The Toronto World.

MONDAY MORNING. SETPEMBER11, 1882.

## THE RIB-STABBER EXPOSED.

We published last Monday a remarkable article that appeared simultaneously the week before in three weekly papers, namely the Bowmanville Statesman, the Milton Champion, and the Mitchell Recorder. The article was full of malevolence and unproved charges. We thought some Toronto evil-wisher of The World had written the article and sent it round to the country press during the absence of the editors in the Northwest. In this we were mistaken. Here is where it originated:

THE NATIONALIST ORGAN IN TORONTO.

*From the Mitchell Recorder, Sept 8.*

We assume full responsibility for the article under the above heading which appeared last week in our column, refering to the Toronto World, and which seems so much to have disturbed our contemporary's equanimity. The article in question was written in this office, without any prompting from Toronto or elsewhere. We sent proof copies of the article early in the week to four or five of our friends, including the papers mentioned by the World in its issue of Monday last. The latter, it seems, though fit to publish it. We have no objection. As to the article, we are prepared to defend the statements made in it. We believe them to be true. If there be any falsehood in them, let the World show it. Up to this writing it has not done so.

*From the Milton Champion, Sept. 7.*

The equinimity of the Toronto World was greatly disturbed by an editorial which appeared under the above title in our columns last week, which editorial it calls a disreputable slander and which, it says, it is well able to refute, and, by so doing, to vindicate its position. Well! Although a full week has since passed away, it has made no such attempt which conduct, considering its professed ability, is rather peculiar. If The World is able to vindicate its position, let it do so. We can see no use in its beating about the bush, as to the origin of the editorial. This is a side issue: the real issue is, are our statements true or false?

*From the Statesman Bowmanville, Sept. 7,*

Before leaving on our trip to Manitoba we made arrangements with an experienced journalist for the supply of editorial matter for this Statesman during our absence, believing that nothing would be written that we could not endorse. To our astonishment and regret, however, we learned before reaching home that a vicious attack had been made in the editorial columns of the Statesman of the 1st inst., on the Toronto World. We beg to say to our readers and to the enterprising publishers of the World that we do not endorse the sentiments expressed in the article in question, and we exceedingly regret that the Statesman should have been the medium through which such an unjust and uncalled for attack gained publicity.

*From the Markham Economist.*

The Toronto World has got some of our local journals "on the hip," and it serves them right. The World thinks it rather singular that an article condemnatory of the course pursued by that journal in the dominion elections should appear simultaneously, word for word, in papers published as far apart as Mitchell is from Milton and Bowmanville. "The only one-cent morning" cannot see through the mystery, and can only look upon it as "an attempt to stab the World" by means of some combined or nihilistic process. We "could a tale unfold," but forgo the opportunity. The World may rest easy—the apparrent bloodthirsty combination is prompted by no other motive than that of obtaining editorials without the expenditure of so much brain power as in the good old times gone by. Poor World it did look very much as though it were a combined *Race* for your life.

*From the Prescott Telegraph, Sept. 7.*

A number of our western contemporaries are spending their puny strength in abusing the Toronto World which is too outspoken to suit their views. In many points we differ in opinion from the World but are always willing to pay tribute to real merit, and The World is by a long odds the spiciest and liveliest daily publication in this province. It is independent in the true sense of the word, and that is more than can be said for the other so-called independent paners published in the dominion, while on its staff of contributors are the names of some of the best thinkers of our country. We say success to the World, and all papers that emulate it.

After the admission of the editor of the Recorder and of his echo, the Champion, an answer to their charges is unnecessary. Besides we do not consider that it is the duty of anyone to answer charges that are merely flung out and not supported. When the two worthies, or the one worthy, makes out a case we will give consideration to it; but if any man is to be expected to prove he did not steal sheep because some one said he did there would be little time left for the business of life. When the editor of the Recorder has proved for instance that The World is "run by Yankee Fenians" and that "it is conducted on American models" then we shall put in a defence. In the meantime we would just remind the Recorder and the Champion that while The World only merits their poor opinion it enjoys the good wishes and receives the praise of nearly every other journal in the wide dominion.

