A COUNTERBLAST.

Madame de Sevigne is still laughed at for having prophesied that coffee would go out of fashion. Perhaps at this time, when tobacco brings a revenue of £8,000,000 to the Exchequer, it would be hazardous to predict that smoking will ever fall into disuse. Yet it must be remembered that in the last century snuff-taking was universal, and that it has now diminished to such an extent that the sight of a snuff-box in an old gentleman's hands has become a rarity, while no young man would venture to sport such a thing in society. Snuff taking began to decline when ladies, after trying it themselves, had the courage to declare it an unclean habit; and a time may well come when they will set their faces once more against smoking, or at all events insist that it should be indulged in with more moderation than at present. Men are now smoking to excess, which is possibly a reaction on the social persecutions with which tobacco was so long visited. Not to talk of Sultan Amurath IV., who sentenced smokers to death, and of James I., who wrote his "Counterblast" against men "who made chimneys of their mouths," one has only to recall the not very distant days when a gentleman was held in evil odour who entered a drawing-room with a perfume of tobacco hanging about his clothes. It is but very recently that monarchs and statesmen have begun to use cigars. Napoleon III. set the fashion in France, and puffed cigarettes at Cabinet Councils; but neither M. Theirs nor M. Guizot ever smoked. In England the late Lord Clarendon was, we believe, the first Minister who was a great habitual smoker, but his example has not been followed by Lord Beaconsfield or Mr. Gladstone. Prince Bismarck, on the other hand, transacts most of his official business with a cigar in his mouth; and in the memoirs of Herr Maurice Busch, his late secretary, may be found a characteristic anecdote of how this Prussian statesmen claimed and enforced his privilege of smoking at the sittings of the Military Commission of the Diet at Frankfort. The story is given in the Chancellor's words:—"While Rochow represented Prussia at the Diet, Count Rechberg, the president, who represented Austria, was the only member who smoked at the Board. Rochow, who was a great smoker, had often longed to light a cigar but did not dare. When I arrived, however, I asked myself why Prussia should not do as Austria did? So at the first sitting I drew out a cigar and asked Rechberg for a light, which he gave me, stupefied at my coolness. The other delegates were not less amazed, and wrote to their respective Governments for instructions; but the subject was a serious one requiring reflection, so six months elapsed without their obtaining an answer. Meanwhile Bothmer, the Hanoverian, who was a great friend of Rechberg, took the liberty of lighting up, to be even with me: seeing which the Saxon, Nostitz, produced a cigar to stand equal with *him*. There remained now only the delegates of Wurtemberg and Darmstadt; but these two were not smokers. What was to be done? Could they let their colleagues blow clouds in their faces without blowing back? The Wurtemberger was the first to decide that the honour of his country was involved, and he brought out a cigar in his turn. I think I can see it now—an undefinable cigar, pale yellow, thin, tapering, and enormously long. He smoked it bravely, with all his might, and almost to the stump, thus giving a magnificent example of devotion to his country."

There is in fashions, as in religions, three phases: the first, of persecution, when the new thing is cried down as abominable; the second, of reaction, when the oppressed become dominant and persecute in their turn; and then comes the third phase, when the fashion, or religion, dies out or becomes settled as an established thing, neither persecuting nor persecuted. It looks as if we were at present in the second phase of the tobacco fashion. Smokers have conquered the right to blow their clouds in railway carriages, cafes, billiard rooms, passages, music halls, and even in some coffee rooms; but they are making a push to win other fields, and ladies are ceasing to offer much opposition to a habit which they believe to be indispensable to the happiness of man. If smoking be necessary for men, however, it may soon be found that it conduces to woman's happiness too. Already the ladies of Turkey, Russia, Spain, and Hungary smoke cigarettes; and indeed in Hungary and the Danubian countries it is not rare to find ladies of ripe age smoking full-flavored cigars by their own firesides with great apparent relish. How long will it be before Englishwomen smoke? Possibly not many years; for if men continue to aromatize the atmosphere at the present rate, women will be led to do the same in self-defence. People who do not smoke, generally abhor tobacco, and must either overcome their dislike to it by learning to smoke or else shun the society of smokers. The neutral position of not smoking and yet not objecting to tobacco is one which ladies have found it politic to adopt, but which is conscientiously untenable, except on condition of having but very little smoke to endure, and that of the best quality. Try any male non-smoker in a railway where half-a-dozen other men are smoking, or turn him into a German brauerei, where fifty students are puffing pipes, and see how soon he craves for fresh air. Add to this that even a smoker often finds the smoking of other men disagreeable, whilst all men dislike that rank smell of stale tobacco which hangs about a room which was smoked in over night. How much more, then, must ladies dislike it? It has been noticed that men born blind never smoke, which would seem to prove that the pleasure of smoking consists less in inhaling tobacco than in lighting the weed, seeing its fumes curl, and knocking away the ashes. One may go further, and say that with many persons smoking is simply a habit, which yields no definable enjoyment, but helps to make the time pass and gives the hands something to do. Certainly to the man who smokes in moderation an occasional cigar or pipe is highly pleasurable; but what of the third, fourth, fifth cigar or pipe? When the palate is cloyed, when clothes, hair, and mind are all saturated with the fumes of nicotine, when the air in the room is as thick as a river fog, and when the man with the weed has puffed himself into a drowsy state in which he is unfit for work and can only talk in monosyllables—then the pleasure of smoking is a mere delusion. It is only the pleasure of being idle.

