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THE CIVIL SERVICE REVIEW.

A Journal Devoted to the Interests of the Services in Canada.

Per Miss Hectus.

*Alf. H. Jarvis Esq.
Bank St
Ottawa*

VOL. I.—NO. V.

OTTAWA, MAY 1, 1893.

Subscription, \$1.00 per annum.
Single Copies, 5 Cents.

The CIVIL SERVICE REVIEW is printed and published for the Civil Service Review Company, by Paynter & Company, at their offices, 48 Rideau Street, Ottawa, in the County of Carleton, Ontario. TELEPHONE 938.

The REVIEW is on sale at the following addresses: C. H. Thorburn, Sparks Street, J. Durie & Son, Sparks Street, A. H. Jarvis, Bank Street.

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Ordinary show advertisements are charged at the rate of eight cents a line for the first insertion, and four cents a line for each subsequent insertion. Special rates and prices will be made for space advertisements extending over lengthened periods. Special terms will also be given for professional cards published in classified order. A special exchange column will be opened, for bona fide offers, at 10 cents a line for each insertion.

Births, Marriages and Death notices will be charged 50 cents each. No funeral notices will be published under this head, as the paper is of fortnightly issue.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The aim of this REVIEW is to be of real value to all members and every department of the Canadian Civil Service. Correspondence, accompanied by the name of the writer, on any subject of general or special interest is therefore invited. It is not our aim to be the vehicle for airing personal wrongs or grudges, nor will letters of that character be at any time admitted. The REVIEW is ambitious, and in order to achieve success, the most severe abstinence from personalities and partizanship will be enforced. All letters should be addressed

Editor,

CIVIL SERVICE REVIEW,
48 Rideau st., Ottawa, Ont.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

Members of either the inside or outside service are invited to submit papers on matters of interest either to their own branch particularly or to the service generally. The same censorship will be applied to such papers as to the correspondence. Postage on all communications must be prepaid, and contributors wishing rejected manuscripts to be returned must enclose stamps for that purpose. Contributions should be in the office by the 10th or 25th of each month. Contributions on strictly service or on scientific matters will be welcomed.

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS.

There is joy in the hearts of the employees of the Marine and Fisheries Department over an order recently issued by the deputy minister, at the instigation and insistence of the acting minister, giving them their Saturday afternoon leave, as in the other departments. It appears that a long time ago the deputy minister issued an order, on whose responsibility does not appear, that all clerks in the department must work on Saturdays during the same hours as on other days of the week. It was no use complaining; the deputy as an autocrat had full power, and an appeal only meant appealing to him, the apparent author of the encroachment. When Hon. C. H. Tupper went to England, and Hon. John Costigan became acting minister, he, in the course of becoming familiarized with the departmental work, also became acquainted with this fact. Immediately he sent for the deputy, and a long interview succeeded. What transpired cannot ever be exactly known, but it is stated that Mr. Costigan remonstrated, and that the deputy minister urged that the work of the department must be carried out punctually. After discussion, in which each held his point, Hon. John Costigan issued his fiat: "Issue an order, that during the period that I am acting minister the clerks will enjoy the same freedom on Saturday afternoon as that enjoyed by the clerks in other departments." This has been done, and as a consequence there is rejoicing. The question raised by all this history is interesting, not only to the employees of the department affected, but to the whole service. The observance of the Saturday half holiday is one of the privileges of the service. It has grown, like the "franking" privilege, to be a right, and its successful abrogation in one department would only be the thin end of the wedge. Pressure of work in any other department would lead inevitably to the thought, "well, the Saturday afternoon has been utilized in the Marine Department, why should extra clerks be placed in this department, when all the permanent clerks are off at one o'clock on Saturdays. We will issue an order that the hours of labor on Saturdays shall be the same as on other days, and save employing more clerks." Hon. John Costigan is to be congratulated, as well as the clerks in the department, on his action and its results. At the same time it is

