

A new and horrible device has been given to the world by a French officer. The new rifle is to be loaded, not with the ordinary charge, but with vitriol, and the faces of the advancing ranks are to be aimed at. The bravest soldier, innured to shot and shell, might well fly before the horrible liquid, and it is doubtful if discipline could be maintained on any field where the new rifle was introduced.

A very novel "Conference of Youth" is to be held at the World's Fair. Lads from the schools of all nations in the world are to be sent as delegates. Their ages are to range between 13 and 20 years, and a representation of from fifteen to fifty students is hoped for from each country. This congress is to be addressed by the leading educators of the age, and broadly interesting subjects are to be discussed. The credit of the idea of this interesting conference belongs to Francis Bellamy, the well-known author of "Looking Backward."

President Harrison will begin to take a deep interest in the planet Mars, now that the observers at the Lick University have seen the marks supposed to be canals on that planet. Also that all the main ones they have detected "are the duplications or germinations described by Schiaparelli," whatever that may mean. He should at once make a demand for the free use of these canals, under threat of retaliatory tolls in case the Marsians desire to utilize the United States canals in sending an exhibit to the World's Fair at Chicago. At least his retaliation in this case would be about as effective in coercing the Marsians as his increase of toll on the Soo Canal will be in coercing the Canadians.

If the Halifax Aldermen have sunk to a low position in the esteem of citizens they have only themselves to blame. The unseemly squabbles which have characterized some of their meetings, the compliments bandied about, the charges and counter-charges which members have hurled at each other at police and other investigations, have not had a tendency to gain respect for the Council as a deliberative body. There is plenty of good material in the present Council, and many of the members have proved themselves zealous in the discharge of their duties, and it seems a pity that a few members should be allowed to bring the Council into disrepute by their indulgence in bitter personalities.

Divorces in Nova Scotia have heretofore been obtained in our well constituted divorce court very quietly and without the publication of nauseating details which pander only to prurient curiosity and do undoubted harm. We therefore regret to note that one of our dailies has departed from the old course, and with the evident intention of being sensational, has published glaring head lines, calling attention to the most revolting features of the evidence in two recent cases before the divorce court. The special stress laid on the cheapness with which divorce can be obtained here is also unpleasant, reminding one too pointedly of the great advantages in that line possessed and boasted of by certain cities in the United States. Surely our contemporary does not begrudge them a monopoly in that line!

The cholera is making rapid strides westward, and one case has already resulted fatally in London. We note that Dr. Wickwire, the inspecting physician at Halifax, is already stirring himself to put our quarantine station in order, and that he states that a steamer is necessary to remove patients from infected ships to the hospital on Lawlor's Island. No false economy should be allowed to stand in the way of providing every facility to fight the dread disease, and we feel that the Government will at once provide all that the doctor may consider necessary. Our board of health should see that the city is placed in a perfect sanitary condition, and then with rigid quarantine we may rest in comparative security. Great preparations have been made in New York to repel the disease with every prospect of success, as the cholera should develop in three days after exposure to contagion, so that passengers to America from the infected districts would develop the disease before arrival on our shores. The disease having appeared, the steamer would be quarantined, and its spread on shore prevented. Old Jack Frost is a sure preventive of the disease, and if we can only keep it off for a month or two, all danger will be averted until the spring.

A nice constitutional question, which had been raised by the alleged refusal of the Queen to sanction the appointment of Labouchere as a member of the new ministry, has been shelved by Gladstone's letter assuming all responsibility for not asking the irrepressible editor of *Truth* to join his cabinet. The Radicals had made a vigorous attack on the Queen, assuming that Her Majesty had objected to "Lobby" on account of his hostility to all grants to members of the Royal family, but these charges have now been proved to have had no foundation in fact, and the Radicals will have to turn their guns on the Grand Old Man. Labouchere in *Truth* scolds as only he can, and seeks the "sweets of martyrdom." He strongly criticises the new ministry as not being in harmony with the democracy, and says that for the past ten years he has taken a leading part in opposing in Parliament Royal grants and in protesting against them. Henceforth it would be understood that members of Parliament or of the press who pursued such a course would do so at their peril. A meeting of Mr. Labouchere's constituents to condole with him on his exclusion from the cabinet was held in Northampton and ended in a row. The proceedings attest the drift of public opinion, and the Labouchere incident is destined to be soon forgotten, the truth being that Mr. Gladstone exercised a wise discretion in not taking such a disorganizer into his cabinet.

