

for their consuls also to reside at Fez ; if not, they will block Tangiers and other ports. That is the right way to go to work—action, action. Lord Salisbury gets the credit of that energetic step. It smacks of Cromwellism, or every day Germanism.

Ex-minister Yves Guyot has drawn a conclusive picture of the state of French trade and commerce. He has shown, by periods of five years, that French commerce, etc., ever augmented, from 1860 to 1881, being the reign of the Cobden tariffs ; then came the system of tariffs by special treaties when business remained stagnant, till 1892, the commencement of the reigning protective system, followed by a retrograde trade and a dying-out commerce. M. Guyot asserts that the proper economic situation of France ought to be : import raw materials at the lowest rates, and work them up to be sold at the lowest prices possible.

Parisians have never viewed the bicyclette with a friendly eye, and are positively hostile to it when employed by women. The Government, which boasts of having the cult for beauty, has, by a quiet decree, not exactly promulgated, drafted by the Prefect of Police, applied morality to lady bicyclists. The latter, as a consequence of wheeling necessities, have to wear what is called a "dualist" garment, more commonly known as a pair of pantaloons ; they thus claim the right to promenade on the boulevards in that fatigue costume ; they attracted attention which was not disagreeable to them. Now, as in a famous operette where the *artistes* call themselves Spaniards and are not Spaniards, so there are female bicyclists who are not cyclists at all. They made up as such, promenaded the boulevards "attracted attention"—the main chance—and do not decline sitting in front of a café and swiping beer. In a word the soiled doves became bicyclists, and so attracted the "attention" of the special plain clothes police, charged to look after the demimondian denizens and to request permission to examine the very special and peculiar passport they ought always to carry about with them when they take their walks abroad. Hence, if unprovided with their *carte de circulation*, the secret police marches them off to the central police office where they will be photographed, measured, and registered in some very painful archive. That danger the most virtuous lady, if unaccompanied with a gentleman, now risks, if she appears in wheeling dress, without her bicycle. Paris is the most dangerous city in the world for a female to wander or make any mistakes in the streets. Hence why a Parisian mother will never let her daughter go out alone, and why work girls always go in groups of three or four. That said, as a Lochiel warning, the French view a lady on a bicycle as the opposite of a thing of beauty. They are the enemies of the harmonious ; and some ladies have such a terrible circumference around the hips. The Prefect agrees with the Greek canon of aesthetics, "that the highest form of gracefulness is the exhibition of purity of form." One lover of the beautiful writes that the bicycle makes a pretty female figure less pretty, and an ugly shape more hideous, "the latter recalling the dogs of a turn spit, or the toy of a climbing monkey." That's hard ; but sigh no more ladies, the Prefect of Police promises to purify Paris of the wheeling mania with ladies by compelling only those of manifest and *éclatante* ugliness to roll.

Z.

Montreal Affairs.

A CURIOUS DOCUMENT UNEARTHED—THE PROCLAMATION OF THE CANADIAN REPUBLIC AND THE DECLARATION OF RIGHTS—THE MONUMENT TO CHENIER, THE REBEL LEADER OF 1837—MR. J. D. EDGAR, M.P., THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER AT THE UNVEILING—THE CITY COUNCIL REAPING WHAT IT HAS SOWN—A GREAT REVENUE BUT GREATER EXPENDITURE—PROPOSAL TO TAX CORPORATIONS AND CHURCH PROPERTY—THE CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE MAKES AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE COMMERCIAL EDUCATION BUT ARCHBISHOP FABRE OBJECTS.

A VERY curious document has been unearthed and made public by *Le Reveil*, a French weekly of this city. It is the proclamation of the Canadian Republic and the Declaration of Rights which was drawn up and signed in 1837, but never made public. Owing to the rapid movement of the British forces on St. Charles, the plans of the young Republicans, whose headquarters, were there were spoilt ; and all incriminating documents were destroyed, including copies of this

proclamation which had been printed for distribution at the proper time throughout the parishes. One or two copies escaped the general destruction, and are now in the possession of families that were identified with the rebellion. The preamble sets forth that "the solemn covenant," made by the British Government with the people of Canada by the legislation of 1791, "hath been continually violated ;" that the British Government, in addition to numerous other misdeeds duly set forth, "hath disposed of our revenue without the constitutional consent of the Local Legislature, pillaged our Treasury, arrested great numbers of our citizens, and committed them to prison ; distributed through the country a mercenary army, whose presence is accompanied by consternation and alarm, whose track is red with the blood of our people, who have laid our villages in ashes, profaned our Temples, and spread terror and waste through the land ;" and leads up to a series of eighteen declarations. The first dissolves the political connection between Great Britain and Lower Canada ; the second declares the country a republic. The resolutions go on to proclaim equality of rights between all classes of the population including Indians ; the severance of all relations between Church and State ; the abolition of seigniorial tenure and the setting free from all obligations to pay seigniorial rates already due of those who assist by bearing arms in the establishment of the republic ; the abolition of imprisonment for debt except in cases of fraud ; the abolition of the death sentence except for murder ; the freedom of the press ; the guarantee of trial by jury in all criminal and in important civil cases ; State education, elections by ballot ; the legalization of titles to property already held, and the perpetuation of the dual language. A constitutional convention is called, and in the election of delegates to it all male persons over 21 years of age are allowed to vote. The document closes : "And for the fulfilment of this declaration, and for the support of the patriotic cause in which we are engaged, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Almighty, and the justice of our conduct, We, by these presents, solemnly pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honour ;" and it is signed "By Order of the Provisional Government, Robert Nelson, President." Robert Nelson was a younger brother of Dr. Wolfred Nelson. This paper is of the greatest interest and should be secured for the national archives.

It has been made public simultaneously with the unveiling in Viger Square, on Saturday last, of a monument to Chenier, the rebel leader, who was killed at St. Eustache, which has revived memories of the struggle of 1837. Four survivors of the battle were at the unveiling. One of them, Melchoir Prevost was Chenier's brother-in-law. He was at his side when he fell, and he saw him die. He is now seventy-seven years of age. The statue, though simple, is pleasing and artistic in appearance. It is a life-size figure of Chenier, clad in the habitant garb of the period, holding his musket with one hand and pointing forward with the other to the advancing foe. One of the speakers at the meeting was Alfred Perry, a notable figure of our streets, who was a volunteer in the Loyalist forces in 1837, and twelve years later was the ringleader of the mob, which expressed its dissatisfaction with the passage of the Rebellion Losses Bill by burning the Parliament Buildings in this city. The principal speaker of the day was Mr. J. D. Edgar, M.P., of Toronto.

The city council is deep in the woe that follows the out-running of revenue by expenditure. For two years past there have occurred periods of great scarcity at the city hall ; but the matter has now come to a head. The trouble is the direct result of reckless extravagance. The income of the city has grown, of late years, by leaps and bounds, but the expenditure has run ahead of it, until now, with further borrowing prohibited and the yearly expenditure far exceeding the revenue, the council is face to face with a problem capable of but two solutions—retrenchment or increased taxation. The former is exceedingly distasteful to the aldermen ; and the latter plan they would find dangerous. A certain amount of additional taxation to meet liabilities already incurred is inevitable ; but it need not be permanent if the citizens can compel their civic representatives to check an expenditure already far in excess of requirements. It was proposed to raise \$150,000 additional revenue by increasing the water tax from 7½ per cent. on the rental value of houses to 10 per cent. ; but when the bills were sent out there went up from all over the city such a chorus of condemnation that the aldermen, bearing in mind that general