to be hoped that no such encroachment on the liberty of the clerks will be again attempted.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The recent cases in which much coveted positions in the Civil Service have been given, not to men who have grown up in the department, and who have borne the heat and burden of the day, but to outsiders possessed of some mysterious political influence, and not acquainted with the routine of the department, are not the sole causes of complaint amongst the civil servants at the present time. Promotion never comes very fast, and many a proud father, in the first flush of his ambition, has promised his new born son a toy when he becomes a chief clerk or secretary of his department, but has seen the youngster grow past toys into manhood, and fatherhood, and has himself grown old—old enough for superannuation—but has never reached the height of his ambition. This trouble is, however, seriously increased when officials holding high offices receive promotion to still higher, but are allowed to retain the old position in addition to the new one. This practice is becoming terribly frequent, to the detriment of the rapid transaction of public business, and the manifest increase of discontent amongst the civil servants. There are already four or five departments where this iniquity exists, and rumors are afloat that another will soon be added. This it is most earnestly to be hoped is not the case. Gentlemen will not continue to seek employment in a service where such a practice is permitted, and none but gentlemen are fitted for the positions in question. An abandonment of this policy, and a little healthy promotion would go some way, though but a short one, towards recovering a small portion of the popularity with the service which the present Government has so freely thrown away.

Attention is drawn in an article in another column to cases in which the execution of the recent order-in-council has been the cause of very grave distress. The story told therein of sufferings caused to wives and children of some of the discharged extra clerks is in no wise overdrawn, and may be supplemented by other narratives of the sparer which the services of eminent officers whose career has been such as to re-

fect glory on Canada as their native land, have been rewarded by a grateful government. Even a measure wise in some respects, may be stultified by the severity with which it is enforced, and the length to which its provisions are carried. In this matter, although no one expects a government to be gifted with bowels of compassion, the order to discharge extra clerks in certain departments only seems to have been carried with ruthless exactitude, and an absolute disregard of fair play or justice. Were general economy aimed, at surely some newly appointed extra clerks in other departments might have been discharged instead of these veterans, and at least the anomaly of nearly forty clerks, against whose character not one complaint could be advanced, being discharged in one department, whilst in another department in the same corridor extra clerks were being taken on, including one man discharged by a minister for a grave offence. Even now, though the consideration would come too late to save the suffering from absolute poverty during the late severe winter, tardy justice might be done, and old friends be given appointments instead of new faces.

On the Use of Long Steel Tapes in Measuring a Base Line.

REPORT OF U. S. C. AND G. SURVEY.

At the Rochester Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Mr. R. S. Woodward of Washington, D. C., described a method of standardizing steel tapes by means of an iced bar comparator. The iced bar employed in the comparator consists of a bar of steel, on which are lines five meters apart, at a temperature of 32 degrees Fahr. To preserve the bar at this temperature it is surrounded by ice. The whole is mounted on a carriage that travels on a small railway. In measuring off the length of the comparator, which in most cases was 100 metres, the cross hairs of two microscopes were first made to coincide with the lines on the bar. The bar was then moved forward, and the mark on the end nearest the starting point placed under one of the set microscopes. A third microscope was then set over the end away from the starting point. The microscopes were mounted on wooden posts. At the ends of the comparator two stones are solidly embedded in the earth. In each of these stones a rounded brass projection is embedded, to mark the ends of the comparator. To place the microscopes directly over these points a special device containing a level is used. Having obtained the proper setting of two microscopes that are the length of the comparator apart, the tape is held under them in a way that was found to be the most convenient and reliable in field work. Stakes are set ten metres apart along the line to be measured, and in the side of these round steel wire nails are driven. The tape is supported on these nails. The corrections necessary to apply, if the posts are set at a greater distance, as in crossing a stream, can be easily computed from data furnished by preliminary experiments. The tension of the tape was made the same, about 25 pounds in all measurements, by means of a spring balance at one of its ends, a breaking piece being inserted, so that by no means could the operators overstrain the tape. Temperature observations were made in each case, three special thermometers being used with blackened bulbs, so that the surface had approximately the same radiating power as the tape.

It was proved by the comparator that, with ordin-

arily careful handling, there was no variation in length of the 100 metre tapes after long use. To test the efficiency of the steel tapes when used in the field, a Kilometre was measured by means of the iced bar, and this Kilometre used as a standard. It was found that the probable error of a single measurement of this Kilometre by means of the steel tapes was about one part in 500,000, and that the probable error of the average of a number of observations was about one part in 1,500,000. So that the general conclusion arrived at is, that for measuring base lines, steel tapes, as standardized by the iced bar comparator will give ample accuracy. The time required to make duplicate measures of the Kilometre with the tapes is about one hour, and in special cases it was measured in one direction in twenty minutes. The method of measuring the standard Kilometre by means of the iced bar apparatus, and probable error of the total length, was given in another section of the society, but as it is of interest in connection with the present paper, the following table is here given, which compares the probable errors involved, with the results obtained by previous workers in the same line:—

PROBABLE ERROR IN MEASURING A KILOMETRE.

