TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 21, 1882. THE PATAL ELEVATOR SHAFF.

We do not hear much now about the in vestigation into Halifax poor house fire, by which some thi.ty numan beings were suffocated or burned to death recently. Still, we suppose the inquest is going on or will go on some of these days. However, while the public are waiting for the formalities to be gone through with, the true explanation of how it was that the fire all at once shot up through the building and cut off all means of escape for those who in Europe to America? perished is already pretty well understood. It was the fatal elevator shaft that did it Up to a certain moment it was supposed by those outside that the unfortunate creatures inside could easily make their way out; men who ever went forth to colonize new there was no danger, and that they should They were patriots, statesmen soldier stay where they were. But the flames soon found a vent up the elevator, and in laid the foundations of future nations broad an instant all was changed. The elevator served the purpose of a tall chimney, gave the fire a draught equal to that of a blast furnace, and in a few minutes after that all

elevators are a necessity. The convenience them with seed and stock. Has it never of having them is great, but the additional risk incurred in case of fire is no slight mat ter. The number of large stores and ware houses that have taken fire and that might easily have been saved but for the fatal. devouring fire draught caused by the elevator, is legion. Supposing that elevator doors, both above and below, were always closed when not in use, and that there was an outside easing of sheet iron from top to bottom, this particular danger would be largely obviated. In factories and warehouses all the elevator doors should be closed and securely fastened before the premises are left for the night; but to what extent this necessary rule is observed, per haps even insurance men do not very certainly know. The elevator is a great modern convenience, but it requires careful

COLONIAL RAILWAYS.

A London correspondent of a New York paper has been going into the railway mileage figures of the British possessions. India has 9826 miles, Canada 7230, New Zealand 1258, Victoria 1199, etc., the total being 23,606 miles. The correspondent is not very favorable to the Canadian

"With respect to Canadian lines you readers witl doubtless be better posted. In spite of the assistance rendered by the Canadian government, these lines have undoubtedly been the least profitable of all our investments in colonial railways The long winters, the changes of gauge and the raising of new capital at hopeless discounts have all tended to make Canadian railways a byword for unprofitableness, and the fact that the government lines, upon which an expenditure of some \$50,000,000 has been incurred are vielding practically no profit upon their working shows that the government itself has been as powerless as the companies to make Canadian railways profitable. Yet we all see how Canadian railways are growing. The Canadian Pacifis in a few years will certainly become an accomplished fact, and that great work has undoubtedly been aided by the excitement carefully tostered in respect to the Canadian land companies. Whatever the Canadian Northwest may bring forth, it is quite certain that the Canadian Pacific railway has already been enabled to sell some millions of acres of land, and it is apparent that the most trying period for that undertaking will be when the line has been got to work and the traffic has yet to be created."

WHY DON'T OSCAR GO ?

It has become apparent from certain infallible signs that the apostle of sun flowers and gush, Mr. Oscar Wilde, has taken up a residence among the unmannerly American people, which shows more wisdom than the American barbarians were willing at first to credit him with. There have naturally been many speculations as to the secret of this determination on his part. We are far too modest to suppose that the country at large offers any irresistible attraction to him, and far too shrewd to believe that an all embracing love of the beautiful in American institutions is the magnet. It was at first suggested that some rapturous maiden on Murray Hill had fascinated him, but that theory brings its own refutation, for how could she resist him, and if she didn't why has he not carried her off to England to complete her education in the salons and studios of the Burne-Joneses and other talented pioneers of art in Europe? Then, from the constant attendance danced upon her by Oscar Wilde it was believed that he cherished somewhere about the frills of his gorgeous shirt front a hopeless attachment for the daughter of Dean Corbet Le Breton of St Helier. who is fair in the fearless old fashion and whose limbs are as melodies yet to the bald-headed bidders for front seats at Wallack's. But even this proposition is untenable. Since that curious old gentleman. George the Count Johannes, bade farewell to life and George Francis Train's "bulletins" have "evoluted" themselves into scarcity there has been an amazing dearth of regularly contributed bosh and twaddle ters where you would naturally expect to in the newspapers. Recognizing this, Mr Wilde seems to have devoted himself to the task of filling the great void, so far, it must be acknowledged with the success of a master. The New York World is tull of

A NEW VIEW OF IMMIGRATION. From the Ottawa Free Press, Nov. 16 It is really doubtful, after all, whether the wholesale importation of European paupers to America is an unmixed blessing. It would be better far, in our opinion, were the settlement of the country left to the Church streets; he was followed by a throus and enterprising people from the old countries would make their way to these shores and fill up the vacant spaces, as natural process whereby the hardy, adven- leading elder in a Queen street presbyterian

to take possession of our wild lands. Let

us reverse the picture. Suppose the nations open to settlement on the same terms as are granted in Canada and the United States, who can doubt but that there would thing beyond my comprehension. P. be almost, if not, as great a rush from the squalid quarters of great American cities to Europe as there is now from like places

