed five hotels, three lumber yards, and thirty-seven stores of various kinds, and has a regular ten-minute ferry on the Assiniboine. Such events as this are sufficient answers to those cynics who strive to belittle the Northwest and its future.

GAMBLING HOUSES are flourishing in Toronto, and are more numerous this week than ever. The Toronto police force will well dressed, disciplined to death, and ready to enforce city by-laws and give information to strangers. But in rooting out irregular houses, gambling and worse, it is unequal to the task. The chief and his detectives must know the presence of these gambling houses, both the old-established and the mushroom ones for the fair work; if they know of them, they should enforce the law and close them up; if they do not know of them, then they are incompetent to fill their posts.

IT IS A QUESTION whether a little of the American system of election of office would do some of our public servants good. Quite a number of Canadians, who would never think of electing their judges, would be quite willing to vote for sheriffs, municipal officers and the like. The prospect of another going into the office as soon as the term expires makes the present holder careful of his acts and mindful to leave everything in good shape. The audit that is secured under a frequent change of officers is also superior to our system. Besides, under the elective system the salaries paid are considerably lower than those which prevail here. The subject is worth discussing.

loss of provincial autonomy: The World would preserve our provincial autonomy, but would reluctantly cut off all extravagances, dead branches, extravagances, and irregular outlays. If it is necessary to have a governor, why, have one, but do not burden the provinces with finding him a house at a cost of over \$25,000 a year; wipe out the cocked hat, the opening of the legis lature with gunpowder, mounted body guards, and salutes; cut down the number of members and their indemnities; hold bi-ennial sessions if needs be; consolidate the departments; insist on the municipalities doing much that the province now assumes; give no more aid to railways through settled parts; and in a hundred other directions favor economy with increased efficiency. But all the time insist on local self-government. The people will never surrender it, and the News advise it.

THE ONE USE OF THE SUPPLIES. It is stated that the government intends giving notice to holders of five per cent. Dominion stock that such stock will be paid off at the expiration of twelve months, the amount being about \$5,000,000. This use of the surplus is commendable, and we trust that the government will continue it. The public debt has increased enormously since the confederation of the provinces, and at present the interest on it consumes one-third of our yearly revenue. This would under any circumstances be a heavy drain on our resources, but it is especially heavy for the reason that the money borrowed has been used in the construction of unproductive public works. The government has been undertaking obligations far in advance of the country's commercial needs. Our canal and railway enterprises are too vast a scale, and instead of helping our progress they are retarding it. Our St. Lawrence and Welland canal systems and our Intercolonial and Pacific railways will not for many years yield a return for the investment.

While the United States was content to keep its expenditure for public works within the limits of the yearly revenue, or nearly so, Canada has been going it slapdash like a spendthrift. We have in consequence a burden of debt on our shoulders now equal to \$38 per head of the population and further engagements to which we are pledged will make it \$46 per head. The public debt of the United States—nearly the whole of which was incurred by the civil war—is only \$40 per head, and it is being steadily reduced. The secretary of the treasury reports for the last financial year a surplus of \$104,000,000, or twenty times more than the surplus our finance minister reports. This large sum does not lead our neighbors into fresh extravagances; they are applying it judiciously to the reduction of the debt.

This is a lesson for us. If we are to keep pace with our neighbors and infuse life and energy into our own people, we must aim to lighten the national burden. The debt must be paid off as fast as our revenue will allow of it, the drain of gold to England for the payment of interest must cease, and new enterprises must be confined to our necessities and capabilities. Now is the time for government to put on the brakes. It could not do a worse thing for the country than to set an example of extravagance in a period of inflation.

THE FUTURE OF CANADA.

What English Statesmen Have Said on the Subject—Gladstone's View.

In 1828 Mr. Huskisson, then colonial secretary, said: "He thought at the time had come for the separation of Canada from the mother country, and her assumption of an independent state." Mr. Cobden, in his letter to Sumner: "I can assure you that there will be no repetition of the policy of 1776 on our part to prevent our North American colonies from pursuing their interests in their own way."

Lord Brougham: "He was one of those who desired a separation of Canada from the mother country. The idea was not novel; it had been entertained and pressed by many eminent men. It was the opinion shared by Lord Ashburton and Lord St. Vincent."

The late Lord Derby, in 1864: "We know that these countries must before long become independent states." Mr. Gladstone, in 1870: "When we see a country like the United States, that live of immense human energy, extending itself continually over that vast continent, we should think it impossible to justify the guarantee for the Intercolonial railway, except on the condition that England should be free from the responsibility of the debt part of the price England paid for being relieved of obligations to protect Canada by military force."

Mr. Lowe: "That it was perfectly open to her (Canada) to establish herself as an independent republic; it is our duty to represent to her that, after well weighed consideration, she thinks it would be for her interest to join the great American republic itself, it is her duty to deliberate for her own interest and happiness."

Lord Grey, in 1870: "The principle laid down must necessarily lead to a dissolution of our colonial empire." Earl Russell: "If I should ever be their wish to separate from this country, and they showed their anxiety to either to form themselves into an independent state, or even to amalgamate with the United States, he did not think it wise to resist that desire."

Mr. Forster, present secretary of state for Ireland, one of the few advocates of a closer union between England and her colonies, has declared that "the common belief was that the colonies must some day become independent, and this common idea he feared would become one of those which realize themselves."

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