Best work of Lake Survey.....	+ 0.40 ^m /m
Recent work of French on Paris and Perpignan base.....	+ 0.67 ^m /m
Best work of iced bar:	
1st. On Comparator.....	+ 0.10 ^m /m
2d. On Kilometre.....	+ 0.12 ^m /m

This table shows that the error in the work done with the iced bar is about one-quarter that of any other method previously adopted.

The greatest source of error was found to be the difficulty of determining the temperature of the tape correctly. It is generally supposed that a cloudy day is preferable for measuring with steel tapes, but the experiments indicated that such was not the case. The best time was found to be in the evening, while dew was being deposited.—*American Machinist.*

Temporary Clerks.

Many persons at present outside the service, but who are anxious to obtain appointments in one of the departments as extra or temporary clerks, often think that could they once obtain such appointments, they would have advanced one step at least towards securing a permanent position. This in many cases is the one aim they have in view. "All is not gold that glitters," and if they will read the following "short tales which are true," they will realize that they are pursuing a shadow that has no substance.

Some 13 or 14 years ago, a middle-aged gentleman, married, with a large family to support, entered one of the departments as a temporary clerk. After these many years' service, at a salary of \$1,000 per annum, he has by the stern order-in-council enforcing the Civil Service Act, been reduced to the minimum salary of a third-class clerk, viz., \$33.33 per month, or \$400 per annum. This is all the income he has on which to support and clothe his family and himself.

In the same department is a similar case, if anything perhaps a trifle harder. In this instance there is a father of a family of nine small children who has done nearly fifteen years' service. As in the former case, and for the same cause, he also has been reduced from a salary of \$1,000 to \$400. Anyone who has experienced maintaining a family, and what it costs, can imagine how far this sum will go in simple necessities of life, without touching education, and the unforeseen expenses incidental to such a winter as that just ended.

These are plain facts, and might be multiplied by

the score. What have been the results? Homes, have been broken up, furniture sold to pay creditors, and all family ties severed. Not only so, but the parents, now well on in years, are left with only one resource—to take the the pittance meted out to them. With them it is Hobson's choice. They are too old to be able to compete with younger men in looking for situations, and so must either accept the reduced salary or starve.

Is it Forgetfulness.

When the session opened, orders were issued in some of the departments that the hours of labour on Saturday afternoon should be from 1 to 5 p.m. The session now has ended for nearly a month, and still the orders are extant, not having been withdrawn. The clerks who are suffering from this apparent forgetfulness, are anxious now the pressure of the session is over to have the order rescinded.

Cheap Ammunition.

Riflemen throughout the Dominion will receive with delight the information that the Government has decided to reduce the price of Martini Henry ammunition, from \$20, to \$15 per 1000 rounds. On Thursday April 27th, a deputation consisting of Majors A. P. Sherwood, 43rd Batt., and W. E. Hodgins, G.G.F.G. waited upon the Minister of Militia and presented the claims of shooting men, for the reduction in price, with the above result. The Minister called in Adjutant General Powell and together they discussed the matter with the deputation at considerable length. Hon. Mr. Patterson evinced the greatest desire to do everything in his power to encourage rifle shooting in the Dominion, and promised the deputation that he would recommend to his colleagues the reduction sought for.

A much greater quantity of Martini ammunition will of necessity be used in weekly practices this year than heretofore, in view of the fact that the Martini Henri rifle has been adopted for all the provincial and Dominion matches. The average number of rounds of cartridge per man used in a season is about 1,000, so that it will be seen the question of cost of ammunition is an important one, and the thanks of militia men are due to the members of the deputation for the manner in which they presented their claims.

Some time ago it was decided to reduce the price of Snider ammunition from \$16 to \$8 per thousand rounds. These charges, will, of course, not affect the decision to grant free ammunition for this year's military rifle league matches.

Mr. Edward Miall.