If every Englishwoman take to smoking, as their ancestors did to snuff, men may be led to ponder sorrowfully on the nuisance of excessive smoking; meanwhile, it should be owned that men who are always smoking and who expect ladies to like their company are not reasonable. What would be thought of a woman who spent most of her time colouring meerschaums in her boudoir, knowing that her husband loathed tobacco? Or, to take another case, which will put the subject in a new light; supposing a lady were possessed of an immoderate passion for the perfume of garlic, and were to carry bulbs of this esculent in her pocket, to be peeled and nibbled whenever she had a spare half hour: and supposing this delightful fashion to become general among the fair sex, so that in railway carriages and parks maids and matrons were constantly to be seen shredding the pungent vegetable and declaring that the tears which it brought to their eyes did them good, that it enlivened them, soothed their nerves, and so forth! Fancy men using entreaties, arguments—nay imprecations—in vain against this fashion, and being always met with the retort:—"We will give up our garlic when you discard your tobacco." *Absit omen!* Let us hope women may never be tempted to such terrible reprisals; but they might at least plead that they had acted under great provocation.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

TELEPHONE AND PHONOGRAPH.—The experiment of a combination of the telephone with the phonograph, which took place before the jurors at the Paris Exhibition, astounded them all. After conversing some minutes with the Bell and Edison telephones between Versailles and the Exhibition, a telephone was placed at the mouth of a phonograph, which transmitted to Versailles the words pricked off half an hour before on the cylinder at Paris. Then the interlocution at aid of another telephone the song was inscribed on the phonograph at Paris and repeated several times to the astonishment and admiration of the jurors.—*Ex.*

The *World* hears that Princess Beatrice will be married to the new Duke of Cumberland, who will take his money from Bismark and content himself with an English title and a Royal English bride.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., JULY 27, 1878.

The Toronto *Mail* lays great stress on the fact that Senator R. D. Wilmot, "a life long Reformer" and who was opposed to the Government of Sir John A. Macdonald, has expressed himself as dissatisfied with the policy of Mr. McKenzie's administration. Senator Wilmot is reported to have said that he hoped that something would turn up to make the people of the country deeply consider their financial and fiscal condition. The phrase "something would turn up," has a familiar ring. Was not Mr. Wilmot wont in the old days before confederation, in the House of Assembly to declare that "something must be done," to put the monetary system of the Province on a new basis. It is nothing new that he should be dissatisfied or wish that something "would turn up to turn over" financial matters generally. If we are not mistaken Mr. Wilmot was always a protectionist of the strictest type, and a soft money man of the most liberal scope. Did he not advocate an almost illimitable issue of paper money based on the property and credit of the Province? Sir J. A. Macdonald, by his own confession, is a free trader at bottom, and he is a protectionist or readjuster, or retalionist by pressure of political circumstances. Senator Wilmot has always been a protectionist, and if he now leans towards Sir John, it will not because he has been convinced by Sir John's arguments. We may say without offence, to the Hon. Senator, that the fact of his dissatisfaction with Mr. McKenzie's policy, whatever effect it may have in the upper Provinces, will not turn many votes in New Brunswick.

FREDERICTON.

Fredericton at this season is looking at its very best. It would be difficult to find, anywhere, a place of its size of greater natural beauty. In some respects it has been greatly improved within the last two or three years. The construction af the City Hall and Normal School raised the standard of the architecture of its public buildings, and those that are about to be raised—the new Post Office and Customs, and Parlimentary buildings will be kept up to it. At various points improvements are being made, and unsightly firegaps are being filled up. The very fine brick and stone building that Mr. Randolph is raising will give a much wanted finish to the upper part of the city, and set off the City Hall and Normal School; Sheriff Temple, who has acquired the Gaynor property, is transforming it into a handsome dwelling house; and Mr. W. Wheeler is raising a brick block on the site of the old York Hotel, which will transmogrify that long neglected locality—these are the most notable of the progressing improvements.

