

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Thos. Beattie & Co

beg to notify their customers and the public that their importations of

DRY GOODS, MILLINERY, MANTLES, &c

at this season is now complete and ready for inspection.

Last season we discarded the old idea of Special Show Days, and found our customers approved of it; consequently we will have no special show day this season, and, in future, will place all our goods on sale the moment they arrive from Europe.

THOS. BEATTIE and CO. 176 & 178 Dundas St.

The Free Press, LONDON, ONT.

Thursday, October 23, 1884.

SNAIL-PACED POLITICIANS.

One of the funniest things in recent action has been the fault found with the Dominion Government for not aiding branch lines in the Northwest, and at the same time deprecating them for helping to push through the construction of the main line. If Mr. Blake's snail-like pace of building—100 miles of road a year—had been adopted, there would not have been any necessity for any branch lines for a long time to come. But now that the main line through and through is assured, all towards the construction of subsidiary lines is well timed. Branching out from the main line there will soon be seen many of these contributory roads, which, striking north west and south west, will open large and valuable tracts of land to the settlers. Of these the Manitoba & North-western, of which 80 miles are already built, is an important one. It begins at Portage la Prairie, and makes for Prince Arthur, a distance of nearly 300 miles. The Manitoba & South-western, branching out from Winnipeg, is another of which 60 miles are already built, and which will be continued to within a short distance of the boundary line, ranging over distances extending 500 miles. Several others have been projected, and active measures are afoot to interest capitalists in the various enterprises. And this it is thought will not be difficult to do upon the basis of the recent grant authorized by the Dominion, equal to \$,400 acres of land per mile. Thus, step by step the great scheme of opening up our Western Empire to settlement is going forward. And the rapidity of the movement is not the least remarkable feature of it. Instead of crawling along a little bit at a time, in miserable sections, year by year (a policy which the Brits clamoured for), a grand attack has been made all along the line, so that in a few months not only will the most distant places in the Dominion be brought into railway connection with each other, but such communication will radiate from the main line in all directions very soon. Before many years the Northwest will be as well provided with railways as Ontario is, leading up to a rapidity of development and a certainty of population such as the opponents of the policy have never been able to comprehend. They have opposed it because they did not understand it, and stubbornly refused to acquire the necessary information by the means of which a clearer view could be obtained. And now so completely has the policy of heroic construction triumphed that already it is being spoken of as a "dead issue." And really it will very soon come to be regarded on all hands. The prophecies to the effect that it could not be built have been falsified. The confident statements that the "sea of mountains" could not be crossed has been shown to have had ignorance as its parent, while the hermaphrodite system that was proposed to include "these magnificent water-stretches" that Mr. Blake was so eloquent over, is now only mentioned to be ridiculed. Canada does not want snail-paced politicians to guide her affairs, but will continue to rely upon that statesmanship which is progressive in its nature and confident in its well-grounded expectations.

MORE CANADA STABBING.

The most recent attempt to discredit the Northwest was the statement telegraphed to the press here that riots had taken place at Prince Albert and Battleford, and that Louis Riel had been shot. As was announced in our columns on Tuesday, there is no truth in the assertion. The public may well ask why it is that the unpatriotic party should seek so unmercifully to injure this country by their false reports? As time goes on, however, those who once stood in with an anxious to stand out, and to be rid of all association with men who seem to be so eagerly bent to war the efforts of those who are lifting up Canada to a leading rank among the nations.

EXPENSIVE LEGISLATION.