Mr. Edward Miall, Deputy Minister of Inland Revenue, and Commissioner of Standards, was born at Leicester, England, in 1838. His father was the late Edward Miall, M.P. for Bradford, in the English House of Commons. He received his education in England, and in 1859 came to Canada, first establishing himself in Oshawa, where in 1860 he married Miss Ackland. He entered the Civil Service in 1870, and in 1872 was appointed Assistant Commissioner of Inland Revenue. During the session of the historical Fishery Commission, which met in Halifax in 1877, his abilities were utilized by the government of the day, and he was highly complimented on the manner in which he discharged the duties assigned to him. In 1880 and '81 Mr. Miall sat as a member of the celebrated Canadian Pacific Railway Commission, and in 1883 was promoted to his present position.

"Per Vias Rectas."

The expressive motto of this journal is a sure pledge of the upright sentiments which will always inspire its columns. By "via recta" is not meant the flowery and tempting path of glory, but a more obscure one: that of righteousness and justice. In fact, nothing less resembles a path of glory, than that which has been contained in a late edict. Astounding indeed has been the effect produced by the last Order-in-Council, depriving civil service employees of the Post Office Department, of the right of holding municipal offices; and probably the day is not far distant when the order will be extended to all the departments.

It is easily understood that parliamentary officials want to assure the conscientious execution of their work. The importance of parliamentary matter readily explains their cautious measures. Caution, as long as it does not generate pettiness, merits a warm approval. Caution, as long as it means prudence, and a strict, thorough accomplishment of duty, is highly commendable. But can the above named edict invoke the idea of caution. The righteousness of intention of those who passed this enactment, is undoubted, but many think that this ultra-prudence lacks sagacity.

Henceforth then, the Civil Service employees are bereaved of the dearest prerogatives of man, the prerogatives of the citizen. Civil Service employees are no more free citizens, they have no more the right of serving their generation and their country. They are subjected to a dire servitude of office work only. In a word, they become intelligent slaves.

But can the parliamentary officials place much confidence in such men—slaves? What stimulant can these have to work, dispossessed as they are of all personal initiative? Is it even likely that municipal charges would necessarily impede their office work? But before "ten" a.m. and after "four" p.m. what precious services could not an intelligent and active man render to his fellow men in civic functions; and as most of the offices bring no emolument—the mayoralty accepted—is it probable that Civil Service employees would neglect the work which gives them their bread in behalf of those giving merely honours? Moreover, those responsible positions are not given to hare-brained individuals, but to well balanced minds, endowed with too keen a sense of duty to swerve from their obligations, and to benefit outside subjects to the prejudice of their daily labours. The more one ponders on this ordinance, the more one is led to the belief that it seems most inopportune.

The departments can gain naught by it, because once the idea of servitude enters the minds of subordinates, their work is no more what it should be; they will limit their exactions to the "quod justum," and a meagre one too. On the part of the government, no advantage; on the part of the subordinates, a painful, undeserved subjection will be the only results.

No one ignores the civil service recruits, generally shrewd, talented men. Nothing is more laudable; the interests of the country require this. But are all the interests of the country confined to the parliamentary compass? Are the authorities justified in monopolising the services of many able men, whose enlightened activity, energy and knowledge call for a wider field of action? Have not the cities their exigencies? Who can better answer them than those whose working hours are short?

But there is another sentiment that must be touched on, and it is liberty. In this century of legitimate emancipation, in this century which has seen the un-fettering of so many natures and classes, such harsh measures as the present seem rather paradoxical.

There are certain rights which a man will willingly divest himself of, but there are others which he must advocate, if he does not wish to assume a decided grievous culpability. There is a noble ambition innate in every true man's heart, and it is that of putting his hand to the wheel of the chariot, that carries the destinies of his country onward. A man cannot agree to become a mere instrument; his highly developed faculties and his mission forbid inaction.

It is to be hoped that the spirit of fair play which pervades all institutions under the British flag, will incite such as are concerned, to modify or censure this guase despotic decree.

Esprit de Corps.