Fredericton is a very pretty place, but it might be, with some care and not much expense, made much prettier than it is. While it is improving in one way, it seems to be falling away in another. A certain neglect seems to take away from the appearance of the improvements that have been made. It is noticeable on a return after an absence, and must be noticed by strangers. A general clearing away of old broken board fences, decayed wharves, barns and outhouses is much to be desired. There are several things that detract from the appearance of the front street. In some towns—such open spaces as the Officers' Square, and the enclosure farther up, would not be permitted to remain as they are—grass plots and coarse pastures. The rank weeds would not be allowed to luxuriate beneath the willows and obtrude through the fences; neither would the grass and the weeds be permitted to grow by the sides of the streets, and to invade the roadway. Why should that rickety black fence be allowed to stand—mostly for the convenience of circus people and theatrical folk, who find it an admirably conspicuous place on which to paste their glaring pictorial bills. There is much redding up required in the stone barrack grounds; some old outhouses and broken fences ought to be swept away. How greatly a fine ornamental fence, enclosing well kept grounds, around the Normal School, would set off that fine building? Is it not time that something was being done. A certain sum has been appropriated—why is not the fence proceeded with? In the lower end of the city, at the upper end of the flats, neglect is very apparent. Lumber of all kinds, strips of bark, &c., litter the bank and are thrown upon the promenade. There is surely no necessity for this negligence. And what a scene of rack, and of rubble stones and broken decayed planks does the old upper wharf present? Should not the ruins be cleared away? Will public indifference allow the dead slips, now standing in the avenue, planted by Mr. Fenety to remain? Are the people indifferent to the prospect of strolling in future hot summer days in the cool of umbrageous trees? Some other questions might be asked. The beautifying of their city and the keeping of it beautiful should interest the people of Fredericton, and we think many will agree that much might be done at the cost of some care and a little expense.

THE NEW GOVERNOR.

Last Tuesday, the new Governor was inducted into office. The ceremony was very simple and was witnessed but by few. At three o'clock Hon S. L. Tilley, accompanied by Col. Saunders and Hon. Edward Barron Chandler, with Joshua Chandler, Esqrs., entered the Legislative Council, where were present, officially, Judges Weldon and Wetmore and Hon. J. J. Fraser and Hon. Wm. Wedderburn, members of the Local Government. Hon. Mr. Chandler having presented his commission, it was read by Judge Weldon. The instrument empowering the Judges, severally, to administer the necessary oaths to the commissioned Governor, &c., was also read—by F. Straton, Esq., Clerk of the Executive. The oaths of allegiance and of office were then recited by Judge Weldon and taken by Mr. Chandler, who, finally affixed his signature to them in the book where they were registered. The new Governor then shook hands with Judge and with his predecessor and received the congratulations of the gentlemen in the chamber.

Hon. E. Chandler appeared to have taken a new lease of his life, he seemed so buoyant and cheerful—and Hon. S. L. Tilley looked remarkably well, and strong and able to meet and lead opposition in the field of the elections and on the floor of the House of Commons.

The *New York World* says that mention of the Berlin Congress has been found in the Bible—in Zachariah viii, 23, as follows:—"In those days, it shall come to pass that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him who is a Jew—saying, we will go with you."

Prof. Foster, of the Fredericton University, was one of the speakers at a great temperance demonstration at Grimsby, Ont., on Thursday last.

DEATH OF HON. JOHN SIMCOE SAUNDERS.

Another link to the past has been snapped, another old, well-known, and respected citizen has been added to the role of the departed by the death of the Hon. J. S. Saunders. The venerable gentleman who was in his 83rd year, never regained strength after rising from the illness by which he was attacked in spring, though until within a few days he was able to take his customary walks about the city, and to show unabated interest in all that was transpiring. The stroke of death came suddenly after noon of last Thursday.

Mr. Saunders was the intermediate descendant of one of the foremost of the distinguished men—who in their zeal for the cause of the King and an United Empire—sacrificed ample possessions—and after the conclusion of the American war—settled in the wilderness north of the Bay of Fundy, and became its governing power after it was created into the Province of New Brunswick. Mr. Saunders traced his descent from an adherent to the royalist cause in the bloody days of the civil war in England, and who crossed over to Virginia where he held large estates. His grandfather, during the trying times, preceding the outbreak of the American revolution, held unswervingly to the side of the King. His father, at the commencement of hostilities abandoned the study for the field of action, and took command of a company of dragoons which he raised; he then joined the Royal Rangers, under Col. Simcoe, (afterwards first Governor of Upper Canada) and fought with disinction in many engagements during the war. After the conclusion of the war he went to England, entered at the Middle Temple, and was admitted to the Bar. He was appointed one of the Judges of New Brunswick in 1800, and had been many years Chief Justice of the Province when he died in 1834—full of years and honor.