In the United States, as in Canada, the public mind is becoming aroused to the great cost incidental to the holding of so many elections. The question is being seriously asked on all sides, "does it pay?" It is felt that the frequent State and Congressional elections, attended by a Presidential election every four years, tend to unsettle trade and suspend confidence. Business men regard the present campaign but in the light of a serious interruption to commerce, seeing that the contest involves no radical changes either in the constitution or the fiscal regulations of the Union, and it is therefore a matter for congratulation, which ever way it results, when the whole matter is decided. Then people may settle down once more to the ordinary level of affairs. American people have thought themselves exceptional in this matter, that it was only among such a democracy as their own that the business of politics can become so rampant and violent as for the time to supersede other duties and considerations. A short season spent in Canada during election time, however, soon does away with that notion. It is found that both countries are nearly alike in the tendency that is displayed by the agitators who trade in politics, of making all else subservient to their personal ends. No sooner is one howl set aside than another is heard, all for the purpose of producing morbid excitement, which is looked upon as a godsend by the few blatant demagogues, no matter how much mischief is done to general commerce. It is no wonder that the American people should enquire among themselves why is so much excitement, such frequent disturbances necessary, what does it profit the nation as a whole? It is felt that the quadrennial election of President might give place to a decennial contest, with great general advantage. When the Constitution was framed, it was adapted to the requirements of but thirteen States, containing all told scarcely three millions of people—or but little more than one-half the present population of the single State of New York. In many other respects the requirements of the country have outgrown the strait-jacket thus put upon it by the Revolutionary Fathers, and, by a successive series of Constitutional amendments, from time to time the fundamental law has been brought into harmony with the wants and wishes of the people, the "promotion" of whose "welfare" was its primary purpose. In the fact of these amendments, as all men know, there was nothing revolutionary—nothing indeed that was not contemplated by the instrument itself, which wisely provided for its own revision in the declaration (Art. 5th) that "the Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing amendments," etc., etc. The commercial public can see no interest of a general kind that would be likely to suffer from such an amendment to the Constitution as could result in reducing, extending the period of the Presidential office from four to eight or ten years; but, on the contrary, while a vast saving could be effected by so doing, the general advantage would be secured in a still greater measure by lessening the disturbance of business interests owing to the excitement of passion and prejudice by the frantic appeals of the howling demagogues to whom usage has committed the personal interests of candidates. And if the States are waking up to a remedy for the evils of the system, in Canada there is yet greater reason to do so. The trouble with our legislators is not so much how to find time to do their work, but how to devise any kind of work as a means of killing time, and making an excuse for their existence. The general laws, as for instance that under which all kinds of corporate bodies may qualify, are now so comprehensive that special legislation is less readily than formerly, before the constitution became so perfectly adapted to the country's requirements. Canadians may also ask, does it pay to hold yearly sessions, with all their expensive paraphernalia, when by adopting the plan of biennial sessions, a lot of trouble might be obviated and a great saving of money effected.

HYGIENE OF OCCUPATIONS.

At the recent annual meeting of St. Louis, of the American Public Health Association, a paper was read by Professor G. H. Rhoe, Professor of Hygiene, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, entitled "The Hygiene of Occupations." It was one of the most interesting papers read, and occupied itself with a discussion of the relative longevity of men in different professions and pursuits. Professor Rhoe based his assumptions on the following table, which shows the occupations by classes, and average age at death of 144,954 decedents in Massachusetts from May 1, 1848, to December 31, 1874—a period of thirty-one years and eight months:

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Number of Decedents, Average Age at Death. Includes categories like All classes and occupations, Active mechanics in shops, etc.

CURRENT TOPICS.

An English physician thinks that bicycling may prove injurious if the fashion of small saddles and large wheels, involving much pressure on the perineum, be persisted in.

A correspondent writes to the London Times:—"I have made 60,000 miles of journeying on the Atlantic, an never sick, ordinarily have an excellent appetite, but an starved animal the abundance of a first class ocean steamer. The meal is the horror of the trip to scores who, like myself, want a simple dish, to obtain which one must sit out the entire table d'hôte."

The Paris correspondent of the London Medical Times reports that the French Academy of Medicine have worn the subject of cholera theraudare, but have not evolved one single notion of scientific value or practical utility. He says:—"Neither among those young people whose theory, neither the doctrine of contagion nor that of spontaneous evolution, has original banting, which consists of eating nothing containing starch, sugar or fat. The German Banting, which allows fat, but forbids sugar or starch. 3. A Munich system, which consists of being clothed in wool and sleeping in flannel blankets instead of sheets. 4. Not eating and drinking at the same time."

The failure of the Chinese loan is announced to be "complete," but the facts do not seem to bear out the characterization. The loan was for \$3,000,000. One million six hundred thousand dollars of this amount was bid for at par, and \$400,000 at four per cent. less than par. In other words, the \$2,600,000 were actually realized \$2,680,000. There are several European Governments which would esteem themselves fortunate if they could negotiate war loans on the same basis.

