

wound or even by raising the legs and lowering the body and thus giving the poor man this slight advantage, these would be helpers raised the body and held it in a sitting posture, with the result that by the time the doctor arrived so much blood had been lost that the patient lived only for a short time after the wounds were dressed. Had these men been furnished with a general idea of surgery they would have acted very differently, and probably their fellow workman's life would have been saved. To relieve this general ignorance the authorities of Trinity College, with commendable enterprise, have arranged for a series of weekly ambulance lectures—two of which have already been delivered—in which the question of surgery will be discussed in such a manner as to be easily comprehended by the non-professional hearer, and the needs of ordinary citizens particularly regarded. It is to be hoped that many of the citizens of Toronto will avail themselves of this opportunity of sitting under the instruction of the eminent physicians who have been secured as lecturers for the course.

Some of the statements made by Mr. Osler recently, when arguing the case of the Grand Trunk railway before the jury in connection with the St. George accident trial, will come as a surprise to many who have been in the habit of confining their attention to the special or exceptional events that daily transpire. Speaking of the record of the Great Western division Mr. Osler pointed out that "in 1888 the company carried nearly two million passengers; trains about two millions of miles, and but one responsible injury and but two persons killed. For the thirty-two years since 1857 there have been but 13 accidents, injuring passengers, and a portion of that time was during the days of old iron rails. During that time they carried over fifty million passengers, their trains travelled sixty-four millions of miles the system of care adopted showed the result of one accident for four million three hundred thousand passengers carried, and an accident for every five million miles of trains run." This scrap of railroad history calls up the humorous resolve of Mark Twain, who after considering the fact that the number of those who were killed in railroad accidents was relatively insignificant when compared with the great number of travellers who patronize the road, and that so many of them came to their end in bed, decided that he would not take an accident policy, but instead would insure against death in bed. It suggests, that if we were to give less protection to the exceptional and allow the law to have its proper influence, our many lives would be less severely imperiled.

trade are conspicuously in the front of the movement to curtail the rum trade. The Royal Niger Company has reduced the import of spirits to one fourth its recent volume. It has prohibited the trade in one-third of its territory, intends to do so in another third, and with regard to the remaining third is awaiting an agreement by England, France, and Germany. The British East African Company is excluding liquor from every part of its large territory. The African Lakes Company refuses to carry intoxicants to the lake regions, and the British South Africa Company has just resolved absolutely to prohibit the sale of spirits to the natives. These companies are setting a good example, which German enterprises in Africa seem to be in no haste to follow.

If the hopes of those who have been experimenting with the sugar beet do not prove vain, Ontario is likely to soon be independent of outside plantations for this much-used article of diet. Mr. Drury, Minister of Agriculture, during last season, took steps to ascertain whether the soil and climate of this province were adapted to produce roots of a quality suitable for the manufacture of sugar. For this purpose he caused considerable quantities of seed to be distributed among the farmers throughout the province, especially in the sections adjoining Toronto and Cobourg. A few pounds were also sent to the Model Farm, Guelph. Owing to the lateness of the season the beets had not time to thoroughly mature; also from absence of information as to some of the peculiarities of sugar-beet cultivation the growers only sought to obtain large roots by keeping the plants at long distances apart, while to produce rich saccharine quality close cultivation and thorough covering of the roots are absolutely necessary. Notwithstanding these drawbacks the results generally were promising. The yield per acre averaged over twenty tons while 80 per cent. of the roots analyzed showed a percentage of sugar from 14 up to 17. The purity of the sugar, however, was not all that could be desired, a circumstance that was attributed to the imperfect maturity of the beets and to defects in cultivation. Better results were obtained at Guelph where the roots were all kept entirely underground. Professor James' analysis showed polariscope reading 18 per cent., 17.10 per cent. sugar; and co-efficient of purity 83.7 per cent. This season it is hoped that with the experience gained by last year's trial, the results will be more satisfactory. Should it be found that our climate and soil are suitable for their growth, an important industry would at once be created. In that case there would be an opening for 40 large factories to work up the produce of about 70,000 acres of beets, yielding about 230,000,000 pounds of raw sugar, this being about the average quantity imported annually into Canada, for refining purposes.

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serve the present relation and character of the woman. In the *Forum* for May he says.

"Happily women have still a vast body of friends left—friends who will succeed in saving womanhood from the 'advanced' women who would fain abolish it; and those friends are, as might naturally have been expected, the men. In spite of all that lady lecturers and anti-feminine old maids can do to unsex their sisters, men will for the most part continue to choose their wives—the mothers of future women—from the most womanly of their kind; and so will aid and abet in handing down to coming generations those fine and beautiful feminine qualities which the recalcitrant mannish women of our age are so anxious to disown in favor of male peculiarities. Sexual selection will here as elsewhere, play its beneficent part, and secure the survival of all that is best and noblest in the gains of our race. Men will protect women against the enemies of womanliness in their own sex. The celibate lady lecturer will die unrepresented; the woman with grace, tact, high emotional endowments, pure womanly gifts, will hand down her exquisite and charming qualities to other women, her likes, after her."