Mr. Saunders graduated at Worcester College, Oxford. Like his father he entered at the Middle Temple, London. He studied under Chitty the famous pleader, and was admitted Attorney in 1817, and to the bar in 1819. He went on the Eastern Circuit for a short time, and then came out to Quebec, where he practiced his profession, but after a few years, he, owing to ill health returned to England, where he resumed practice. In 1829, he married the daughter of the Rev. J. H. Storie, Rector of Stow-Maris, Essex. In 1830 came out to New Brunswick. It was a time of considerable excitement in all the B. N. A. Provinces, the revolt against the irresponsible rule of the autocratic Councils was commenced, in the Legislature of New Brunswick the representatives of the people were full of grievances, and had commenced contending for the surrender of the casual and territorial Revenue. In 1834, Mr. Saunders was appointed to the Legislative Council which had a short time before been separated from the Executive Council. For forty-four years through all the various political changes that overtook the Province, through the struggle that broke the power of the family compact, and issued in the establishment of responsible government, through the contest, that a quarter a century afterwards reduced the Legislature to a local body, and merged the independence of the Province in Confederation, Mr. Saunders held a seat in the Legislative Council, of which he became President by election in 1866, after the death of Hon. Mr. Black. Before the era of responsible government, he held the office of Surveyor General, and that of Provincial Secretary, after the death of Hon. Wm. Odell, (1842), and the rescinding of the very unacceptable appointment of Mr. Reed Private Secretary of Lieut. Governor Colebrooke. For a long time, and up to the day of his death, he was a member of the College Council. Though Mr. Saunders took no very prominent part in hot political struggles he was a man of fine judgement, and possessed a good knowledge of affairs, and much general knowledge besides. He was author of "Saunders on pleading" a work we are informed, held in estimation by the legal profession. He was exceedingly accessible, and urbane in his intercourse with all persons and parties, and he will be long kindly remembered in Fredericton, where he dwelt so long.

The funeral took place this afternoon, and was largely and respectably attended.

THE EXPECTED ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.—The following account of the course of the eclipse which will be visible here on Monday 29th inst., is taken from an exchange:—

"The eclipse will be visibly as a partial darkening of the sun throughout the United States and Canada, though the line of totality will only cover a space of 116 miles wide. It will consequently be seen by but those living in the western part of the continent who will be favored with the rare phenomenon of total darkness. The present may in fact be regarded as the return of the eclipse of July 18th, 1860, when the moon's shadow crossed Hudson's Bay Territory, the Atlantic Ocean, Spain and Africa. On the 29th the dark shadow first strikes the earth a few minutes after three o'clock in Siberia, longitude 141 deg. 50 min. east of Greenwich, and lat 41 deg. 21 min. north. Taking a north-easterly course, it crosses the Behring's Straits, and bending gradually southward enters the British possessions, traverses them in a south-easterly direction, and touches the United States in longitude 30° west from Washington. It then crosses Montana Territory, Wyoming, Colorado, and North and North-eastern Texas, strikes the Gulf of Mexico between New Orleans and Galveston, passes on to Cuba and takes its leave of the earth a little south-east of San Domingo. The whole duration of the eclipse will be about five hours, though in no place will the time of the totality exceed 3m. 7s.

In Fredericton it will last over an hour and a half, beginning 5h. 12m. and ending at 6h. 50m. p. m. The first contact will take place at an angle of 139° from the vertex of the sun toward the right, and at the time of greatest obscuration the upper edge of the moon will reach a very little above the centre of the sun, when that luminary will appear of a crescent form. In St. John the magnitude of the eclipse and the times of beginning and ending will be much the same as in Fredericton."

THE FISHERIES.—A portion of the American people feel sore about what they call the preposteous fishery award. They affect to believe that the privelege of fishing in British waters has been very dearly paid for, and they will be glad to hear that an attempt is to be made to raise them above dependence on "the inferior British Fisheries." A Maine paper says:—

Professor Spencer F. Baird of the United States fishery commission has established his headquarters at Gloucester, and will make a speciality of hatching young codfish for distribution off the coast of New England. Professor Baird is very sanguine that in a few years he can re-stock the fishing banks, which used to yield very lucrative dividends so that it will not be necessary to pay England large sums for the privilege of inferior fishing. He will also endeavour to demonstrate to our fishermen that, while they are catching a few cod with hooks and lines, there is a larger supply nearer the bottom, which can be caught with a peculiar kind of gill-net used by the Norwegians. He has procured from Norway a set of these bottom-nets for deep-sea fishing, and will experiment with them during the coming summer.

The publication of a new serial story, "The Lady Atherton Hall," will be commenced next week.

PROFESSOR ALLISON.

Professor Allison, a native of New Brunswick, and formerly head of the Wesleyan Institution at Sackville, and now, we believe, a naturalized citizen of the United States, and resident of Wisconsin, has been paying Fredericton a visit and freely giving the city the benefit of his talents. His special role is temperance—and he edits an organ of the cause—but in lecturing he takes a wide field. On Sunday he addressed the children of the Sunday Schools in the City Hall, and on Monday and Tuesday evening he delivered lectures in the basement of the Methodist Church to most respectable and interested audiences.

