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NOTICE.

THE CANADIAN SPECTATOR has made, and promises well to keep, its place as a high-class journal, conducted in an able, bold and entirely impartial manner. All sides of all questions of public importance have been discussed, and the influence of its criticisms has been widely felt. But the people of this Dominion are necessarily much interested in all matters of trade and commerce, and many subscribers to the paper have often expressed a desire that the SPECTATOR should be made of more interest and help to the commercial community, discussing our actual trade and prospects as fully as it does questions of religion, politics and literature. The Editor has decided to comply with that request and so add to the value and usefulness of the paper. Some attention has already been paid to this department, for the most complete statement of Canadian railway traffic is to be found in its columns; but it is proposed to do more. A competent writer has been employed to investigate and report upon, in a series of articles, the trade and commerce of the Dominion. He is instructed to give a fair and full statement, so that we may know what is our actual condition and what our prospects. It will readily be seen that this must involve much labour and expense, and an appeal is herewith made to the friends of the journal to help it in every possible way.

THE TIMES.

Her Majesty's birthday gave to the toilers a holiday. The city poured its thousands into the country. Quebec gleamed with amateur soldiery; Montreal was as tame as a deserted Gypsy camp. "God save the Queen"—England's Queen—and Nature's noble woman—found a response in every heart—with the masses, whose struggle for bread is too earnest to permit the luxury of temporary relaxation from labour, as well as with the intent pursuers of the finny tribe, the idlers by the lake, or those that seek the genial shade begotten of our magnificent foliage. The trains redoubled carried the teeming crowds to distant lake and river; the steamers thronged with pale faces, courting the balmy air and bronzed countenances. The earnest angler intently scanned the dipping cork, and laughed anon when luck vouchsafed him favour. Perchance he—but let not one ripple disturb the universal contentment. Contentment it is—contentment it seems. But is it? Yes; but not complete. Heaven's sun and Heaven's shades are propitious. The sandwich eaten by the river side or in the rocking boat, seasoned with Nature's appetite, is sweet. The soft words—words of the heart, words of truth and promise, words of love—spoken under many a roof and tree, and on the silvery stream—all betoken gladness and joy—dear harbingers of happiness to come. And yet, is all contentment? Would that it were so!

The lingering twilight melts into the night. The moon, out-
vying the splendours of the sun, reigns with unsurpassed grandeur.
The dial advances—home brings thoughts of the morrow—partings

bring sorrow, and life itself pain, as well as joy. The low lamp burns in yonder window; dishonour cankers the broken heart; hopes—alas! hopes unrealized dim the future and mar the past; drunkenness saps our sweetest joy, and lovely, true and earnest women kneel to pray for erring son or husband. What so sad as the constant vigil of the female heart—waiting—waiting—for him who swore to protect her whose pale cheek now betokens the deepest pangs of sorrow. He comes not; no relief but the fast succeeding tear; no comfort but the silent living faith in God. Here is duty and there is sacrilege. All is not contentment; happiness there is, and God and man be thanked for it. God and man—for God meant no one to be unhappy—and man has much to do with human woe. But God be thanked, happiness there is, though "sorrow mixes her memorials with the purest remembrances of pleasure."

The dial points to twelve, and one day more is numbered with the past. Who can tell how many aching hearts in vain seek rest in the dead silence of the night? Such is life in the world, an admixture of contradictions, sorrow and joy going ever hand in hand. Brave man and loving faithful woman, gird yourselves anew for life's great battle. If your lot is happy, forget not the misery that surrounds you. You all have God's commission to comfort those that mourn, and to bind up the breaking heart. Await no higher authority. Hasten now to succour the grieving, to support the falling, to regain the lost.

"Leave no tender word unsaid,
Lose no happy day,
Time will never bring you back
Chances swept away."

Such is your duty to God and man. Arise, arise then to the labour, add another ray to life's joys, and in the words of Tiny Tim: "God bless us—every one."

What are we coming to in the Province of Quebec? For the time being we have eased off a little by the new loan of four millions, over which some politicians are as jubilant as if we had actually paid off four millions of our indebtedness. The Dominion subsidy has been pledged, it is said, and a first mortgage given on the Provincial Railways. What this may be ultimately worth to the mortgagee it is not necessary to discuss now. Suffice it to say, that no capitalist in Canada would lend money on the same terms; but the end of this extravagance bolstered up by perpetual borrowing cannot be far off. As I said last week, there will be an appeal for direct taxation, over which much political fighting will doubtless be done, but that will hardly prove an infallible and unfailing resource. The majority in the Province cannot bear much taxation, and the minority will not. What then? The destruction of our Provincial autonomy, or—why should anyone be afraid to say the truth?—annexation.

The first would be opposed by a very considerable majority in all the Provinces. The main body of the people of Quebec—that is to say, the French Canadians—are violently opposed to the very idea of Legislative Union; for they imagine, rightly or wrongly, that if such a thing were to happen their nationality and form of religion would inevitably suffer. The people of Ontario are just as strongly opposed to it, for they decline to be hampered and hindered by heavy and slow-moving Quebec. The Provinces east of ourselves and west of Ontario have nothing to gain, but very much to lose, by an identification of interest with us. The truth is, that large numbers of our French Canadians look to annexation to the United States as the ultimate solution of the difficulty. They imagine that this

would leave them a free and independent State, having the complete control of their own affairs, and a better cow to milk than the one we pasture at Ottawa. It is not probable that the church authorities favour this; they are anxious for matters to remain as they are, but if there must be a change even they would favour annexation rather than legislative union. And this incessant plunging deeper and deeper into debt,—building railroads for the sake of providing places for political friends; building new parliament houses when they are not required and the exchequer is beggared,—is making some sort of change a dire necessity which will come upon us before long. Three courses are open to us: better and cheaper government: the abolition of provincial distinctions, and government by one central parliament, that is to say, Legislative Union; or, Annexation to the United States. Of better and cheaper government there is no sign; the majority in Quebec, would furiously oppose Legislative Union; what is left?

It is quite conceivable that, if change there must be, the people of Ontario would think many times and long before they again consented to link their fortunes once more with Quebec. They tried it before and found it so unworkable that they had to devise the clumsy scheme of Federation in order to get along with a show of peace and a chance of prosperity. Ontario wants no change, but what if change be forced upon her? If, of two evils, she has to choose the least, which will she deem the least? I am not advocating Annexation, nor do I wish to be accused of doing so; I am only trying to point to the necessary end of the courses we are pursuing. It seems to me that Quebec is manipulating the destiny of the Dominion by its government in the interest of party, and will force upon us changes of a radical nature, in spite of ourselves. Legislative Union would meet the case and remedy the evil. It would consolidate what is now scattered, and fuse the disintegrated. A nationality might suffer; a church might undergo a weakening process, but the whole would net a clear gain, and the future be less uncertain. Therefore, I advocate Legislative Union. Let us wipe out these Provincial Parliaments, which are a delusion and a snare.

Captain Norris writes to me from Kingston to say that Canadians have taken, and do take more interest in the future of the Dominion than I have been led to suppose, and in confirmation of his statement calls attention to a pamphlet published by him in 1875 on "The Canadian Question." It is an able, although not very readable treatise, and contains some very peculiar deductions as to the basis, or value, of general history; for example, we are told that "impartial history is an impossibility so long as religious belief is in its present position. History at present is but the abuse of the rival sects." That is a poor start, it must be admitted, and if the writer had committed himself to less generalising and moralising, he would have made his point more clearly; but he shows a very considerable acquaintance with Canadian affairs, and finishes with the expression of a very decided opinion for Independence:—

"On the whole the prospect is that Canada could sustain independence. She is doing so in reality at present. In all things affecting the country itself, Canada governs itself. The only thing to complete her sovereignty is power to transact her business and intercourse with foreign powers. All the expense necessary to self-government is sustained by Canada with the exception of the expense of a diplomatic body, and that would not cost much. Representation at the capitals of the Great Powers would only be necessary. An ambassador at Washington, London, Paris, Vienna and St. Petersburg could be supported for \$50,000 a year, and we pay that sum now to a Governor-General. The labour and trouble which would be saved to Canadian merchants by having a man in Washington alone, through whom Canadian business could be done directly with the American Government, would pay for the extra expense. If then so little extra expense is required and such great benefits are to be obtained, is not independence to be desired. That independence if obtained would be prized above all earthly considerations by Canadians, and it would only be lost when there would not be left five thousand men in the country to fight for it. The new state might not be at first very formidable—so much the better for its success; it would not attract the envy or rivalry of any other nation."

Shades of Quorn and Pytchley! I wonder if the M. F. H. have managed to secure another "bagged" fox. I am also surmising

whether it is true that dogs are still kept at the kennels by members at the expense of the Hunt, and whether it is still an easy matter for a member to save expense by using one of the Hunt horses. Is it true that a red-herring trail has furnished good sport, but no fox?

In the local news column of the Montreal *Herald*, issue May 25th, I find the following sentence:—"On Saturday afternoon, a constable seeing a dog, which was as many people call mad, he took the opportunity to shoot it." I wonder who "built" that sentence.

I think that the quiet condition of the Montreal wharves at present gives a very convincing contradiction to the exaggerated reports, published anent the labourers' strikes, by certain papers here. This sensational style of reporting may be very good reading for a certain class, but it tends to injure, commercially, the reputation of our harbour.

Will somebody explain to me how it is that a farmer who does not succeed in Lower Canada, with the advantages of cheap land, close proximity to a good market and saving of freight, expects to succeed away up in Manitoba, when he surely will have to pay the freight to the shipping port on his produce, and most probably will, before many years, find the market glutted with wheat? At present a local demand is doing some good, but this is only temporary.

I am strongly of the opinion that a farmer, or young man, who would devote the same energy and apply himself as earnestly in Quebec or Ontario as he is obliged to do in Manitoba, would certainly be rewarded with as large a return.

SIR,—It is devoutly to be hoped you are mistaken in saying "There are Episcopal clergymen in Canada who would refuse Canon Farrar the use of their pulpit, and who advise their audiences against reading his 'Life of Christ' and Dickens's novels." I have heard of *one*, and but one, popular preacher (so called) who advised his people neither to read Farrar's "*Eternal Hope*" nor Dickens's works. Surely there is not *another* to be found who would give similar utterances.

Nevertheless, the sentiments and writings of Canon Farrar will, I doubt not, cheer and animate the hearts of God's faithful people when the name of his detractor has passed from memory. With such men as Farrar, "*opinion* is truly the focus of thought," whilst with others it is simply the outcome of ignorance and all uncharitableness. A careful study of the 15th Psalm might perhaps prove beneficial.

Yours truly,

E. L.

I could name twenty clergymen who would not admit Canon Farrar into their pulpit. What does "E. L." think of that act by which a clergyman was turned out of his pulpit because he had taken communion with his mother in a Presbyterian Church? Bishop Sweatman refused to speak in a non-Episcopal Church.

I notice the report of the meeting of the Montreal Society of Decorative Art, held on the afternoon of the 26th. In view of the fact that this Society has been established for the purpose of aiding a class to help themselves: a class that it is extremely difficult to reach in any other manner than that in which this Society is ably conducted,—in view of these facts, I note with pleasure its favourable report, and wish it a hearty God-speed in its work.

