# The Toronto World.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1, 1882.


## THE MODERN DANGER OF OUTSIDE OPERATIONS.

Full particulars of the present financial crisis in Europe have not yet reached us, but what is already known justifies a certain general conclusion. An overplus of what we may call outside operations will probably turn out to have been the bottom cause of the trouble. In this case the trouble appears to have commenced in France, we may say in Paris. There financial companies of high and low degree, and in many and various forms have greatly multiplied and extended within the last few years. The recent heavy investments, actual or proposed, of French capital in Canada, have been largely facilitated by the intensely speculative drift of financial operations in Paris for some time back How the present collapse on the Seine may affect matters along the banks of the St. Lawrence has yet to appear, but we fancy that a decided cooling off is inevitable. It is too soon yet to guess at what the real magnitude of this crisis may turn out to be. It may prove disastrous on a large scale, or, who knows?—political and commercial treaty considerations may promptly induce such abundant aid from London that it will pass away like a nine-days' wonder. Further, the position of the great Jewish financial houses with regard to it has yet to be made apparent. The extraordinary persecution of the Jews for some time going on in Eastern Europe is repudiated in France, and indeed in Western Europe generally, a circumstance which may favor the conjecture that the Rothschilds and their kin will see to it that no great harm will happen to France after all. London will doubtless come forward with millions to the rescue; and, we may add, with many millions more were a satisfactory commercial treaty promised as the *quid pro quo*.

As for the bottom cause of such wild outbursts of financial speculation with disasters following, what is it? We answer, it is the attempt to get hold of wealth without actually creating it. The man who makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before creates wealth, in a very small fractional degree it is true, but still in a degree. He who "makes money," as it is said, by buying and selling merchandize, or by simply carrying it from one place to another, may fulfil a purpose very useful to the world generally, but he does not really add a cent's worth to the world's stock of material wealth. He merely buys or sells, or moves it—all which may be very convenient, and even absolutely necessary—but he actually makes nothing, he adds nothing to what the world possessed before. Now, as far as yet appears, the multitude of speculative enterprises which have brought on the present crisis in France have been mostly—we may say nearly altogether—of the non-productive order. Money was to be made by lending money, by starting companies to do this thing and the other—almost everything except actually *producing* something, from the soil, from the workshop, or otherwise. Further, these speculative enterprises have reached largely outside of France; the attempt has been made to "do business" where actual business to do did not exist. The rather extraordinary reaching out to Canada, which a year ago surprised us all to no small extent, was undoubtedly part of the general craze in Paris for outside operations. Suppose that French capital seeks employment, and that it finds employment in producing in France more grain, wine, silk, and other saleable articles than before; there is a real addition to the country's wealth in consequence. The risk in such case is a comparatively safe one, but far otherwise is it when speculation goes outside and takes enormous risk in mere speculation, with over-abundant competition already in the field. The old English East India company went into outside business on a large scale, but it went in on an inside track; it had no competition, and could do as it pleased. Nowadays outside adventures, except with powerful governments at their back, have to face tremendous competition. The increased and ever increasing pressure of competition in modern times is a principal factor in the problem. The more that each nation strives to do for itself—the more that it tries to keep its own work for its own workers—the less scope is afforded for the levying of foreign tribute in the shape of foreign profits on its business. And this is what the nations are coming to, most unquestionably. Every year France is more unwilling that England or Germany should make money by selling to her; every year Germany is more unwilling that England or France should make money out of German custom. Every year each nation feels so much the need of retaining its own custom, to the extent possible, that it grudges more and more what has to be given to foreigners. And the present French crisis, we have no doubt, will be found to have originated in an overstrained attempt to fight against this powerful tendency of the times, and to make or create outside business when and where there really was no demand for it.

### EDITOR AND BISHOP.

Our special correspondence from Montreal in another column will give the reader a fair notion of the true inwardness of the issue between Bishop Fabre and the editor of Le Monde.

While the public opinion of all Canada, with the exception of parts of Quebec, will sustain Mr. Houde in his determination not to violate his conscience, and to assert the right of the press to discuss the subject in question, yet he will meet with little encouragement in his abject submission to the mandate of the bishop.