The Monday lecture was in the "Yo-semite Valley," and Prof. A. displayed great powers of word painting, bringing vividly before the mind's eye of his audience the scenery of that place of the giants. On Tuesday evening he chose for his theme "The Battle of Gettysburg." Hon. Wm. Wedderburn presided, and introduced the lecturer with a few pleasant remarks, expressing his gratification at being called on. Professor Allison threw so much ardor into his full and clear description of that terrible and decisive battle—and looked so martial that one may be pardoned for supposing that he took an active part in the engagement. But your true missionary has always the spirit of a soldier, and in a good cause is ready to take up carnal weapons in its defence. Professor Allison stated with power the desperate condition of the Union cause in 1873, when the North, almost in despair, were crying out for a general, and the more timorous were urging peace; and the seeming prosperous condition of the Confederates, who flushed with success assumed the offensive—and 8000 strong, under Lee, marched for Pennsylvania. It was a dread crisis for the North—the army of the Potomac was much depleted; Washington seemed threatened—and President Lincoln, disregarding his own maxim of not swopping horses when crossing a stream, appointed an unknown, untried general—Meade, to the command of the army. The march of Lee's army—Gettysburg—the quaint old Dutch village—where it was intercepted by Gen. Reynolds, and the character of the country around it were vividly and minutely described. The varying fortunes of the tremendous battle through the three suffocating July days, the dread pauses broken by furious cannonades of the Confederates on the heights above Gettysburg, the charges in the valley—the dreadful slaughter in the hickory woods—the affecting episodes incident to battle—the solemn council of war of the Northern generals at the end of the second day's battle, the sublime determination of Meade to fight it out, and the last charge and hand to hand conflict, the final rout of the Confederates proclaimed by the victorous shout of the northern soldiery, "the victory is ours," were pourtrayed with dramatic power. At the close a vote of thanks was passed to the Professor for his thrilling and brilliant lecture.

THE ANGLO-TURKISH TREATY.

The Treaty between England and Turkey, signed at Constantinople, June 4th, 1878, by which Earl Beaconsfield electrified Europe was, at first, bitterly assailed by a portion of the press and people of Italy and France, but the bad feeling has subsided. It was not shared in by the more thoughtful and influential. Mr. Gladstone has denounced the Treaty as an "insane convenant"—binding England to onerous and dangerous engagements—a Treaty which former great English statesmen would not have entered into—but the mass of public opinion in England appears to be in accord with the Beaconsfield policy. The occupation of Cyprus by England has been enthusiasticly received by the Turks.

The Treaty contains 6 articles. The following are the most important:—

"ART. I.—If Batoum, Ardahan, Kars, or any of them shall be retained by Russia, and if any attempt shall be made at any future time by Russia to take possession of any further territories of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan in Asia, as fixed by the Definitive Treaty of Peace, England engages to join his Imperial Majesty the Sultan in defending them by force of arms.

In return, his Imperial Majesty the Sultan promises to England to introduce necessary reforms, to be agreed upon later between the two powers, into the governments, and for the protection of the Christian and other subjects of the Porte in these territories; and in order to enable England to make necessary provisions for executing her engagement, his Imperial Majesty the Sultan further consents to assign the island of Cyprus, to be occupied and administered by England.

ART. II.—The present convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged within the space of one month, or sooner if possible.

ANNEX.—It is understood between the two high contracting parties that England agrees to the following conditions relating to her occupation and administration of the island of Cyprus!

I. That a Mussulman religious tribunal (Mehkemel Sheri) shall continue to exists in the island, which will take exclusive cognizance of religious matters, and of no others, concerning the Mussulman population of the island.

II. That a Mussulman resident in the island shall be named by the Board of Pious Foundations in Turkey (Evkaf) to superintend, in conjunction with a delegate to be appointed by the British authorities, the administration of the property, funds and lands belonging to mosques, cemeteries, Mussulman schools and other religious establishment existing in Cyprus.

III. That England will pay to the Porte whatever is the present excess of revenue over expenditure in the island; this excess to be calculated upon and determined by the average of the last five years, stated to be 22,936 purses, to be duly verified hereafter, and to the exclusion of the produce and crown lands let or sold during that period.

VI. That if Russia restores to Turkey, Kars and the other conquests made by her in Armenia during the last war, the island of Cyprus will be evacuated by England, and the convention of the 4th of June, 1878, will be at an end."

THE PREDOMINANT LANGUAGE IN THE BERLIN CONFERENCE.—Although French is the language of diplomacy, there was more English than French spoken at the Berlin Congress. Prince Bismark, Her Ven Bulow, Count Andrassy, Count Schouvaloff and M. Waddington speak it fluently. It happens that of the seventeen plenipotentiaries only five besides the two representatives from Paris speak French to perfection. These are Prince Gortschakoff and Count Schouvaloff, Count de Lunnay, the Italian ambassador at Berlin, who is half a Frenchman, and the two Turkish statesmen—Caratheodori Pacha, who is a Greek educated in Paris, and Mehemet Ali Pacha, who was born in Prussia of French parents named Denoit, and is only a Mussulman by conversion. Lords Beaconsfield and Salisbury of course understand French thoroughly, but they have perhaps been wanting in practice. Prince Bismark speaks French somewhat hesitatingly, but very correctly and with a fair accent.