Dr. Schweninger, of Munich, has discovered a new mode of reducing the bulk of the human frame. It is, never to eat and drink at the same time, but to eat and drink two hours intervene. He has, it is said, cured Prince Dismarck of a tendency to obesity in this way. Fat people have now their choice between four systems. 1. The original Banting, which consists of eating nothing containing starch, sugar or fat. 2. The German Banting, which allows fat, but forbids sugar or starch. 3. A Munich system, which consists of being clothed in wool and sleeping in flannel blankets instead of sheets. 4. Not eating and drinking at the same time.

The diphtheritic scourge reported in Pennsylvania on Friday is not confined to Wilkesbarre, but is prevalent to an alarming extent in many neighboring mining villages. Within the past week the family of John Sweeney in Empire buried three children. Timothy Theophilus of the same place buried two yesterday. John McDonald, of Parsons, on Thursday, and on Friday in Ashley several families buried one or more children. Typhoid and Malaria disease is also prevalent. A resident of Plains advertising in a local paper that his three children are prostrated with the disease, hopes the item will reach the eyes of his trust wife and cause her to return home for the love she may have for the little ones.

OVER-FED ANIMALS.

There is a great complaint amongst our butchers that people will not buy fat meat, especially fat mutton. This kind is especially fed for the English market. Farmers too complain that but few local butchers buy fat sheep. On this account comparatively few sheep are fattened. In looking over the mutton brought into our markets the best is found to be that which is of medium fatness, and where the animals have lived on rather bare pasture. Where hams even have run in aftermath at this time of the year they are getting too fat for Canadian consumption. It is the same with pork. That which is used for the ordinary table in our cities is light, and pigs weighing from 100 lbs. to 150 lbs., rather lean, are cut up into quarters, and by the pound and retailed by butchers. In case an animal has developed any excessive fat, even at this weight there is not a ready sale for such, and, to make his own, the butcher cuts off the fat part of the flesh and renders it down into lard. It should be the aim of our farmers to feed to suit the market, as it seems people here are not inclined to eat over fat meat, especially mutton and pork. It is even said by respectable medical authorities that over-fed animals are unhealthy as human food, and are the cause of a great many of the ill that flesh is heir to. It is claimed that this development of the adipose tissues is an unnatural and abnormal condition of the organs of the

body. It is indubitable that the lean part of what a full-grown man should weigh, and how this weight should be divided.—Weight, 154 pounds. Made up thus:—Muscles and their appendages, 68 pounds; skeleton, 34 pounds; skin, 19 pounds; fat, 28 pounds; brain, 3 pounds; thoracic viscera, 82 pounds; abdominal viscera, 11 pounds; blood which would drain from body, 7 pounds. This man ought to consume per diem.—Lean beef-steak, 5,000 grains; bread, 6,000 grains; milk, 7,000 grains; potatoes, 3,000 grains; butter, 600 grains, and water, 22,000 grains. His heart should beat 75 times a minute, and he should breathe 15 times a minute. In 24 hours he would vitiate 1,750 cubic feet of pure air, to the extent of 1 per cent a man, therefore, of the weight mentioned ought to have 800 cubic feet of well-ventilated space. He would throw off by the skin 15 ounces water, 300 grains of solid matter, and 400 grains of carbonic acid every 24 hours, and his total loss during the 24 hours would be 5 pounds of water, and a little above 2 pounds of other matter.

The mode of swearing in our law courts involves the actual contact of the lips with the Bible or Testament, as the case may be. Very often the book is old, has been in such use for many years, has never been out of the tape it is tied within all that time, so that from so much handling and kissing it is in some cases black with accumulated dirt. Sensitive persons in the witness box have some difficulty in seeing their courage to the kissing point in such case, and on the general theory that disease may be communicated by such means, their scruples are not to be wondered at. When they are so strongly warned against holding silver coins between the lips, on the ground of its being a possible medium of contagion, they may reasonably ask to be excused when offered a book to swear on that is begrimed with dirt.