A man must have a peculiar taste, and a lamentable lack of that blessed ability of self-abasement, who can assiduously seek after and reproduce statements favourable to himself. I have known preachers who had a habit of reading from pulpit or platform any friendly epistle which a friend had sent. I have known men to ask their admirers to send them letters of praise that their words of commendation might be read in public. Some newspapers have the same weakness. If another paper utter a word of favourable criticism or comment upon them, it is, at once reproduced and flaunted and flamed about in a

manner which is at first amusing and then offensive. Here is the *Globe* day after day and week after week crowding its columns with nauseating notices of the new Managing Director. If I could express tender, sacred thoughts and purposes of manly conduct which came to me at my brother's open grave, I am sure I should not care to see them reproduced and commented upon over and over again in the columns of my own paper. And I am sure that I would not have a dead brother snubbed in order that I might be exalted. What else are some of these notices? E. g. "Mr. Gordon Brown has been for many years the guiding mind of *The Globe*, and to his ability and carefulness the great journal owes much of its success." "We rather look to see it (*The Globe*) develop greater influence than ever." "Very much of the success of the journal in times past has been due to his industry and ability, and now that he will be less hampered than formerly by considerations of a personal kind, his views with regard to independent journalism are likely to have effect." "He put more hard work and anxious care, more mental toil and real life blood into the columns of the *Globe* than any other man—living or dead." This and very much more of the same kind is copied into *The Globe*. "Le Roi est mort, vive le Roi," is good enough, but the Browns are not Kings, and Mr. Gordon, great man as he is, and exalted above all newspaper men in Canada, should remember that society admires decency just as much as it admires a capable managing director.

Whoever read the letter of Mr. Hugh Niven in the last issue of this journal—a letter which got in by one of those accidents which will occur in the very best conducted papers—should read the answer by the Rev. Mr. Mackie to be found in another column. Why Mr. Niven should have undertaken to bring a serious charge against a man when there was not the slightest ground for the charge, and when, through the courtesy of the *Montreal Star* he had been informed of his error, I cannot tell. I have seen the letters which passed between the different parties, and have had the whole story from other lips than Mr. Mackie's, and am prepared to say that Mr. Niven had no ground whatever for his charge, or insinuation; and I think Mr. Mackie just as incapable of collecting money under false pretences as Mr. Niven appears to be of rightly judging a Presbyterian minister.

When Bradlaugh at first quietly, but firmly entered his protest against being compelled to take the oath of allegiance in the name of God, because he believed neither in the English Constitution nor in the God of England, one could not help feeling a sense of respect for the man. At any rate, he was true to his convictions, and made a show of putting his manhood before all other considerations. But when the select committee had decided against him, and he declared that he was prepared to go through "the solemn mockery," the feeling was changed for one of profound contempt. Another question was at once brought before the House, and very properly: since this man has declared that he has no belief in the existence of a God, and therefore that an oath has no meaning for him, shall he be allowed to swear in the House to maintain what, in private and public, he has given his pledge he will do his best to overthrow?

For be it remembered that a member of Parliament is required to take an oath that he will sustain the English Constitution, and against that Bradlaugh is doing war. So that the question is not merely religious, it is political and religious. Would a judge be appointed to administer law who had for years declared that those laws were an iniquity and should be violated on every possible occasion? Would a man be allowed to serve in a responsible position in the army who had declared against fighting under all circumstances? Would Guy Faux have been allowed to sit in Parliament when it was known that he had been sent there to find ways and means for blowing legislators into atoms? This man enters an assembly which he will use his best endeavours to destroy; he offers to take an oath which he declares will not be binding, and treats the most sacred sentiment of a nation with ill-bred scoffing. I, for one, hope that the select committee, appointed to decide whether Bradlaugh shall be allowed to take the

oath, will decide against him. For his oath can have no more significance than his affirmation, and the English nation should pronounce against hypocrisy of this insolent type.

Mr. Forster is nominally the Secretary for Ireland, but in fact he is appointed by Mr. Gladstone to rearrange and readjust, and if possible balance Irish affairs. It will be no easy task, but if any man can do it Mr. Forster will succeed,—patient, plodding, and able withal, he may be depended upon for a thorough investigation of the many grievances of Lord Beaconsfield's "brilliant brethren." This will surely cut the ground from under the feet of Mr. Parnell, for the Irish are a generous people, and already their sympathies are aroused for a government which has so readily and earnestly taken up the question of their supposed wrongs. Mr. Parnell deserves only distrust and anger from his compatriots, for he came very near to wrecking the famine fund, and I should not be surprised to see, in a short time, the main body of the Home Rulers leaving their ambitious, but incapable leader to take their seats among the Liberals, who upon assuming office set their hands to the work of redressing Ireland's wrongs.

Mr. Fawcett was undoubtedly wrong in charging the late Government with knowingly passing over an item of four millions for the Afghan war in the Indian Budget, but the mistake can very well be accounted for. How could any one suppose that such a blunder was possible? And, as it turns out, there was a most important, because a most significant, telegram lying on the desk at the office of the Secretary for India, which, if explained, would have brought out the full information needed. The facts of the case point unmistakably, not to withholding information, but to staving off enquiry. The general elections were at hand, and the Government felt, probably, that in the interest of the party the discussion of the enormous deficit should be postponed; There was not much in the Afghan war of which Lord Beaconsfield's Cabinet could be proud; there was no glory obtained for the British army; "the scientific frontier" had remained a mere phrase; Russia had been in no way checkmated, and to have brought forward the fact that four millions sterling remained to be paid for this piece of unaccountable folly would have been most damaging.

Probably they reasoned soundly from their point of view, but the misfortune is that postponing enquiry did not annihilate the difficulty. There it is, a debt of four millions. And ugly enough it is. India cannot pay it, for her resources are straightened and strained to the utmost. The masses of the country are absolutely impoverished, and can suffer no more in the way of increased taxation. Then only one thing remains to be done; India is a colony of England, and England must pay the debt. This may appear to press unduly upon the British taxpayer, and many will ask, probably, are we to be held as finally responsible for debts incurred by the Provinces which they may not be able to pay? But the answer is simple enough. The Afghan war was not an Indian war, was not instigated or initiated by the people of India, but was a war promoted by the Government of Great Britain. Lord Lytton went out to the Viceroyalty with a distinct mission of fire and sword against an unoffending people who desired merely the right of governing themselves without interference. So Britain has to pay the whole, or a large portion of this debt, as one of the expenses attendant upon the luxury of a Beaconsfield policy of "Imperium et Libertas."

If the succumbing of the Reading Companies results in the breaking up of the coal monopoly in the United States, the good effects will far outweigh the present losses to a few coal kings.

In the United States General Grant is again in the ascendant for the Presidency. A few weeks ago his chances appeared few and small, and the quiet intelligence of the country was waking up to the fact that Mr. Hayes had done enough since taking office to entitle him to renomination. But that has subsided, and the Grant boom thunders through the land. To say that in statesmanship there is a good reason for this would be to talk nonsense; it is purely a party move, and done in the interests of party, and it may end well, but the thing is doubtful.

TORONTO AND ABOUT.

I find my remarks concerning the Mercer Reformatory require explanation. The Central Prison is built to accommodate from 350 to 400 prisoners (male), ample accommodation being provided in the way of workshops, with abundance of light and air. The corridors and halls are both numerous and commodious; the building of course includes the Warden's residence, and servants' and keepers' apartments. The Female Reformatory is quite as extensive as the Central Prison, with a maximum accommodation for one hundred women. Some of the larger halls are exceedingly dark and close, and notably the workshops, where most of the time of the prisoners is to be spent. The cells are only seven feet by four feet six inches wide. The space wasted in immense halls and useless stairways is not slight. The enormous expense that necessarily will be attached to this establishment when in full working order, in the way of keepers, guards and servants, heating, clothing and feeding, and repairs, will, I repeat, show the folly of the Mowat administration in erecting such a monstrous edifice to accommodate so small a number; and the stupidity of the erection is about on a par with the wasteful extravagance of expending a large sum of money in erecting at the present time new Legislative Halls, which, however badly needed, the Province is ill able to afford.

In private religious circles the feelings of the laity are shocked over the announcement of Mr. Langmuir prohibiting females to teach in the Central Prison Sabbath School. It is not generally known even in Toronto that the Ontario Government permits ladies and gentlemen on Sabbath mornings to hold first a religious meeting for the Catholics from 8 to 9 o'clock, and for the Protestants a Sabbath school from 9 to 10.30. The Government is responsible for half the fare of the cabs conveying the teachers to the prison. Mr. Langmuir, the Inspector of Prisons, has discovered a disagreeable element mixed up with the teaching of the females,—a sort of free-and-easy manner with the good-looking men and the guards. He objects to the extreme youth of some of the female teachers; and as a matter of fact, after all has been said to the contrary, there can be no doubt about it, the Central Prison, filled as it is with the abandoned of all classes of society, is no place for hypocritical pink-and-white females. This is not a private affair. Although not generally made public, all denominations of religion are concerned,—Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Congregationalists, Baptists, Presbyterians, and Plymouth Brethren. The indignation and approbation expressed are pretty generally mixed up.

The Protestants of Toronto are unspeakably annoyed; they do not say a great deal—popular feeling is kept as quiet as possible—but the thoughts of the righteous are overpowering. For the first time in the eventful history of Toronto two women have accepted the profession of a nun. St. Michael's Cathedral was filled last Thursday week to overflowing, by the curious of both religions, to witness the interesting ceremony of two women "taking the veil." The incantation, the swinging of incense, genuflections, and mummery were something truly astounding. Archbishop Lynch, in his usual bombastic style, preached a very suggestive sermon. Protestants, especially Orangemen, are considerably excited. Fears for the safety of the Protestant faith are freely expressed; though how a few novices assuming the white veil, with a dual increase to the order of the "Precious Blood," can affect the Protestant religion must remain until further developments a matter of speculation.

It is a cause for special wonder that new court-houses are not erected in Toronto, especially after so many presentments from grand juries respecting the utter insufficiency of accommodation and the worthlessness of the present buildings. I was locked in the jury room for eight or nine hours last November; the weather was very cold, no fire; the room was only about 15 feet long by 10 wide. We managed, after great difficulty, to light a fire in the miserable apology for a stove, and presently the heat was so intense that all the windows had to be opened, of which there were three, letting in a piercing draught. From constantly opening and closing these ventilators I succeeded in catching such a serious cold that I was forced to remain at home for a week. The judges' rooms, witnesses' rooms, barristers' rooms, court rooms, jury rooms and halls are, without exception, simply disgusting;

dirty, ill-ventilated, meanly furnished, mildewed, unhealthy and in every way abominable in the extreme, there being no one redeeming feature about the building from parapet to basement. There is no one stone or brick that ought not to be razed to the ground.

To show the magnificent manner the city fathers have in conducting improvements in economy, it is but necessary to hire a horse and buggy and drive to the eastern limit of the city, where the Gerrard street bridge crosses the Don. The bridge, as an inhabitant remarked, is "splitting its sides laughing;" it is on its last legs; every day the neighbours look out for accidents; the planks are worn so thin that in some places a cart-wheel can almost pass through. Drivers of heavily-laden waggons timorously walk their teams over the tottering thing, "danger" being written upon every plank and post and rusty nail of the structure. Surely the city had warning enough the other evening when the timber bridge collapsed in Yorkville, not two miles from the present unsafe affair, and the fatality of the accident gave rise at the time to indignant murmurs from those in the habit of crossing the Gerrard street bridge. Is there any sort of excuse behind which civic bodies may screen themselves when they wilfully neglect their duty? They callously witness the need of a new bridge; they bear the complaints of the people; they read the reports of the evil time and again in the daily papers, and silently refuse to move in the matter. Very soon either the country or city will be called upon to pay heavy damages which, some person ignorant of the unsafe bridge, will have sustained through its destruction.