Unfortunately for Mr. Allen's argument it has yet to be demonstrated that the gaining of the ends contemplated by the movement would unsex woman, or destroy any of those fine and beautiful feminine qualities which move the sturdy, manly breast. The assumption is too important to accept upon the *ipse dixit* of any one man. Should it turn out, however, as Mr. Allen assumes, that to gain the one is to sacrifice the other, the movement is doomed. Being a man Mr. Allen has rightly interpreted the feelings of men when he argues that "they will for the most part continue to choose their wives from the most womanly of their kind."

The "spoils system" which implies the right to change the staff of civil servants with each recurring change of administration is vigorously attacked by Mr. Oliver F. Morton in the *May Atlantic*. "Looked at in any way," says Mr. Morton, "rotation is a perpetual recurring menace to the stability of any government. It is a constant temptation to politicians to use public salaries as a fund from which to pay private debts, thus compelling the people to furnish the means for their own corruption and to defeat their own will. It wrecks the lives of tens of thousands of young men by offering, as a bait to cupidity, high wages which outbid the market. It makes idle expectants of the industrious, starves the few it feeds, and lures the mass to vagrancy. It subverts the true ideal of office, transforming public servants into private henchmen, and partisans into camp followers. It degrades skilled labor, and makes the government an almshouse. It breeds parasites, markets citizenship, and suborns public opinion. To sum up, it makes an administration a chaos, of politics a trade, and of principle an interest. Rotation is not an essential element to secure the perpetuity of free institutions." And yet, though it is capable of such untold mischief, and the fruitful parent of so many political and national evils, the present occupant of the White House is an avowed advocate of the system, and has, if report speaks truly, displaced several competent servants whose sole crime was that they could not pronounce his political shibboleth. Shame on such conduct! Yet must we pronounce the word with bated breath, when we remember that our own civil servants, in many instances, owe their appointment in large measure to the fact that they see eye to eye with the appointing power. In this we are no better than our neighbors, whatever may be our political enemies to our friends. Will the

time ever come when civil servants will be chosen on the ground of qualification alone, without respect to their political proclivities and principles? Probably not until the millenium arrives.

It is very evident that the United States authorities are determined that their Alien Labor Law shall not prove a dead letter. Reports from Port Huron state that "a special agent of the treasury department located here has taken a large number of Canadian sailors from American vessels and sent them back to Canada. It is claimed they were violating the contract labor law. Other classes of Canadian laborers working on this side have been returned to Canada." If, as some allege, our cousins are overflowing with amorous feelings towards us Canadians, and would fain have us name the day for the celebration of the nuptials, they have a very strange way of manifesting their esteem. Canadians are not accustomed to win each other's consent after this fashion. Uncle Sam will need to change his tactics considerably before Miss Canada will be disposed to say "I will." Is it, however, that he seeks not a partner but a servant? "Britons never can be slaves."

The enormous expense involved in its working is not the only objection that can be urged against the notorious Franchise Act. While framed ostensibly with a view to securing uniformity throughout the Dominion, it has placed the minimum income qualification of wage-earners so high that many worthy citizens are disfranchised thereby. A motion to reduce the amount by one-sixth was voted down the other day in the House. During the discussion it was pointed out that all wage-earners who received less than one dollar a day, to which class most farm laborers belong, were by the present law deprived of the right to vote; and also that many others, who, though they received one dollar a day while actually employed, were unable, owing to sickness or "short time," to earn the \$300 required to qualify. Dr. Brien, the mover of the resolution favoring reduction, estimated that in his own county two hundred, and throughout the Dominion forty or fifty thousand would be excluded under the present law who would be admitted under the lower franchise; that is, there are forty or fifty thousand of wage-earners throughout the Dominion who receive \$250 per year, but who, because they do not earn \$300, are deprived of a voice in the nation's affairs. And who will presume to say that many of the men are not just as loyal and patriotic, and would not as willingly lay down their lives for their country's good in time of peril as many of those who, owing to the more favorable conditions of their youth, are enabled to earn the necessary \$300 per year? It is difficult to understand why Sir John Macdonald and his followers adhere so tenaciously to the larger figure, especially seeing that the principle of property qualification would not have been affected by granting the reduction called for in Dr. Brien's motion. Is it that they have expended their sympathies so lavishly upon the manufacturers of the country that they have none left to bestow upon the humble toiler? Or is it owing to the circumstance that an enemy desired the change and that consequently it could not be entertained? These questions are more easily raised than answered. At the same time it is to be regretted that the change had not been made so as to have come at least one step nearer the point of granting justice to every honest and loyal citizen.

It was not so very long ago when the