The London Times observes: The original cause of myopia seems to be the application of the eyes to near objects which, if continued, alters the shape of the eye, in the direction of elongation. Manifestly, the alteration will be most easily effected during youth, but even if the disease of the body, including those of the eye, are comparatively lax and distensible, and it will also be most easily effected among those young people whose tissues are exceptionally weak, by reason of inadequate food or of unhealthy diet and surroundings. Baldly lighted schools are the great manufactories of myopia, the sad light compelling approximation of the books or other materials of study.

In the last New Zealand Constitution provision is made for the appointment, as Cabinet Ministers, of two Maoris. If the Prime Minister thinks fit to make use of their services, allowing to each a salary of \$2,000. The Legislative Council, the upper chamber of the colony, whose members are appointed by the Crown for life, must have two Maori members in its total number of five. The law prescribes that of the ninety-five who make up the House of Representatives four must be representatives of Maori constituencies. These need not be Maori, and there have been instances of a Maori constituency returning white representatives, but almost invariably the Maori send up representatives of their own race. The Maoris residing in other than purely native districts enjoy the right to vote in common with the white population, the qualification being a \$125 freehold, held individually under crown title or enrolment on the ratepayers' roll.

One of the most striking illustrations of modern speculation is found in the recent action brought in New York by Artemus Holmes (himself a lawyer) against J. B. Cluffee and others for fraud. One of Cluffee's associates advised Holmes to invest in a mining company and in fact urged the investment as one of the highest value. Holmes made inquiry of Cluffee concerning the mine and was assured in the highest terms. Holmes thereupon purchased shares to the amount of \$15,000, all of which was sunk, and he then brought suit for fraud. No defence was made and the verdict was for principal and the interest amounting to \$15,000. This Cluffee was estimated a millionaire only a year ago and U. S. Grant, Jr. was considered a lucky fortune hunter in marrying his daughter, but now it appears that the wealth was only on paper and Cluffee at present is not worth a dollar. In addition to this he has ruined all who listened to his persuasions.

The horrors of the Longue Pointe and Beauport Lunatic Asylums described by Dr. Tuke become more horrible in view of the Lynam case, because that case shows not only how easy it is to get into a Quebec lunatic asylum, but how exceedingly hard it is to get out of one. Quebec, says the Montreal Star, is probably the only country in the world where lunacy is regarded as a crime, and even in Quebec lunacy is about the only crime upon the mere suspicion of which Her Majesty's subjects can be severely punished. It is taking a terrible long time to prove whether Rose Lynam is guilty or not guilty of insanity, but meanwhile the crime is so serious that the poor woman is not admitted to bail. Guilty or innocent she remains imprisoned, and guilty or innocent, any man or woman of the Province is liable to similar treatment at any hour.

The majority of Londoners are busy with the many sensations which the world of literature and art is supplying them with in fulling, and readers are getting a fine supply of sensations. The extraordinary interest of Carlyle's malignant attacks upon everybody living and dead is getting the book a great sale, and the public are forging his current coinage because of his interestingness. The opinion about his wife and himself is not, however, approved and the opinion is confirmed that they were about as agreeable a pair as ever tortured each other in the bonds of matrimony.

Montreal Gazette.—The death of Mr. William O'Brien, which occurred early yesterday morning will be learned with deep and sincere regret by a wide circle of friends not only in this city, but throughout the Dominion. Mr. O'Brien was one of the best known men in Montreal, his long connection with the Grand Trunk Railway bringing him into acquaintance with hosts of people. Genial, warm-hearted, open-handed, he was a typical Irishman, always ready to give his time and energy and money to every benevolent object, while in the promotion of enterprises looking to the city's welfare he was ever a willing worker. He had not an enemy in the world.

Winnipeg Times.—The London Advertiser characterizes the proposal to run a line of steamers from British Columbia to China and Japan, in connection with the C. P. R., as a crazy project. It would have been better for the reform party if it had cultivated a few crazy projects during its career. The C. P. R. itself was a crazy project, yet the Dominion owes to it some three or four hundred million acres of the most fertile land in the world. The splendid progress of the Dominion since Confederation has been owing to a series of crazy projects—crazy, because initiated, and carried out by the Conservative party.

The United States consul at Toronto is preparing an exhibit illustrative of the trade, commerce, manufactures and history of Ontario, or rather that portion of it which he is deputed to send to the world's show, which opens in New Orleans in December next. This is outside of the ordinary display which will be made by individual exhibitors. These exhibits will be entered for prize competition, but will each bear the name of the exhibitor, and will be forwarded from here free of all charges and returned on the same conditions.