As I hinted in a previous paragraph, Mr. Fraser has stubbornly refused to grant the least concession to the reasonable request of the architects asking for an extension of time, &c., in the preparation of competitive plans for the new Parliament buildings. The refusal of Mr. Fraser to the trivial (yet important to the design) request of being permitted to colour in "Sepia" or Indian ink the perspective drawings shows a determined obstinacy, the like of which happily is very rarely met with. Is the request of sixty architects, from Montreal to Winnipeg, to have no weight at all? Mr. Fraser ungraciously appears to assert that the professional gentlemen who are likely to compete are to submit to his dictation in total; they are not entitled to the smallest share of consideration in the matter; and, if the truth were to be known, Mr. Fraser thinks he is acting very generously in allowing them the extreme privilege of competing at all. During the busiest time of the year they are compelled to design and execute drawings and specifications which, when work is at a standstill, should occupy at least four months. It is charitable to suppose the Hon. C. F. Fraser is more ignorant in these matters than is generally supposed.

My comments on the Artists' Society are received with indignation. I cannot help it! I reiterate the statement that the Ontario Society of Artists is not all it is cracked up to be. Mere mechanical commercial painting is not Fine Art. Pictures got up for sale have no place in a Fine Art gallery. All the eulogium and laudation in the world never made a Michael Angelo or a Rembrandt. The rooms of the Ontario Society of Artists are nothing but large sales rooms; and the very objectionable feature of the Lottery should be hissed down.

Now that Mr. Brown is dead the people begin to appreciate his worth, and the proposal to erect a statue to his memory at this time is most appropriate. The names of the gentlemen composing the committee are representatives of all shades of politics, and are from all parts of the Dominion. Mr. J. D. Edgar of Toronto, as the secretary of the committee, would be glad to get the names of gentlemen of Montreal, or elsewhere, who ought and are willing to join such a committee. The proposal, that the managing committee should appoint other smaller working committees in all the principal towns of the Dominion, is a good one, for by this means operations would be greatly facilitated. Mr. Mackenzie's suggestion to place a bronze statue in the proposed new Parliament buildings I think ought not to be entertained. If such a sum as \$30,000 be subscribed (this amount was suggested) it would be the height of folly to expend it upon a statue only to be seen by the few; on holidays and the Sabbath when the park is thronged the object of the memorial would be entirely frustrated. The suggestion to limit the subscription either to a minimum or a maximum amount is unwise. The poor man's ten cents should be gladly accepted, and the millionaire's thousand dollars ought by no means to be refused. One thing the people are decided upon, that a fitting memorial statute should be erected to the man who was the foremost man of his time in the Dominion.

Queen City.

RAILROAD DEVELOPMENT.

Among all the channels of industrial development, railroads take the first place, and their existence becomes a power, everywhere carrying a widespread activity, which largely influences a country's progress. Clearly, in so important a factor in a nation's growth, there must be room for the exercise of great intelligence and foresight. The wonderful strides of scarcely 50 years since the memorable trip of the "Rocket," travelling six miles an hour, to the seventy miles an hour of to-day, transcends any other instances of material progress, changing the very character and condition of society; so that everywhere the railroad question is paramount, and becomes the measure of a country's status. Necessarily the early railroads sprang into existence through local wants only, each business centre demanding facility of intercourse with its neighbour, and lines were built without regard to any well-digested plan. In examining the railroad map of England or of the United States, a marvellous intricacy of lines is observed; they cross and re-cross each other in all directions, without any apparent purpose or assimilation of interests. Supposing the bulk of existing railroads in these countries could be wiped out, and an intelligent plan of development recommenced, how differently would they appear—how great a saving in mileage and money there would be, to accomplish the same end. Now it is too late to carry out such a principle in old Canada, but the correctness of the statement prevails; nevertheless, and I would fain, so far as is possible, prevent the repetition of our past waste in our yet unoccupied domain. The characteristic feature of the American railroad system should be, the primary construction of great trunk lines running east and west across the continent, the intervals of country to be developed by branches or lateral roads acting as feeders to the main line, thus avoiding the ruinous conflict which prevails, and divide the benefit to the terminals of each system, rather than the concentration which now pours the wealth of the continent into one great centre.

Mr. McCullough, in his Commercial Dictionary published about 1835, designates Montreal, New York, and New Orleans as the three great entrepôts of this continent—and viewed from his standpoint as terminals of great water routes, he evinced an intelligent foresight—but to us, living in this railroad age, his judgment is quite astray. What DeWitt Clinton did fifty years ago for New York by the construction of the *Eric Ditch*—which changed the flow of trade from its natural channel (the St. Lawrence river)—is quite likely to find its duplicate in a similar diversion of the promised trade of our Great Pacific Railroad over the Coteau Bridge to New York and Boston, instead of to our own seaports of Montreal and Quebec. "*Steel Rail is King*" now, and backed by the enormous money power which heretofore belonged only to favoured states and kingdoms, but which has now passed into the hands of individuals and rings—wielded and controlled by such master-minds as Gould, Vanderbilt, Cook, and their ilk—it may well be asked what interest or trade is there which these men cannot impair or divert. So that our sleepy pauperised Government ought to be wide awake, and use every possible safeguard against such powerful opponents; and although what has already been done does not inspire much hopefulness, still great results can yet be accomplished by a wise and systematic concentration of the resources left us, to build up our own seaports, instead of those of our unfriendly neighbours. The near completion of our enlarged canal system opens a wide subject for intelligent discussion. All the advantages its projectors claims for the common outlay will be lost, if not fed and clinched by our railroads. Up to this period of our railroad history, we can lay little claim to the intelligence which would have actuated an ordinary business man in the use of his capital. Politics and contractors' greed have been more powerful than trade wants, and stock and bond-holders are paying the common penalty of their credulity.

In reviewing many of the existing lines we can see great want of foresight in their location. For instance, the Grand Trunk was purely a contractors' road, the trade of the country was terribly depressed, and demanded something to revive it—the outlay for 1000 miles of railway was just the pill for the occasion. We can all see now how much better for the railroad and for the country would it have been, to have left the St. Lawrence trade to itself, and located the road in as direct a line as possible to Ottawa, and thence through the heart of the country to Toronto—this would have given a shorter route, enriched our cities tenfold, and lateral lines would have been built feeding the main line, and removing the necessity for an opposing line, the building of which has now become a certainty. The Great Western Railway, crossing the Niagara Peninsula, was also a commercial blunder in its location, and was killed outright by blundering management. It was the missing link between the seaboard and Chicago, with an enormous trade waiting for it at each end, but which now has to be divided amongst three competing roads, one of which, Vanderbilt owns and operates with as little benefit as possible to Canadian interests. "The Intercolonial" the greatest blunder of all, finds its excuse in being a military fancy and political necessity, at the expense of its commercial and economic character. So that, reviewing what has already occurred, there has not been much astuteness shewn in the selection of routes, which really becomes

the all important element in trade competition. Of the three great Trunk lines in the United States across the continent, only one, the Union Pacific, has reached completion. The extravagant expectation of its projectors, respecting a large Asiatic trade has not been realized. The other two unfinished routes, were projected mainly as colonization roads, fostered by large governmental land appropriations, which the railroad companies undertook to populate at their own cost. It is to be regretted that a similar policy has not been adopted on our Canadian Pacific Railway, while, its being a government measure, must militate unfavourably, both as to its accomplishment and results. Probably the one line on this continent which presents the most hopeful results, and which ought to absorb the best energies of every Canadian, is the Montreal and St. Paul Road *via* Sault St. Marie. This route being as near an air line as possible, can never be circumvented like most other great trunk roads. Tapping the great wheat zone of the world, steamships can be reached at Montreal 260 miles nearer than at any other point, and Liverpool brought 660 miles nearer, a fact which, in the hands of Gould or Vanderbilt, would make it the best paying road in America.

Now, with such a commanding position, and the prospect of the speedy settlement of our North-West, there should be no wavering as to the course Canada, and especially Montreal ought to adopt, to secure or simply retain such a manifest destiny as awaits her. If ever there was a turning point in her history it is now, when every local jealousy and party squabble should be merged into this one great enterprise, securing forever her commercial supremacy, and cheapening breadstuffs to Europe. The growing aspirations of St. Paul, to become the great wheat distributing point of the North-West, ensures the hearty co-operation of her enterprising merchants, and to us, whose interests as a shipping port are infinitely greater, the construction of the road becomes our only protection against the diversion of the through trade. Reverting to the general subject of railroad development in our great North-West domain, the rare opportunity presents itself of leading, instead of following population, and as modern engineering recognizes no impediment in the way of reaching a desired point, by the shortest possible distance, the task should not be a difficult one to determine the location which will best subserve the general interests and initiate a railroad system which for all time will mark the wisdom and statesmanship of its projectors. *Progress.*

THE PARLIAMENTARY CROP.

It is ten days since our legislators rose from their labours, and the session is represented by a heap of printed paper. The Vice-Regal assent has been given to numerous Acts, public and private, and the country congratulates itself on having, through these Acts, gained something which it was desirable to have. The theory is that a Parliamentary session is a boon to the public in the work that it performs, either in sweeping away abuses, curbing iniquities, relieving burdens, or oiling the social machinery here and there, so that it may work more smoothly and agreeably in the interests of all classes. This is the theory. Unfortunately it is seldom given effect to in practice, and if one might reverse what was said of the terrible curse in the "Jackdaw of Rheims"—namely, that in spite of its terrors, "nobody seemed one penny the worse"—it may be said with truth that, as the outcome of all the Parliamentary fuss and bother, nobody seems one penny the better!

In one respect, indeed, the result of the session will literally be to leave most of us a penny the worse, since we shall have to endure the enhanced prices of almost every article of consumption, without any increase of wages, as the price of legislative extravagance. As an illustration of history repeating itself, I will pause here for a moment to remark on the wonderful vitality of the English income-tax—as an evidence of the tenacity with which ill-weeds cling to the body politic—notwithstanding the bitter hatred which has pursued it from its inception. I have now before me a copy of a now extinct magazine, dating as far back as 1815, in which the first article is devoted to this as "one of the most obnoxious and oppressive impositions that ever tried the loyalty or awakened the remonstrance of the British public." It is denounced as bad in its nature, and worse in the mode of its collection, since "it holds out a temptation to fraud and perjury which ordinary fortitude cannot resist, and so has a powerful tendency to demoralize the habits and manners of the people." These sound like extracts from a paper of yesterday, for the evil which they are directed against is as rife now as it was sixty-five years ago; the public feeling towards it is the same; it is true, now as then, that "ministers appear to have lost all distinct idea of the comparative value of money, and impose taxes with as little sense of the importance of their measures as if they were playing at a game of cards for their personal amusement."

This by way of episode. As I was remarking, the result of the session ought to be something striking in the way of public good; yet it is pretty clear that where not pernicious, the greater part of the Acts passed will be in the nature of chips in porridge, neither good nor harmful, while many of them will not be worth the paper they are printed on. The Parliamentary machine resembles nothing so much as the treadmill. It entails an infinite amount of labour on everybody connected with it; but it is expended in grinding the

wind. Much of the available power is wasted in Party altercation, and in order to secure a prolonged term of office for the "Ins," and the greatest amount of discomfiture for the "Outs." The Ministry is always thinking more of itself than the country, while the Opposition is prepared to sacrifice everything, so that it may render the Ministry unpopular, and hasten its own return to power. There would seem to be in the eternal fitness of things no reason why a nation should be crucified between two parties in the Legislature. Corporate and other bodies conduct their business on the reasonable basis of the members taking sides on the merits of each question as it is brought before them, but our legislators are not concerned with the merits of a question so much as with which side of the House it happens to emanate from.