If Prince Gortschakoff has a good memory, says the London *World*, his reminiscences ought to prove interesting to his English colleagues. He was one of the secretaries to the Russian Embassy in London in 1824—that is to say, while Lord Liverpool was still Premier, Lord Eldon still Lord Chancellor—before Mr. Canning had become the head of an Administration, and before Lord Lyndhurst had received the Great Seal. Mr. Gladstone was still at Eton: Mr. Disraeli had still thirteen years to wait before he entered Parliament for the first time; and six years had still to elapse before the birth of the present Lord Salisbury.

A STRIKING CONTRAST.

Earl Beaconsfield's great success as a statesman and diplomatist—his triumphal reception in London—the flowers of nature and of rehetoric that have been showered upon him both from the hands of ladies and the pens of journalists have caused his first parliamentary experiences to be a subject of inquiry. A verbatum report of the first speech made by Benjamin Disraeli in Parliament has been ferreted out and published. It was delivered in 1837, in reply to an attack of O'Connel upon Sir F. Burdett for deserting the liberal cause:—

"I stand here to-night, sir—(here the noise in the House became so general that the hon. gentleman could not proceed for some time; when the confusion had somewhat subsided, he said:) I stand here to-night, sir, not formally, but in some degree virtually, the representative of a considerable number of members of Parliament. (Bursts of laughter.) Now, why smile? (Continued laughter.) Why envy me? (Here the laughter became general.) Why should I not have a tale to unfold to-night? (Roars of laughter.) Do you forget that band of 158—those ingenuous and inexperienced youths to whose unsophisticated minds the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in those tones of winning pathos—(excessive laughter, and loud cries of "Question")—Now, a considerable misconception exists in the minds of many members on this side of the House as to the conduct of Her Majesty's Government with regard to these elections, and wish to remove it. I will not twit the noble lord opposite with opinions which are not ascribable to him, or to his more immediate supporters, but which were expressed by the more popular section of his party some few months back. (Question, question.) About that time, sir, when the bell of our cathedral announced the death of the monarch—(Oh, oh! and much laughter)—we all read then, sir—(groans and cries of "Oh!")—we all read—(laughter and great interruption)—I know nothing which to me is more delightful than to show courtesy to a new member, particularly if he happens to appeal to me from the party opposed to myself. (Hear, hear.) At that time we read that it was the death-knell of Toryism, that the doom of that party was sealed, that their funeral obsequies were about to be consummated. (Laughter.) We were told that, with the dissolution of that much-vilified Parliament which the right hon. baronet had called together, the hopes and prospects of the Tories would be thrown for ever to the winds—and that affairs were again brought exactly to what they were at the period when the hurried Mr. Hudson rushed into the chambers of the Vatican. (Immense laughter.). I do not impute these sanguine hopes to the noble lord himself particularly, because I remember that, shortly afterwards the noble lord, as if to check the new ard sanguine expectations of his followers, came forward with a manifesto informing them that the Tories could not expire in a moment, but the Ministry in a reform parliament might depend upon having a working majority of 100, which was to be extended upon great occasions to 125 and 130. Now, Sir—(Question, question)—this is the question, and I am going to ask the noble lord for our instruction. (Oh, oh! and great interruption.) We only wish to know this simple fact, whether the great occasion on which the working majority was to increase from 100 to 135 or 130, is upon the question of an election ballot?—(cheers and groans)—and whether the Grenville Act has not been given forth to the people that it is impossible that an impartial tribunal can be obtained in this House? (Oh, oh! Question, question.) If hon. members think it is fair thus to interrupt me, I will submit. (Great laughter.) I would not act so to anyone, that is all I can say. (Laughter, and cries of "Go on.") But I beg simply to ask——(Oh! and loud laughter.) Nothing is so easy as to laugh. (Roars of laughter.) I really wish to place before the House what is our position. When we remember all this—when we remember all that, in spite of the support of the hon. gentleman, the member for Dublin, and his well disciplined phalanx of patriots, and, in spite of all this, we remember the amatory eclogue—(roars of laughter)—the old loves and new loves that took place between the noble lord, the Tityrus of the Treasury Bench, and the learned Daphne of Liskeard—(loud laughter, and cries of "Question")—which appeared as a fresh instance of the *amoris redintegratio*—(excessive laughter)—when we remember at the same time that, with emancipated Ireland and enslaved England, on the one hand a triumphant nation, on the other a groaning people, and notwithstanding the noble lord, secure on the pedestal of power, may wield in one hand the keys of St. Peter, and—— (Here the hon. member was interrupted with such loud and incessant bursts of laughter that it was impossible to know whether he really closed his sentence or not.) The hon. member concluded in these words:—Now, Mr. Speaker, we see the philosophical prejudices of man. (Laughter and cheers.) I respect cheers even when they come from the lips of political opponents. (Renewed laughter.) I think, sir——(Hear, hear, and repeated cries of "Question, question.") I am not at all surprised, sir, at the reception which I have received. (Continued laughter.) I have begun several times many things—(laughter)—and I have succeeded at last. (Fresh cries of "Question.") Ay, sir, and though I sit down now, the time will come when you will hear me. The hon. member delivered the last sentence in a very loud tone, and resumed his seat amidst cheers from the Opposition, and much laughter from the Ministerial benches."

