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God's in His heaven,

And right with the world.

—(BROWNING.)

London, Thursday, July 28.

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE

OF NORTH AMERICA.

Extract from a speech by John Bright,

delivered during the civil war.

"I cannot believe that civilization, in its

journey with the sun, will sink into end-

less night in order to gratify the ambition

of the leaders of this revolt, who seek to

Wade through slaughter to a throne,

And shut the gates of mercy on mankind.

I have another and a far brighter vision

before my gaze. It may be but a vision,

but I will cherish it. I see one vast con-

federation, stretching from the frozen

north in unbroken line to the glowing

south, and from the wild billows of the At-

lantic westward to the calmer water of the

Pacific main—and I see one people and one

language and one law and one faith, and

over all that wide continent the home of

freedom and a refuge for the oppressed of

every race and of every clime."

The Hamilton Spectator sees the hand-

writing on the wall. It warns its friends

in these terms: "Don't start a brewery or

a whiskey factory. That vote in Manitoba

looks ominous."

PREMIER GREENWAY'S majority in the

new Manitoba Legislature is practically

two to one. At last accounts it stood: For

the Government, 20; Independent Liberal,

1; Opposition, 13.

The London Humane Society is doing

good work. It seems to have an eye for

the relief of the oppressed or suffering al-

ways. The latest good act it has under-

taken successfully is the conversion of the

almsmen to the view that cattle brought

to the market should have a chance to slake

their thirst with some of our nice spring

water. A proper drinking place will be

supplied at once. It is a most humane

action.

The cold wave is alleged to be approach-

ing. On Tuesday it was down to 34° above

zero, or 2° above the freezing point, at

Calgary, and there may have been frost in

some parts of the far Northwest. We are

now passing through a maximum sun spot

period, which occurs about once in twelve

years, and during which the heat is usually

intense. London has been more favored

than many places. Sunday last was the

hottest day yet, the thermometer register-

ing 92° in the shade, but in Detroit and

New York it was 96°, while Washington

revealed in 98° in the shade.

COMPLAINT is sometimes made that the

people of the United States do not observe

Sunday as generally as we in Canada do,

and there is some foundation for this state-

ment. The difference is brought about by

the presence, in the large centers of popu-

lation, of people from continental European

nations who have been brought up to be-

lieve that Sunday is more a day for amuse-

ment than for church-going and rest.

When, as is the case in some parts of the

old world—enjoying "protective" tariffs,

too—the working people have not only to

toil for six long days every week, but a

portion of the seventh, one hardly wonders

they are tempted to devote some part of the

Sabbath to amusement. It really is the

only time afforded them for that purpose,

so exacting are their taskmasters. When

these persons come to this continent it is

difficult to break them away from their

old-time habits. We in Canada know

little about these matters, because the

overwhelming proportion of these new-

comers go to the States; but it is a

moral certainty that if we had an influx

of settlers from the continent under the

same conditions as our neighbors,

it would be just as difficult to strictly en-

force our views regarding the keeping of

the Sabbath in this country as our neigh-

bors have found it. As it is, in some parts

of the United States, there is still a strong

desire to enforce what are known as the

old Blue Laws set up by the Pilgrim

Fathers. In Bridgeport, Conn., for ex-

ample, a wheelman has just been taken

into custody, charged after this fashion,

"that on July 17, the said day being the

Sabbath and the Lord's, the said Osborne

did indulge in the vain sport and recreation

of riding a certain vehicle known as a

bicycle, greatly to the disturbance of the

peace and contrary to the statute in such

cases made and provided." With all our

respect for the Sabbath, it is impossible to

believe that such a prosecution as this

could be successfully undertaken in

Canada. It is no more a scandal for a man

to go to church on his wheel than it is for

him to hitch up his horse and drive there,

and it is difficult to imagine how a

bicyclist, spinning almost noiselessly along

his highway on a wheel, could "greatly

disturb the peace." The proper observance

of the Sabbath will not be promoted by

this senseless prosecution.

PROHIBITION BY PROVINCES.

Manitoba has, by a large majority, pro-

nounced in favor of the prohibition of the

liquor traffic, and in all probability a law

in accord with the vote will be promoted at

the next session of the Legislature. The

Provinces at present cannot stop the im-

portation of liquor; that would be an inter-

ference with trade and commerce which

the British North America Act places ex-

clusively under the control of the Dominion

Government. There are doubts as to

whether or not the Provinces can prevent

the manufacture of intoxicants within their

bounds. But Premier Mowat holds that

the Provincial Legislatures have the right

to legislate, giving the municipalities power

to totally prohibit the sale of liquors within

their limits, and he has crystallized

those views into a law that has

so far been pronounced by the courts to be

within the powers of the Province. There

are eminent legal authorities, too, who

hold that the power which the Provincial

Legislature delegates to subordinate

bodies it can fully exercise itself, and they

reason that the Province of Manitoba and

the Province of Ontario can pass a law pro-

hibiting the sale of liquors throughout

their entire bounds just as easily as they

can grant local option to the municipalities.

