

sider the best method of extending the trade relations between Canada and the United States and to ascertain on what terms greater freedom of intercourse between the two countries can best be secured, and said commissioners shall report to the President, who shall lay the report before Congress. And the necessary expenses of the commissioners appointed by the president, including their compensation at the rate of \$10 a day each for the time necessarily employed in said duty shall be paid out of the appropriation for the collection of the customs revenue."

It will be observed that the scheme proposed in this resolution is very similar to that of the Dominion Government in 1887 at the time the fisheries treaty was being negotiated, and when the British commissioners acting at the suggestion of the Canadian Minister proposed to take up the whole question of the trade relations of the two countries and settle the fisheries dispute on the basis of a reciprocity arrangement. Under the terms of Senator Sherman's resolution questions relating to the coasting trade, to transportation in bond, to the fisheries, to reciprocal privileges in wrecking, in a word, to the commercial relations of Canada and the United States in their widest sense, can be made matters of discussion and negotiation. The Dominion Government is not called upon to surrender any power essential to political independence nor any interest whose conservation is necessary to the material prosperity of the country, and the well-being of its people. On the contrary, the idea is to bring representatives of both countries together for the purpose of ascertaining what arrangement for reciprocal trade can be made consistently with the promotion of the welfare of each, with the relations of Canada to Great Britain and with the perpetuation of Canada's political integrity. Thus, the acceptance of the Ohio Senator's proposal would be entirely consistent with Canadian honor and Canadian interests.

It is clear that reciprocity in coal would be attended with advantage to the citizens of both countries. Under such an arrangement the manufacturers of the Eastern States could have their wants supplied from Nova Scotia; the people of Ontario from the mines of Ohio and Pennsylvania, while the States on the Pacific slope could be supplied from British Columbia. The extent of this advantage to the people of Nova Scotia, may be gathered from the report for 1887 of Mr. H. V. Poole, inspector of the mines of Nova Scotia. Mr. Poole says:—"In 1850 our foreign exports of coal were chiefly to the United States, and were about half of the total quantity marketed. During the four years previous to the reciprocity treaty, the amount sent to the neighboring Republic was 100,000 tons a year. During the six years immediately subsequent to the making of that treaty the increase averaged thirty per cent. on that quantity. But by the end of the ten years that the treaty lasted, the exports had increased 335 per cent., and in the last year of the treaty, 1865, no less than twenty-three per cent. of the total sales of coal went to the United States. The lapsing of the treaty laid the foundation of the present trouble."

The first Parliament of Japan under the new constitution is announced to meet in November. Politically, it will be a motley crowd consisting of the Progressive Party, the Radical, the Patriotic, the Combination, the Conservative, all having platforms more or less definite. Every member elected is expected at least to be present. If he does not attend the session within a week of its opening, he is to be expelled. No member may absent himself from the sittings without the president's leave, and that leave cannot be for more than a week. The House may by vote extend the leave, but not for an indefinite period. Any violation of this rule

will render the member liable to expulsion. Evidently, the citizens of the Flowery Kingdom do not propose that their representatives shall enjoy the honor without the labor of a place among the nation's Solons.

A rather unique request was received the other day by Montreal's acting mayor from a company of miners in Arizona who desired that official to send out a consignment of wives to them. The letter calls for young women between fourteen and twenty, and says that numbers of offers await them, substantiated by \$5,000 in cash, and that an advance will be made to cover transportation charges. The question of compatibility does not appear to have entered into their calculations unless indeed the stipulation that they should be under twenty is meant to signify that by securing young wives their wills would be the more easily bent. The acting mayor, however, has declined the honor and has instructed the city clerk to reply that he is not the head of a matrimonial agency, and does not feel like organizing a society for the furnishing of wives to miners.

The statement made by his Honor Lieutenant-Governor Anger before the members of the American Forestry Association, which met in Quebec last week, shows how much that province is in need of an application of the principles advocated by the Association. Mr. Anger pointed out that "from 1807 to 1887, 10,430,000,000 feet board measure, and 69,600,000 cubic feet of wood were cut down in the province of Quebec, while the revenue derived from lumber has been \$9,800,000. Last year's revenue was above one million dollars." Every person who comprehends the significance of these figures will see that vast as are the timber-resources of that province, it will only be a question of a comparatively few years before they will be entirely exhausted, if this wholesale slaughter is permitted to continue. If Quebec is wise she will impose some restrictions upon those who would selfishly destroy this source of her wealth.

A singular demand which may yet require the intervention of the courts to settle was the other day made on the Town Council of Stratford-on-Avon by Lord Sackville, as Lord of the Manor, who laid a claim for encroachment and rent in respect to the fountain and clock tower donated by Mr. George W. Childs, of Philadelphia, in honor of the peerless poet. The council have decided to oppose the claim, contending that for six hundred years the spot in which the fountain stands has been used as a public market and that unless Lord Sackville can prove his manorial rights over the middle of the market square there has been no encroachment. If the representations already received are correct, many will heartily wish that the grasping lord may be taught the salutary lesson he so manifestly needs, that he doesn't own the whole earth.

A peculiar case of fatal asphyxiation by gas occurred in Montreal last week. Owing to the bracket having lost the stop pin the unfortunate man in turning off the gas turned the check a little too far and thus slightly opened up the jet again. At the inquest it was brought out that the jet was defective in this particular and that great care would be required to prevent it from leaking. Whether the proprietor was aware of the imperfect nature of the jet has not been established. However this may be, the lesson ought to be borne in mind by those who have to do with gas jets. It is not enough to turn off the gas but one should be sure there is no gas escaping. To determine this a good way is to hold a lighted match over the jet when if no flame is struck it may be concluded that the stoppage is complete.