All liberal-minded men, including liberal-minded Catholics, will support the contention that laymen have a perfect right to discuss similar issues to that of the Laval university, though there may be many who would not approve of the language used by the editor of Le Monde towards the cardinal prefect of the propoganda.

### A NEW ISSUE.

In the matter of federal and provincial rights the conservatives are allowing the liberal party to steal a march on them. In their action in the Ontario legislature, and in the expressed opinions of Sir John A. Macdonald, the conservatives, it would appear, hold provincial rights of little importance, and care less for an extension of the powers of the federal authority. The liberal party on the contrary is fast coming to the position, has in fact taken the position, that all possible rights should be claimed for the provinces, and in the same way that all possible powers should be claimed for the federal legislature—in a word, the liberals wish to see the provinces manage their entire local affairs and the Dominion parliament have fuller power to manage Dominion affairs, even to the making of our own treaties of commerce.

TORONTO has two alleged evening papers' yet last night they contained only half a dozen lines about the fire in New York yesterday forenoon. The Globe, an alleged morning paper, had over a column, which shows that a spirit of enterprise must have broken loose somewhere about the old lady's person.

THE GENTLEMEN entrusted with sending out press despatches from Ottawa are always getting up murders, elopements and tales of dire crimes, and then contradicting them the next day. The last one, the alleged Gatineau murder, has turned out as usual, to be a case of natural death.

THE MAIL has taken his little brother to task for his recent foolish tirade against the Germans. The article does little more than re-echo what The World said a few days ago in defence of the insulted people.

MR. EDGAR'S VEILED TREASON speech has been translated into French and is being published by La Patrie.

## *THE UNKINDEST YET.*

**Oscar the Æsthetic Compared to Cool Burgess as Nicodemus Johnson.**

*(N. Y. Correspondence Cincinnati Enquirer.)*

We are having fun this week with Oscar Wilde. And the big guy is having fun with us. Maybe his fun is funnier than ours, too, for he took twenty-five hundred of our dollars at Chickering hall. One thing is settled—Oscar will not become fashionable here. He has been invited out several times, to be sure, but only by persons who are noted for grotesqueries. For instance, he has dined with Mrs. John Bigelow. She is the estimable and accomplished wife of an ex-minister to France; still, all the same, she is the oddest creature in all our circles of culture and wealth. She is ever doing something queer. It was through her that the German official guests retired in anger from the recent ball to the Yorktown visitors. She dresses richly but outrageously. A dress of blue, with an overdress of green is a mild form of her eccentricity in colors. If fashion orders a fullness of drapery behind, she is pretty sure to disobey by putting the fullness in front. She never wears corsets; she is in all things original and independent; she was sure to be the one conspicuous leader in society to welcome Oscar, the æsthete. As for the general public, we have seen him, and he has made us mildly sick. If he comes your way it will be worth your while to take one look at him, just to see what an overgrown, loose-jointed, spindle shanked, vacant-faced, unwholesome fellow may get admiration in London. Until then you will have to

> Conceive him if you can,
> A six-foot-two young man,
> A coldery, mouldery,
> Hair on his shouldery,
> All knuckles and joints young man.

Or, if you wish something to tie your imagination to, recall Cool Burgess in his song and dance, 'Nicodemus Johnson.' The thin legs and black stockings; the broad flat feet, the wide collar, the swallow-tail coat, the wild hair, the idiotic expression, the awkward attitudes—all these, though differing in details, make up a similarity of general defect.

### *LETTER-CARRIERS AND HOD-CARRIERS.*

TO THE WORLD:—I notice in the Globe a communication in behalf of the letter-carriers, complaining of the poor pay they receive, and adding that a hod-carrier receives as much. I question the taste of such comparisons, and would like to know if there is any good reason why a letter-carrier should receive any more wages a day than a brick-carrier, provided he does his work as well, and no better.

HOD CARRIER.

