

# WALTER'S BUDGET.

### Catholic Young Men Should Secure Their Vote.

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF HOUSE HUNTERS.

### The Washington of the North—The Chinese as Domestic Servants—An Object Lesson Where the Feline Creatures Suffered—Turkey and Greece—Again St. Patrick's League.

Are you house-hunting? Great fun, is it not? I will let you into a secret. My wife and I are on the same tack. We are looking for a nice, comfortable house with a good-natured landlord—not landlady, remember. We are not particular as to location, but, of course, the neighborhood must be highly respectable, central and airy. Children cannot get too much fresh air. We have three handsome children—miniatures of their papa—a good wide street, a big yard, a front balcony and a back gallery are adjudged necessary.

We are not sticklers as to the internal arrangements of our future domicile, except in insisting upon all modern conveniences and improvements. What would be the use of living in this age of progress if we did not take advantage of all the discoveries science and necessity have made to add to our comforts and economize our strength? In short, we simply want a pretty, convenient, up-to-date home, easy of access alike to ourselves and the balmy summer breezes. The matter of rent gives us no trouble. We have unanimously decided not to exceed \$18 per month, and if some landlord with a keen sense of perception should thrust a suitable residence upon such desirable tenants at a lower figure we will not worry about the difference.

We are very easy to please. Not at all like the unreasonable people who have been inspecting our present abode and finding fault with it. We never imagined what terrible disadvantages we had lived under until this year's crop of house-hunters dropped around to criticize the premises. They have discovered so many defects and suggested such a number of necessary improvements that the landlord is actually beginning to look ashamed of himself for owning such a place. However, he will harden, and eventually rent his house at a good figure, and by the end of May all the house-hunters of to-day will be settled down in peace and contentment until the uneasy spirit moves them again to start out on a vain search after that myth—an ideal house at an ideal rent.

There seems to be very little respect for the Election Act in the vicinity of London, Ontario. Judging from the contest in that district during the past few years, both parties seem to be past masters in the art of electioneering, and both have great faith in the effectiveness of the old method of capturing a man's heart (and vote)—through his stomach.

Mr. Laurier has talked of making Ottawa the Washington of the North. Suppose the members of the Cabinet were to constitute themselves into a volunteer fire corps to begin with? Washington pioneers most likely took that initiative step towards civic progress some years ago. If the Government constitute the apparatus of the newspaper correspondent will do the required pumping, and though the country may be flooded with "hot air," the Parliament Building will be safe from future serious conflagrations.

The Mayor of Ottawa must have been "rattled" when he telegraphed to Montreal for assistance at the eleventh hour. Perhaps the Ottawaites will learn something from watching our firemen play on the ruins. As much as one learns of military tactics from viewing a sham fight.

What an edifying spectacle was that presented by a minister of Cadillac, Michigan, when he recently gave an illustration of the pernicious effects of the tobacco habit by poisoning two cats with nicotine in his pulpit! His congregation must have left the church with sweet, elevating thoughts of nobler things—and an appetite for dinner!

If Turkey and Greece get real hot over the Cretan affair there will be war in the pan. And pan-war might mean universal war, which would be out of the frying pan into the fire.

I see that a resident of Westmount has solved the "servant girl question" by engaging a Chinese domestic. Chinese servants are much in evidence on the Pacific Coast, both in Canada and the United States, and have been years, for the very simple reason that women and girls are at a premium in these newly settled districts, while Chinamen are at a tremendous discount. The employment of the almond-eyed Celestial is rather a matter of necessity than a question of choice at there. As to the gentleman of Westmount, of course he has a perfect right to regulate his household affairs to suit his own taste, but the vast majority of people in these diggings would prefer to have their meals pre-

pared and their houses looked after by a Christian girl with perceptible imperfections than to be haunted by the unprepossessing presence of an inscrutable, speechless "heathen Chinese" angel.

If your name is not on the Provincial electoral lists, see to it.