## THE CROPS AND THEIR PRICES.

The general reports of extraordinary crops in America are now supplemented by similar reports from all parts of Europe M. Estienne's annual review, just out at Marseilles, shows a great improvement over last year in every country but Spain. In France, wheat, corn, rye and barley are better than last year, and corn and wheat particularly so. In England there is a marked improvement in everything but barley, which shows a falling off from 110 last year to 95.4 this year, and potatoes, which fall off 4 per cent. In the other crops the percentage of the present crop compares with that of last year as follows: Wheat, 92.2 to 90; oats, 105.1 to 80; roots, 107.1 to 80. The London Times, reviewing M. Estienne's report, congratulates the country on the cheap abundance in store for all, and remarks that never before since these reports began was there a season in which the intelligence was so uniformly favorable all over the northern hemisphere. While mankind generally have reason to rejoice at the prospect of cheap food, there are those who are so peculiarly situated as to look upon this abundance as a calamity. The English farmer will groan at the beggarly price he will get for his hard-earned crops when rivaled by this plethora of food from every country on the globe. The wretched Irish cottier, who has wrung a few potatoes from the rocks of Kerry or Sligo, and starved himself to feed a pig into a marketable condition, will curse this foreign abundance when he finds that the pig will not bring enough to pay the rent. The heavy of the grain and provision markets, who are caught "long," will be badly squeezed by falling prices, and many of them will wish there had been a famine instead of this universal plenty. But the railroads and shipping will prosper, and will get every cent in freights out of these great crops that they can bear on their way to the sea; and the prosperity of the railroads and of the shipping will give an impetus to every branch of business. New lines will be built in all directions. New cities and villages will spring up in the wilderness, and the poor will have plenty of work at fair wages, and will be able to buy plenty of food with their wages. The American farmer will not get so good a price for his products, and will have to pay a round price to the railroad to get them to market, but he cannot fail to prosper when the people at large prosper.

## HAMILTON'S JEALOUSY.

The Spectator is again breaking its neck with jealousy over Toronto. It says "the local fair now in progress at Toronto is a failure as an exhibition." The only possible answer is to stigmatize this statement as a lie pure and simple. The fair is not a local one, but has exhibits from every section of the dominion, except the far away provinces of British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, and quite a number from the States. With the live stock and agricultural products on exhibition this week, it will hold its own with any exhibition that may follow it in Canada this year. Even the Hamilton Central fair people thought it good enough to send down a deputation to get a few points for their show, which we hope will be as big a success as ours is bound to be, although it will not be half the size. We are sorry for the Spec. that its view of Toronto and anything connected with this city is obstructed by the green eyed monster, but so it is and nothing can direct its sight to the point of justice and truth, when we are concerned, not even the famous female fakir.

## AN OFFICIOUS MAJOR-GENERAL.

Major-General Luard's action in ordering a militia officer under arrest at Ottawa last week has given rise to much comment in military circles and no less severe criticism. The whole thing turns on the question as to whether the major-general had authority to do what he did. He was in mufti and merely a spectator of the proceedings and the prevailing opinion is that he exceeded his duty. This is not the first time that Major-General Luard has insulted officers in public, and if he is allowed to continue it there will surely be a large defection from the service of men who have given much time and considerable money for the benefit of our Canadian volunteers. The case has given rise to no small amount of unpleasantness and discontent in the militia. But as long as Canadians are servient enough to have their major-generals and other functionaries *sent out* to them from England so long may they expect the said functionaries to treat them as the colonists that there are.

## COLONIZATION ROADS.

The Hamilton Spectator thinks it is unfair to the people of this province that *their* money should be expended on colonization roads where it can benefit only the few residents of that special locality. The Bobcaygeon Independent makes a sufficient answer. It says that the principle involved in this contention is sound but the facts are incorrect. The money expended on back-country roads does not come out of the pockets of the whole of the people, but really belongs to the back country residents, being the produce of the sale of back country timber. For instance $10,000 has been spent in the county of Haliburton on road repairs; nearly a quarter of a million dollars acerued to the province from the timber in that county.

## GREAT ON HEADINGS.

The Globe on Saturday had two reports with very similar headings, covering two very different stories. One was entitled "A Sad Loss," and detailed in pathetic style the loss by the Princess Louise of her favorite dog. The other, which was referred to as "A Sad Spectacle," narrated the case of a girl of fifteen who had been criminally assaulted. To the ordinary intelligence the loss of a young woman's virtue under aggravated circumstances would appear more serious than the loss of a "purp" even supposing it belonged to royalty, but judging from the Globe headings one event is of as much importance as the other.

## *THE SABBATH QUESTION.*

*(To The Editor of The World.*

SIR: Having just returned from New York, where I have spent a few days, including last Sunday, I wish to give the Canadian public some of my experiences through your widely-circulated columns, touching the question of the poor man's Sunday. During my visit I perambulated New York and Brooklyn very extensively, mixing with the largest crowds at Coney Island and other places of popular and public resort without ever seeing a drunken or rowdy person. Last Sunday I visited the large menagerie in Central park, comprising as it does an extensive collection of rare birds, animals, etc. Here I met scores of thousands of the working classes of New York and its vicinity, for excursion trains and boats run as on week days. The monkey-houses were densely packed by eager men, women and children; yet in all that great crowd I never heard one profane expression, nor did I see one person showing the ill effects of liquor, which may be obtained as freely in New York on Sunday as it can be on any day in the week. I could not help contrasting this busy scene of what is called in Canada "Sabbath breakers," with a similar crowd of much catechised and greatly dogmatised Canadians. The chief argument of Sabbatarians in Canada against rational recreation on Sunday is the drunken rowdyism that would be developed thereby, but I now boldly defy any one of these to show as much drunkenness in New York on any given Sunday as that which may be readily found in Toronto, without regard to the vast difference in the number of the respective populations. Assertion is dumb in the presence of such facts. The Americans by use have become competent to enjoy the liberty they have won. Canadians have yet to win the liberty which they cannot enjoy. The rich man only sails his yacht, drives his carriage or rambles at large, whilst his poor but industrious neighbor is closely shut up in bad ventilation and the fumes of worse whiskey.

