

APPLES SCARC—Our Provincial fruit growers have reason to be satisfied with the result of the season's work, although the August gale did serious damage to the fruit crop. From all the apple-raising sections of the United States reports are coming which indicate that but a small crop is expected. This means to our fruit growers that a ready market is awaiting their apples, and that good prices are to be paid for good fruit. Mr. J. W. Bigelow, President of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growing Association, is not afraid to predict that the whole of the Provincial output of apples will be asked for in Boston at an early date.

SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ALLOWED.—The Convention of the World's Religions which has just been held at the World's Fair was, to our mind, a sacrilegious grouping together of heathen and Christian creeds. There can be no possible gain to Christianity in placing it on the same level with heathen creeds and immoral customs. Christianity is too far removed from Buddhism and similar beliefs to be placed side by side with them, and we can only regret that so wise and so estimable a man as Sir William Dawson should have allowed himself to recognize the convention by preparing a paper to be read before the members. There is no suggestion of progress in the Christian world in the thought that the convention has been allowed to take place, and that some of our leading men have chosen to give it countenance.

HUMANE WORK.—The American Humane Education Society have done a grand work in publishing cheap editions of that story so dear to all lovers of animals, "Black Beauty." More than a million copies have been circulated in English-speaking countries, and numbers of daily and weekly papers have used the book as a serial story. Eminent linguists who are interested in the work have volunteered their services as translators, and already the book has been issued in German, Italian, Spanish, French, Greek, Hindustan, Arabia and Telegu. In a short time two other humane stories will be published by the same Society. For one of these at least we prophesy a splendid circulation. "Beautiful Joe" is the work of a clever Halifax lady, and her interest in her subject is bound to hold her readers.

DECLINED WITH THANKS.—Mr. Gladstone has for once counted without his host. He has incurred public displeasure by passing over Lord Roberts, Lord Herschell and Lord Brassey, and appointing an untried man, General Sir Henry Norman, to the Vice-Royalty of India. The appointment to so high a position has not tempted Sir Henry, for after having made sure of the post, he has quietly refused the proffered honor. This is reversing the tables with a vengeance indeed, for a Government is usually very sure that any favors proffered by it will be thankfully accepted. It is probable that Sir Henry Norman felt that he was unequal to the demands of the position. Russia and France are both seeking to weaken the British power, Afghanistan is in a state of internal strife, and there are pressing monetary difficulties to be solved. In view of all these unusual disturbances Sir Henry's decision is doubtless a wise one.

THE GREAT AMERICAN DESERT.—The would-be settlers on the Cherokee territory are growing sad. The United States Government has failed to keep its promise to the Indians to whom the district belonged, and has dealt treacherously with the 100,000 men, women and children who have striven to obtain a foothold in the newly-opened territory. On September 16th settlers were admitted for the first time. They came in droves, on foot, on horseback, in prairie waggons and over the three railroads. They were of every class of people, but there was a too-liberal admixture of the gambling class, as well as thousands of utterly inexperienced settlers. In the mad rush to obtain early rights to sites, hundreds of people have been seriously injured, a score and more have been killed, and free fights are still going on in all parts of the territory. The honest settlers are thoroughly disheartened. The best of the strip had been reserved by speculators, and only the barren and arid districts are open to the non-influential strangers who now wish fervently that they had never left their homes.

MRS ELIZABETH BEATON.—A curious series of libel suits is being brought by Mrs. Elizabeth Beaton, of Hamilton, Ont., against the *Toronto Globe* and a number of lesser Canadian papers. It was alleged by the *Globe* that Mrs. Beaton was the companion of one Cicero Harrison Case, who was drowned off the steamer *Guyandotte* during last summer. The circumstances of his death were peculiar, and some suspicion was excited at the time by the woman's strange conduct. The *New York World* put a special reporter on the case and traced the companion of the dead man to Burlington, Ontario. A sensational article was then published, in which the woman's character was hardly used. The *Globe* copied the article in full, but offered Mrs. Beaton an opportunity to clear herself of the grave charges against her in its well-read columns. Mrs. Beaton, has, however, not taken advantage of this offer. She denies privately that she ever knew the drowned man, and also denies taking any trip on the steamer *Guyandotte*. Mrs. Beaton demands pecuniary compensation for the damage done to her character, and she expects to get it from the proprietors of the Canadian papers who copied the statements of the *New York World*. It is quite possible that she may obtain redress, and if she be an innocent woman, we shall be glad to hear of her success; but we yet fail to see why the action of the *New York World*, rather than that of any Canadian paper, is not taken exception to.