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

## Our Irish Letter.

At a recent meeting of the Irish Workhouse Reform Association, Dr. Moorehead moved the following resolution: "That this conference recommends the Irish Workhouse Association to the earnest attention of all interested or concerned in the improvement of the administration of Irish workhouses and the condition of the helpless classes therein." In speaking to this resolution Dr. Moorehead quoted statistics to show that one-fourth of those who were inmates of the workhouses throughout the year died every year. This mortality was terrible. The rate of mortality in the country—young and old, rich and poor—was about 18 per thousand per annum; in lunatic asylums about 70 per thousand; but in the workhouses it was 250 per thousand per annum. The cause of this, he had no hesitation in saying, was the want of nutritious food, insufficient warmth, and unwholesome surroundings. (Hear, hear.) The figures would speak for themselves, and no wonder Irish labourers hesitated up to the last moment before going into these workhouses.

The new church of St. Mary's of the Rosary, Nenagh, was lately the scene of an impressive religious ceremony. His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. MacRedmond presided at the 11 o'clock Mass, and blessed the new bell which has been provided for the church. It is a splendid specimen of the bellfounder's art. It weighs 45 cwt., its dimensions being 5 feet high by 5 feet 2 inches in diameter, and the cost of its construction and erection £330. The bell is the gift of the Very Rev. Thomas O'Meara, P.P. of Roscrea, and V.G. of Killaloe, whose name is inscribed on it in raised letters.

Miss Martin, of Enniskillen, may justly claim the great honor and signal privilege of being the first representative of her sex to secure election as a Poor Law Guardian in this country. Much has been said and written regarding the special fitness of women for such positions. Miss Martin has to some extent an arduous task to perform, as her career will be doubtless watched in local circles with much interest.

The annual meeting of the Irish Industrial League took place in the Central Lecture Hall, Dublin, some days ago. Among the resolutions adopted were the following: One calling for redress on the over-taxation question, and another asking for the establishment of a technical education system.

Mr. C. L. Oldham delivered a lecture last week before the Catholic Commercial Club of this city, taking for his subject, "The Foundation Stones of Prosperity in Ireland." During the course of an able and exhaustive review of the leading features in the long and sad story of misrule in Ireland, the lecturer presented the following interesting statistics in relation to the character of the occupations of the population, taken from the Census of 1891. Great Britain contained an urban population of 25,236,302 and a rural population of only 9,501,370; Ireland showed 1,244,113 urban and 3,460,637 rural population. In other words, in Great Britain for every 100 rural and agricultural there are 245 urban and industrial; in Ireland it is more than reversed—for every 100 urban we have 278 rural. Noting the extent to which the country towns in Ireland are dependent upon agriculture, and not really industrial in an independent sense, it was not an overstatement that out of a total of 44 millions in Ireland there are 34 millions dependent upon agriculture. The general conditions now obtaining in Western Europe favored the prosperity of urban and industrial populations, including Great Britain, and was very depressing to agricultural countries such as Ireland. Hence the problem of achieving prosperity under existing conditions in Ireland was one for Irish brains to solve, and little help or guidance can be expected from Great Britain's case.

In closing Mr. Oldham said he wished them to realize how humble and moderate were the ideas and wants of the Irish people. They were not Imperial in their demands; their greed did not extend to the appropriation of the riches of the world and the despoliation of weaker nations. The Irish wants were domestic and limited; they wanted the right to gain an honest living by patient toil within the four seas of their native land.

There are always schemes and projects galore to relieve the condition of the Irish people. Among these recently suggested, in anticipation of the big refund which is to be made by England in connection with the overtaxation, may be mentioned the construction of a ship canal between Dublin and Galway. This project was mooted upwards of ten years ago, and the ground has been actually surveyed and the levels taken. At that time the estimated cost was about ten millions sterling. Another scheme suggested is the making of a submarine tunnel between England and Ireland. This, too, was strongly advocated some years back and admitted to be perfectly feasible. Then the State purchase of the Irish railways would be another great work of national improvement.

The executive entrusted with the preparation of the programme for the great Irish Musical Fair is now rapidly nearing the end of their labors. It is said that the work is laid out with a skill and artistic taste of the highest order, and that there is not the least doubt but what the undertaking will be a magnificent success.

## FOR OUR LITTLE FOLKS.

### An Entertaining Little Study, in Which the True Meaning of Duty is Demonstrated.

### How it Points Out the Way to Success and Happiness.

[Written for the True Witness.]

There is one little word which you should always keep before you, little folks, for it has the power of making your lives true and beautiful and framing your characters according to God's design.

It just takes four letters of our alphabet to spell it—D-U-T-Y—and so it is one of the first words we learn to know, as it should be one of our first aims to understand its meaning.

