

THE TRUE WITNESS

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THE POST PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO. WEDNESDAY..... DECEMBER 12, 1888

We may presume that everything is nicely fixed in Cumberland, N.S., since the announcement is made that the writs for an election to fill the vacancy in the Commons has at last been issued.

THE Toronto Mail wants the federal and provincial governments to inquire into the cause of the exodus with a view to devising means for stopping it.

"A YOUNG MAN from England, total abstainer and Christian," advertises in a city paper for employment at \$3 per week.

A SINGULAR instance of the cosmopolitanism of commerce is furnished by the cable, which says that the Inman Steamship Company, largely composed of Americans, has placed a number of its ships on the list of fast cruisers, available for service in case of war.

A FRIEND at Port Hope, Ont., has sent us a report, printed in a local paper, of an attack by Mr. Chiniquy on the Pope, with a request that we reply to it.

NOMINATIONS and polling take place on the same days in Megantic, L'Assomption and Dorchester—December 20 and 27th.

THE translation of Bishop Dowling from the See of Peterborough to that of Hamilton has given the greatest satisfaction to the Catholics and Protestants of the latter city.

By the entrance of Colonel Rhodes into the Provincial Cabinet the Protestant minority is given a representative in the Government.

MR. WANAMAKER, of Philadelphia, is even a better exponent than P. T. Barnum of the benefits of advertising.

the Republican campaign fund for use in the late elections, and now he is in a fair way to get a cabinet office. Even if he falls, he will have had free advertising enough to pay him for his investment.

THE large number of combiners Tory political hoodlums who are investing their money in the United States is a pretty good indication of where they intend to locate when the Macdonaldite machine collapses.

It is admitted by everybody that the selection of Col. Rhodes to represent the Protestant minority in the cabinet is the best that could have been made.

THE Toronto Mail, commenting on our remarks concerning the decline of trade at this port—that it is caused by "the international barriers erected in defiance of reason, geography and business principles"—says: "The logic of events must force the whole press of Montreal to hold the same views."

TORY superciliousness was well exemplified by Premier Salisbury's casual allusion to a distinguished Hindoo gentleman as a "black man."

HENRY GEORGE'S theories seem to have taken root and are likely to bear fruit. In Toronto an agitation has been started to have all houses of \$600 value and less, when the only property of one person, exempt from taxation.

A LEAGUE of the Latin nations is a movement long ago advocated and one that Bismarck has constantly and successfully combated.

compelled to fall in with them and leave the double-headed eagles to settle their quarrels among themselves. The proposed Latin alliance is the wisest move the western nations could make, for the coming war will be one of conquest, and the ultimate result must be either the establishment of a Russian dictatorship in Europe or the destruction of Imperialism.

It is said, on the authority of the Deputy Minister of Finance, that there will be no banking legislation till 1891, when the bank charters expire. It is to be hoped that when that time comes the Government will take the whole issue of currency in its own hands.

MR. MERCIER'S programme for the coming session is good and practical. The question of taxation of churches and educational institutions is one that requires settlement on a basis just and satisfactory to the Government and the institutions affected.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE. It would seem as if there was a breaking up of the social desecration. Mrs. Mona Caird, who started the discussion on the question, "Is Marriage a Failure?" by her paper in the Westminster Review, has followed up her work by another deliverance in the same publication.

Talk like this from a woman in a great English periodical shows how deeply the poison of false ideas of liberty has entered into minds which have abandoned all restraints of religion in relation to social problems.

THE evils pointed out by Mr. Cleveland are disciplinary. Their enormity cannot be denied, but the simple fact of their existence is proof that the American people are not yet fit for the full exercise of liberty.

THE HATEFUL THING" IN AMERICA. "Communism is a hateful thing, and a menace to peace and organized government. But the communism of combined wealth and capital, the outgrowth of over-wealth and selfishness, which in its insidiousness undermines the justice and integrity of free institutions, is not less dangerous than the communism of oppressed poverty and toil, which, exacerbated by injustice and discontent, attacks with wild disorder the citadel of rule."

In this extract from President Cleveland's recent message to Congress we have a statement made by the head of a great nation the like of which was never known before.

To us this appears the very strongest argument in favor of marriage as it is. When men and women know that the "contract" is irrevocable, they will, in fact they do, pause long and consider deeply before they enter upon it.

But the very nature of woman and the part she must take in the contract demand that she be protected by the firmest laws and not dependent on the whim of the moment.

In the United States divorce laws have made marriage pretty much what she would have it, and the results are deplorable beyond description.

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1 to 14; Vermont, 1 to 11; Massachusetts, 1 to 21; Rhode Island, 1 to 11; Connecticut, 1 to 10. In a New England manufacturing town of less than 30,000 inhabitants, it was recently found that there were more than 200 couples living together as husband and wife who had never been married. This decline in the popularity of married life the speaker believed to be a danger threatening the life of the nation, and he attributed the evil to the fact that the present generation of boys and girls get what little pety they have outside of their homes. Children are sent outside for education when but 3 1/2 years old, and from that time their instruction is entrusted to teachers instead of to their parents. This course alienates them from their homes, and they thus lose their love for domestic life.

Whether the cause be as this preacher stated or not, there can be no doubt that a general decay of domestic morals is a prominent evil to the present time, and must lead to fearful results if there should be no improvement. In these remarks it will, of course, be understood that we deal with the question apart from its sacramental character, which applies only to Catholics who run no danger of falling into this latest and most degrading of heresies.

THE AMERICAN PROBLEM. President Cleveland's message shows how strongly he feels the rebuff his policy has received from the electorate, and there are indications between the lines of the heartiness with which he could curse the pro-British proclivities of his Cabinet and party.

Undoubtedly Mr. Cleveland is right in directing popular attention with all his power to the danger now threatening the country through the "communism of capital." It is well that people should know and ponder on these things. We believe, however, that it will be better for the country in the long run that the system against which Mr. Cleveland inveighs should be carried to the fullest extremity in order that its collapse, when it comes, as it must inevitably, will be absolute, complete and final.

Combinations of capital we regard as natural evolution in this Commercial age, leading most surely to that great system of co-operation which is to succeed in the coming industrial age.

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and wedded to an economical system directly contrary in principle to the fundamental doctrines of American liberty. But, as usual, when men undertake to warp the laws of the universe to their own selfish purposes, unexpected catastrophes result. The moral of the story of Pheton is eternal, though men may forget it.

All forces are controlled by the laws of their being. By carefully studying these laws we may make them subservient to human purposes. The economical laws differ in no wise from what, in our poor, vague human way, we call the natural laws. The principle throughout all is identical. That principle is one of invariable sequence. In dealing with material things we study to act in accordance with ascertained phenomena, and thus induce the elements to aid us. It would be justly regarded as a fool who should do otherwise.

Mr. Cleveland wrote down to the ordinary comprehension of the ordinary man when he penned the paragraph we have quoted. In a society where individualism is rampant, the commands of justice defied, the claims of humanity ignored, combinations against prevailing wrongs are sure to develop. These are simply the efforts of men out of harmony with their environment striving to set themselves right.

Surely this should set men thinking. Never before were the social dangers of a great nation so forcibly presented to men endowed with the prerogatives and powers of government. But Mr. Cleveland did more than deal with glittering generalities.

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