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DIRECT IMPORTERS,

FROM THE

Leading European Markets.

Gentlemen will find a most interesting assortment of everything that is nice in Handkerchiefs in our departments. Buying as we do exclusively from manufacturers; prices are made an object to buyers.

When these are bought by the Box, the wholesale prices is given.

Gentlemen's Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs in $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch and 2 inch Hems, from \$1.85 to \$6.00 per dozen.

Gentlemen's pure Linen handkerchiefs, $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ sizes, from 90c to \$4.08 per doz.

Gentlemen's Silk Handkerchiefs in 70 to 80 different qualities.

We import the finest of Gent's Wool, Cashmere and Silk Underwear, Hosiery, English Collars and Cuffs and nice Umbrellas, in all of which prices are made an object to buyers—a visit will convince you of this.

C. ROSS & CO.

DIRECT IMPORTERS,

94 & 96 Sparks Street,
24, 26, 28, & 30 Metcalfe St.,
OTTAWA

Canada's Shipping.

THE DOMINION NOW THE FIFTH MARITIME COUNTRY.

An interesting blue book is the List of Shipping issued by the Dominion Government. This report contains information regarding the dimensions, date when built and port of entry of every vessel in the Dominion, as well as comparative statements showing where Canada ranks in the mercantile marine of the world.

BRITAIN RULES THE SEAS.

That Britain still rules the seas is evident from one of the first tables given. This shows that out of a total of 2,469 steam vessels in the world, 5,937 by the flag of Great Britain or that of one of her colonies, and that out of a total of 10,000,000 representing the net tonnage of all steam and sailing vessels, eight and three-quarter millions are owned by British subjects.

CANADA STANDS FIFTH.

Even when separated from the rest of the empire, Canada makes a most creditable showing, standing fifth among the mercantile nations of the world in the point of tonnage, those above her being Great Britain, the United States, Norway and Germany, while France and Spain come after.

The total number of Canadian vessels of all kinds is 7,153, of which 1,348 are steamers, and the net tonnage of the whole is over one million tons. The number of vessels belonging to each province in the Confederation is as follows:

Nova Scotia	2,855
Quebec	1,455
Ontario	1,353
New Brunswick	1,013
P. E. Island	224
British Columbia	176
Manitoba	77
Total	7,153

Trade within the Empire: The aggregate of Canada's trade last year with other portions of the British Empire was as follows:

With Great Britain	\$91,743,935
British West Indies	2,710,913
Newfoundland	1,655,378
Australasia	693,103
British Guiana	405,238
British East Indies	191,964
British Africa	80,300
Other British possessions	67,773
Total	\$97,551,694

The proposal to saddle this trade with differential duties ranging from 30 to 60 per cent. in favor of the United States is the very "liberal" policy of some who claim to be statesmen—and British statesmen too.

PETROLEUM IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

Dr. Selwyn, director of the geological survey, has returned from a visit to the Crow's Nest Pass, whither he went to investigate the petroleum deposits there. Dr. Selwyn says he saw oil in various parts of that region. "In some places," he says, "I saw it coming out of rocks, and in others I scooped several samples with my hands off the water, whither it had flowed from the rocks. I have not assayed these samples yet, but from a general test I find the quality to be excellent. As to the quantity and value of the discovery, from a mercantile point of view, I am yet unable to speak. While the oil is flowing in considerable quantity from the rocks, there is no visible evidence that it flows in sufficient quantity to be of any use for mercantile purposes. Boring would have to be done to ascertain the extent of the find." Dr. Selwyn has brought samples of oil back with him. Two of the samples are dark, like that found

in Ontario, and smell very strongly. One was quite light in color and was found on the British Columbia side of the Rockies, in the old Cambrian rocks.

CONFEDERATION.