God has marked out for each and every one of us a particular path which we must carefully follow in order to reach heaven; and along this path flits a beautiful angel marking out each step for us, and beckoning us along that we may know and see the way, and this angel's name is Duty.

Do you think the Wise Men would have found the Infant Jesus in Bethlehem's stable if the shining star of the first Christmas night had not gone before them, and led the way through desert and fruitful valley, until it rested over the poor little manger throne? Do you remember how anxious and bewildered they were when the star disappeared for a time and they no longer knew the way? Well, the star that God has given us for a luminous guide is Duty, and when we turn aside from the path it points we lose our way and we go stumbling in dark and dismal places, without aim or purpose, and finding only failure and heartache.

Every morning when we wake we find a row of little finger posts set out to trace the day's path and each of them is marked—Duty.

The first one points upward and directs us to elevate our thoughts to God in morning prayer and to offer the work of the day to our Creator. Then we find others pointing at ourselves and bidding us dress neatly and quickly; another that bids us greet our parents and little brothers and sisters with cheery good-mornings and sunny faces; and a little further on comes another, pointing with two fingers, one towards the clock and the other towards school, and we hurry away to obey their commands.

When the classroom is reached, if you look up you will find another little finger-post pointing out your teacher, and conscience whispers that duty wishes you to obey, respect and love the one whom God has appointed to instruct you, and who is devoting life and talents to your service, and has given up home and friends and the pleasures of the world in order to enlighten and train your minds that you may become true Christian men and women, firm in your faith and an honor to the world.

The teacher's voice is the voice of Duty, while you are in school, so you cannot mistake what is required of you for that time. And, when you leave the school-room, Duty meets you again and bids you hasten there. When home is reached, Duty whispers to you on the threshold: "Obey your parents, little one." And again your path is clear, you know the way; and when, lessons studied and good-nights said, you enter your own little room, the last little finger post shines out clear and distinct and claims for God your homage and love in evening prayer. Then Duty flits away to Heaven laden with the treasure of good deeds that you dropped at each finger-post along the day's journey, and the angel of sleep hovers above you and keeps you in safety till the morning breaks again.

Some young people think only of the fun and the good time they can have and they make this quest the main object of their lives. On and on they go in a headlong and giddy chase after the darling butterfly, pleasure, until they trample over the beautiful and delicate flowers of virtue in their eagerness to grasp the gaudy insect and keep it for their own; but of en they find the wasp's cruel sting beneath the wings of their glittering prize and the pain proves but a poor reward for their wasted hours, while those who kept steadily on their way found true pleasure and joy seeking them as they went in the sunshine of God's love and mercy and the consciousness of doing right.

The most important events and changes in our lives are often brought about by seemingly small and trivial incidents, and the neglect of one little duty at some particular time might bright or shadow your whole after-life or prove the turning-point for the road of evil. Every time you turn a deaf ear to duty's command you turn aside from the true course that leads to perfection, and continued neglect will quench the light of your guiding star and leave you only the lurid gleam of your own selfish will.

Keep a sharp look out, boys, for Duty's signals, and if you want to be brave, honest and true when you reach man's estate, learn to bend and break your will early and follow the pilot Duty to the sheltered haven of success and honor.

K. DOLORES.

### Interesting Statistics.

The fourth volume of the Dominion census contains much valuable and interesting reading.

There are 684,213 owners of real estate in Canada holding a total of 73,688,765 acres. There are 590,578 town and village lots, 823,025 dwelling houses, 80,357 stores, factories, etc., and \$1,004,828 barns and stables.

land is 426 acres to a person. In Ontario the proportion to the total acreage is 65; Quebec, 67; Nova Scotia, 0.6; New Brunswick, 0.8; Manitoba, 1.9; Prince Edward Island, 0.1; British Columbia, 11.6; Territories, 71.4.

Of the houses that Canadians live in 81.5 per cent. are wood, 15.5 are brick and 3.0 stone. The percentage of population by provinces is Ontario, 48.9; Quebec, 30.7; Nova Scotia, 9.3; New Brunswick, 6.7; Manitoba, 3.1; Prince Edward Island, 2.3; British Columbia, 2.0; Territories, 2.0.

There are 6.6 persons to a house in Canada, 5.2 persons to a family and 1 family to a house.

