

The credit system, however needful and beneficent to honest and struggling people in a new country, is abused by a class who are least entitled to its benefits. The class whose delinquencies have caused the effort, those who can pay but will not, do harm to themselves and everybody else; says the *Winnipeg Standard*. "Those who declared their intention to do business on the cash system—thereby clipping the wings of the more extravagant and reckless members of the community—have hearty good wishes for their success—Some good will result from the effort, undoubtedly. As a rule the poorer classes are regarded as very safe customers. They do not generally run formidable bills, and trust to luck to pay them; and were this class the only purchasers, trades-people would have few bad accounts. The dangerous element is the more stylish—those who appear to be well off; but who are so extravagant or such wretched managers that they are nearly all the time ahead of their incomes. In so far as this cash movement strikes at them, they will have little sympathy, what ever outcry they make."

ABOUT 1854, Cyrus Wakefield began the manufacture of chair seats from rattan, in the little town of Wakefield, Mass., where the Wakefield Rattan Co., has now the principal factory in the United States. What are commonly known as the cane seats to chairs, and the like, are woven out of split rattan. Within the last few years, an almost infinite variety of articles has been added to the list manufactured out of this tough and pliable substance. The raw material is imported from Singapore mainly, and comes tied up in bundles, the canes averaging from 12 to 16 feet in length, and from an eighth to three-quarters of an inch in diameter. Machinery is used for splitting them into any desirable sizes, but most of the weaving is done by hand. Of the many articles now being manufactured almost wholly out of rattan, and which takes the place of walnut, ash and other furniture woods, are chairs of all descriptions, settees, ottomans, baskets of infinite variety, tables, bedsteads, dressing cases, side boards, fire screens, window shades and trunks.

THE *Oshawa Vindicator* is of opinion that while some people desire to pay their debts some do not. A shopkeeper meeting a man out of work on the corner of the street intimated that he had a load of wood he wished to have cut. "Well" remarked the man, "cut it." "Oh," replied the shopkeeper, "I want you to cut it." "You do," was the rejoinder, "and what will you give me?" "Why you know you owe me an account which you promised to pay me long ago; I'll allow it on that," said the storekeeper. "Ah, you will said the man, I don't work in that way, I work for cash, I do." The shopkeeper spoke angrily. But the debtor coolly replied: "yes blow away, you're mad, but I have the advantage of you, I owe you an account and I am going to owe you. I have got the advantage of you, but you won't get work nor money out of me." And the shopkeeper has not, neither have others who have

given credit to men of that stripe. Fortunately all men are not like that, still there are enough to make *cash down* the proper method of doing business.

—The Bank of Montreal has declared a dividend of five per cent on the business of the half year. The directorate deemed it advisable to draw on the rest for \$500,000, to provide for the depreciation of assets, and to wipe out all accounts of a doubtful nature. The business done, however, has been a satisfactory one, the profits not only providing for all losses but paying the dividend just declared.

—In the New Brunswick Legislature on Saturday last, 12th inst., a resolution was introduced to advertise for tenders for new Legislative buildings at Fredericton, which some of the members argued were "absolutely necessary," the present buildings being "a disgrace to the Province, uncomfortable and unhealthy." An attempt was made to limit the cost of the buildings to \$100,000, but this amendment was voted down by 25 to 6.

—An important step has been taken by the Messrs. Redpath in regard to the terms adopted in the sales of their sugars, which are now again upon the market. Where 30 and 60 days credit were given upon their sugars when their refinery was in operation in former years, they have now fixed their terms as cash in 14 days, with 2½ per cent. discount; but when transactions are very large special arrangements may be made. This is an example which should aid the disposition towards shorter credit. There has been of late years a tendency to relax the bounds within which mercantile transactions were carried on, to extend the period of credit and to grant time upon merchandise which was previously sold for prompt cash. That tendency has grown in some lines into an abuse, affording facilities to weak houses and neutralizing profit. The step taken by the Messrs. Redpath is therefore in a salutary direction.

—Dairymen in New York State, along the line of the Harlem railway, are to be furnished with a cargo of prime milch cows from Canadian pastures. A Cambray merchant proposes to select from the counties of Victoria, Durham, and Ontario, a specimen car load to be shipped by the first boat from Port Hope. Should the venture prove successful, further lots will no doubt be exported.

—It is proposed to manufacture quinine in Canada, provided Peruvian bark, the raw material for the product, be placed on the free list, both articles now paying 20 per cent. Quinine is used in the Dominion pretty freely, being employed in making quinine wine, besides its common use as a febrifuge and tonic. The annual value imported is placed at \$80,000 to \$100,000. The process of extraction includes boiling the pulverised cinchona bark with water slightly tintured with oil vitriol, then using carbonate of soda to precipitate the bases, and extracting the quinia and other alkaloids by means of ether.

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H H	EE	NN	DD	EE	RR	SS	OO	NN	NN
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