### *YOUNG GIRLS WHO USE SLANG.*

TO THE WORLD:—Happening to sit behind two young girls in their teens at one of our theatres on Saturday night, I was shocked to hear their familiarity with the vulgar slang of the day, which they used very frequently. Surely, Mr. Editor, this is to be deplored. Could you not warn our young girls against the practice?

STANLEY.

### *BUSINESS POINTS.*

Daily shipments of clover seed are being forwarded to Ireland by our city seedsmen.

A lively business in Canadian apples is being carried on with Philadelphia. A city firm sends 350 barrels per week.

Coffee & Co. shipped thirty-five car loads of barley via G. T. R. yesterday to Chicago, and some twenty cars via Credit Valley.

Cancelled postage stamps and used postal cards are articles of export. A London, Eng., firm has contracted with a Toronto firm for a large lot.

B. A. Shutt, of the Yorkville poultry yards, has sold his entire stock, on account of other pressing business not allowing him time to attend to it.

Toronto merchants seem to have a "corner" on the Manitoba trade. On Monday goods valued at $6000 were shipped, and the daily average for the past month amounts to over $3000.

Our millinery houses are bringing in some of the choicest goods—in silks, satins and laces, and are getting ready for the spring openings which will be held earlier than usual this year.

A net underneath a trapeze does not seem to be a perfect safeguard for the performer. A girl with Barnum's circus was killed by a fall into a net, her chin striking on her knee so violently that her neck was broken; and now Zerello has lost his life in the same way in San Francisco.

## *COMMITTEE ON WORKS.*

**Street Railway Matters—Street Paving and the Local Improvement Act—The Stone breakers' Grievance.**

There was a full attendance of the committee yesterday and as usual the atmosphere was poisonous.

Complaints having been made of the ridges left between the tracks of the street railway company, and the commissioner having given his opinion that it was a nuisance, Authority was given him to take such proceedings as he thought best.

Walter Reed appeared to oppose the construction of the Catharine street sewer. Nothing was done.

STRAIGHTENING THE DON.

Ald. Davies mentioned the matter of straightening the Don, and impressed upon the committee the necessity for immediate action, in view of the approaching session of the Dominion parliament. The chairman said the matter was one of such magnitude that it could not be taken up at this meeting, and he thought there should be a special meeting for its consideration. He suggested that they might apply for the legislation without binding themselves to avail themselves of it. Consideration of the matter was deferred for one week.

Mr. Adams obtained permission to drain his premises in Yorkville into a sewer on Bloor street at the corner of Birch.

It was decided to defer for a fortnight the question of proceeding with the Clinton street sewer.

A DEPUTATION OF STONE-BREAKERS invaded the board room and protested against the introduction of machine-broken stone. Not only would it throw them out of employment, but the stone thus broken was much inferior to that broken by hand. The chairman said he could assure them that unless there was some great advantage in buying the machine-broken stone, the committee would be in favor of employing the surplus labor for that purpose during the bad months of the winter. The deputation left, apparently satisfied.

The letter from the street railway company giving their schedule of rates did not give much satisfaction, and it was decided to compel them to make better terms the next time they wished to lay a new route.

Ald. Kent said the company were setting the city at defiance.

All the applications for appointments were deferred.

Consideration of the resolution respecting urinals was deferred until the estimates were prepared.

With regard to the resolution asking the committee to consider a new scheme for street cleaning, it was decided that a sub-committee should be appointed to co-operate with a sub-committee from the markets and health committee on the subject.

A large number of applications for sewers were received.

A number of petitions against the enforcement of the by-law regarding projecting signs were laid over pending the commissioners' report.

A CHEEKY PROCEEDING.

The commissioner reported that the street railway company had taken nine loads of stone belonging to the city, valued at $90. They were piled at St. Andrew's market, and the company's people "just went and took them." The Hon. Frank Smith and others had spoken to him saying that it was done without their knowledge, and they regretted it very much. There was some talk of prosecuting the men who took the stone, but as the feeling was that they were not the chief offenders the committee contented itself with writing to the company, asking them to pay the $90 and not repeat the operation.

A number of minor matters were referred to in the report, which was adopted.