68.5 per cent. of the houses are of one story, 33.6 are of two stories, 2.5 of three stories and 4 of four stories.

43.3 per cent. of the houses have from six to ten rooms.

Out of every 1,000 people 509.1 are males, and 490.9 female, 528.8 are married, 39.7 widowed and 631.7 are unmarried or children.

The French Canadians form 29.07 per thousand of the population.

Out of every thousand of the population 541.6 are Protestants and 412.3 Roman Catholics. Other denominations are given as 27.7 and not specified.

866 out of every 1,000 are native born in Canada and 99 in Great Britain and Ireland. 16.8 are from the States, 5.8 from Germany; Scandinavia, Poland and Russia, 3.6, France, 1.1, while the Chinese, over whom so much talk is roused, are but 1.9.

## A MINISTER'S STORY.

### THE PAINFUL EXPERIENCE OF REV. C. H. BACKHUS.

FOR FIVE MONTHS HE WAS HELPLESS AND ENDURED AGONIZING PAINS—COULD NEITHER RISE UP NOR SIT DOWN WITHOUT AID—HE TELLS HOW HE FOUND A CURE.

From the Tilsonburg Observer.

The Rev. C. H. Backhus is a resident of Bayham township, Elgin County, Ont., and there is probably no person in the county who is better known or more highly esteemed. He is a minister of the United Brethren Church. He also farms quite extensively, superintending the work and doing quite a share of it himself despite his advanced age. But he was not always able to exert himself as he can to-day, as a few years ago he underwent an illness that many feared would terminate his life. To a reporter who recently had a conversation with him the rev. gentleman gave the particulars of his illness and cure, with permission to make the statement public. The story as told by Rev. Mr. Backhus is substantially as follows:—About three years ago he was taken ill and the doctor who was called in pronounced his trouble an attack of la grippe. He did not appear to get any better and a second doctor was called in, but with no more satisfactory results, so far as a renewal of health was concerned. Following the la grippe pains of an excruciating nature located themselves in his body. He grew weaker and weaker until at last he was perfectly helpless. He could not sit down nor rise from a sitting posture without assistance and when with this assistance he gained his feet he could hobble but a few steps when he was obliged to be put in a chair again. For five months these agonizing pains were endured. But at last relief so long delayed came. A friend urged him to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. He yielded to the advice and had not been taking them long when the longed for relief was noticed coming. He could move more easily, and the stiffness and pains began to leave his joints. He continued the use of the pills for some time longer and the cure was complete. Seeing Mr. Backhus now it would be difficult to think of him as the crippled and helpless man of those painful days. Mr. Backhus is now past his 80th year, but as he said, "by the aid of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills I am as able as those ten years younger. You can readily judge of this when I tell you I laid forty rods of rail fence this year. I am glad to add my testimony in favor of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills strike at the root of the disease, driving it from the system and restoring the patient to health and strength. In cases of paralysis, spinal troubles, locomotor ataxia, sciatica, rheumatism, erysipelas, scrofulous troubles, etc., these pills are superior to all other treatment. They are also a specific for the troubles which make the lives of so many women a burden, and speedily restore the rich glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. Men broken down by overwork, worry or excesses will find in Pink Pills a certain cure. Sold by all dealers or sent by mail post paid, at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N. Y. Beware of imitations and substitutes alleged to be "just as good."

## Live Stock Trade.

LONDON Feb. 15.—Owing to shorter supplies of both cattle and sheep the trade was firmer, and prices for the former advanced ¼c, while for the latter they are ¼c higher than this day week. Choice States cattle sold at 11½c and sheep at 11½c. On the other hand prices for Argentine cattle were ¼c lower at 10½c.

A private cable received from Liverpool reported the market unchanged from a week ago and quoted choice States cattle at 11½c, Canadians at 10½c, sheep at 11c and lamb at 14½c.

MONTREAL, February 15.—The tone of cable advices in some instances were somewhat firmer and noted a slight improvement in values, while in other cases they reported the markets steady with values unchanged from last week, consequently on the whole they were rather conflicting, and some shippers thought unsatisfactory. However, at present prices ruling there is not very many complaints heard of from any side in regard to actual sales, consequently the indications are that if the profits are not large the cattle that have gone forward are at least letting the shippers out.