Thus we have the Party in office always taking some step to serve itself; the Party out of office always throwing impediments in the way, and doing its best to ensure that that particular piece of legislation shall be turned out in a form as discreditable as possible to its originators, unless, indeed, there happens to be a chance for the Opposition to snatch a triumph out of it, and to make it redound, in some shape or other, no matter what, to its own glory.

Owing to the same cause much of the work of each session is retrogressive. It consists in one side picking to pieces what the other side have done, and so, in addition to maimed and imperfect Acts, we get a good many futile enactments, which only land us where we were years ago. From the same cause—that is to say, from a desire on the part of the Government to retain popularity—a good many petty and "faddy" bills are passed, to please this or that clique, to oblige monopolists who have votes, and to make things pleasant all round. On other grounds there is much waste of work, and the produce of real value is small in bulk, now do the people always get the full benefit of this, little as it is. Somehow or other it happens that there is a great mortality among Acts of Parliament—some are strong and vigorous, come into immediate operation, and create a stir in the world; others pass through the House and out of the House, and are never heard of afterwards. It seems nobody's business to put them in force, and so they linger on the statute book, until perhaps the other side comes in and repeals them by the score.

At the end of the session just concluded, as of every session, the quiet observer will note how the House has failed to touch all the real evils of everyday life, and at the same time there is grave doubt whether the most important Acts of the session—*e. g.*, the Insolvency Act, the Banking Act, and the Pacific Railroad business,—may not turn out to be costly blunders, whilst the rejection of the Deceased Wife's Sister's Bill is a positive mischief, as a denial of simple justice. Let any one ask himself what he would best like done for him, and the reply would in most cases embrace the parts which our legislators have left untouched. Practical helps to the enjoyment and prolongation of life are just the kind of things Parliament will not do for us. Its time is wasted on reforms, which nine times out of ten are blunders; in effecting changes in out-of-the-way things, with the fallacious idea that to change must be to improve, and that the new is inevitably better than the old; or in dealing with some sensational topic over which the country has temporarily gone mad. Thus it comes to pass that an impression prevails that Parliament is only a great taxing-machine, which collects the revenue and disburses it with reckless prodigality. Whether the past session will prove more or less profitable than others which have preceded it, remains to be seen. It has turned out a good many bills; but number is not the point. Quality and vitality alone count; and I am afraid that when it comes to be garnered and brought into use, it will be found that we shall scarcely have got an average Parliamentary crop.

Quevedo Redivivus.

THE POLITICAL DESTINY OF CANADA.

BY JAMES LITTLE.

(Concluded from our last issue.)

"Legislation, according to the well-understood wishes of the people," has existed in no greater degree since that much-boasted-of reform, Responsible Government, was inaugurated, than before; in fact, not so much so. Up to 1847 the wishes and interests of the people were attended to; since that time they have been totally ignored. It can't be shown by Mr. Bourinot, or other laudators of Responsible Government, that a single one of all the great financial and other important measures with which the country has been brought to its present poverty-stricken state, was ever submitted to the people for their decision, *pro or con*, at the polls—that a single member was instructed by his constituents to vote for changing the municipal institution of the country from District to County and Township Councils—to vote to be taxed to pay the Rebellion losses—to vote two millions of dollars into the pockets of the landlords of Lower Canada—to vote for Confederating the Provinces and purchasing those that held out—to vote for the expenditure of \$36,000,000 in building a railway along the finest navigable river in the world, out of its natural route, and increasing its length a hundred and fifty miles—to vote for the expenditure of \$30,000,000 in the enlargement of the Welland and St.

Lawrence Canals for the benefit of the grain growers of the Western States and a few shippers from this port, and at a dead loss to the country of \$2,000,000 a year—to vote for purchasing the North West territory at a cost of \$1,500,000—to vote for expending \$150,000,000 in building a railway across the continent with other colonization railways in the North West—to vote for expending from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 in building a railway from Burrard Inlet, 127 miles, to the Rocky Mountains, in British Columbia, to "save from insolvency" a few fishermen and miners in that Province—to vote authority to the Government of the day to print \$12,000,000 of paper promises in order to furnish them with funds to squander at home, or pay interest on the money they have borrowed abroad for the same object—to vote for another batch of paper promises of \$8,000,000 to drain the country of specie to pay interest and bolster up our credit abroad—to vote to employ an oily-tongued ambassador to England at a cost to the people of \$10,000 a year to shape our political destiny and misrepresent the state of the country and condition of the people, and thus mislead and wheedle the London capitalists into lending their money to enable the Government to continue the indulgence of their squandering propensities—or can it be shown that a single member of the present House of Commons was instructed by his constituents to empower the Government to enter into negotiations with the British authorities for the withdrawal of 10,000 of our young men from the industries of the country and embody them in a standing army, prepared to fight the Zulus, Afghans, or other tribes whose territory may be coveted, when called on by England. Nor can they show that a single one of all these undertakings which burden the people with taxation, and are sure to end, sooner or later, in repudiation, was ever submitted to, or called for by the people before it was determined on and embodied in the Acts of the Government of the day. Sir John and the *Globe* have now, however, set this question of "representation according to the well-understood wishes of the people" finally at rest, so that it is but a waste of time to discuss it farther. Sir John has given the people plainly to understand that they need give themselves no further trouble about legislation—that it is none of their business. In the recent debate on the additional \$8,000,000 of paper promises to be issued by the Government for circulation, he—as reported by the leading organ of his party, the *Mail* of Toronto—scouted the idea, which some member had the temerity to suggest, that the interest of the people and the banks was to be considered, declaring, in emphatic terms, that "*the Government are the people*," and the *Globe*, in an editorial only a few days back on the currency question, says "the Government organ apparently holds that the men entrusted with the management of the public business should not aid in forming public opinion, but should watch it, and be ready to take any course that may enable them to retain office. This is a pernicious doctrine, and we doubt much whether the people of Canada will applaud a Government composed of declared time-servers." There is the *Globe's* view of the duties of those the people place in power. It is "a pernicious doctrine" for the servants of the people to watch public opinion and be ready to act on it, and they are only "time-servers" who would pay any attention to the "well-understood wishes of the people." And this ignoring of the people's rights and interest in the legislation of the country has, as I have shown, been invariably acted on since the establishment of Responsible Government by both political parties, Grit and Tory, when placed at the head of affairs.

A contributor to the Monthly, Mr. Granville C. Cunningham, has a well written article headed "Federation, Annexation or Independence." He commences by saying that "Indications are not wanting, that the discussion of the above questions, with regard to Canada, will ere long be brought within the domain of practical politics—people are beginning to see more clearly every day that the position in which this country stands to the rest of the world is not a permanent position; the current of events is rapidly drifting us toward one or the other of those propositions, and, ultimately, perhaps, sooner than many think, one or the other we must assume." In these observations I of course entirely concur, but I as entirely dissent from his views regarding the change which he advocates in our political condition, namely Imperial Federation, to better that position, and it is surprising to me that he does not see that his chief argument, which I shall quote, is decidedly opposed to the change he advocates, and as decidedly in favour of Annexation. He says "If England were to go to war to-morrow with any of the great powers of Europe, it is evident that Canada, as a part of the British Empire, would become an object of attack for the power with which England was at war. It would at once be necessary for us out here to put our army on a war footing, to fortify and protect our seaports, and to have everything in readiness to repel an attack which might be made at any moment, while England, on the one hand, could obtain no support as a matter of right from Canada, while she would be unable to call on a Canadian army to assist her in the field, while Canada, on the other hand, could derive no honour nor glory from the war; while she could reap no benefit from it, yet would Canada require to incur all the heavy expense necessitated by modern warfare, in order to protect herself against possible and probable attack, in order to guard her ports from invasion, and this, not from any desire of her own to take part in the war, but simply because she is a portion of the British

Empire. It would be difficult to conceive a position more injurious to the well-being of any country than this. In the event of England being dragged into a European war, it would of necessity follow that Canada would have to be placed on a war footing, and this, be it remembered, without yielding moral or material support to England, but merely in order to protect herself against possible invasion." There ye overburdened, tax-ridden people of Canada you have the reasons set forth in full why you should set to work, without delay, to become federalized, to lose no time in "incurring all the expense" to get up a standing army to protect the country "against possible and probable attack," and a navy "to guard your ports from invasion," so that when a Beaconsfield chooses to plunge the people of England in war, he may be able to involve you in it "as a matter of right," that you may "derive honour and glory." The country is in the throes of bankruptcy, and you must sink it beyond redemption in furnishing England "with material support;" not for any interest you have in the war; not for any great principle you have at stake; not for the preservation of your liberties and rights; not to advance the well-being of the people, but to "*derive honour and glory.*" If this is not Jingoism run mad, I am at a loss how to properly characterise it. And these are the men who are clamouring through the *Canadian Monthly* of Ontario to be allowed to shape the political destiny of the country. No one, of the least pretensions to intelligence or common sense, but must see, on reading the above extract, that it is dead against Imperial Federation, and a powerful argument in favour of Annexation; and that, had the essayist laboured to present this view of the question, he could not possibly have done so in a stronger light.

The SPECTATOR is entitled to the credit of being the first paper in the Dominion, having independence enough to open its columns to the discussion of the state of the country, and the necessity of a change in its political condition. Since it brought this question to the notice of the public, a year ago, it has made astonishingly rapid progress, and will soon be *the question* of the day. The *Monthly*, above referred to, has, for some time back, been loaded with it. Several writers from Ottawa and Toronto have occupied its columns, some advocating Independence, others Imperial Federation, thus wasting their time and talents in vainly beating about the bush for its solution. From St. John, New Brunswick, comes what the same periodical calls "the loudest annexation bray"—and this annexation is, to my mind, the only way in which the question can be solved in the interest and well-being of the community. I have since the reprint from the SPECTATOR of the Political Destiny of Canada in pamphlet form, had opportunities of knowing the minds of many in the city on the subject. I have conversed with business men, traders, mechanics, lumberers, real estate owners, lawyers and others, and have failed to meet with but two who did not strongly express their conviction that annexation is the only salvation of the country, and I am fully convinced if the question was fairly put before the people generally nine-tenths of them who live by honest industry would take the same view, and rejoice at the change, and why should they not?

They see a country to the south of them, stretching alongside the whole extent of theirs and inhabited by the descendants of Englishmen and expatriated British subjects, prosperous and flourishing beyond what the history of any other country has ever before shown, while theirs is rapidly going to the dogs, they see a country rapidly paying off its debt, and will soon be able to free its people wholly from its taxation, while theirs is rolling up a debt which must at no distant day utterly swamp it, and crush them down with taxation. They see the young men, whom they have educated at their schools and colleges, making their way across the lines to where their talents will find employment and be appreciated; they see business men, machinists, mechanics, and the bone and sinew of the country migrating in swarms, which have swollen up, as computed by a gentleman who has watched its progress, to 100,000 in the last six months, and the outflow still keeps up and will continue to do so if not stopped by annexation, till officials will be its only remaining inhabitants; they see the real estate of the country unsaleable at a quarter of its former value, and its owners sinking under its taxation; they see the banking capital of the country transferred to New York and Chicago, there being no use for it here; they see an exodus from England filling every steamer to the States to overflowing, that they may find the means of living and bettering their condition which are denied them in their native land—that country to which our Canadian Jingos would fetter us at the expense of keeping up a standing army to enforce our allegiance and keep our noses to the grindstone, and, in the language of the *Bystander*, they see themselves "cut off, for political purposes, from the continent of which our country is economically a part, instead of obeying the dictates of nature and embracing the advantages which she has set before us. It condemns Canada anew to the commercial atrophy which such severance inevitably produces, and which is the main cause of her commercial ills, and of the present exodus of her citizens." And surely, seeing all this should cause them, if of ordinary intelligence, to rejoice in a change of nationality so certain to promote, enhance and perpetuate their own and their children's political, social and material well-being.