Ald. Hallam's by-law to prevent the overcrowding of street cars was laid over until his return.

ALD. TURNER'S PLAN ENDORSED.

Ald. Turner brought up his plan for the amendment of the local improvement system—namely that the corporation should have power to lay block pavements without any petition from the ratepayers, unless a majority in number and value of the ratepayers on the street petitioned against it.

Ald. Kent moved that the chairman be requested to embody his views on the subject in a resolution and present it to the committee on legislation. Ald. Carlyle asked whether this was an endorsation by the committee on works of Ald. Turner's scheme. On receiving an answer in the affirmative he said he was not prepared to endorse Mr. Turner's views, though he was not actually opposed to them. The resolution was carried.

The opening of the tenders for stone was deferred.

### *ALL SORTS.*

The attempt to light Liverpool by electricity has proved a failure.

Of 601 convicts in the Arkansas state psison more than 100 are murderers.

Singular fact.—If the good die young, how do you account for bald-headed editors?

The tobacco monopoly of France last year yielded a net profit to the state of about $60,000,000.

The saying that a man "had not a single redeeming vice" is attributed by Temple Bar to the late Lord Westbury.

The electric light is to be tried in Bristol, England, and the tidal motion of the Avon and the Severn is to provide the necessary motive power.

In Vienna a clerk is well paid who receive $11 a month, and a petty shopkeeper thinks his business in a thriving state if he makes $5 a week in profits.

A nephew of the poet Burns—an old man-of-war's man named Gilbert R. Begg, 80 years of age—is now living in a charitable institution at Glasgow.

Nearly 1500 of the 3630 streets of Paris have during the last thirty years had their names changed, chiefly for political reasons. This must involve infinite trouble to the residents.

It is asserted that the ghost—in full uniform—of Alexander II. has been appearing night after night at the altar of the cathedral of St. Petersburg. The police have been ordered to go for him.

The North Australian natives detest the Chinese, except as food, and have lately eaten several members of a Chinese colony which was engaged in collecting *beche de mer* for the Pekin market.

A new mode of slaughtering linnets has been devised in California. A lantern at night held near the trees attracts the birds. They come flying to the light, and 375 were killed in a few evenings at Pasadema by one person.


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TENDERS.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "TENDERS FOR PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS," will be received at this Department until twelve of the clock, noon, on THURSDAY, THE 16TH DAY OF FEBRUARY NEXT, for the erection and completion of New Parliament Building for Ontario, and certain works in connection therewith, according to

(1) The Plans and Specifications prepared by Messrs. Gordon & Helliwell, of Toronto, or

(2) The Plans and Specifications prepared by Messrs. Darling & Curry, of the same city.

Printed forms of Tender can be obtained at this Department, and persons tendering are specially notified that they will not be entitled to have their Tenders considered unless the same are made on and in compliance with these printed forms, signed with the actual signature of every person tendering (including each member of a firm), followed by his post office address, and with all blanks in the forms properly filled up.

Each Tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque, payable to the order of the Commissioner of Public Works for Ontario, for the sum of $5000, which will be forfeited if the party tendering declines or fails to enter into a Contract based upon such Tender, when called upon to do so. Where the party's Tender is not accepted the cheque will be returned. Where two tenders (i.e., one based on each set of said Plans and Specifications) are made under the same cover by the same person or firm, only one such accepted bank cheque need accompany said two Tenders.

For the due fulfilment of the Contract, satisfactory security will be required on real estate, or by the deposit of money, public or municipal securities or bank stocks to the amount of five per cent. on the bulk sum, to become payable under the Contract, of which five per cent. the amount of the accepted cheque accompanying the tender will be considered a part.

To each Tender must be attached the actual signatures of at least two responsible and solvent persons, residents of Ontario, willing to become sureties for the carrying out of these conditions, and the due fulfilment and performance of the Contract in all particulars.

Printed Copies of the respective Specifications can be obtained on application at the Department by FRIDAY, the sixth instant.

This Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

WM. EDWARDS,
SECRETARY.

3535 Department of Public Work for Ontario, Toronto, Jan. 2.

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