There is reason to believe that the bountiful harvest which the Canadian farmers have just reaped will be followed by good prices.

At a recent Millers' Convention held in Edinburgh, it was shown that the estimated wheat harvest of Europe for the present year amounted to 155,700,000 quarters, while the quantity required for European consumption is estimated at 175,000,000 quarters. This leaves 19,300,000 quarters to be supplied from America, Australia, India and Africa. Apart from this an estimate was given of the deficiency in the three kingdoms which amounted to nineteen million quarters additional. This also will have to be supplied from foreign sources. Of the four countries above named the United States will not be able to export as much as usual seeing that the crop in that country is considerably below the average. India, too, it is thought will not export so largely as in former years, the increase in the force of silver making it less profitable to the eastern traders who have been wont to buy in silver and sell for gold. These facts encourage the hope that the farmers of Canada will reap the full benefit of their abundant yield.

In another column appears the advertisement of the Toronto College of Music. On the 4th inst. its doors opened to students, of whom there is a large list. Every thing gives promise of a successful year. The importance of the work already accomplished may be learned by a glance at this year's prospectus in which appear many programmes rendered by the College students. The College has been incorporated by the government, George Gooderham, Esq., having been elected president of its board of directors, and is in affiliation with the University of Toronto. This speaks volumes for the standing of the new institution, which we commend to our readers with its many advantages. A prospectus will be mailed upon application to the well-known director, F. H. Torrington.

The collision between the children of the new public school at Caer Howell Street and of St. Patrick's separate school, in which fists, sticks and stones were freely used and property injured, signifies the existence of a feeling among certain classes of the community, which, unless sternly repressed, is sure to give endless trouble in time to come. Already Toronto has gained notoriety by the conduct of some of her citizens in connection with the advent of Archbishop Walsh, and by the incipient riot of a few weeks ago when the boys in green were assaulted upon the streets. It does not require a prophet's vision to foretell what will be the result if this kind of thing is allowed to go on unchecked. That the feeling is very bitter is shown by the determination with which the youngsters, some of whom were less than ten years of age, engaged in the fight. For of course it is fair to presume that these children are chips of the old block, that they are in this respect what their parents are. If it be true that "the boy is father of the man," the prospect is not reassuring for the future peace and happiness of the city. It is to be hoped that the authorities, in dealing with the ringleaders in this war of children, will administer such reproof as will beget a wholesome fear of the law which will act as a deterrent for all future time.

The rumor that Sir John A. Macdonald is about to bring on the Dominion elections this fall has, in the absence of official confirmation, led many to reckon up the probabilities in the case. Considered from a party standpoint some of these reasons seem plausible enough. For example, that the Reformers do not desire them, being unprepared that the crops have been good this season, a good crop always helping a government "going to the country;" that Sir John will be in a better position to resist demand after an election that he can make on the Dominion Union members at Ottawa; that these claims were pressed during the forthcoming election, &c., &c. But what

TO PRINTERS.

Having just placed in our office a new web printing machine, we have for sale several Improved Cottrell Presses. They are in excellent condition, and are equally well adapted for job or newspaper work. Having no further use for them, these presses will be disposed of at a very low figure, and any publisher contemplating such an addition to his plant can get a decided bargain. Correspondence requested.

It is safe to say that the old Chieftain will not bring on the day of trial until the parliament shall have run its course unless he sees good reason for so doing. He has hitherto shown considerable skill in interpreting the signs of the times and we have no reason to suppose that in this respect he has lost his former power.

An accident on the railroad running from Calais to Paris, by which at least one man was killed and several persons injured, has brought to notice the imperfect character of the European locomotive as compared with the American. The accident was caused by a hollow iron girder, about twenty feet long and a foot square, having fallen from a freight train so that it lay parallel with the rails, and midway between them. The engine, being destitute of a cow-catcher, butted against the girder, which found its way under the locomotive, and threw it from the track. Describing the accident, one of the passengers said: "I am confident that this catastrophe would have been entirely avoided had the engine been provided with a proper headlight, and above all, with an American cow-catcher, which, reaching clear across the rails, would have prevented the girder from getting underneath the engine and raising it off the track."

When the rulers disregard the law and those who have to do with its enforcement wink at its violation it should excite no surprise if lawlessness abounds. This serious charge of breaking down the law is made by the temperance people against Lieutenant Governor Royal of the North West Territories, whose indiscriminate issuance of liquor permits is claimed to be nothing less than scandalous, and as being "a perversion of law and authority under which sin and vice are being fostered and encouraged." At a meeting held in Association Hall, this city, one evening last week, which Hon. J. C. Aikins, ex-Governor of Manitoba, presided, Mr. F. S. Spence showed from official records that the permit system as at present administered is rapidly tending to free trade in liquor. He pointed out that in 1888 the number of permits issued was 44, in 1889, 5568. In the same two years 56,388 and 151,629. The evil results, he contended, were proportionate. "It looks as if," he said, "a special effort were being made to break down the prohibition which has been doing so much good. It is prohibition in name, but license in fact." Now if the facts are as Mr. Spence and others who have taken this subject up so ably maintain, the guilt of the Government is manifest.