Contrast the scornful reception, the contemptuous hiliarity that greeted the young Disraeli, who had for nine years struggled to gain a seat in the House of Commons, with the old Earl Beaconsfield in the House of Peers—its galleries crowded by Princesses and Peeresses—the central figure in the proudest assemblage of Europe, delivering amidst hushed and respectful attention his speech on the results of the Berlin Congress.

Mr. Robuck, M. P., addressing a public meeting in Sheffield sometime before the termination of the Congress at Berlin, spoke as follows of the Earl of Beaconsfield:—

"I say, in spite of every mode of vituperation and contempt that his enemies may use, that we owe it to the sagacity and the power and the conduct of Lord Beaconsfield. (Loud and prolonged cheering). From him I have nothing to expect; I hope nothing, I ask nothing, I wish for nothing—but I desire to speak the truth. England now owes her position, which is such as she never held before amongst the countries of the world, to that despised personage once called Benjamin Disraeli, now Lord Beaconsfield. What have we now to do? We have to support, to shore up, and make strong that man of whom I am speaking—so that when he appears before the assembled nations of Europe he shall represent England in all her magnanmity and force—that they shall feel when he speaks that the voice of a great nation is heard, and what he demands justice requires and must be yielded. That is the present condition of affairs, and as far as I could, humble as have been my efforts, I have endeavored to conduce to bring it to. When other men shrank from him, and feared to express their opinion, I spoke out—and for that reason I am violently abused. I always say that a whipped dog howls—and those who thus vituberate me show that what I have done has struck home—that the words I have uttered are the words of truth, and that they have gone straight like the arrow to its object, and, like the arrow, they have stuck where they have struck. I have told you what I believe to be the condition of England now, but there are a few things I should like yet to say. There is one thing above all others I should like to discuss—What is the duty of the men in opposition, who, in a great crisis of their country, find themselves opposed to the administration? That was the position in which the Opposition, from the year 1793 to 1815, found themselves? What did they do? They did not ask themselves—at least I did not think so—what the real interests of England required, but they were all along seeking what the turn-up might be for party purposes. Something might happen by which they should be put into place, and upon every occasion they hampered the Government and weakened its efforts, and abused Lord Wellington, and until the Battle of Salamanca they called him a poor wretched creature not fit to govern a troop of horse. Now, upon the present occasion, something very like that has happened. England found herself as it was thought, but as it has not turned out to be, opposed to all nations of Europe. She was alone. It was allowed that it might be she had some justice on her side, but she had not the nation. When England was weak was just the time I should think when a patriotic man would have said 'I will stand by my country.' But no, a rankling feeling still remained. That terrible election that ousted the party from power and placed Lord Beaconsfield, the Mr. Disraeli, in place and could never be forgotten. It was an offence, it was an injury, it was a cruelty, it was a crime, and therefore, it must be punished. How? Not by aiding the people of England; not by asking what the interests of England demanded; but how the Government could be troubled. And every step was taken, every little petti-fogging argument that would disgrace even *nisi prius* was used for the purpose of destroying the efforts of the Government and making it difficult for them to succeed. In spite of all this a bold sagacious spirit held up Lord Beaconsfield. He stood steady to his ground. He lifted up his colors and, though he was called not an Englishman but a foreigner, he held up the Cross of St. George in a way that no Englishman up to that time had done, and he succeeded. Before him the Russian quailed. Europe is now united in the Congress that is going on, and I sincerely believe that you will find that, as in the beginning Lord Beaconsfield will be in the end the guard and support of English interests, and that in spite of all opposition you will find him always in the van fighting for England. I am going to speak of a matter which gives me great pain. A man was by his side who, by his antecedents and ancestors, might have been supposed to have been a steadfast helper; but in the most difficult stage of the case, and in the most critical condition of English affairs, Lord Derby took the occasion to desert his country. When I heard that Lord Derby had deserted his old friend, Mr. Disraeli, in that painful crisis of his country's fate, I felt as if my son had "turned his back in the day of battle." I think I am justified in saying that posterity will believe what I have said to have been the words of truth. The time is coming when there will be a dissolution. My belief is that if things turn out right in the Congress, and to England's and to the advantage of the administration, Lord Beaconsfield, as a wise politician will take the opportunity of dissolving Parliament, and and when that time comes I will leave it to you to say what you will do."

BUSINESS PROSPECTS IN THE UNITED STATES:—During the first six months of 1878, business prospects appeared very gloomy. The failures were more numerous than in the first six months of the three previous years. As reported there were 5,825 failures, with liabilities of about 131 million dollars. The *American Manufacturer* after commenting on some of the causes that produced so many collapses brightens up and says:—

There is a general agreement throughout the country that the crisis of the financial collapse is over—that henceforth times will improve. One of the leading business organs of the east, the *North American*, says—'By first of September things generally bid fair to be in the full tide of prosperity again.' Another, of equal standing, takes up the encouraging strain—'The American trade outlook at this time is especially promising. The indications of an era of brilliant trade grow every day more and more flattering, and unless something unforseen occurs to mar this bright prospect we shall ere long again enter upon a career of old-time prosperity.'

