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God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.
—[BROWNING.

London, Saturday, July 30.

FEW people will find comfort in the fact that the cells in the county jail are the coolest retreats to be found in the city these days. The record of the thermometer, nevertheless, establishes this fact.

THE British consul at Baltimore recommends his fellow-countrymen, who may desire to immigrate to go to Maryland and Virginia for homes, instead of to the West. This is scarcely doing the fair thing by Canada.

IN THE whole of Hamilton the private subscription in aid of the St. Johns, Nfld., sufferers is only $87! Londoners subscribed that amount many times over, thanks, in some degree, to Mayor Spencer's persistent efforts. Why, one firm have subscribed $250.

The Canadian Evangelist, a paper published in the interests of the denomination known as the Disciples, claims that the numbers of its people have been misrepresented by the census. It makes this serious allegation: "We hear that in some quarters the census takers refused to enroll our brethren as Disciples, but enrolled them under some other head." The faith of the people in the correctness of the census is being constantly shocked these days.

WHAT a burlesque on decency and common sense it is for a man to make speeches in favor of British connection and then go down to Ottawa and defend and advocate the vilest features of American politics—features that all clean Americans are ashamed of!—[Canada Presbyterian.

Yes, the men who are the readiest to defend the London outrage are the loudest in their praise of English institutions. As if the theft of a seat in Parliament, with the connivance of a judge, were a practice that would be tolerated for a day in Great Britain!

HON. EDWARD BLAKE modestly desires to keep in the background in Great Britain as much as possible. He wisely refuses to be regarded as a Parliamentary leader, but the eminence he has already obtained influences his many admirers to bring him to the front. The Eighty Club have demanded that he address them on Thursday evening next, when he will be entertained at a banquet, and on Monday week he will be the chief speaker at the home rule union meeting, when he will address himself more especially to the good effects of local self-government in Canada. Mr. Blake's many friends in Canada will be glad to hear that he has arrived in London in the best of health and spirits.

ECCENTRICITIES OF THE CENSUS.

Dominion Census Bulletin, No. 12, which has just come to hand, deals with manufacturing establishments by cities, towns and villages separately. The following are the returns for London (municipality):

	1881.	1891.
Number of establishments	371	804
Capital invested	$4,650,784	$6,132,193
Number of hands	4,917	6,045
Wages paid	$1,511,723	$1,847,353
Cost of material used	4,653,382	3,969,565
Value at factory of products	8,660,627	8,235,207

This would be regarded as a satisfactory exhibit so far as increase of factories is concerned if it could be guaranteed as reliable, but grave doubts must be entertained as to the value of the alleged count. It must not be forgotten that one-third of what is now London city was not contained within the corporation limits in 1881. That would account for a good deal of the alleged increase. But any one who has lived here during the past fifteen years and can size up the surroundings can judge for himself of the probable truthfulness of the statement. It would almost appear as if every corner grocery were included under the head of "manufactory."

Doubts are thrown on the count for St. Thomas, Brockville, Barrie and other places, and the Montreal Herald does not hesitate to challenge the accuracy of the general statement regarding the Province of Quebec. In Barrie, for example, the population increased in the decade from 4,854 to 5,550, or 15 per cent., but the manufacturing establishments are shown to have increased from 77 to 139, or 60 per cent., and the number of hands employed from 355 to 551, or 52⅓ per cent. This is, as was no doubt intended, a famous showing for the N. P. But people on the spot, and in a town of that size it does not take long to count over the establishments, say that not a single new industry has been started in the past ten years, while several have ceased to exist. The number of hands employed in anything in the nature of manufacture, it is declared, will scarcely [illegible] 50.

[illegible] has increased in population from 7,609 to 8,793, or 15 per cent., but its manufacturing establishments are said to have increased 77½ per cent., and the hands employed 45 per cent. The number of hands now employed in manufactures is stated to be 1,161, which certainly seems a very large proportion out of 8,793. The Recorder of that town would like to know where the 62 new industrial establishments are located. No one on the spot seems to know of them, and it very pertinently inquires "just what is included under the head of industrial establishments?"

The Montreal Herald, commenting on these remarkable discrepancies, says it is very curious to see this question answered. In Bulletin 10 it is stated: "An industrial establishment is a place where one or several persons are employed in manufacturing, altering, making up or changing from one shape into another, materials for sale, use or consumption." This is satisfactory so far as it goes; but how, pertinently asks the Herald, can we account for the fact that in the industrial census of Quebec Province there is no classification, excepting under the head of "all other industries," for the large number of 3,484 establishments employing 14,404 hands and using steam engines of 6,161 horse-power? One-eighth of the work people in Quebec Province engaged in nameless industries is the absurd deduction of the census compiler.