James Little.

Cote St. Antoine, Montreal, May, 1880.

THE "DIVINE RIGHT" OF MAJORITIES.

Our forefathers fancied they had accomplished much when, at great expense of suffering to themselves, they had succeeded in destroying the "Divine right of kings." They did not finish the work. Something remains yet for us to do. It is for us to abolish the "Divine right" of majorities.

This crusade has been begun and worthily pursued by such men as Prof. Goldwin Smith and others among us in their attack upon "party" and "party spirit." That is one phase of the evil which aids the rough-shod reign of majorities over minorities; but it is an outpost only, and not the citadel itself. The citadel and centre of the defect in modern representative government is the admission of the "right divine," as resident in a majority of the popular vote, to trample on the rights of others. Surely no one can fail to perceive that tyranny is tyranny still, whether it be exercised by one, as king, or by many disguised as a majority vote. The bulwark of our liberties is not the pious submission of the minority to deprivation of freedom at the will of a majority. The true bulwark of our liberties is the preservation of the individual right of each to freedom of exercise of his own faculties, and the prevention of control over the faculties of others.

Doubtless it is an improvement, gained for us by our forefathers, to be free from the divine right of one man, as king, to impose his will upon us. The transfer of that right to a majority of individual thinkers, each with an individual will to guide his thoughts, is an upward step; for in the multitude of councillors there is always more or less wisdom, at least an appearance of wisdom sufficient to delude the reason of the vast mass of humanity. But the iota of wisdom so found does not carry with it a "divine right" to rule.

At present the spirit of party in all so called free communities, has become king, and, since its divine right to reign is acknowledged so soon as the party attains a majority, any and every means are viewed as justifiable to attain that end. Then submission by the minority is set forth as a pious duty towards God and towards man. Such is the prevailing theory. It is looked upon by very many as the apex of advanced civilization and moral government. The authority of orthodox religion, as wrung from the utterances of the Apostles, is found willing and ready to back it.

Yet not always in the voice of majorities do we discover an unerring guide to rectitude. Majorities have been found too often animated by a spirit of sheer selfishness and love of dominion over the rights and property of others as fully developed in the aggregate composing it, as in any individual member of society who has, for the same reason, become a persistent, annoying, hindrance to the peace and progress of his fellows. There are men who struggle continually to take away and arrogate to themselves the liberty of others; and there are majorities whose alleged divine right finds exit in the same kind of effort. The infallibility of majorities has not yet been established by experience. It has only been thrown out as a "dogma" by means of which it is hoped the lines of power may still be retained by the unscrupulous. The right of the majority to rule all, should ever be secondary to the right of the individual to rule himself. For majorities, as well as for kings, the establishment of a well defined code is needed, within which to confine the functions of government.

Much of our legislation of majorities in modern times has exceeded these limits. The tendency seems to be to exceed them still more. Could there be a more glaring instance named than that blot upon the fair name of the last but one Liberal Government of England, the "Contagious Diseases Act"? What more hideous mockery of the individual claim to personal freedom? Virtue enforced by the policeman is alike an impossibility and an outrage upon humanity. And not till the stain is removed from its escutcheon will the present Liberal Government possess the full confidence of the Nation.

Much nearer home we find compulsory voting advocated, waiting only the attainment of a majority to spring into life. Yet such a measure would be a clear infringement of the individual right to withhold an opinion and a voting power till some one worthy of both offers for election. It is a project framed directly in the interests of government by majorities.

We rejoice in the blessings of a realized "N. P.," whose "booms" delight the land; and yet that measure is a direct and glaring instance of the rights of a minority trampled upon by the "divine right" of a majority. It means simply, that because they, the majority, think it well not to trade with other nations, therefore the minority shall be deprived of their liberty so to exercise their faculties. Such is the "true inwardness" of the "N. P." Those who vaunt its praises aim a direct blow at individual rights and individual liberty; and the end is not yet. For the interest of its advocates it seems almost a pity history should show so very clearly that increase—not decrease—of liberty, has always gone hand in hand with advancement, all through the ages.

Sober, and sober minded men, perceive the evil lurking beneath the fair exterior of the "Scott Temperance Act," and are only the more deeply convinced of it by the defeat of Mr. Boulton's precautionary amendment. Still true to the orthodox faith of the "divine right" of majorities, he only sought a guarantee that such majority should be actually found. He sought in vain.

A shadowy majority even, it would seem, possesses more than a shadowy claim to this divine right to rule.

This temperance question is a dangerous one, and calls for prudent handling lest we be found lending aid to evil. Still, it is absolutely hopeless to "do evil that good may come." To deprive of liberty a minority who do not abuse their freedom, is to do evil—is to outrage the highest sense of justice in the hearts of those who are best fitted to guide themselves and their appetites, and is an attempt to substitute a reign of terror for the deeper, more powerful, lasting, and effective reign of moral suasion and mutual love and helpfulness each to each. From the commission of such an evil no good can result. An increase of hypocrisy and secret vice is all we can hope, by such means, to attain. One has only to reverse the character of the majority to perceive whither we are tending. Suppose a majority of wine-bibbers should insist that the temperate or abstemious minority shall each drink a pint of alcoholic fluid daily. Would the "Divine right" of a majority be then so loudly vaunted? or would there be a rebellion? or, would the minority aforesaid stop short at mere hypocrisy and fraud in the quantity and strength of their imbibings? Such measures are the product of faith in the "Divine right" of majorities; for only those who seek dominion for self by means of majorities could stoop so far as to pander to even well-meant fanaticism to gain their coveted ends.

The rule of majorities is "government from under—not government from over." The rule of Right—the law of God—is alone the "Divine right" so presumptuously and defiantly claimed by majorities. As God has left, and does to all eternity leave, the human soul He has created in freedom of will—free to exercise its will in that which regards itself alone, and to rise or fall in the scale of being according to its own desires—so human law, founded upon Divine, should also strive to grant the fullest possible freedom to each, preventing its exercise only in so far as is needed to preserve the freedom of all. This is a high aim to set before ourselves. The problem "how to will" and wish, and long for it, has hardly yet emerged from childhood in us, much less begun to seek "how to perform." But fuller manhood will come in due process of Divinely appointed development till the "perfect obedience to perfect law"—the law of perfect love which our Lord God and Saviour taught and lived—becomes the actual condition of existence, and "His will is done on earth as it is done in Heaven." This is the perfect law of liberty, and teaches plainly that majorities should cease to arrogate to themselves a divine right which sweeps away the equal divine right of minorities to respect and liberty.

BEET ROOT SUGAR.

No. IV.

We propose to dwell in this our fourth article on Canada and its opportunities, and we shall briefly indicate the quantity consumed. In sugar, melado, molasses and candies, Canada entered during 1868, 98,833,924 lbs.; 1869, 127,901,156 lbs.; 1870, 166,194,043 lbs.; 1872, 130,470,566 lbs.; 1873, 151,381,762 lbs.; 1874, 156,533,332 lbs.; 1875, 165,334,142 lbs.; 1876, 163,615,680 lbs.; 1877, 145,065,169 lbs.; 1878, 168,650,896 lbs.; 1879, 190,000,000 lbs. (estimated), or 95,000 tons.

Notwithstanding, while passing through an unprecedented crisis and adversity, our consumption in 11 years had doubled—and we strongly insist, that we are progressing, that we have all the elements of vitality and health; for if Canada should remain in that stagnant state of the last four or five years, we might apply the celebrated saying of Louis Napoleon, when an alliance with Austria was broached: "*Il ne faut pas s'attacher à un cadavre.*" Thus then, allowing a margin for a fair ratio of annual increase of consumption, of say 10 per cent., for the next 10 years, it would bring us—

In 1882 to.....	120,000 tons consumption
In 1885 to.....	165,000 " "
In 1887 to.....	200,000 " "
In 1889 to.....	245,000 " "

We shall now show, that we can and we ought to grow and manufacture our own supply of sugar, and we shall call on the critic to show cause, why we cannot make also sugar for export, and excel all the continent of Europe therein, and add to the list of Canadian produce—beet root sugar—and at the same time, and in the virtue thereof *four fold our cattle exporting* capacity. Most of our readers are aware that the Dominion Government some years ago sent Mr. E. A. Barnard, the able director of agriculture to Europe, to study and to report on the subject of beet sugar culture. We give here a synopsis of the result of his labours, thus the report is official and impartial and free from *couleur de rose*. In 1876 under Mr. Barnard's supervision beet seed was imported and distributed; the product weighed and analyzed both here and in Paris and Brussels. This was repeated in 1877.

Notably among the results stands the fact, that the crop of 1877 exceeded in quantity and excelled in quality the crop of 1876. This is more important than it may appear to the casual observer. More than 200 lots from the different farms have been analyzed with the greatest care. We find the weights per arpent from 30,000 lbs. to 58,000 lbs.; others, measured by bushels, report from 600 to 900 bushels. To corroborate this, we have before us the last

report of the Maine Beet Sugar Co. of Portland, Me., giving the names of a great number of farmers who gathered crops of full 20 tons to the acre, realising therefrom full \$100 per acre. The analysis showed in the most inferior lots 9.88 per cent. and in the best lots 13.82 per cent., or an average of 12.50 per cent. These analyses were repeated in Paris and Brussels, and an extract of the report from these quarters says:

"The degree of purity (81.05) is excellent, and the percentage of sugar (12.50) is also very good; and these figures show that Canadian soil is eminently fitted to the cultivation of sugar beet."

This is the Belgium verdict. The report from Paris says:

"The average saccharine quality of the Canadian beet is superior to that obtained in France (10.30 per cent. for France; 12.45 per cent. for the Canadian). In France, the head of the beet is thrown aside as refuse; in the Canadian, this refuse contains yet 10.22 per cent. of sugar in 100 parts juice."

This report shows that our beets are 20 per cent. richer than French beets, that the refuse-heads are almost as rich as the better part of the French beets. We bring yet one more testimony, that of Mr. Walkoff, well known as the most competent judge in all Europe on this matter. He says:

"Our beets, on the average, are richer than those of France and Belgium, and the return per acre is so extraordinary, that, if our statement were not official, the best authorities in Europe would hardly believe it; that while our yield was from 20 to 25 tons per acre from soil not well cultivated, the average in Europe, with all their art, is but from 10 to 15 tons. Such an enormous yield, if generally realised, would be more to this country than the finding of a rich mine of any precious metal. He points out that our climate is exceptionally favourable to the growing and to the preserving of sugar beets."

