

A TIMELY SUGGESTION.—Sometimes we are tempted to think that it is a pity that there is not a larger leisure class among us—that is a class of people who, while well stored with energy, can yet afford to devote their time and surplus money to philanthropic work. We need schools for the training of servants, technical schools for young people, and well-taught handicrafts for those who work at home. In Ireland, where distress is at all times prevalent, Lady Aberdeen and the Duchess of Aberdeen have revived the industry of pillow lace-making, and hundreds of women have obtained employment for the winter by weaving the delicate lace, for which the two ladies provide a market. It is well sometimes to stop and question ourselves as to whether we too cannot benefit some of our Provincial work-women by giving them some employment suited to their capabilities.

THE MAYORSHIP OF TORONTO.—The city of Toronto, after struggling on with Mayors good and Mayors indifferent, has concluded to revise the city constitution, and give to the Mayorality such a distinguished position that the best class of citizens will seek for the office. The present idea is to elect a Mayor who will have no seat in the council, but who will be the head of an executive with control of the administration, and who will also be allowed to veto any legislation of the council. In this way the Mayor would be removed from the annoyance of the ward politician, and would be at leisure to attend to the affairs of the city. The position would be one of honor and trust, and would not be distasteful to men of the best classes. Some years ago when the city of Brooklyn found it impossible to separate the Mayor from the corruption of her City Council, she adopted this remedy with success, and Toronto is prepared to solve her problem by a similar method.

A PATRIOTIC IDEA.—An excellent suggestion made at a recent meeting of the Historical Society should receive the careful consideration of our educational authorities. Our young Provincialists are growing up to manhood and womanhood in ignorance of the true inward history of their country and their countrymen. The text books of Canadian history deal with great public events, but little information is given concerning the men whose influence was so greatly felt in matters political or social. There is still another class of Provincialists whose lives cannot fail to stir patriotism and to rouse the spark of manhood in the breasts of our young people—we refer to the band of heroes who have distinguished themselves by land and sea in the service of Her Majesty, and whose names are precious heirlooms ever reflecting glory on their native land. Short sketches of the lives of such men appended to the reading books of our public schools would be most valuable, both for the information and the incentive which they afford. We trust that an early effort will be made to follow up the suggestion, and that the Historical Society will give any help in its power towards the providing of this much-needed addition to our schoolbook literature.

A LEGAL SENSATION!—The announcement that Lord Lansdowne wishes to abolish trial by jury in India has made a great stir in the legal world. The jury system is clasified in most British minds with personal and political freedom, and its proposed abolition in a portion of Her Majesty's realm seems a blow at the liberty of the subjects concerned. The official figures published in the *Times* on the decisions of Anglo-Indian juries strangely enough point to the fact that the verdicts of Indian juries are, as a rule, more in accord with justice than are the decisions of juries in Great Britain. A special regulation provides that in cases where the Judge is dissatisfied with the decision of the jury the case may be referred to the Court of Criminal Appeal, and statistics prove, that out of 700 cases the Judges have only appealed to the higher court in 8.8 per cent of the cases, and that in 4.8 per cent of the decisions the verdict of the Indian jury was upheld. The wonder is that any jury in its random make-up should register so high a number of acknowledged just and intelligent verdicts. Mr. Gladstone is a proven friend of the trial-by-jury system, as his policy with the restored Irish juries attests, and it is hoped that he will stoutly resist any effort to tamper with the liberty of freeborn British subjects.

MAY VANCOUVER GET IT.—As this is the day of electric telegraphing and cable laying it is not with a surprised shock that we hear of the new Canadian-Australian cable. An agreement has been made between *La Societe des Telegraphes Laumarens* and the capital city of Queensland, Brisbane, to connect the said city by cable with New Caledonia, Fiji, Samoa, the Sandwich Islands and Vancouver; and the first portion of the line, that between Brisbane and New Caledonia, is guaranteed to be completed by May of this year. The French company who have undertaken the contract are well-known. Their works at Calais are said to turn out seventeen miles of submarine cable daily, and the company is well experienced in the art of cable laying. The soundings have already been taken and a cable bed marked out. Few natural difficulties present themselves, except the very serious one of the possibility of sub-marine volcanoes along the chosen route, for volcanoes have not only broken former cables, but during eruptions they have even been known to boil them. France is to guarantee \$40,000 a year for thirty years towards the cable, New South Wales and Queensland contribute \$20,000 per year for the same time, and the Sandwich Islands are pledged to \$25,000 a year for fifteen years. It does not yet appear as to what terms will be stipulated before Vancouver claims the terminus, but we may rest assured that, for such a valuable article as the end of an ocean cord, there will be a good amount to pay over. San Francisco is ready and eager to become the line terminus, and will gladly pay for the privilege, but we trust that Vancouver will in the end carry the day.