Your commissioners have found in the course of their investigations that it happens at times there is not between the several departments of the service, and occasionally between branches of the same department, that hearty co-operation that is necessary for the proper transaction of public business. There is also to be noted, too often, an absence of that *esprit de corps* which ought to animate and usually does animate the members of the same body or service. Efforts from time to time, your Commissioners have been told, have been made by some members of the service to awaken and stimulate this sentiment, but it is feared without any marked success. Your Commissioners believe that one effect of the creation of the Civil Service Commission will be to secure this co-operation, create an *esprit de corps*, and result in ensuring to the Ministry and the country a zealous and united service for the conduct of public affairs.—Report of Civil Service Commission, 1892:

In the first number of this REVIEW, attention was drawn to this subject, and it was then urged that some means to remedy this evil, and a cause genuine *esprit de corps* to exist should be adopted. Since then a suggestion has been made and chronicled in these columns, that a civil service club should be formed. No doubt, this would be one very good method of bringing about the desired end, but there are obstacles. In order fully to establish, and when established to nourish and maintain, a perfect *esprit de corps* there must be one bond of union. In a regiment, or man-of-war there are it is true various grades, both of officers and men, but all have the one feeling of maintaining the honor of the national flag, and the paramount one, of adding lustre to the legendary glory of the regiment, and another honour to those already inscribed on the colors. Those who remember the discussion in the Imperial House of Commons, when the bill abolishing the old regimental numbers, with the old peculiar and particular nicknames, and legends will remember how insistently the opponents of that measure dwelt on this point. This feeling, it may be urged is supplied in the civil service, by every member being jealous for the honor and credit of the service, and whilst this is true in the large majority of instances, is it true in all? Men in one department hardly know men in the other departments, and between the deputy head of a department and the messenger in the same department, there is a wider gulf, than exists between the lieutenant colonel commanding a regiment, and a private in the ranks. One never reads of any friendly rivalry in sports and past-times between members of one department, and members of some other. Indeed the bank clerks, though employees of utterly distinct corporations, set a good example to the members of the civil service, and as a body have far more *esprit de corps*. The season for out door games, with all their freedom, and with the possibilities they afford for men in different grades to mix freely with each, and learn to know and appreciate each other without becoming socially intimate is just opening. Why

should not by this means a start be made this season in establishing an *esprit de corps*? The club it is true might do something, but will it accomplish fully the aim desired? It is said of Oxford men, that they stand so much on etiquette, that a man will not save the life of another man of the same college unless he has been introduced. Would not this feeling creep into the club, and without other means simply make it a conglomeration of cliques? The suggestion of the civil service commissioners is worth considerable attention.

Summer Work.

The following are the preparations for the season's work now in progress in the Geological Survey department. Arrangements are already well advanced for the disposition of the staff. Dr. Selwyn, who is now in Chicago attending the installation of the Canadian exhibit will proceed westward from that city immediately after the opening of the World's Fair, and make a thorough inspection of the Artesian wells at Deloraine, Manitoba. Prof. Tyrell will leave here about the first of May on his lonely journey of exploration between the Peace River and Hudson Bay. Mr. Lowe will explore the inhospitable regions of Labrador, and Mr. McConnell will spend the summer in the far country in which the Peace river takes its rise.

Mr. A. B. Barlow will investigate the mineral resources of the country north of the Sudbury district. The mineral out-crops in the section lying north of Peterboro will be examined and reported upon by Prof. Adams, and Dr. Bell will continue his examination of the Huronian rocks on the north shore of Lake Huron. The sandstone areas on the west shore of Lake Nipigon, will be investigated by Mr. McInnes.

Mr. J. McEvoy has been detailed to accompany the commission now on its way to Alaska, in connection with the delimitation of the international boundary. His work, however, will consist entirely of geological research in the regions traversed by the survey party. He will leave Ottawa for the Pacific Coast about the middle of May.

The proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions of their correspondents.

Lady Clerks.

Editor Civil Service Review:

A letter from "Æacus" in your REVIEW, though containing a certain amount of truth, takes so one-sided a view of the case, that it would be well to place a few ideas on the other side before him.