So much for the testimony of competent foreigners. Now let us speak for ourselves. We have searched for the causes of this extraordinary yield in quantity and quality, and after thorough scientific examination believe we have traced the causes. Many years ago Baron Liebig analyzed the ashes of sugar beet containing but 5 per cent sugar, and of another containing 12 per cent. sugar. The result taught the farmers to raise with a mathematical certainty the beets to the maximum of sweetness. They supply their fields with artificial fertilizers, as indicated by Baron Liebig; thus, as before stated, the maximum of sugar in beets has been brought in Germany to 17 per cent. Without resorting to scientific *exposés*, we will merely mention the two most important agents of artificial manure:—It is potassium and phosphoric acid. The first, the most expensive, is supplied in Germany in the article known under the name "Stassfurt Salts;" the other, the phosphoric acid, is supplied in the shape of superphosphates. Here we have discovered *one* of the reasons of the superiority of Canadian beets. The Canadian soil contains a superabundance, and over-supply of potassium, it being more or less constituted of the detritus of forest trees decayed or destroyed by fire. This overdose, in many cases, causes the beets to imbue this salt to such a degree as to hinder more or less the crystallization of sugar. Thus the third and fourth crop of beets on same field *must* be superior in quality to the first. So far as phosphoric acid is concerned, we all know, that our own Ottawa district will supply it at a lower rate than any other country. This is *one* of the causes. The next cause lies in *the climate, in the atmosphere*. We may take it for granted that on a belt country where a maple tree will yield sugar, there the beet will prosper to perfection. The *Journal du Fabricants de Sucre*, giving a careful record of average atmospheric changes in Lower Canada, says, that, ours is the very exact climate suitable for the production of sugar beet of best quality.

In fact, the fundamental rules for producing the beet crop in quantity and quality are, that the month of May should be humid, June warm, July and August warm with frequent rain; September dry with cool nights and if on the contrary May to middle of June be cold and wet, and to end of July dry with tropical heat, and a wet September, the beet crop will be poor in quantity and quality. We all know that with rare exceptions the former condition is with us the rule; chiefly a dry September is required. We will here give an analysis to show how gradually sugar is formed in the beet, as analyzed from same field during the season.

On the 30th June the young plants harboured 6 per cent. sugar; on the 30th July, 8.30 per cent.; 15th August, 9.50 per cent.; 30th August 10.75 per cent.; 15th September, 11.75; 1st October, 12.60 per cent.

We believe to have proved that Lower Canada's farms are fit to raise the article to perfection. We purposely to-day omit the dollar and cent question, whether it will pay the farmer and the investor. We have also yet to examine how the extreme cold acts on the beets and if we can safely preserve them during the *winter* months. We have to enquire into the question of fuel, into the use made of the secondary products; the pulp, the leaves, the molasses, and have to discuss the relation of labour, railroad freight—and chiefly the cattle raising business. We must defer this to our next.

We are confident that we shall prove that there is no industry which, like this, promises safe and rich returns to all concerned. We are confident we shall arouse our readers to a full realization of the great importance of this subject, the national bearing of which cannot be overestimated. It requires the vigorous and determined effort on the part of a few intelligent and earnest men to inaugurate an industry which will, more than any other, regenerate agriculture, industry and commerce amongst us.

SERVICE AND THANKS.

Much of the satisfaction and happiness which we enjoy through life comes from seeing things rounded off and completed; from witnessing the fulfilment of natural cause and effect; from noticing that something which we had a right to expect has actually taken place. We all like fulfilment. A finished picture or poem, a plant in full bloom, a promise faithfully carried out, give us unfeigned pleasure, while the uncompleted effort, the broken friendship, the flowerless plant, the unfinished life, create a feeling of disappointment and pain.

Among the things which seem naturally to belong to each other, and which cannot be severed without offending our sense of unity, are service and thanks. Together they form a rounded whole, which satisfies our sense of fitness. One flows from the other as naturally as warmth from the sunlight. The trifling act of courtesy or kindness, followed by the simple "thank you" that falls so easily from the lips of the recipient, is a small thing, but a complete and finished one. The slight token of good-will on one side, and the slight acknowledgment on the other, make a perfect transaction as far as they go. From so trivial an occurrence as this up to the sacrifice of property or life for another's welfare the same law holds good. Service, whatever it may be, is worthy of thankfulness. Kindness on the one hand needs gratitude on the other to preserve the equipoise. Benevolence and appreciation fit closely into each other. Generosity has two hemispheres—one that of the cheerful giver, the other that of the grateful receiver, and one is as necessary to its perfection as the other. It is not only the one who does the service that needs the thanks; all the world feels defrauded if they are not forthcoming. Who has not felt a burning indignation on seeing the devotion of a parent to a thankless child, or the self-sacrifice of a patriot to an ungrateful and unappreciative people? Our natures revolt at it, justice condemns it and sympathy sickens at the sight.

Thanks are not, however, anything like pay for the service of kindness, of devotion, of self-sacrifice. There is no question of recompense or reward in the matter. They are but the natural result, the crowning development, the flowering out of the generous action. They finish what has been nobly begun and carried out. They assert an obligation which no material benefit can ever cancel. Who wants to be paid back for a kindness, or what wealth could ever repay a generous devotion? What we do want is the intangible emotion of gratitude that wells up in the heart and fills the sympathies and overflows in words or deeds, because it cannot be redressed. The thanks that belong to service are no formal set of words; they are the natural language of the heart; they may be expressed in a thousand ways, but they all come from the same source. Sometimes a look, a smile, a pressure of the hand, may convey them perfectly, and again the highest honours of a nation may but faintly shadow forth. Whatever else may claim reticence, then, this emotion of gratitude does not. Let us cherish the sentiment with the tenderest care, and give it the freest expression, knowing that only in this way can we bless those who have blessed us.

Yet, though service and thanks naturally belong to each other, we often find them divorced. There are many uncompleted things in the world, and this is frequently one of them. There are many persons living lives of sacrifice, who are unappreciated, mistaken and misjudged. We are all conscious at times of disappointment, when we have given up something precious to us, or performed some hard task for another, or perhaps devoted years of service to the welfare of a worthy enterprise, to find no echo of appreciation, no blossom of gratitude, no answering sentiment of sympathy. It is unnatural, incomplete, and we feel hurt and impatient. This is not altogether unreasonable. There is a great difference between doing anything *for the sake* of the thanks, or appreciation, or gratitude it ought to bring, and merely looking forward to them as a natural result which we may justly expect. A wise and loving parent gives years of effort, sacrifice, and toil for his child's welfare. He does not do it for the *sake* of filial gratitude, yet he may well feel grieved and disappointed if his child should fail to evince it. So it is impossible for any of us to feel quite happy and satisfied without the need of sympathy and thankfulness to which we are justly entitled. And yet there is a good which may grow out of this loss and incompleteness. It is a sure, though a severe test of our motives. We may be earnestly engaged in trying to benefit our child, our friend, or our city. We, perhaps, succeed in conferring upon them some great advantage. We have a right to expect that they will thank us, and hold us in their esteem. But, instead of this, we receive only coldness and indifference, and are naturally pained at the ingratitude. Now, if our motive has been chiefly to obtain the good-will, or approbation, or affection of those we have served, our failure is complete, and our efforts will cease. If, however, we have been pure and sincere in our desire to do good, the consciousness that we have succeeded in that will support us, and will send us back more heartily than ever to fresh endeavours. The plant that is not allowed to blossom often grows stronger, healthier, and fuller, and so when our natural desire for gratitude is nipped in the bud, we may find a deeper meaning to our work, and even a keener joy in its success, for its own sake, than from the most lavish praise or the most hearty gratitude.—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

Doubtless our last article has provoked the ire of many a busy mother who believes that if she did not sew and slave from morning till night she could not keep up the respectable appearance of her family; but we believe in nine cases out of ten half the sewing would suffice if the children were plainly dressed. To us it seems really pitiful to note the amount of labour that has been expended on children's clothing; and when, as is too often the case, the material is evidently not worth the time spent in making it up, we cannot help wishing that the mothers might gain some truer ideas of domestic economy.

Let us not be misunderstood. We do not object to the little ones being prettily, or even expensively attired, if the parents are wealthy and wish to display their means in that way; but, under no circumstances should a child's clothing be elaborately made and trimmed. And although it is not fashionable to dress little girls as miniature women, it is a fashion never copied by the better classes. The English, and indeed all old-country people, invariably dress their children plainly, or at least simply. A child's dress may be covered with embroidery and yet simply and childishly made, easily laundered and likely to wear longer than many frilled and flounced dresses of poor material, thus probably costing less in the end than those which the economical mother worries over with many weary stitches. "But," says the poor mother, "it is because we cannot afford expensive material that we are obliged to put so much work upon the common stuffs to make them look decent." This is what we have heard so much of in the *SPECTATOR* lately,—"fallacious nonsense." The more, poor material is cut up and trimmed, the poorer it looks. And do these mothers consider their time worth nothing except when spent in sewing? Would they deem it wasted if devoted to forming their children's minds instead of fashioning their garments? Ah! the sweet impressionable moments of childhood fly quickly past; and the opportunities strengthening our influence over the little ones, will soon be gone. It is now or never we must impress on their young hearts the love of all that is good and beautiful; the horror of everything low and base, and the high standards of honour, honesty and duty. If we do not form their characters they will soon be formed for us, and perhaps after a fashion far from our fancy. While we are busily stitching the fair outward garments they may be imbibing thoughts and ideas that will render them far from lovely within.

It is strange that although we are all ready to follow the fashions, no matter to what extent of folly and extravagance they may lead us, yet when the highest ladies of the land set us good examples, we are chary about imitating them. We all know how plainly and sensibly the Countess of Dufferin dressed her family, and any picture of the Princess of Wales and her children will prove that she has the good taste to attire them in the simplest of suits. Plain, inexpensive serges and linens, made in simple, girlish styles, may do for the grand-children of our Queen, but the grand-children of Canadian grocers, and butchers, and bakers, must have the latest fashions and the showiest styles. Ah, well; it is a great thing to be great—to have ancestors—to feel that our respectability does not depend on our clothes. And it is a great responsibility to feel with the Frenchman, who, being twitted about his lack of ancestors, replied "I am an ancestor." Alas! if we are our own ancestors we must struggle to prove our own greatness; and we feel that we have no other claim to greatness, we must try to prove it by our fine clothes and great show of wealth; for unfortunately, we Canadians are not a wealthy people.

Comparatively few among us may be said to have even a fair competency, and those who make most show have often least foundation for their pretensions. The women who outdressed us all at Cacouna and Murray Bay, and St. Anne's, and Point Claire a few years ago, have already retired from fashionable life. Like Jonah's gourd they sprang up suddenly and have shrunk back as suddenly to their native obscurity. And what are they the better for their few years' affluence? Their fine clothes are no longer fashionable; their pampered appetites crave the rich foods that are not forthcoming; but what benefit have they attained? None. Had they spent but a tithe of the money on good books and good deeds, but a tenth of the time in the pursuit of knowledge, how many happy thoughts and bright memories might now remain to console them for their vanished splendours. Had they always dressed and lived according to their station, they might still be able to maintain the same style. Had they stuck to their old friends they might not now be mourning the loss of the new; and best of all, had their children been reared simply and sensibly, they would not now feel the loss of luxuries which they never needed and can scarce hope to ever again attain. Let us take example by others and rear our children to love plain clothes and live on plain food, and above all to look upward and onward to the higher life. Thus we may make the present much pleasanter for ourselves, and the future full of bright possibilities for our children.

A FORGIVING BUTCHER.—Let us not rashly assume that butchers are without taste and gallantry. Mme. Hassona, playing Desdemona in Rossini's "Othello," at Moscow, made a deep impression on the audience, especially in the romance, "Assisa al Pie d'un Salice." At this point a butcher who had a long bill against her, rose from his seat, and, frantically waving his handkerchief, exclaimed: "I forgive you what you owe me!"—*The Theatre*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

It is distinctly to be borne in mind that we do not by inserting letters convey any opinion favourable to their contents. We open our columns to all without leaning to any; and thus supply a channel for the publication of opinions of all shades, to be found in no other journal in Canada.

No notice whatever will be taken of anonymous letters, nor can we undertake to return letters that are rejected.

All communications to contain the name and address of the sender.