Confederation of the Provinces of Canada may not have been a panacea for all the ills of life, but it has given an impetus to business, and we believe has been an important factor in improvements and increase in trade. We may also assert that in other respects we would have been far behind our present position and our people would have grown up with narrow views accustomed to isolation and with their horizon bounded by the narrow limits of the province. Now a Canadian knows that he belongs to a country which rests on both great oceans. He knows that he can traverse the continent from Halifax to Victoria without touching any other soil but that of Canada; that he can remove from here to a point 3,000 miles distant and still remain a Canadian and under the same flag. These things lead to a higher national life and to nobler aspirations than it is possible to feel among a people who are small and insignificant and without hope of any increase of growth. Confederation can never be broken up unless the people of Canada in some moment of madness conclude to change their allegiance and join that nation which has been the life-long enemy of Great Britain. But such a contingency is too remote to be taken seriously into consideration. We firmly believe the present Confederation is but the prelude to a much greater one which will embrace the whole British Empire, and that fifty years hence, when Imperial Federation is accomplished and when the people are celebrating its anniversary, the enemies will be as thoroughly silenced and as contemptible as the enemies of the Canadian Confederation to-day.

LEVEL-HEADED.

London, Aug. 33.—Since the lynchings at New Orleans many Italians have returned to their native country from the United States, and in some localities their presence has caused a serious overstocking of the labor market. With a view to relieving this congestion, Premier Rudini, some time ago sounded Lord Salisbury on the question whether Australia would be a suitable field for the settlement of Italian immigrants. It was thought that possibly Australian local governments might offer some inducements for the immigration of Italians who could be proved to possess some means and to be of good character. The British Government sent inquiries to the Australian authorities, and has received responses which will hardly be welcome news to the Italian Premier. The Australian agents generally state that Italian immigration is not favored by the people of that country, and that whatever inducements are to be offered to intending settlers will be preferred, be extended to British and German immigrants.

MEAT FOR THE BERMUDAS.

The Imperial Government is advertising for a supply of animal food for Bermuda Islands, and is asking for tenders for the same. So far New York has had a monopoly of the business, which must be a profitable one. Some years ago Ald. Frankland tendered more than once to the Imperial Government, anxious to introduce Canadian beef into the islands, but New York influence was of such a character that they had the "inside track," and his representations to the British Government went unheeded.

Surely the time has come, in the face of the McKinley bills and Behring Sea seizures, when a country so hostile to British Imperial and to Canadian interests should cease gaining by Imperial patronage at the expense of Canadian loyalty. Canada can supply the British garrisons at the Bermudas with both live and dead meat equal to anything shipped from the United States and quite as cheaply. If some of those interested in the meat trade of Canada would draw the attention of the High

Commissioner of Canada and the Minister of Agriculture to the necessity of making an effort to secure this trade to the Dominion, through their efforts the Imperial Government would no doubt withdraw its American advertisements and give people loyal to it a chance.—*Toronto Meat Trade Journal.*

Resources of Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia is marvellously rich in natural resources. Within its limits there are more valuable minerals by far than are known in any other territory of equal size—coal, gold, iron, manganese, antimony, marble, gypsum, limestone and sandstone being found in great abundance. There is scarcely a county in the province, says a writer in *Harper's Bazar*, from one end to the other in which valuable deposits of one or more of these minerals do exist. Its extensive forests afford the best facilities for profitable lumbering and shipbuilding; its rivers, lakes and coast waters teem with fish; its fertile valleys, productive mountain slopes and inexhaustible marshes are adapted to every variety of agriculture, and its equable insular climate, free from all extremes of heat and cold, for wet and drought, is surpassed by that of few countries in the world. The land on which the New Englanders settled, and of which large tracts were freely given them, consisting of the famous dykes of the centre of the province, together with many acres of the almost as fertile uplands near. The two townships of Horton and Cornwallis, in which many located, form part of the "Garden of Nova Scotia," as fine an agricultural and fruit growing country as any in the world, stretching eastward and westward between the adjacent mountain ranges, in a soft, ever-changing, luxuriant landscape; on which, almost uninterruptedly, clear blue skies look down. The New England people who first settled in this charming region have transmitted to their descendants solid moral qualities and a high degree of intelligence. In education the county of Kings is foremost, and I know no part of the continent where purer, I had almost said so pure, English is spoken, or so few solecisms in speech are heard.

The "Holy Coat" at Treves.