The early settlers of this continent wer men who owned some of the best blood of the old lands, and were also endowed with the noblest motives that ever actuated any countries since ships were first invented, and, above all, lovers of freedom. They and deep and we to-day enjoy the blessings

Now all is changed and we are content to pay the passages of the paupers of Europe to our shores, give them lands, even feed, clothe, build them houses, and supply occurred to the advocates of this system who are thus robbing themselves and their children of their natural heritage, that they are performing one of the most gigantic pieces of folly ever perpetrated by any people in the world? Talk of protection, of tariffs, of affording employment to our workingmen! What egregious nonsense all this sounds, while we make assisted immigration a part of our public

If emigration were left to take its na ural course, we could have our pick and choice of the best classes of the old counries. Indeed, the enormous advantages offered by our fertile lands and mineral resources would attract to our shores men of character and enterprise, who would not need our people to pay their way out, feed, clothe and set them up with farms for themselves and children. Besides the moving principle of this policy is essentially pauperising. To give a man a free gift what he should win by his own exertions is to take away from him the very incentive which makes him of value as a settler in a new country.

Why should the people of America provide for those who have been made paupers by European despotism? Why should we despoil ourselves of our lands and tax ourselves to secure the tyrants and landlords of Europe prolonged possession of estates which these poor people should by right own and cultivate? Why, to sum up, should we make America a great safety valve for the revolutionary elements of the Old World, which if left to themselve would soon make short work of tyranny

and landlordism in their own countries? These are questions which have never before been presented to the people of this country, and we present them now with the hope that this absurd, suicidal system of assisting emigrants from over the water may be viewed in its true light, condemned and ended once and forever.

From the St. Thomas Journal, Nov. 16. A sensational paper in Toronto having created the eport that a cabinet council had decided in favor of n early meeting of the local legislature, and a dis solution of the parliament in February next, pains have been taken to find out the truth of the matter, nd the rumor is pronounced false,

Really, Mr. Journal, you have been makir g an ass of yourself. What the World said was strictly true, and what the Globe said as an offset was strictly unreliable, as its announcement next day proved. We beg to tell the Journal that the probabilities all point to an election in February. Mr. Meredith, however, may be able to prevent it ; but he too may favor an early appeal

NEW THIRD PARTY.

(To The Editor of The World.) SIR: You will doubtless have noticed that those who have criticised adversely the program of the third party are those whose personal interests would be affected by the success of such a movement. The party hacks see no good in anything but the machine they assume to run. The success of the third party would mean that the ship of state would be freed from the barnacles that are now tenaciously clinging to the hull The gutter politician, dike Ohello, would find his occupation gone. Hence his angry denunciation of the movement. Fair-minded men will, however, view from a different standpoint. Some of the critics say it is com-posed of planks from the platform of both parties—embracing the good in each. No higher compliment could be paid to it and if such be the case its existence is justified even from the mouth of its enemies Let the friends of the third party rally around the standard they have raised and their success is assured. The old parties have outlived their usefulness and the new departure should be encouraged.

CANADIAN.

SUNDAY CARRIAGES AND COCK-

(To the Editor of The World) SIR: It is the boast of the people of Toronto that the Sabbath is better observed here than in almost any other city in the world. I regret to find that while this is substantially correct it is not so in quar-

Many prominent members of churches break the commandment against Sabbath breaking by unnecessarily using carriages to onvey them to church on the Lord's day

Owing to the effects of a severe cold I was obliged to remain in the house yester dy From my window I noticed a prominent Roman catholic riding in his private carriage to the cathedral; next a well known epi-cyalian, who takes an active interest in the young men's christian association, was using a coupe to carry him to the parish church at the corner of King and Church streets; he was followed by a county of the fence, and walks up and down the lane with him at a rapid gallop. This

LIBERTY NOT LICENSY.

(To the Editor of The World.) Sin: There seems to be a tendency to vander away from the real point at issue in discussing the recent custom's seizure of Paine's "Age of Reason." The "orthodox" n the one hand, endeavors to settle the question by offering proof, or assertion, of immorality or obscenity in the work condemned; while some who advocate "freethought" aim to justify its admission on the round that there are many immoral pass ages in other works freely admitted and ridely circulated. What bearing has either contention, however truthful, upon the question at issue? The sole question involved is simply this; is it the function of government to control, fetter, or direct authoritatively the literary tastes of a authoritatively the literary tastes of a people? If so, what becomes of the freedom of the orese? If it be right to prevent the entrance of what is deemed "objectionable" literature from without, will it not soon become right also to erect a censorship of the press within our land? Already there are some among us who cry out against the published details of crime and criminal trials in our daily papers, little dreaming, poor weaklings, that such details, however painful and disgusting, yet contain within them slike a moral education and a moral safeguard—a moral education thus far that they show to what depths of debauchery man may permit himself to sink thus far that they show to what depths of debauchery man may permit himself to sink if once he ceases to hold the reins of passion or curb evil desires within him. From these sickening scenes he may gain experience and knowledge of his own heart, mind and physical tendencies without himself indulging in crime experimentally. He learns what to avoid far more than he learns new methods of indulgence. The truth on such matters is this a moral education and a moral safeguard. Truth both plainly and stuthfully told is always a power for good and not for evil. But such power for good and not for evil. But such details in the daily press are a moral safe guard in another sense. Precisely because "justice" is proverbially beind," she can bear to have floods of light poured upon her in her administrations without disturbing in the least the thelease". ing in the least the "balance" she holds while if darkness surround her it enable her and disarrange the needed equipoise.
There is nothing so destructive to the morals of a nation as a corrupt administration tration of justice. Again, these details afford to the well-disposed citizen reliable afford to the well-disposed citizen reliable indications of the special direction which the current of evil in our midst is taking; and it thus becomes possible wisely to bring good to bear upon the various stages which evil assumes in its course, so as by "cood" to overcome or check "evil" If this be true (and who can deny it?) as regards evil ultimated into its full repenses of "crime." how much more is it