This is the conclusion of our contemporary:

"Some explanation on this head must be given if the commissioners are to escape a charge of cooking the figures in order to suit. The industial census was apparently taken in order to exalt the N. P., and to that end considerable latitude seems to have been allowed in the definition of an industrial establishment. It would be interesting to have a clear detail, say of Barrie or Brockville, showing exactly what establishments there are, and giving names to those places that are so far nameless, in order that the public may know whether barbers and lawyers and parsons and doctors are pressed in to swell up the number of those who follow the N. P. wherever he goeth."

This is a reasonable suggestion, and unless it is carried out the alleged census of manufactories will ever remain under suspicion.

THE POLICEMEN'S PETITION.

Some time since, the members of the city police force—as painstaking and efficient a body of men as is to be found in America—petitioned the police commissioners for a revision of their hours of duty. The men desire to give the taxpayers full value for the money they receive, but they have deemed it a hardship to have to be on duty for long hours at a stretch, summer and winter, without time for eating their meals, or for going to church on Sunday. They ask nothing unreasonable when they claim that the commissioners should apply a remedy, and place them on a footing at least equally favorable with that enjoyed by police officers in such cities as Hamilton and Toronto, where the condition of life are about equal to what they are here. The policeman does not expect, as we understand his request, that he shall be as free an agent as other civic employes, or that he shall be able to go to church regularly, but he does look to the commissioners for considerate treatment, and we are satisfied that he will not look in vain. The force has been improving in recent years, and the number of first-class men in the city's service has never been so large as it is now. The commissioners will not err if they make the lot of the policemen somewhat more tolerable than it is now, and they will have the indorsation of the taxpayers.

ANNEXATION OF LAKE ERIE.

Sir Edward Watkins' scheme to unite Ireland to Scotland by a tunnel passing under St. George's Channel, and to build a ship canal through the Emerald Isle as a means of reconciling the Irish to government by garrison, is so very ambitious that it nearly took one's breath away when first placed in cold cablegram form. But this enterprise of the distinguished railway magnate is as nothing compared with the proposal of a correspondent of the Monetary Times. "It is a known fact," he opens out, "that in the æons of ages past, before the upheaval that formed our present lakes and mountains, a mighty river and valley wended its way across from the States, where Lake Erie now is, through Dundas Valley to Lake Ontario. This valley has been traced by scientific geologists, and is earthy, not rocky." So far the writer has plain sailing, or rather, plain digging, though he should not bank too highly on the assumption that there are no rocks in the Dundas Valley. "The simple, natural proposition," he continues, "is to construct a large syphon, say ten feet in diameter, place one end in Lake Erie, the lower end at the head of the gorge, former valley, west of Dundas; then get the water flowing, and this great symphon current, with over 175 feet head or fall, will wear and carry away the loose, disintegrated soil, receding toward the fountain head at the rate of two and a half miles per month, and will eventually drain the lake, reclaim 14,000 square miles, or 9,000,000 acres of the finest alluvial land in the world, which can be at once valued at over $300,000,000. The removed debris of the new river channel will fill up the low parts of Dundas Valley and Hamilton Bay, and by proper guidance of the new stream along the south shore of the bay from Dundas, Hamilton will ever have a deep, noble, navigable river, where the lake commerce of the great Northwest world will pass its doors. Canal locks and unlimited electric power stations can be built at convenient points from where old Erie was, to Hamilton, that could be utilized by the M. C. R., G. T. R., C. P. R., and T., H. and B. Railway. Buffalo, Erie, Cleveland, Sandusky, Toledo, etc., would become inland cities, and their immense iron and other trades must of a necessity be removed to the water-front of Dundas and Hamilton valleys. Niagara Falls will then lose its wide-world prestige, and be a mere stripling continuation of Chippewa Creek, and the proposed Monument City at Queenston will be a misty myth of the past."

There is an enterprise for you! Beside it, the ship railway from Georgian Bay to Lake Ontario would be a mere toy and the enlarged Erie Canal a creek. Let the work proceed, and let the editor of the Dundas Banner be appointed master of navigation!

TOPICS OF TO-DAY.

At a ball given by the Governor of Natal on the Queen's birthday, his Excellency had all the debutantes, about eighteen in number, brought before him one by one after the first dance and kissed them all.