The writer agrees with him in thinking that employment is sometimes given to clerks who do not especially require it, or who might find it in another direction, but this is true of the "male" as well as the "female" clerks. Is Government employment given only to provide for the poor and dependent, or is it that the work may be done? If the latter, why should girls not be employed if they do their duty as well as men. If work is given only to those in need, why are so many young unmarried men in the service who are exactly in the position of the ordinary lady clerk, that is to say, their families, whether relatives of deceased Civil Servants or otherwise, do not benefit in the least by their employment in the Civil Service. Are they not taking the bread out of the mouths of the children of married men who are out of work? As a remedy, would Æacus like a rule to oblige all unmarried men in the Service to marry only the widows or orphans of deceased Civil Servants? This would be as just as to say how "female clerks" shall or shall not spend their salaries. Why should it be considered worse for the "female employee to have spent nearly all her earnings on three ball dresses, than

for the male employee to grumble that his salary is not sufficient to pay for his expenses "round town," "cigars," "theatre," etc., and that he finds himself in debt every month? Is she more to blame for being tired after dancing at a ball, than the young man is who comes to the office with such a "splitting headache," that he can hardly see to write, and rather boasts of the fact that he did not get to bed till daylight?

Are the lady clerks to be considered as Charity employees? If so, why not oblige them to wear the uniform of a charity institution? If they are just girls earning their own living, what right has any one to dictate to them as to the invitations they accept or refuse? Why in particular should they be denied the pleasure of an invitation to Government House any more than Æacus—or perhaps he has been denied that honour—in which case his jealousy of the "Government Girl" can be better understood?

Does the Government employ clerks with a view to settling them by marriage? Æacus, from his remarks on the subject, seems to think so. It might be suggested that this also is a private matter, and does not concern either the Government or male employee half as much as the girl herself.

Possibly a "gay butterfly" life may not be the best school to learn home duties in, but is it more likely to interfere with home happiness than the life the average young man leads? The writer knows of many elderly ladies holding positions of dignity and honour, and who in their youth have danced at many a ball, yet despite that enormity they have made good wives, and are much respected by the community. If the young man only wants someone "to sew on his buttons," he can probably get it done at a mending establishment much more economically than by marrying a wife to do it for him.

The writer's personal experience of female clerks shows that they take as much interest in their work as the men do, and are regular and attentive to their duties. Of course there are exceptions, but can Æacus say there are none among the men?

ONE OF THE FEMALE CLERKS.

Canada's Representatives.

Senator Tasse and Mr. Cockburn, M. P., for East Toronto have been appointed as the Canadian commissioners to the World's Fair.

Hon. Mackenzie Bowell and Hon. Mr. Angers, left by the five o'clock train on the C. A. R., on Friday evening 28 ult., via G. T. R. for Chicago, to be present at the opening of the Fair on Monday.

The first disaster of the season to a vessel of the fishery protection fleet happened on Wednesday, to the Vigilante, Capt. Knowlton. She ran ashore at Canso, but will likely get off uninjured.

Open Competition.

With regard to this fundamental matter it is observed that the system has worked admirably in the mother country, where it has long been in operation. It has also worked well in the United States as far as it has been adopted, and has proved efficacious in correcting many long-standing abuses, and supplying the country with a class of intelligent and industrious officers, to the great advantage of the service both in the way of efficiency and economy. The system is too well established to need any detailed advocacy from your Commissioners, and they recommend its adoption in the conviction that the same beneficial results will follow in Canada.—*Civil Service Commissioner's report 1892, P. xxiii.*

It is possible that public sentiment in Canada may not as yet be ripe for open competition generally, and it may not be possible as yet to eliminate altogether the power of politics in making appointments; but if the recommendations of your Commissioners be accepted and strictly adhered to the public service at Ottawa will, they are convinced, in the course of a few years, be better for the change. Intelligence and capacity will meet with their due reward, politics and favoritism will cease to dominate, the service will soon become attractive to many persons who now seek other avenues of employment, and in general the title of the public servant will be an honour to be coveted. The doors to appointments and promotions in the service will open only to capacity and honesty, and no man or woman who aspires, as all have a right to aspire, to any such position, will have occasion to seek or use any influence less honourable than his or her own merit and fitness for office.—*Ibid, P. xxviii.*