Poor, Desolate London!

From the Peterborough Review. In an article attacking the National Policy by the usual weapons of the opponents, that is, misrepresentation, the London Advertiser says:—"It has enormously increased the taxation for charitable purposes in the towns and cities, and has multiplied the emigration three-fold. Low prices, want of employment, necessity for charitable relief, the multiplication of soup kitchens, are in a large degree the fruits of the N. P. It is possible that this misrepresentation is not wholly wilful, for it may be partly true of London, which, to judge by the flourishes and energetic tones like Peterborough, is as one of the great manufacturing centres of the world. It is possible that the picture of its own surroundings and circumstances, it is guilty of gross negligence and culpable ignorance, for it shows that its description is not true of other places. It certainly is not true of a flourishing and energetic town like Peterborough. As one symptom of the situation here we will give the following advertisement as it appears in the Toronto Mail:—

BRICKLAYERS.—Six first-class workmen wanted immediately, wages, \$2 per day. Apply to W. A. Brown, Builder, etc., Peterborough, Ont. We must multiply proofs that Peterborough has not reached the low ebb of London, as described by one of its own journals. Our taxation for charitable purposes has diminished instead of increasing. We do not neglect the sick and afflicted, the widows and orphans, but no man who is able and willing to work has to apply for charity. As to prices, they are certainly low—sugar, cottons, agricultural implements, woollens, etc., etc., may be obtained cheaper than ever, just as we argued would be the result of the National Policy. As to want of employment, it is difficult to obtain mechanics, as is well known even without the evidence of Mr. Alford's advertisement, and as to laborers, it is hard to get a cord of good saws. Our only necessity for charitable relief is in case of illness or bereavement, and as to soup kitchens, we may have had industry to London, which seems unable to compete in other respects with more enterprising rivals.

Perhaps the unhappy circumstances of London may be the fruit not of the N. P., but of the injurious attacks of one of its journals upon that city and upon the country at large, for they have a tendency to frighten capital and enterprise away from a locality that is so afflicted. To those who thus flee from desolate London we can offer a welcome in the live town of Peterborough.

The deacons and thugs of India for the most part reside in the native States, whence they make frequent raids into British territory. They form regular tribes, one of the most notorious of which is the Bani tribe in Rajpootana, every man of this race being brought up as a robber. The association has complete organization, and possesses bold and skilled leaders, and its members are masters of the art of disguising themselves. Other tribes likewise have an organization scarcely inferior to this.

THE HORRORS OF THE LONGUE POINTE AND BEAUPORT LUNATIC ASYLUMS DESCRIBED BY DR. TUKE BECOME MORE HORRIBLE IN VIEW OF THE LYNAM CASE, BECAUSE THAT CASE SHOWS NOT ONLY HOW EASY IT IS TO GET INTO A QUEBEC LUNATIC ASYLUM, BUT HOW EXCEEDINGLY HARD IT IS TO GET OUT OF ONE. QUEBEC, SAYS THE MONTREAL STAR, IS PROBABLY THE ONLY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD WHERE LUNACY IS REGARDED AS A CRIME, AND EVEN IN QUEBEC LUNACY IS ABOUT THE ONLY CRIME UPON THE MEREST SUSPICION OF WHICH HER MAJESTY'S SUBJECTS CAN BE SEVERELY PUNISHED. IT IS TAKING A TERRIBLE LONG TIME TO PROVE WHETHER ROSE LYNAM IS GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY OF INSANITY, BUT MEANTIME THE CRIME IS SO SERIOUS THAT THE POOR WOMAN IS NOT ADMITTED TO BAIL. GUILTY OR INNOCENT SHE REMAINS IMPRISONED, AND GUILTY OR INNOCENT, ANY MAN OR WOMAN OF THE PROVINCE IS LIABLE TO SIMILAR TREATMENT AT ANY HOUR.

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" " D. DODD, 338

" " T. J. MCGOWAN

" " FITZGERALD

" " S. O. C.

" " SCHERVELL

" " JOHN C. TAYLOR

" " G. H. BROWN

" " MACLEAN & CO.

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