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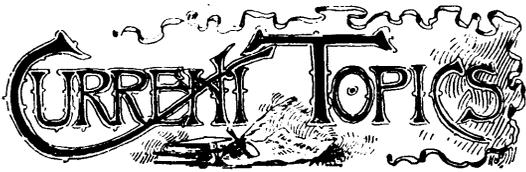
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## PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

We regret that press of matter obliges us to hold over the due instalment of Mrs. Arthur Spragge's interesting illustrated sketches of British Columbia till next number. We hope, however, to be able from that date to give them consecutively from week to week. Those that are to come will, we believe, be even more instructive and entertaining than what we have already published, as records of personal experiences and pictures of scenery and life in our Pacific Province.



In the last published Report of the Council of Arts and Manufactures of the Province of Quebec, the President, Mr. S. E. Dawson, deploras the apathy of the educated public as to the efforts of that body to promote industrial training. "I must confess," writes Mr. Dawson, "to a feeling of wonder at the slight notice the work of the Council has received from the press and public of Montreal. Every now and then I see a letter in some daily paper portentously announcing as new discoveries principles upon which this Council has been working for years. I have seen communications supported by editors, otherwise well informed, advocating the introduction of technical training, while for years back these gentlemen might, by turning aside a few blocks from their daily business round, have seen in the Montreal school 570 pupils working at such practical work as you have before you every week-night during the winter. We have in our schools throughout the province 1,346 pupils during the year just closed."

"The world knows nothing of its greatest men," says a modern poet. But these great men must be extremely modest. Modesty is, doubtless, an element in their greatness. Nevertheless, if, in order to benefit by their services, it is essential that their fellow-men should know something about them, it is their duty to emerge from obscurity. We are afraid that the Council of Arts and Manufactures has erred through excessive reticence as to its own proceedings. Its public-spirited members are far too prone to hide their light under a bushel. Being business men, they know full well how hard it is to gain the ear of the multitude, even of the *elite* and enlightened portion of it. It is on that very dulness of hearing that the not unprofitable trade of advertising has based its claims to recognition. The body politic is made up of thousands of self-centred individualities, to gain whose attention fruitfully demands appeal after appeal, reminder after reminder. How many of them is this wholesome and deserved rebuke, enshrined in its proper blue-book, likely to reach? We, who have the exceptional happiness

of discovering it, at once take it to heart as precious treasure-trove, and, as loyal citizens, forthwith pass it round for the good of others. The whole Report is admirable, but *cui bono*? In England the very same discouraging experience has been the lot of like workers in the cause of practical education. At last they refused to be ignored any longer. They compelled the great manufacturers and business-men to contemplate their work and say what they thought of it. They kept advertising themselves until a National Association for the Promotion of Technical Education had been formed, and they collected the opinions of practical men all over the country on the value of technical training. The public is the same everywhere. It has to be roused.

The French-Canadians of the United States are eagerly preparing for their national conventions, which have now become recognized features in their social life. The tenth annual convention of the French-Canadians of the State of New York is to take place in the commercial metropolis of the Empire State on the 1st of July next. The circular issued to the delegates sets forth the advantages that result from these gatherings and submits a number of questions as suitable for discussion. Naturally, after the recent heated controversy in New England, the subject of the parochial schools and the means of rendering them more efficient is assigned a prominent place. The methods by which French-Canadian interests in the Republic may be best protected will also elicit remark. Then comes the question of repatriation. Is it advisable? Or, if not, what action should be taken in view of a possible annexation movement? On this last point our compatriots across the border are divided. Of those who have cast in their lot for better or for worse with Uncle Sam and have sworn allegiance to the Stars and Stripes some would like to see their kinsmen doing likewise, while others hesitate to give such counsel. The still unnaturalized element would prefer Canada to remain apart from the States. Even though they cherish no hope of returning to their old home for permanent residence, they like to think of it as a sort of pilgrim's shrine, to which they turn longing eyes when weary of the bustle and conflict around them. This enduring patriotism differentiates the French-Canadians from all other settlers in the United States.

It is certainly more comfortable for all concerned when those who live in a country and earn a livelihood in it are also, in the fullest sense, its citizens, in enjoyment of the rights and amenable to the duties which citizenship implies. An instance of the awkwardness that may arise when mere residents undertake to discharge citizens' functions was furnished by an incident that took place not long since in Toronto. At a meeting of the Separate School Board the question came up whether any one who was not a British subject should act as a trustee. A member of the Board at once declared that he was an unnaturalized foreigner, and seemed to think that the fact made no difference in his position. It turned out, however, that he was mistaken, the Separate School Act requiring, or taking it for granted, that all such officials should be born or sworn subjects of the Crown. The possible retrospective effect of acts to which such illegal officers may have been parties is among the untoward consequences of carelessness in such appointments. Hereafter Toronto school boards will probably avoid incurring such risks.

The *Monetary Times* calls attention to the increase which recent years have brought about in the export Canadian trade. Home-made pianos have, it appears, been exported not only to the States but to Great Britain, and even to Australia. The exports of iron and steel manufactures during the last fiscal year amounted to a quarter of a million dollars. Of agricultural implements the exports were considerable, Great Britain receiving \$59,099's worth; Australia, \$39,559's worth; the Argentine Republic, \$31,865's worth. Goods of this class were also exported to Germany, to France, to Russia, Belgium and other European countries; to South Africa, and to the Sandwich Islands. The trade in musical instruments other than those above mentioned has grown very perceptibly during the last few years, the returns for the last two years showing 6,465 instruments of all kinds, valued at \$477,000, nearly double the export of the two previous years. In sewing machines there has also been a welcome advance, goods of this kind, valued at \$50,000, having been sent last year to Great Britain, Brazil, British Africa, Mexico and elsewhere. Other branches of Canadian manufacture, in the export of which there has been an increase of late, are books, pamphlets and maps (of which the yearly export is \$84,000, \$71,786 representing home production), cotton waste, scrap iron and Canadian whiskey—the increasing quantities of which sent abroad will, the *Times* thinks, be a cause of sorrow to some good people. Part, at least, of this showing is satisfactory. But there are fields of enterprise as yet unworked which, if turned to account, would add greatly to this trade. If we would obtain the full advantage of our manufacturing progress, we must make the country, its resources and industries better known abroad, and that end can be attained in no better way than that to which we called attention in a recent issue.

It is some satisfaction to know that the latest estimate from Johnstown, while it still leaves the result terribly serious, greatly reduces the fatality of the Conemaugh disaster. From five to seven thousand is now stated as the probable loss of life. A few days ago it was thought to go as high as twelve to fifteen thousand. Doubtless the extreme figure of the lower estimate will yet be considerably cut down and the first statement of the destruction of life, from four to seven or eight thousand, be justified. This was the claim of the Associated Press correspondent the day after the calamity. But, notwithstanding the reduction, the catastrophe is one of the most heartrending, both in sweeping destruction of human life and in the pitifulness of the melancholy details, that the public on this continent has ever been asked to contemplate.

## COLONIZATION.

The last Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for this province contains some interesting particulars regarding the settlement of newly opened districts. Attention is directed more especially to the valleys of the Ottawa and St. Maurice and to the Temiscamingue region. Taken together, these three districts embrace the vast stretch of country that lies between the Saguenay and the Ottawa, between the settled portions of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence counties and the Height of Land. For many years the work of colonization in this new northland was carried on in the face of very real obstacles—the chief of which was the lack of means of inter-communication. The railway move-