it!) as regards evil altimated into its intripeness of "crime," how much more is it wise and best, that evil in the realm of thought should be left free to expose itself thus to our gaze in the form of literature that we may see and learn its insiduous progress, and apply the mental remeity of "good" to stem and overcome it. It is simply impossible, by legal measures, to fetter thought in this age, or to prevent the intended of impossible in the same of the production. inroads of immoral literature if there be a desire for it. It is better far that it should not be driven to enter and spread surreptitiously until its presence comes to light in the form of hideous and revolting unnat-Let thought be free, and

expressed, even if evil, that we may know power and attitude, its extent and rar fications, and place alongside of the sure and certain antidote good, wrought out into truth in the purity! Ages ago legislation wisely gave up the attempt to rule over man's thoughts. Has the result been "only evil and that continually?" Or has freedom given greater inlet to good thoughts and greater outlet to the same than it has to evil? Is there any reply possible save an firmative one. Do not then let us disturb the principle found to work so well, lest haply in some other age or country (never I believe in this) a government should be found strong enough to attempt interference with the free circulation of the bible and endeavor to stop it at the custom house or

the printing room, on the plea that it contains immoral (?) passages or teaching immoral to the principles on which the state is founded. Protestantism has had to KIDNEY COMPLAINTS of Either Ser struggle upwards through such a state of Do not let us now do to others as we would not that they should do to us and teach a lesson in evil. Yet, given a free people who by their

Yet, given a free people who by majority vote request their government to interdict at the custom house their right to select the goods of other nations, by imposing a fine (called a protective tariff) upon all such purchasers, and can we wonder that a government thus "spoiled" and misled as to its true functions, should ere long seek to go further and attempt to dictate to us what kind of mental wares we must appetize? Such erroneous principles are then own destruction. Any government of "party" based upon them must necessarily weaken itself, and fall into disrepute before the advancing light of this free age in which we live. The people learn by their own errors, and then they teach the government which they themselves have set up.

J. L. F.

Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N.Y. De r Sir-I have advised many persons to try your "Favorite Prescription" and never see it fail to do more than you advertise Yours truly, MRS. A. M. RANKIN, 141 Bates street. Indianapolis, Ind

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If you cannot mount from the ground,

lead the horse to a high fence, say "Whoa two or three times, and jump over the horse's ears. You will light somewhere on his neck, and you will have plenty of time to adjust yourself while the horse is running away. Another method of mounting, argely practiced by young centlemen from lane with him at a rapid gallop. This gives the rider in about ten minutes all the

your knees are on a level with your Then, as you ride, you will raise to your feet and stand in the attitude of a man peering over a fence to look for his dog, and then fall in the saddle like a ruan who has stepped on a banana peel. This is the English school. It is hard on the horse, but it is considered very graceful. A man cannot wear false teeth, however, and ride in this manner.

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come to a conclusi devised her property without naming him, be whom she last married whom ahe supposed he really was not, came for that leg-sly the estate probate court decided marriage being void, the Judge Allen of the upholds that opinion woman's intention.

man's intention.

The guardsmen r

The Australian de consist, as is well distinct colonies (not distinct colonies (not islands of Tasmania a of which has a disting overnor, distinct excouncils, and widely tariff systems. The gauge on the Aust one crosses the Muther "broad" (5 fee inches) gauge—when land the lines have t 6 inches) gauge To cratic section of Vic adopted federation are no platform, and are no

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JAMES PATTO", Collector. Custem House, November 20, 1888.

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Two young ladies of

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The odd case of Mrs

The Marquis of Qu able tells us, created the first performance historical play, The P ears old -old enough porary of Count D'O much about court. Si sor for her. His fathe after whom the "rule the dr name, committee quence of heavy loss mother is a convert to faith, and has acquirriety as a supporter of Ireland.

who now walk the str wild look about the equiet about the brow. privation is left in the forms, but the trace visible enough in the cast around. The satisfactory in the forms. cast around. The satiocable in the faces from Zululand, and it will tell you that the in the frontier war never recovered the they had worn at the campaign. "One war whoop by night years of his life, and to his youth foreve Custer just before en on the Rosebud river

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That Bu To three times the