‡‡‡

Lord Salisbury, the British prime Minister, has never once visited the Queen at Balmoral since June, 1880, when he went there after Mr. Gladstone's resignation to kiss her Majesty's hand on being appointed Prime Minister. Lord Beaconsfield had a similar dislike of Balmoral, whibh he visited but once during his tenure of office.

‡‡‡

The French newspapers tell of a very interesting match that came off in France. Two women in good society challenged each other to talk fast. Each was to utter as many words as possible in a fixed time. Each woman talked three consecutive hours. One uttered 203,560 words. The other won the match with 296,000 words.

‡‡‡

Siberia signifies "thirsty." Sicily is "the country of grapes." Caledonia means "a high hill." Asia signifies "in the middle," from the fact that ancient geographers thought it between Europe and Africa. Italy signifies "a country of pitch," from its yielding great quantities of black pitch. Hibernia is "utmost" or "last habitation." Britain is "the country of tin," great quantities being found in it.

‡‡‡

A recently-discovered letter of Carlyle gives us the opinion of novels entertained by him in the year 1866. To a budding story-teller he wrote to suggest that she should "shove her own novel well aside for a good while or forever, and be shy even of reading novels. If she do read let it be good and wise books, which not one in 10,000 of the kind called 'novels' now is." And yet Carlyle was himself guilty of at least beginning to write a novel.

‡‡‡

A most valuable and important industrial discovery is that recently made by R. G. Guptell, a glass manufacturer of Anderson, Ind. He has rediscovered the lost art of casting glass pipes, which is claimed to have been carried on by the ancient Egyptians. Some capitalists have been interested in the invention, a factory has been erected at Pendleton, Ind., and last week the first castings were successfully made. The pipes are said to be cheaper than ever, as well as more durable and cleaner. They are suitable for sewers and for gas and water mains.

‡‡‡

Outing (New York) for August opens with the first installment of Wheelman Frank G. Lenz's description of a cycling tour around the world. The daring rider is at present somewhere on the broad Western plains, en route for the Pacific coast, and during his two-year jaunt he will traverse Japan, China, India, Persia, Turkey, Austria, Germany, Holland, France, England, Scotland and Ireland. Mr. Lenz will communicate his experience to Outing from convenient points of his journey, illustrating his articles by photos taken by himself. The opening chapter describes the trip across the Alleghanies from Pittsburg via Washington to New York, and is profusely illustrated.

‡‡‡

Copper-plating sheet zinc for building puposes has been tried with considerable success in Germany, the zinc combining well with the copper. The zinc is cleaned with soda and purified by a weak acid bath. In 24 parts of water 1 part of refined verdigris and 12 parts of cream of tartar are dissolved, and the mixture is heated to the boiling point, when 3 or 4 parts of Spanish white are added. The latter is decomposed and precipitated as lime tartrate. The dark-blue liquid, after filtering, can be used as a bath for the sheet zinc or for the production of copper-plating paste. An immovable zinc object can be painted with the copper solution and a chalk compound that can be brushed. The process is of value for architectural purposes when it is desired to remedy the unpleasant effects of zinc ornamentation.

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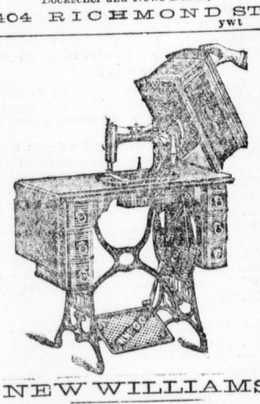

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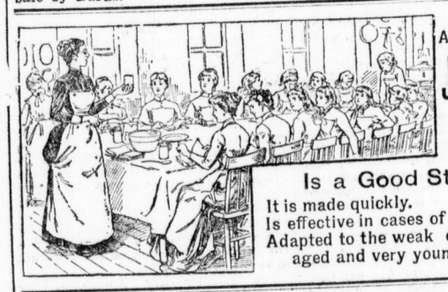

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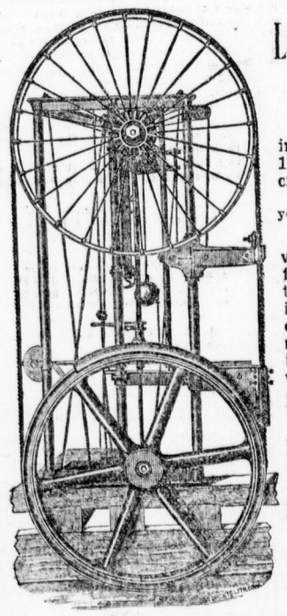

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