Letters should be brief, and written on one side of the paper only. Those intended for insertion should be addressed to the Editor, 162 St. James Street, Montreal; those on matters of business to the Manager, at the same address.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR.

SIR,—Mr. Hugh Niven has called the attention of the public to me in your last issue in the following terms :

I, therefore, now respectfully request you to give publicity to said letter or letters (whose contents are corroborated by the Provost (Anglice, Mayor) of Lochmaben and the Rev. Wm. Graham, of Trinity, Edinburgh) during the present week, or to announce to me in any way you choose your refusal to do so. In the event of refusal, I shall in that case be at liberty to ventilate the subject in some other direction, with a view to vindicate my original assertion,—namely, that the Bruce memorial statue was *absolutely free of debt at the time the Rev. Mr. Mackie, assistant minister of St. Paul's, requested, through your columns, the Scotchmen of Montreal to hand over to him subscriptions for the purpose of liquidating a debt which did not exist.*

I regret being thus compelled to ask you to publish the letters I have received from Scotland bearing on this matter :—

(1) THE MANSE, Trinity, Edin., 28th October, 1879.

DEAR MR. MACKIE,—The Bruce monument was unveiled at Lochmaben on 13th September last, by Miss Alice Hope Johnstone, of Raehills. It was a fine day, and from ten to twelve thousand people saw the ceremony. The statue is a splendid one, and is universally admired. Could you not bring it before the St. Andrew's Society, in Montreal? They might help us with £5 or £10, to reduce the debt, now under £80.

Yours, &c. Wm. Graham.

(2) LOCHMABEN, 5th Feb., 1880.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of £2 8s. 1d., and beg to tender the hearty thanks of the Committee to yourself and to those gentlemen who have so generously contributed to the Lochmaben Bruce Statue Fund. I may mention that I have forwarded your letter along with the contribution to the Rev. Mr. Graham at Trinity. The statue is really a work of art, and everyone is pleased with its appearance. With compliments,

I am, Sir, faithfully yours, John Johnstone.
Rev. Mr. Mackie, 168 Mansfield Street, Montreal.

(3) THE MANSE, Trinity, Edin., 6th March, 1880.

REV. MR. MACKIE,—I should have written you sooner, in reply to yours of 29th Dec. last. Ex-Bailie Johnstone, Lochmaben, received your £2 odds safely, and wrote me that he had acknowledged the receipt. He sent it to me, and I returned it to him as our local treasurer. The Marquis of Bute sent us £100 since I wrote you, which cleared the statue of debt at once. Since then a Wallace window is placed in the new Town Hall, opposite the Bruce one, and it too is paid. There is only on the whole thing now a balance of £2 10s. on the pedestal, which will be wiped off this Spring easily. Should you and your friends send us an additional gift, it will go for a window for Burns in the Hall—should you so approve—or in aid of a Bruce Bowling Green, on the northwest shores of the Castle Lock, for the benefit of strangers.

Yours truly, Wm. Graham.

(4) THE MANSE, Trinity, Edin., 29th April, 1880.

DEAR MR. MACKIE,—Ex-Bailie Johnstone, Lochmaben, wrote me on Saturday last he had got your £7 odd, and had drawn it. I sent the subscription list which he sent me to the Lockerbie paper, copies of which you will get in course. It will be applied to a Bruce Bowling Green, at the Fancy well at the Castle Lock,—the Statue, and Wallace and Bruce windows, and new Hall being all now free of debt. Will send the papers ament the students direct to the Minister you name.

Yours truly, Wm. Graham.

The first three of these letters were known to Mr. Niven before he wrote the letter you have seen fit to give to the public. By the courtesy of the editor of the *Star* two letters written by Mr. Niven for publication in that paper were sent to me, as they were thought to reflect on personal character. The first letter which appears above, and the date in which was a misprint, was explained as to this error in the *Star* and privately to Mr. Niven by the Editor. Copies of the second and third letter were also sent to Mr. Niven with fuller explanations. I despair therefore of being able to satisfy Mr. Niven who, if he had wished to be satisfied, would have communicated with me privately before writing to the newspapers.

I wish, however, to say to those gentlemen who intrusted their money to me and who are quite able to look after its destination without Mr. Niven's help that the deviation from the specific object of a STATUE to the wider commemoration of the name of "the Bruce" at Lockmaben—the royal burgh of "the Bruce"—is in full sympathy with the spirit of the undertaking and certainly cannot in fairness be fastened upon me who, at the time of asking them to contribute, knew no more of the altered condition of things than themselves. I may not have an opportunity of going into particulars with each of these gentlemen. Enough for me that they are men of honour in whose hands therefore I can safely leave this wretched affair. For them alone I send you this explanation. To none but to them will I take any further notice of the matter, least of all to Mr. Niven whose position and character are so well known in this community that no intelligent and right minded person will give any weight to this letter or to any other he may choose to write. I am permitted to say that John Rankin Esq, John C. Watson Esq, have concurred with me from the beginning in the several steps I have taken.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, James Mackie.

TRADE—FINANCE—STATISTICS.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

COMPANY.	1880.			1879.		Week's Traffic.		Aggregate.		
	Period.	Pass. Mails & Express	Freight	Total.	Total.	Incr'se	Decr'se	Period.	Incr'se	Decr'se
*Grand Trunk.....	Week May 22	67,368	124,170	191,538	155,114	36,424	.....	21 wks	541,098	.....
Great Western.....	" 14	31,999	55,214	87,213	71,007	16,206	.....	20 "	223,196	.....
Northern & H. & N.W.	" 15	6,776	19,001	25,777	18,546	7,231	.....	19 "	78,838	.....
Toronto & Nipissing..	" 7	1,201	1,676	2,877	2,958	.....	81	18 "	7,511	.....
Midland.....	" 14	1,714	5,711	7,425	5,370	2,055	.....	19 "	27,013	.....
St. Lawrence & Ottawa	" 15	1,504	1,669	3,173	3,823	.....	650	fm Jan. 1	913	.....
Whitby, Pt Perry & Lindsay.....	" 21	425	1,029	1,454	1,083	371	.....	" "	8,502	.....
Canada Central.....	" 14	2,326	5,126	7,452	5,857	1,595	.....	19 wks	14,013	.....
Toronto, Grey & Bruce	" 15	1,985	5,625	7,610	6,447	1,163	.....	19 "	17,549	.....
†Q., M., O. & O.....	" 8	7,463	3,705	11,168	5,796	5,972	.....	18 "	59,241	.....
Intercolonial.....	Month April.	52,278	116,844	169,122	109,137	59,985	[Month]	Month	4 m'nths	152,243

*NOTE TO GRAND TRUNK.—The River du Loup receipts are included in 1879, not in 1880; omitting them the week's increase is \$40,624, aggregate increase \$628,498 for 21 weeks.

†NOTE TO Q., M., O. & O. Rv.—Eastern Division receipts not included in returns for 1879.

BANKS.

BANK.	Shares par value.	Capital Subscribed.	Capital Paid up	Rest.	Price per \$100 May 26, 1880.	Price per \$100 May 26, 1879.	Last half-yearly Dividend.	Per cent. per annum of last div. on present price.
Montreal.....	\$300	\$12,000,000	\$11,999,200	\$5,000,000	\$135	\$133	4	5.93
Ontario.....	40	3,000,000	2,996,756	100,000	78½	60	3	7.64
Molsons.....	50	2,000,000	1,999,095	100,000	82¾	77	3	7.25
Toronto.....	100	2,000,000	2,000,000	500,000	125	106½	3½	5.60
Jacques Cartier.....	25	500,000	500,000	55,000	71	34	2½	7.04
Merchants.....	100	5,798,267	5,518,933	475,000	93¾	76½	3	6.40
Eastern Townships.....	50	1,469,600	1,382,937	200,000	99½	95	3½	7.04
Quebec.....	100	2,500,000	2,500,000	425,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
Commerce.....	50	6,000,000	6,000,000	1,400,000	121½	103¾	4	6.53
Exchange.....	100	1,000,000	1,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Montreal Telegraph Co.....	40	2,000,000	2,000,000	171,432	95	103	4	8.42
R. & O. N. Co.....	100	1,565,000	1,565,000	.....	39	40¼	.....	.....
City Passenger Railway.....	50	.....	600,000	163,000	93¾	80	15	5.35
New City Gas Co.....	40	2,000,000	1,880,000	.....	121½	110¾	5	8.23

*Contingent Fund. †Reconstruction Reserve Fund. ‡Per annum.

From April 1st to the 8th inst., the British Exchequer receipts amounted to £9,120,002; last year, with two days more of income, the sum reached was £9,622,249. The expenditure has been £10,482,483.

The *Provisioner* publishes the following :—"Some idea of the extent of the milk trade in the metropolis may be obtained from the particulars given in one of the trade journals of milk businesses sold during the present month by one agent (Mr W. Jones, of Walbrook). Amongst these are quoted the following :—One in Lambeth, 8,000l.; Kew, 3,000l.; Chelsea, 2,800l.; Newington, 1,200l.; Kennington, 876l.; Clapham, 800l.; Rotherhithe, 800l.; Sydenham, 670l.; Poplar, 650l.; Nottinghill, 530l.; Kensington, 510l.; Hornsey, 400l.; Dalston, 400l.; Old Kent-road, 300l.; Forest-gate, 250l.; besides 20 more from 150l. to 20l.

A Parliamentary return on Irish relief loans, issued on Wednesday, the 12th inst., shows the amount of loans applied for by landed proprietors in scheduled unions under the notices of the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, with the result of the application to the 20th day of March. The total applied for was 1,184,058l.; the amount sanctioned, 354,520l.; and the amount issued, 69,955l. The total amount of loans applied for by sanitary authorities was 141,079l.; the amount sanctioned, 31,807l.; and the amount issued 2,569l. A memorandum is annexed explanatory of the unavoidable delays which occur in sanctioning loans applied for sanitary works. In many of the cases of the applications since the 22nd of November last, difficulties as to property rights arose, which up to the present time have been found insuperable by amicable arrangement. In many the scheme proposed was opposed after the first proposition. In others it turned out on investigation that the work could not possibly be deemed a sanitary work. In some cases the scheme appeared altogether beyond the requirement of the locality. In almost every instance the plans, estimates, and specifications have had to be returned for amendments and corrections; having been so badly and insufficiently prepared (either through haste, or ignorance of what was needed, although the forms supplied by the Local Government Board showed, if carefully read, everything that was required) that it was impossible to act on them.

* The receipts of Live Stock at New York for the last four weeks have been as follows :—

	Beeves.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Swine.
May 17.....	15,841	55	6,429	33,969	32,922
May 10.....	11,504	27	5,286	25,162	35,781
May 3.....	17,035	122	5,740	29,370	33,362
April 26.....	13,611	88	4,800	27,723	34,973
Total 4 weeks.....	57,991	292	22,255	116,224	137,038
Corresponding 4 weeks 1879.....	41,581	242	19,430	96,157	132,797
Corresponding week 1879.....	12,263	87	5,860	25,805	30,281
Weekly average, 1879.....	10,933	142	2,998	29,005	33,089
Corresponding week 1878.....	12,395	34	5,452	36,327	34,244

* From New York Produce Exchange.

Musical.

All correspondence intended for this column should be directed to the Musical Editor, CANADIAN SPECTATOR Office, 162 St. James Street, Montreal.

Notices of Concerts in Provincial towns, &c. are invited, so as to keep musical amateurs well informed concerning the progress of the art in Canada.

COMIC OPERA AT THE ACADEMY.