The Jelly Palace will be one of the most delectable paradises of the World's Fair. The palace, which, by the bye, is the property of the women of California, is to be made of wire. The entire framework will be covered with exhibits of jelly in glasses, globes, fancy moulds and prisms, and as the whole edifice will be brilliantly lighted by electricity, this display of golden, amber, crimson and grape-purple will be one of the most beautiful and unique on record.

The romance of the marriage of Louise, Dowager Duchess of Manchester, and the Duke of Devonshire has excited much interest on both sides of the Atlantic. The bride, who is now sixty years of age, was in her youth betrothed to the present bridegroom, then Lord Hartington. His lordship's apparent indifference led to the breaking off of the match and the marriage of the then Countess to his rival the Duke of Manchester. In forty years of bachelorhood he has done penance for his fault, and now in their declining years the two lovers are united.

The report of the Royal Society Committee on color-vision is a most interesting bit of reading. The statistics on color blindness have been very carefully compiled, and it is established that four per cent of the males in all civilized countries are to a greater or less degree incapable of discerning the difference between colors. Oddly enough the vivid color of red is found to be a difficult one to distinguish, and many accidents have occurred solely because the employees on marine and railway signal stations could not distinguish green from red. There are but few, however, who are blind to the color of blue. This defective color-vision is of two kinds, the congenital, which is incurable, or the non-congenital, caused by excessive use of tobacco. The committee recommends that a thorough color examination should be given to every applicant for a position in which signalling is to be used. The test would be in matching skeins of Berlin wool, an ordeal which the color-blind would certainly fail in. The report and its suggestions should be carefully considered by our railroad men.

The City of Halifax is remarkably free from crime, mainly because wrong-doers, as a rule, give it a wide berth, deterred by the well deserved reputation our detective and police force have earned in tracking down and arresting criminals. In a great shipping port, a garrison town, and the summer quarters of a large naval force, where numbers of men are often loosed from discipline and enjoy their leave in debauch, it is remarkable that such good order is maintained by the small police force under the control of City Marshal Cotter. Lately, however, the force is getting into disrepute, largely due, we believe, to the impossibility of maintaining discipline where the members of the force can rely on Aldermanic interference in their behalf. In the past, Aldermen, by their unlawful acts, or by their frequenting of resorts far from respectable, have placed themselves to a certain extent in the power of the police, and when one of the force has been reported for violation of the rules there were always friends at court to shield him. Of course this is not the case with any member of the present Council, but still there is an evident determination on the part of some of the Aldermen to shield a policeman against whom charges have been made. Whatever the cause the fact remains that incompetent men are retained on the force, and the only solution of the trouble is to give the Marshal free control over the men, with the power of appointment and removal. He could then be held strictly accountable; and if the force should prove inefficient his head should fall and a new chief be appointed.

Competition is the soul of trade, and to the keen competition which now exists in the steamship traffic between Nova Scotia and Boston, the large influx of tourists to our Province is largely due. The Canada Atlantic, the North Atlantic and the Yarmouth Lines have advertised the unsurpassed attractions of the country, both in climate and scenery, as a summer resort, and as a result tourists have found their way to all parts of the Province, and hotels and boarding houses have been filled to overflowing. The enterprise of the steamship companies has resulted in their doing a large, and we hope, profitable business. But if the returns should prove small this year through the increased expense in advertising, they have set the ball rolling, and each succeeding year will see a large increase in their passenger traffic and larger profits for their shareholders. The Windsor and Annapolis Railway has also advertised extensively and with rare good judgement, and as they have fulfilled all their promises and given a really luxurious train service they have done a large passenger business which is bound to increase. While private enterprise has done so much to attract tourists, the Intercolonial, the Government road, has curtailed its train service just as it should have increased it in order to participate in the rich harvest of summer travel. Their time-table, if it had been made with the deliberate intention of keeping tourists out of the country, could not have performed that purpose better than it has done, and local passenger traffic has been equally crippled. It has one of the finest road beds in the country, its local officials are efficient and popular, especially its conductors and train hands, it has in fact everything necessary to make it a favorite line of travel, excepting brains and enterprise in its direction from Ottawa. This want is made sadly manifest by the poor accommodation afforded the travelling public, and when we contrast private and Government management of railroads as exemplified in this Province, only one conclusion can be arrived at, and that is that Government running of railroads is a failure. Therefore, if the Intercolonial should be handed over to the joint management of the C. P. R. and the Grand Trunk, with all proper restrictions as to freight and passenger rates, who would object?

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.