

"Well?"

"Prepare to be licked! My time has come at last!"

He made a dive for the old pedagogue, but the latter evaded him, made a half-turn, and hit him on the jaw, and Godkin went over a chair in a heap. Then the whilom schoolmaster piled on to him and licked him until he cried "enough," and it didn't take him over three minutes to do it. Then he retired to get on another collar and replace some buttons, and as I helped Godkin up I observed:

"You didn't wait quite long enough, I guess."

"Say! That's where I made a miscue!" he replied. "I see now that I ought to have held off until he had got to be about 150 years old. The old devil is all of 70 now, but he licked me right off the reel, and I'll never have the sand to stand up to him again. Hero's thirty years of waiting for vengeance knocked into a cocked hat in three minutes!"

### "No Fool China Tom."

China Tom received a check Sunday from an old debtor drawn on the first National Bank of Shanghai. As he declines to explain the circumstances we are led to believe that the money was loaned to beat a game of some sort of chance. The inquiry, however, will not be pushed, as it is nobody's business but Tom's. He was so gratified on the receipt of the money that he immediately opened a bottle of wine, which offered good cheer to his friends while it lasted. He went to one of the leading banks to cash the check and found the door locked. His face wore a puzzled air until he met the ever obliging and good humored teller. It was then ten o'clock.

"Floine time to go to 'lok," said Tom, glering at Hersfeld's clock.

"What's the matter with you?" said the teller.

"Wha's mally me, nologs mally me. Wha's mally you, you no go to 'lok. You no good. Hab China check. Go down to bank, dlo' lock. Wha's mally!"

"Don't you know that the banks are closed to-day? This is Washington's birthday."

"Who 'Lashington!"

"Why, he's the father of his country. Sec?"

"Me no see. 'Lashington hell big man, kleep banks close, kleep China Tom bloke all time. Ho own Melica?"

"No, he's only the father of it."

"Him say Chinamen no good, ch? All same Butte. Where lis 'Lashington live? He live in Butte?"

"No, he is dead; been dead more than a hundred years."

"Glo on! Shut bank for man dead, ch? Kleep China Tom's money, wha' flor?"

"Come around to-morrow and you'll get your money, if the check's good."

"Check's all light. Tom, he bloke, wan' money now, 'Lashington no 'Lashington. Melican man in China, he go to bank, got check, get money. No dead 'Lashington stop him. Difflant in Melica. Bank no got money, say Chinaman, no lun bank to-day, man dead name

Lashington. No fool China Tom, he been in Helena too long. You pay to-day?"

"No."

"All light. China Tom get you lock up flo night," concluded the Chinaman in an angry tone, as he started to find Col. Botkin.—*Helena Independent.*

### Edmonton District.

From the *Bulletin*.

The Edmonton district of the Northwest was opened to settlement by the completion of the Calgary & Edmonton railway in August of 1891. It extends from the base of the Rocky mountains eastward 300 miles and includes within its limits part of the Saskatchewan Valley and of the Mackenzie basin as well, consequently it differs widely in physical features, climate and natural resources from any other section of the Northwest, and offers a greater variety of advantages to the settler or investor than can be possibly offered by any other section of the country less fortunately situated. The district immediately surrounding the town of Edmonton is pre-eminently the country for mixed farming and residence, resembling in many ways the more fertile sections of Ontario or England. The surface of the country is gently undulating, but deeply cut by the Saskatchewan and less deeply by its tributaries, which form beautiful valleys, and in many cases give excellent water powers. Prairie and timber land are interspersed, giving a charming variety to the scenery and at the same time offering advantages to the settler which entirely timbered or entirely prairie regions cannot offer. The settler has open land on which to farm, the whole of the open and partly open country furnishes abundant pasture for stock, while the timber is a wind break in winter, and tends to prevent sudden changes of temperature in summer. At the same time it supplies fuel, fencing and building material at a most moderate cost. The soil is black mould, free from stone, gravel or sand, from one to three feet in thickness, resting on a subsoil of marley clay twenty feet in depth. This soil produces heavier crops, of the best quality, of wheat, oats, barley and roots, than any other portion of or the Territories. Wild hay is abundant, the growth of grass being most luxuriant. This is the only part of the Territories in which timothy is an assured success. There is a sufficient rainfall in all seasons, and blighting winds are unknown. There are no blizzards in winter nor cyclones in summer. Cattle raising and dairying are at present the most profitable branches of agriculture, but hog, poultry and sheep raising are also very profitable. British Columbia offers a ready market for every product of the Edmonton district at better than Montreal prices. Wild fruits are abundant and grow to perfection. Strawberry, raspberry, gooseberry, Saskatoon berry, black currant and choke cherry are the principal kinds, and there are many minor varieties. The cultivated strawberry, raspberry goose, berry and black and red currant also do well. Flowers of myriad varieties abound all summer long, the principal being the wild rose, the tiger-lily and the golden rod. Garden flowers grow luxuriantly and bloom

abundantly with ordinary care. Bee keeping is naturally associated with the growth of flowers and has been carried on successfully since the summer of 1888.

To sum up: The advantages which the Edmonton district has to offer the settler are an inexhaustible soil, a plentitude of resources, a pleasant and profitable diversity of industries, a climate moderate in winter and healthful in summer, promoting physical vigor and consequent happiness as no southern climate can.

### Overflowing Waters.

"During the last number of days," says the *Pilot Mound Sentinel*, "the Pembina river has presented a remarkable appearance. The water has been so high that in many places the valley has become a lake more than half a mile wide. As is the case generally with rivers in Manitoba the bank of the Pembina is often higher close to the river than further back. The embankments have been formed by the alluvial soil brought down by the current during past years and are generally covered by growing trees. Through the embankments the settlers have cut a number of drains for the purpose of drawing off the water in summer from the wild hay meadows, which in places extend over much of the valley. It is up these drains that the water has flowed, covering all the low lands. The shallow water is a paradise for ducks, geese and muskrats and large numbers of fish, mostly pike, have found their way up the drains and have scattered amongst the submerged grass to enjoy a warmth not found in the deep river. The extraordinary rise in the rivers of Manitoba this season will encourage the fish, in great numbers, to leave Lake Winnipeg and find their way up stream to inland waters."

### The Hardships Endured by a Mennonite Agent From Canada.

Among the passengers per steamer *Sarnia* which arrived at Halifax on Sunday, April 17th, were a number of Mennonites who were in charge of one of their sect who has already settled in Canada. He returned to Russia last autumn to tell his brethren of the promised land, but his experience at the hands of the Czar of all the Russians was not an enjoyable one. He ventured home without a passport and was at once arrested and then charged with murder. For two months he endured imprisonment before getting free, and then only after strong intervention of the friendly consuls in Hamburg and elsewhere. He will, however, return again to bring out other of his Mennonite friends very shortly. This time, however, he will have a passport.

The *Virden Advance* has been doubled in size. A sign of prosperity.

The Allan Line steamship *Parizian* arrived at Halifax on April 2nd with 1,000 first-class emigrants bound for Western Canada.

The new dock recently opened at Melbourne, Australia, is the largest of the kind in the world with the exception of the Cavendish dock in Barrow, England.