This season has been replete with operatic performances, French and English, Serious and Comic, we have also had the novel experience of listening to creditable performances given, if not altogether by local talent, by companies containing several local soloists, and a purely local chorus and orchestra. For the last few evenings the attraction has been the latest work of those renowned caterers for public entertainment, Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan. We have before us a review of the work by the London *Musical Times*, the New York *Tribune* and other journals, which, strange to say agree in almost every particular. They aver that the work is not so taking as "Pinafore," but is more meritorious; well, with the "Policeman's Chorus" and the "Patter Song" still ringing in our ears, we still hold to "Pinafore" as the master piece of both Dr. Sullivan and his witty collaborateur; and although the latter has even out-Heroded Herod by the absurdities introduced in "The Pirates," we feel confident that ere long it will sink into oblivion, while the sister opera will be revived again and again for years to come.

So much for the work; we will now speak of its performance. The scenery, dresses and general stage setting was excellent. The acting was for the most part above the average the principals being worthy of the highest praise. Musically, however, the company might be improved upon; the Prima Donna (Miss Conson) had neither voice nor method adequate to the performance of the part, Miss Laura Joyce (contralto) made such an abrupt change from the lower to the upper register that her otherwise excellent impersonation of the character of Ruth failed to make the impression it would have done, the Tenor (Mr. St. Armand) was fair, but seemed to suffer from a cold or huskiness of some kind, and as for the rest, to class them as vocalists would be to use the word in its most liberal sense. The chorus was numerically strong and the dressing and acting of the members was uncommonly good; however, as they sang out of tune almost invariably the effect of the performance was, to those possessing a tolerably musical ear, completely lost. Many of the soloists sang out of tune, and it was painful to hear the pianist (who acted as conductor) thump the notes in octaves in order to keep the singers fairly in tune. The playing of the gentlemen who composed the orchestra was beyond criticism, but after the large orchestra of the Operatic Society (which by the bye few people went to hear) the small band of 10 performers seemed miserably thin and ineffective. Musically we think our local performers were far ahead of those comprising Mr. Carte's Company, and as the affair was advertised as a "Musical Event" we cannot help acknowledging the superiority of our own vocalists, particularly, in the choral and orchestral departments, and wondering why our citizens will neglect first-class musical performances by local artists, while they rush in crowds to hear second rate foreign companies.

We sincerely hope that the result of a trial which recently took place in Paris will not embolden the lessees of the Opera-houses in this country to imagine that they are more at liberty than ever to disregard their pledges to the public. M. de Grandsagne, the gentleman who paid the expenses of the journey of a number of artists engaged in an operatic establishment with which he was connected, to witness the performance of "La Favorita" at the Grand-Opera, as an artistic lesson, felt himself so aggrieved at the fact of an air and *divertissement* being cut that he entered an action against the Director of the Opera-house, not only claiming damages for this omission, but urging his right to a hearing of the work as the composer wrote it, under an additional indemnity of 1,600 francs. The verdict was given against him; yet we cannot but think that M. de Grandsagne was an ill-used man. Of course it is not likely that any benevolent and artistic individual, who has an interest in the management of a provincial opera-house, will send the entire company of vocalists to one of our London lyrical establishments at his own cost, just to see how an Opera ought to be performed; but really a person who engages stalls, and takes perhaps the whole of his family at great expense to hear a certain work in its entirety, has a right to some sort of compensation when he finds that a large portion of it is cut out, or that interpolations are introduced which utterly destroy the intention of the composer. Again, when subscriptions are gained on the strength of certain promises in the prospectus of the season, and these promises are unfulfilled without any explanation being given, we can scarcely believe that persons should be expected to bear the disappointment without protest. M. de Grandsagne is a bold man, and deserves the thanks of the opera-going public. Although unsuccessful, he may have done good by mooted the question; and who knows but that some day he may be quoted as a martyr in the cause of operatic reform?

THE QUEEN'S SHILLING.

The many conjectures concerning this much-talked-of work will be set at rest on Tuesday evening, when it will be produced in the Academy of Music on a grand scale. It is certainly something unprecedented in Montreal to hear an Opera composed by a resident musician; but, apart from all questions of authorship, we must congratulate Dr. MacLagan on the fact that he has organized a chorus and orchestra which (numerically at least) is such as cannot be found attached to any travelling company. In addition to the large chorus and orchestra, the band of the Sixth Fusiliers will participate in some of the heavier marches and choruses, and to aid in the military attacks and tableaux, several members of the Scots Fusiliers, Victoria Rifles, and other corps have volunteered to take part.

Miss Laura Schirmer (the Prima Donna) is spoken of very highly by both the Boston and New York press, while Mr. Fritsch is well known to us as one of the finest Tenors in America. So far as we can judge from the rehearsals, the performance is likely to be a success, as besides the intrinsic merit of the composition, many people will be drawn by curiosity to see what it is like. The libretto reads well, and is the subject of much discussion by musical people.

The Cincinnati Festival was a great success both musically and financially. A movement is on foot to organize a permanent orchestra, with Mr. Thomas as conductor, one gentleman having subscribed \$8,000 for that purpose.

Chess.

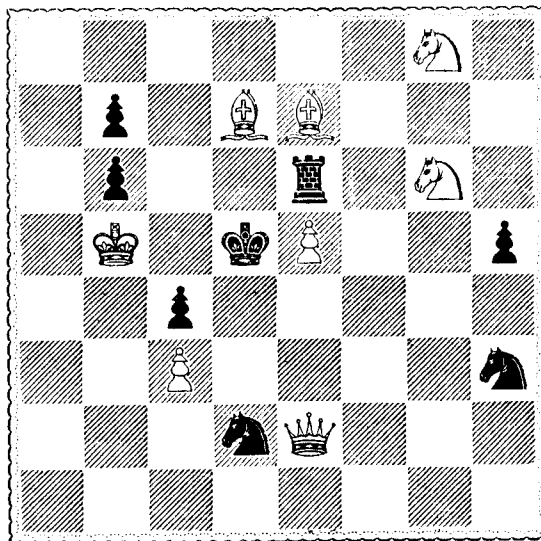
All Correspondence intended for this Column, and Exchanges, should be directed to the CHESS EDITOR, CANADIAN SPECTATOR Office, 162 St. James Street, Montreal.

Montreal, May 29th, 1880.

PROBLEM NO. LXXIII.

By Victor Abraham, of Cincinnati. From the *New York Era*.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. LXX. By Mr. W. A. Shinkman.

<i>White.</i>	<i>Black.</i>	<i>White.</i>	<i>Black.</i>	<i>White.</i>
Kt at Kt sq to B 3	P queens (ch)	2 Kt to Q sq (dis ch)	Any	Mates.
	If P takes Kt	2 Kt to R 4	Any	Mates.

Correct solution received from:—C.H.W.

GAME NO. LXVIII.

MR. SHAW'S CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY

Played between Mr. M. J. Murphy, of Quebec, and Mr. H. N. Kittson, of Hamilton, Ont

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. Mr. Murphy.	BLACK. Mr. Kittson.	WHITE. 10 P takes B	BLACK. K to R sq	WHITE. 20 Q takes P	BLACK. Kt takes B
1 P to Q 4	P to Q 4	11 Castles	Q to K sq	21 R takes Kt	Kt to K 4
2 P to Q B 4	P takes P	12 Q to K 2	Q to Kt 3	22 Q takes P	R to K B sq
3 P to K 4 (d)	P to K 4 (b)	13 P to B 3	K P takes B P	23 R takes P	B takes R
4 P to Q 5	P to K B 4 (c)	14 R takes P	Kt to Q B 3	24 Q takes B	Kt to Q 6
5 B takes P	Kt to K B 3	15 B to K 3	P to K 5	25 Q to Kt 3	Q takes P
6 Kt to K B 3	P to Q 3	16 R to R 3 (e)	Kt to K Kt 5	26 K to Kt sq	Kt to B 7 (ch)
7 Kt to Q B 3 (d)	P takes P	17 R to R 4	R to B 6 (f)	27 R to K B sq	Kt to R 6 (ch)
8 Kt to K Kt 5	Castles.	18 P takes R	Kt takes B (ch)	28 Q takes Kt (g) and the game was drawn by consent.	
9 Kt to K 6	B takes Kt	19 K to R sq	P takes P		

NOTES.—(a) The *Handbuch* says Q Kt to B 3 or P to K 3 is a little stronger.
 (b) The best play, according to the same authority.
 (c) What is the advantage of surrendering this Pawn? The regular continuation is 7 P takes P—B takes P; 8 Castles—Castles; 9 Q Kt to B 3—Q Kt to Q 2, and the game is dismissed as even.
 (d) An interesting combination here commences. There is a refreshing vigour about the following moves which may recall the saying of the French General on witnessing the Balaclava charge: "C'est tres magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la guerre."
 (e) See last move.
 (f) We do not see why White should agree to a draw. His Kt and two Pawns on the Q's side should ultimately, we think, prove victorious.

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

ROSENTHAL vs. ZUKERTORT.—Latest score: Zukertort, 1; drawn 4. By far the most interesting event that has taken place almost since the days of Staunton and St. Amant is the match now being played by these two representatives of French and British Chess respectively. The match has resulted from the plucky determination of Mr. Rosenthal to assail the position of Dr. Zukertort, who has, by his successes at various tournaments, come to be looked upon as the European champion. Mr. Rosenthal's position in the Paris Congress, and his present challenge to the winner of the Grand Tourney on that occasion, not only makes the present encounter a match of skill between the two players, but directly aims at the principles of all tourney play. It has long been thought that a championship position ought to be obtained by the hard work of set matches, and not by a general scramble with all the chances and vicissitudes of a couple of games with each opponent as occurs in tournaments. And this is no doubt correct. This was exemplified in both the Paris and N. Y. Congresses. There is no Champion Challenge Cup in the chess arena, and we would like to see the idea carried out by a union of the Paris, London, Leghorn, Berlin, Copenhagen and New York chess circles, and a really valuable and handsome prize obtained which should be held by the winner against all-comers in single-handed matches, similar to the one now being played, for, let us say, the space of ten years, after which it might become the property of the holder. A code of laws, rules and restrictions to govern the matches and to regulate the holding could be easily drawn up. It will be said that this involves the question of amateur and professional chess, which we are not at present inclined to discuss, but our present opinion is that amateurs owe a great deal to the professionals, and that much of the real interest in chess, all the new modes of attack or defence, and the relative chess strength of any two nations, all centre round the professionals. It should be as easy to designate an amateur or a professional in chess as in boating, cricket, &c.

THE CHESS PLAYERS' CHRONICLE.—We have received the May issue of this excellent periodical, which is second to none of the many which now minister to the wants of the chess community. The number opens with an instalment of "Useful End Games," which are really useful. If we said a short time since that all books and periodicals cultivated the "Openings" to the exclusion of "Endings," Chess Editors have hastened to remove the soft impeachment. We wish to draw especial attention to the excellence of the Game and Problem departments. The former are admirably selected and annotated, and the latter leaves nothing to be desired. Gentlemen who may not have received the index for the last volume can obtain it by addressing W. W. Morgan, 23 Great Queen street, W. C. London. Rev. Mr. Ranken informs us that he had duly sent it to the publishers, but that it was accidentally omitted by them in making up the February number.

ITEMS.—The Canadian Correspondence Tourney, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Shaw, is concluded. Particulars next week.—Montreal vs. Quebec.—The game between Dr. Howe and Dr. Bradley was resumed last Wednesday evening, by telegraph, and after refusing a draw, Quebec had to submit to a defeat. Score: Quebec, 4; Montreal, 3; drawn, 5.