"A Holy Coat" at Treves, in Germany, and another at Argenteuil, in France, and both genuine (?) cause a curious, international, political, and religious tangle," says the *Argonaut*. This controversy over second-hand clothing may be one of the causes that shall precipitate Germany and France into a sanguinary struggle, and embroil the nations of Europe. We are not certain that the consequences of the conflict will be in any degree less serious because it shall have been brought about by the altogether absurd and ridiculous controversy over what is assumed to be the clothing of Christ, the Carpenter of Bethlehem, who became the foundation of a church organization that pronounces belief in Him as indispensable to the salvation of all mankind from eternal torment when the torments of this life have ended.

The two "Holy Coats" work miracles, and both of them are vouched for as genuine by the early fathers of the church that organized religion into a money-making industry. There are, it is true, in the tombs of the Pharaohs, linen wrappings that are in a state of good preservation, made so by the gums used for the preservation of the human body. They are hermetically sealed, in stone sarcophagi, and buried away from air till exhumed; then the linen or camel's hair fabric comes forth in a state of preservation. But the garment, worn by the toiling Son of Man, carried with it to the sepulchre of its confinement all the elements of corruption and decay. For twelve centuries this garment had no

known existence, and if the Empress Helena brought it from the Holy Land as it came from the person of the Son of Man, for no better use than to gather pilgrims to Germany and French shrines for money making, and for arousing international jealousies and ultimate war between France and Germany, it is used for a very criminal purpose.

In this age of science and progress, the church that will pretend to prop its falling fortunes upon so absurd, ridiculous and altogether indefensible a superstition, will become the object of contempt, and its faith and dogmas the subject of derision and disbelief. Such an organization may become an object of danger to the country, because of the ignorance of the multitude who believe in it, but it can not long survive in an age of reason and an era of scientific knowledge. The Church of Rome merits nothing but contempt in endeavoring to perpetuate these monstrous superstitions. The age of miracles has passed, if it ever existed, and the church organization that can not keep abreast with science and reason will, in another century of time, be lost and its creeds forgotten.—*The Orange Sentinel.*

Big Facts in Little Space.

About 450 B. C., the Ionians first introduced the present system of writing from left to right. Previous to the above date from right to left prevailed.

There are at least 10,000,000 nerve fibres in the human body.

Three and a half millions of people are always on the seas of the world.

One half the people that are born die before the age of 16.

A recent survey has established the number of glaciers in the Alps at 1,155, of which 49 have a length of more than four and three quarter miles.

A grain of musk will sent a room for twenty years, and at the end of that time will not show it has diminished in the least.

A grain of carmine or half a grain of aniline will tinge a hog'shead of water so that a strong microscope will detect coloring matter in every drop.

A luminous buoy has been invented, the light of which is produced by phosphuret of calcium, and is visible two and a half miles away.

The proportion of Anglo-Saxon words in the English Bible is 97 per cent of the whole.

The receipts of the French treasury are larger than those of any other civilized nation.

It takes about three seconds for a message to go from one end of the Atlantic cable to the other. This is about 700 miles a second.

Only one person in a thousand die of old age.

An inch of rain means 100 tons of water on every acre.

The smallest known insect, the Pterotomas Putnamii, a parasite of the ichneumon, is but one ninetyeth of an inch in length.

The thickness of the human hair varies from the twohundred and fiftieth to the six hundredth part of an inch.

Blonde hair is the finest and red hair the coarsest.

The force required to open an oyster appears to be 1,319 times the weight of the shellless creature.

It has been calculated that there are about 200,000 families living in London on about £1 a week.

AND STILL HE LOVED HER.

Alas, for all their ecstasy, They knew not what was best; The young man reached the front door The old man did the rest.

HOME CURE FOR DEAFNESS.—A book by a noted Aural Surgeon, describing a System of curing Deafness and Noises in the Head, by which a self-cure is effected at home. The Rev. D. H. W. Harlock, of the Parsonage, Milton-under-wychwood, writes:—"Try the system by all means, it is first-rate, and has been of the UTMOST SERVICE to me." Post free 4d.—De Vere & Co. Publishers, 22, Warwick Lane, London, W.