J. ICK EVANS.

*(To the Editor of The World)*

SIR; I have been for some time an interested reader of the "Sabbath observance" discussion in your columns and would like to offer a few observations on a subject which to me seems as plain as day. There is a numerous class of people in every community, christian, mohammedan or pagan, who would consider themselves terribly persecuted if they were not allowed perfect "freedom of conscience," as they call it, but who are unwilling to accord similar privileges to others who happen to disagree with them in matters of faith. In former times these heretics were dealt with in a summary manner. They were converted to orthodoxy by such convincing arguments as the rack or the faggot and if incorrigible they were frequently obliged to pay the penalty of their obstinacy with their lives. Public sentiment has changed, however, and the orthodox in Canada and the United States are no longer able to argue as convincingly as they did one hundred years ago.

There is a great diversity of opinion among the "unco guid" themselves in regard to which day of the week should be set apart to the Lord; a very respectable minority of them holding to the view that as God commanded us to observe the seventh day which He had hallowed at the completion of His great work of creation, it is very presumptuous for us to revise and correct His command by observing the first day instead, and to us who go to the bible for our inspiration instead of the church—to God's word instead of the traditions of the fathers, it seems that this minority cannot be very far from right.

The advocates of a compulsory observance of the Sabbath thus start out with a disagreement as to which is the proper day to be observed and yet each party insists that its day is the hallowed one and both of them want outsiders to conform to their ideas while ignoring their own consciences.

It seems to me that the proper plan is to allow each person to spend Sunday in the way best suited to that particular person's situation; provided always that no one be allowed to interfere with any of the rights of his neighbor. I always look forward to the approach of Sunday with anticipations of pleasure because it gives me a rest after a week spent at work. I do not go to church more than one or twice a year or I would be unable to get the rest I need. People who are living on the money others have made can afford to rest during the week and may possibly derive some benefit from a regular attendance upon the services of the of sanctuary, but life is too short me—Sunday's included. I fail to see any consistency in the arguments of persons who always insist that they are right and every one else is wrong. They have a right to shape their own course, so long as they do not interfere with the rights of their fellow-beings and "so have you and I or any other man." It does not seem exactly right for people living in the country for instance, to spend the greater part of a day needed for rest for man and beast, driving a team nearly worn out with the fatigue of a weeks work on the farm, to town for the purpose of listening to the common place remarks they have probably heard from the same person, for perhaps, fifty years.

People who would be horrified at seeing a poor laboring man hoeing his potatoes on Sunday because he has no time to spend at such work on any other day, hire a minister who earns his salary principally upon that day. In country places where the minister has several charges he very frequently goes home with some influential parishoner to dine on Sunday. The hostess has staid away from church for the purpose of getting dinner ready for the dominie who takes it all as a matter of course and asks a blessing on the the meal he is about to partake of, forgetting that it is a product of the broken Sabbath which the poor over-worked woman needed for rest.

Some people are terribly scandalized at the sight of a steamer or the sound of a railway train on Sunday although they can stand any amount of the deafening din made by one or fifty church bells repeated at every hour of the day. This is of course entirely a matter of taste and I know several church members living under the shadow of the sanctuary who agree with me that the worst noise ever made by a locomotive is heavenly music when compared with the everlasting ding-dong of the church bell, and that even sick people have no Sabbath rights which churches consider themselves bound to respect. CXLIV.

Erie, Pa., Sept. 5.

## Wellington's Statue to Come Down.

*From the London Times.*

It has been decided that when the arch at Hyde park corner is removed, in accordance with the plan of Mr. Shaw Lefevre, which has just received the assent of the house of commons, the statue of the Duke of Wellington shall not be replaced upon it. Those who remember the placing of the statue in its present position are aware that the public taste immediately pronounced very strongly against the appearance presented by the horse and rider; a principal cause of objection being that they were set lengthwise on the arch instead of across it, as is usual in such structures. But it was easier to set the Duke on the arch than to bring him down, and for a generation past he has kept his place amid the indifference rather than the admiration of Londoners. A new site will now have to be found for this colossal work of art. It was the production of Matthew Cotes Wyatt, who had a considerable reputation in his time, and was placed in its present position in 1846. The cost of it was deftayed by a large public subscription.

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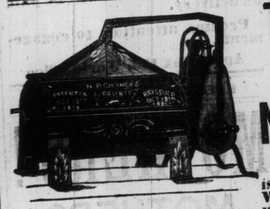

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