There was considerable enquiry to-day from ideal shippers for choice export cattle weighing from 1,200 to 1,800 each, for which they would willingly pay 40 per lb., but this class of stock is evidently very scarce at present, as there was none to be had on the market; in consequence they were obliged to pick up some of the best obtainable in order to fill up this week's space, and paid for such 3½c to 3¼c per lb., live weight.

At the East End Abattoir this morning the off ring of live stock were 550 cattle, 50 sheep, 100 lambs and 25 calves. There was no important change in the situation of the cattle market except that probably a little better feeling prevailed owing to the lighter run of stock, but values showed no material change from last Thursday. There was a large attendance of buyers and the demand was good, consequently trade was more active and the indications were, at an early hour, that a clearance would be effected. A feature of this trade-to-day was the appearance of some buyers from Buffalo on the market, and they made several bids for stockers and bulls for feeding purposes, but dealers here asked more money for their stock than they were willing to pay. In fact, they stated when ruling values in Buffalo were taken into consideration, our market was too high for them to operate, in consequence of which no sales were made. Choice cattle here were very scarce, in fact, there was none on the market, for which there was considerable enquiry, but buyers found it impossible to secure any at all.

The best heaves offered sold at 3½c to 3¼c, ordinary stock at 2½c to 3c, and lower grades at from 1½c to 2½c per lb., live weight. There was very little demand for sheep and, although the offerings were exceedingly small, holders stated that sales were slow and prices had a downward tendency. A few small bunches sold at 2½c to 3c, and mixed lots at 3½c to 3¼c. Lambs met with a fair sale and prices were steady at 4c to 4½c per lb., live weight. Calves were scarce and chiefly poor in quality, for which the demand was slow at prices ranging from \$2 to \$3 each.

At the Point St. Charles cattle market trade in cattle was slow, there being no sales made. A bunch of 25 sheep and lambs were offered and sold at 3½c per lb. The receipts of hogs were about 200 head, and the market was steady with sales of mixed lots at prices ranging from \$4.25 to \$4.60 per 100 lbs. live weight.

## Toronto Cattle Market.

TORONTO, Feb. 12.—The cold weather made a slightly firmer tone in the butchers' cattle line, and there was a fair demand for cattle for export. There were quite a few buyers on the market from Buffalo, but the reports from there are not quite so encouraging as they were. Their operations are being mostly confined to stockers. Receipts at the western cattle yards here to-day were 60 car loads, including about 900 sheep and lambs and 1,200 hogs. Hogs are holding their own in spite of depressing reports from other markets. About 12 car loads of butchers' cattle were taken for Montreal. Exports to Buffalo were about 25 car loads, including both stockers and butchers' cattle. Some lots of cattle were delayed by the storm.

Butchers' Cattle—There were quite enough in for the demand, one or two lots remaining unsold at the close of the market. Prices ruled firm at from \$3 to \$3.20 per cwt. for good to choice cattle, \$2.70 to \$2.80 for medium and down to 2c to 2½c for common cattle. Buying for Buffalo was steady, but not quite so lively as it was last week.

Export Cattle—Demand was fair and prices held well up at from \$3.50 to \$4.20 per cwt. Not many of the best class of cattle offered. Several bulls sold for 2½c to 3½c per lb.

Stockers and Feeders—For Buffalo there was a good demand, but local men are not doing much in this line. Good stockers sell from \$2.50 to \$3 per cwt., or perhaps a little better for some that are extra choice. Feeders are in slow demand, one or two head being picked up to fill vacancies in byres at from 3c to 3½c per lb. Stock bulls are quiet at from 2½c to 2¾c per lb.

Sheep and Lambs—Quiet. Shipping sheep are dull at from \$3.25 to \$3.75 per cwt. Lambs are a little stiffer than sheep, going at from \$4.25 to \$4.75 per cwt. Butchers' sheep are dull at \$2.50 per head.

Calves—All in sold. Good veals fetch \$6 to \$6.50 per head, and good calves from \$4 to \$5 each.

Milch Cows and Springers—About ten head offered and all sold. They are firm at from \$20 to \$35 per head.

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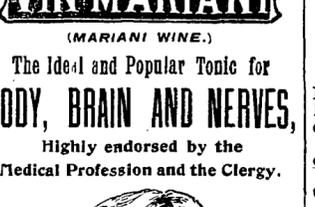
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