LABOR TROUBLES IN EUROPE.—The strike of the English cotton-spinners still continues, although hard times are beginning to be felt in many humble homes. There is a general feeling of unrest among the workmen of Europe, which in Germany has culminated in an organized strike of the miners. The Saar district has already been the scene of no little violence, and anarchist doctrines are openly proclaimed by both men and women. On the morning of January fourth the strikers raided the houses of the non-strikers, and murderously attacked a priest who endeavored to allay their violence. Although the two leaders of the strike have been arrested, four new men have been elected to their places, and the utmost support is assured to them. The laborers demand a slight increase in pay and a small decrease in the hours, and state that they will compel the Government to grant the request. It is thought, however, by competent judges that the affair will speedily end in the defeat of the strikers, who cannot afford to hold out for a long siege.

GENERAL BUTLER.—The great Generals of the late American war are becoming few and far between, and the recently announced death of General Butler depletes the already thinning ranks of one more well-known soldier. General Butler began life, as a typical American should, in a little country village in New Hampshire, where his widowed mother supplemented her limited means by keeping boarders, and struggled to educate her little family. The youngest son, afterwards so famous, was puny and fretful as a child, and very dependent both on the mother and on the stout elder brother, who boasted the proud name of Andrew Jackson, and who fought all the battles of little Benjamin's childhood. Both pluck and perseverance were, however, needed before the young man was called to the bar, and even in his earliest days in the courts, he seems to have been singularly fortunate. Long before the war Butler was in the political field, winning his first election on a purely philanthropic issue. After serving for three sessions in the House and Senate he aimed for the Governorship of Massachusetts as the nominee of the Democratic party, when he polled a magnificent vote of 50,000. When the next election came around the political pendulum had swayed, and he was defeated with a showing of only 6,000 votes. His services during the Southern war were most signal—his captures of New Orleans and of Baton Rouge being especially brilliant. General Grant attributed much of his own success to the steady, well-conceived working of his fellow-in-arms. After the close of the war the General made many attempts to secure a gubernatorial seat as a Republican candidate, but it was not until 1882 that he was again awarded the Chief Magistracy of Massachusetts—an election which he won by posing as an Independent politician. Perhaps the distinction of which he was the proudest was that in 1884 he was nominated as the Labor candidate for the Presidency of the United States. Little is known of his personal character, for he succeeded unintentionally in arousing the bitter hatred of most Southerners, who have unceasingly villified him, while the Northern Democrats, indignant at his change of political faith, have widely denounced him, and the Republican party who refused to elect him as Governor resented his formation of an Independent party. His life has, however, been a most energetic one, and in many respects his aims have been most praiseworthy.

A DOUBTFUL POLICY!—The people of the United States, dwelling on the Eastern seaboard, are thoroughly afraid of cholera arriving on the passenger steamers from Europe, and at present they are endeavoring to impress upon the dwellers in the Western portion of the Republic the fact that immigrants are no longer necessary for the welfare of the country. The idea seems to be, that by keeping out "alien tourists and immigrants," the immunity of the people from cholera will be secured. Grave objections can, however, be made to this arbitrary policy of shutting out immigrants, many of whom are of a most worthy class. The Republic owes much to the immigrant class, who have built up large cities and reclaimed much valuable territory. In the long run they do not compete unfairly in the labor market, for within the bounds of a generation they become genuine Americans, and their children's children may often be found in the front ranks of successful business or professional men. There are no simon-pure Americans, as there are genuine Englishmen or Frenchmen. At best the people are a conglomerate lot, descended from every nation under the sun, and it savors too much of the ignorant *nouveau riche* to see the descendants of settlers who came out a couple of generations ago looking askance at the "vulgar herd," who are following the example set by the forefathers of the present generation. Settlers may not be needed on the Eastern seaboard, although the deserted farms of the New England States make a silent protest, but there is a vigorous demand for pioneers in the West, railroad builders in the South, and for miners and lumbermen in the North. Another most important fact, which has been overlooked by the opponents of immigration is, that a large proportion of the immigrants have relatives and friends already in the United States who have secured prospective work for their old-time comrades, and who in many cases have purchased the steerage ticket which has enabled the immigrant to begin his journey. This large foreign element will be seriously antagonized if their friends and relatives are shut out from the Republic. Meanwhile the strangers are flocking to Halifax. A little persuasion and attention would keep many of them on this side of the border line; and since we run the at present slight risk of infection, we might profit by enriching our country with a much-needed class of citizens. The present position of Canada in acting as a cat's paw to the American Republic—the immigrants representing the chestnuts in question—is scarcely dignified, and we would much prefer enjoying the chestnuts ourselves to nursing our perhaps scorched paws while the United States welcomes the immigrants whom she has been at no pains to secure.

Your best chance to be cured of Indigestion
Is by Trying K. D. C.

K. D. C. Relieves and Cures.
K. D. C. quickly relieves and positively Cures Indigestion.