Echoes of the same import are resounding from the west, the south, the east—there is no exception in any district of our country, between the two oceans—confidence is awakening on all sides—the overflowing abundance of husbandry, our exhaustless mineral wealth, with the possession of every concomitant needed for boundless production and commerce—all these unequaled advantages are so apparent, as to render returning prosperity not only a matter of hope, but of as much certainty as anything in the future can be.

SUEZ CANAL.—The *Standard* (London), July 11, speaking of the Suez Canal says,—that it is more nearly approaching a financial success than has at any previous time appeared probable. The augmentation of its traffic has been steady, and there seems to be no limit to its further development. In 1870, the year after the opening of the canal, 486 vessels of 435,911 tons made use of it, in 1877, 1681 vessels of 3,418,949 tons. Five years ago the mean tonnage entering the canal was 1779 per vessel, it has now risen to 2,056. No fewer than 1072 vessels bearing the British flag passed through the canal last year—75 per cent. of the waole.

Keso, the notorious Indian of the Upper Ottawa was brought to the village of Commanda on the 24th ult., in charge of Constable Stevenson and Duchaneou. Fifteen years ago Keso shot at his own mother, for which offence he served a term in prison. Five years ago he shot at his uncle, Dokis, an Indian chief, and served part of a term in Kingston Penitentiary for it. Last August he attacked the Wright brothers on French River, firing at Mr. A. A. Wright, and shattering his thigh bone. Wesley Wright, the younger brother, succeeded after a desperate encounter, in disarming Keso, who fled to the woods, and has been, up to the time of his arrest, a fugitive. Wesley Wright carried his wounded brother half a mile, and paddled thirty-five miles in a birch canoe, with the injured man lying in the bottom of the frail craft. At the Beatty settlement, Wright lay fifteen days in a critical condition, when Mr. Thorpe Wright, another brother, arrived from Flesherton, and, acting on professional advice, took the patient home with him for medical treatment. The wounded man was taken across Lake Nipissing and down French River, one hundred miles, in a bark canoe; across the Killarney, thirty miles, in a sail boat: thence to Owen Sound by steamer, and by rail to Flesherton, where his broken thigh was attended to twenty-two days after it had been shattered, three hundred miles away. In spite of all disadvantages he recovered, and is now able to be round, though lame for life. Keso has been hunted for, but always managed to escape till those who captured him got on his track. The hope is that he will be kept in close confinement, as he is a terror to all his neighborhood. Other Indians have travelled miles around rather than pass where he lived. His own wife and family have sworn their lives against him. Great credit is given the constables for making the arrets of such a daring and murderous villain.—*Ex.*

The Quebec Legislature has come to the end of its labours. They have been exciting and somewhat arduous—speaking with reference to both sides of the House. The Government was weak to begin with, and the Opposition was strong and determined to do all it could to show that M. Joly was not able to carry on the political business of the Province. This was no more than all had reason to expect—for M. Chapleau and his friends had been irritated by the ill-timed and high-handed action of the Lieutenant-Governor—and by their subsequent defeat when appealed to the electors. But M. Joly has done well—accepting the situation, and making the best of it. He has carried through the supplies, which gave evidence of an honest effort to bring down expenditure—passed a bill to abolish the Legislative Council, which is simply an expensive nuisance—another for the abolition of District Magistrates, which Magistrates the Province can well afford to lose. The Legislature has also passed a Party Processions Bill, which is aimed directly at the Orangemen, and will be worth nothing at all, if approved; just because there are twenty ways of evading it.—*Canadian Spectator, July 20.*

THE RIGHTS OF PROPERTY.

The following, letter was addressed (July 23) to the Editor of the St. John *Globe* by a citizen:—

"An editorial article appeared in the *Globe* on July 12 upon the subject of the rights of property in the management of civic affairs, based upon an association in Toronto, called 'Property Owners' Association,' an organization formed for the purpose of self defence against the reckless and extravagant actions of the City Corporation, in piling burdens upon the tax payer, which in most cases, are needless and unwarranted in an economic sense. You say, and very justly, that 'every man should have a voice in the management of public works—we have ever held that in municipalities which do not pass laws affecting the life or general liberties of the people but which are merely organizations to manage property. There is much justice in the demand that property should have more influence that it has, and that a different franchise should provide for municipal purposes than for national purposes.' You are aware, sir, I suppose, that a bill was introduced into the Ontario House of Assembly last session called the Cumulative Bill for civic election purposes, (a copy of which I have beside me), but for want of time or some other cause unknown to me, it failed to become law, although it is said that at the next meeting it will be more fully discussed and the question decided. It would seem that the qualification of a voter for Mayor and Alderman is based upon property, while in St. John and other corporations it rests upon a triple arrangement,