A TALKATIVE WOMAN.—A Judge at Woodstock, Ont., has just given a decision in a somewhat novel suit. It appears that one John Mabee was desirous to cut off all intercourse between his wife and a Mr. Gale who had incurred his displeasure. To this end he forbade his wife to speak to Gale, threatening her with punishment if she did so. Mrs. Mabee, who is a woman of spirit, at once began to converse with Gale at no less a public resort than the village post office. Mr. Mabee then devoted his attention to Gale, whom he knocked down, trampled upon, kicked and otherwise battered. When Gale was sufficiently recovered he entered an action for assault, and he has not only been upheld by the courts, but Mr. Mabee has been ordered to pay a fine of \$25.00 and costs. The Judge facetiously observed at the close of the trial that as this was not a portion of the Turkish Empire the ladies might talk to whom they would.

AUSTRIA AND BOHEMIA.—Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, is realizing the truth of the o'd adage—"Uncasy lies the head that wears a crown." Since 1848, when he ascended the dual throne, he has had much to contend against, and now in his old age he has become a mark for assassins. The present trouble is occasioned by the young Bohemians or Czechs, who demand that their state be raised into a kingdom like Hungary, and they are ready for rebellion unless their demand is acceded to. It is impossible for the Emperor to grant the request, if he is to preserve the unity of his Empire, for Croatia and Galicia are to follow the example of Bohemia in clamoring for a separate Government. If the request is granted, Bohemia will turn against Austria and unite with Germany, or more probably with Russia, and an endless intrigue will be begun. It will take an astute and far-seeing statesman to arrange a conciliatory policy which will satisfy all concerned.

FOUR VERSUS TWO LEGS.—In estimating the population of a country it is usual to number the human beings residing within its boundaries, but a curious census, which has recently been prepared, deals with the four-legged instead of the two-legged inhabitants. Russia leads the world in the matter of horses, for she can boast of 20,000,000 of these useful animals. The United States comes next with an equine population of 16,000,000, and if mules are to be counted as well as horses, it can surpass the Russian statistics by several hundred thousands. Australia bears the palm for its population of sheep, which, when compared with the population of people, is twenty times as great. Ireland is no longer the Utopia of the pig, for the United States is by many millions the superior of any pig-keeping country in the world. British India has more cows, oxen, etc., than any other country, though again the United States makes a good showing; and when the population of cattle to human beings is considered, the little Argentine Republic comes to the front with an average of five heads of cattle to every man, woman and child in her dominion. Unfortunately, the statistician has not given us any figures on Canadian four-footers, so that our animal friends do not appear on the list.

INEXCUSABLE CARELESSNESS.—It is a pity indeed that Lord Stanley should not have shown a little more enthusiasm in the cause of education during his stay in Canada, or rather it is to be deplored that his enthusiasm was so short-lived. Since Lord Dufferin's time each Governor-General of Canada has offered certain medals for competition in the public schools. Lord Stanley was apparently quite willing to follow the custom of his predecessors in offering the medals for competition, but he did not follow the custom of his predecessors when he failed to make his promises good. The prizes which were to have been awarded during each year of his office in the Provincial Normal School, the Provincial Model School, and the University of New Brunswick, have been hotly contested for, and on each occasion the names of the winners have been publicly announced, yet the medals have failed to arrive. Letter after letter was sent to Lord Stanley, and as suave replies were received, it was judged that the medals would be forthcoming. But now, alas, the Governor-General has departed and the prize-winners are unrewarded. We trust that Lord Aberdeen will be more punctilious as regards his treatment of our educational institutions.

A DUTIABLE WIFE.—Dr. McKay, of Formosa, has been one of the hardest working missionaries on the face of the globe. He has identified himself closely with his chosen people, and his labors among them have been greatly blessed. Yet Dr. McKay has been wantonly insulted by our Canadian Government, and our readers will, we think, agree with us in condemning the action of our Dominion authorities. Dr. McKay married many years ago a Chinese lady, who, through him, had learned of Christianity. She has been the source and inspiration of his life-work, and working side by side with him she has been his helpmate in every sense of the word. Dr. McKay has now returned to Canada, bringing his wife with him, and he has already been gratuitously insulted by having to pay duty on his wife, as if she were a mercantile article. While we do not quarrel with the Canadian authorities over their Chinese policy in general, yet we do take serious exception to the spirit which prompted the levying of a duty on the person of a woman who is not only the wife of a most distinguished Canadian, but who is also one who has devoted her life and energies to an excellent cause. The law, if there be such an one, which imposed the duty upon her, is a law which would be more honored in the breach than in the observance in the present case.

The Worst Disease—Dyspepsia | K. D. C. Relieves Distress after eating. | K. D. C. Cures Midnight Dyspepsia. | K. D. C. Restores the Stomach to Healthy Action.

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