Among other noted jurists who take this

view is Hon. David Mills. It seems, there-

fore, that if the friends of temperance are

debarred from that full and effective

measure of prohibition which can alone be

granted by the Dominion Government, and

which shall embrace the prohibition of the

manufacture as well as the sale of liquors

throughout Canada, they can look forward

to securing the next best thing—pro-

hibition by Provinces. That gone about

with wise caution would soon force the

royal commission farce from the stage, and

compel the granting of the fuller and more

satisfactory boon. It is coming.

MIDSUMMER READING FOR CAN-

ADIANAS.

Canada has a new monthly magazine. It

is edited by J. Gordon Mowat, the well-

known meteorologist, and the contents of

the first number issued is sufficiently

meritorious to afford strong hopes that it

has come to stay. The promises of the

editor's salutary are that the Lake

Magazine will be conducted in a broad,

rational spirit, "in the consolidation of

Canada on a basis of mutual respect for the

rights and prejudices of the various and

grand elements that go to make up the

Canadian people." This is an ambitious

programme, and there is ample scope for its

development. As a beginning, the new

magazine at least illustrates the beauty

of variety. J. C. Hopkins writes at length

on "Canada and Imperial Federation." As

usual, Mr. Hopkins is decidedly jingoistic.

He has no faith in Canada's independent

future, and he is foolish enough to believe

that Canada will consent to be taxed to pay

for old world wars which they have no hand

in decreeing or stopping, and that Great

Britain will run the risk of inviting a

war of retaliation with her out-of-colony

customers by re-establishing a protective

tariff on the breadstuffs and raw materials

imported from all places but the colonies.

Such in brief is the imperial federation

gospel of which this young man believes

himself to be the chief prophet in this

land. It is a Quixotic undertaking.

"Edward Blake and Ireland" is the title of

a well-written article by John A. Ewan.

It is biographical as well as prophetic.

By the way, can anyone tell why Mr. Blake

has preferred in later years to be known

simply as Edward Blake, though he was

baptized, educated and took high honors at

the Provincial University under the name

of Dominic Edward Blake? The author

agrees with the best minds in Canada in

holding that Mr. Blake takes to his duties

in the Imperial Parliament "one of the

best-furnished minds in her Majesty's Do-

minion; a pure and high purpose, and an

industry that is only bounded by his health

and endurance, a lofty eloquence and an

ardor's enthusiasm to do some

thing for the land of his fore-

fathers." Added to these quali-

fications, of course, is Mr. Blake's un-

exceptional experience in carrying out a

policy of local self-government on this

continent similar to that which is proposed

for Ireland. A timely protest is made by

T. Arnold Halliday M.A., who writes on

a "Canadian Literature." He strongly

combats the view that we have no Cana-

dian literature, merely because the pro-

ductions of Canadians do not bring wealth

and fame in the Dominion. The author

points to the success of native authors in

the United States and in Europe, and feels

inclined to rejoice that these writers gain

their laurels, not in a narrow, circum-

scribed sphere, but in a competition with

the great ones of the earth. Literature, it

is argued, is literally the very life blood of

a nation; but we cannot coincide with the

argument of the author that war and

bloodshed, "perhaps even a fight for

hearts and homes," is needed to make

national literature and national arts. It is

true that a great deal of the literature

of the world is devoted to the battles

of the nations, but in the evolu-

tion of time we have surely

arrived at a stage when men may gain fame

and its accompaniments by producing a

literature that shall have for its object the

advancement of common humanity in the

paths of peaceful development. Men are

brothers, deny it who may, and a grave re-

sponsibility rests upon those who would

consent, either as a literary effort or in any

other way, to keep up the old and oft-time

senseless enmities of the barbarous and

blood-letting era. Arthur F. Wallis writes

in favor of a cheap and simple franchise.

Given the right to vote, and that ungrud-

gingly, the machinery under which the

franchise is exercised "must be sure,

simple, cheap, and, above all things, entirely

above the suspicion of partisan manipu-

lation." This, the author contends, the Do-

minion Franchise Act does not provide. He

strongly advocates the simple system of

registration of voters, on the eve of an

election, which has already been indorse-

by this journal. This would establish the

democratic principle of one man one

vote, and do away with many of the in-

centives to corruption that now exist. Under

the present system, Mr. Wallis points out,

and as we in London well know, the people

are "given more law than justice, and com-

pels each man to fight as for his life for

that political recognition to which as a

taxpayer he is fairly entitled." No honest

man can defend the present cumbersome, ex-

pensive system. Parliament should be com-

pelled to change it as speedily as possible.

"The Land of Manana," the South Ameri-

can republic of Guatemala, is entertainingly

written of by Thomas A. Gregg. It is a

fine land, cursed with an intense partisan

spirit in politics at any time liable to run

into violence. Nevertheless, Mr. Gregg

holds the people are improving, and in time

we are assured the sun will beam on a

peaceful and stable land. Thos. Mulvey

writes on "Second Light Along the

Wires." This author sees great possi-

bilities in the adaptation of electricity to

the wants of man. People said a few years

ago that the person who alleged that the

sound of voices could be conveyed over

1,000 miles of wire was a madman. To-day

long-distance telephoning is an every day

occurrence. "Why," concludes the writer,

"should not the electric wire be made the

agent for conveying the sense of touch?

Why should not a man not only see