The above are not the only places in the report of the late Commissioners where particular stress is laid upon the desirability of substituting open competition for admission to the service, instead of the present system of giving appointments to those possessed of political or other influence. It may be urged that the present system is not so fully ruled by these objectionable influences, but on page 13 of the evidence Mr. J. J. McGee, in answer to a question, is reported as replying "Why? is not the whole system political, or other influences." Indeed his evidence all through is instructive reading. There can be no better evidence of the evils of the present system, than the fact that hundreds of aspirants for appointments in the civil service have gone to the expense of preparing for and passing the examination, only to experience that "hope deferred which maketh the heart sick." Another argument against the present system is, that one qualifying examination is used for every branch of the service, whilst competitive examinations on the English plan, permit of a special examination suited to the department for which the candidate is writing being instituted. There may be a great deal of force in the opening sentence of the second of the above questions, and indeed English precedent rather proves that it may, and probably is so. Granted that this is the case, why not follow that precedent? Competitive examinations having been recommended it was decided to make an experiment and the Indian Civil Service was first chosen. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and this experiment proved so great a success that gradually the same system was adopted all through. Those who are familiar with the old system in vogue in England at that time know full well that it was, if possible, more objectionable than the present system here. "Politics and favoritism" were the Alpha and Omega of that system to an almost indescribable extent, but now as the commissioner's report, will be the cure in Canada when open competition is adopted, the service is open only to capacity and honesty, and no man or woman who aspires, as all have a right to aspire to any such position, will have occasion to seek for or use any influence less honourable than his or her own merit, and fitness for office.

Our Governor General.

By the death of the Earl of Derby on April 21st, Lord Stanley becomes the sixteenth Earl.

The Right Honourable Frederick Arthur, Lord Stanley of Preston, the present Governor-General of Canada, who succeeds to the title, is the younger son of the fourteenth and brother of the late Earl of Derby, by Emma, second daughter of the first Lord Skelmersdale, was born in London in 1841, and received his education at Eaton. He entered the Grenadier

Guards in 1858, was appointed lieutenant and captain in 1862, and retired in 1863. He represented Preston in the House of Commons, in the Conservative interest, from July, 1865, till December, 1868, when he was elected for North Lancashire. He was lord of the admiralty from August to December, 1868, and Financial Secretary of War from February, 1864, till August, 1877, when he became financial Secretary to the Treasury. On April 2, 1878, Colonel Stanley was appointed Secretary of State for War in succession to Mr. Hardy, now Lord Cranbrook, and was sworn of the Privy Council. In the autumn recess of that year, he and Mr. W. H. Smith, the first Lord of the Admiralty, with a numerous suite, visited the Island of Cyprus. He went out of office with his party in April, 1880. In Lord Salisbury's government he was Secretary of State for the Colonies from June 1885, till February, 1886, was appointed President of the Board of Trade and raised to the peerage with the title of Lord Stanley of Preston. On June 11th, 1888, he was sworn in as Governor-General of Canada. He married, in 1864, Lady Constance, eldest daughter of the fourth Earl of Clarendon.

Hon. Edward George Villiers Stanley, who will succeed the Governor-General as Lord Stanley of Preston, was born in London in 1865, and educated at Wellington College. In 1889 he married Lady Montagu, the youngest daughter of the seventh Duke of Manchester. He was made a lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards in 1885. He is well known at Ottawa, where he acted as A. D. C. to his father from August, 1889, to July, 1891. He is a Conservative member in the Imperial House for the West-thoughton division of Lancashire.

Of the Ministers—General Notes.

A circular will shortly be sent out bearing the signature of Controller Wallace, enjoining upon collectors of customs and preventive officers along the boundary the determination of the department here to investigate rigidly all reported cases of incivility or excess of authority exercised by officials towards travellers or importers. Collectors are therein warned that they will be held responsible for the conduct of preventive officers and other employees under their authority.

A NEW TARIFF LIST.

The present tariff list is to be superseded by a new edition which Controller Wallace is having prepared, designed to simplify it for purposes of reference, and prevent, in a measure at least, the collection of different rates of duty at different ports upon the same article owing to diversity of tariff interpretation. The new list will be arranged alphabetically and with regard to the detailed enumeration of articles coming under a common description for tariff purposes. It will also contain a digest of the customs laws suited for general reference. It is intended that from year to year the tariff changes will be published on the basis of this new list.

UNCLAIMED BALANCES.

The Department of Finance will shortly publish the annual blue book containing statements from the several banks in Canada of balances remaining in their coffers unclaimed by the parties to whom they are due. The publication of these statistics last year led to investigations in all directions by parties interested, with the result that all the larger balances have been applied for and paid over to the parties entitled to receive them. In most cases these creditors were unaware that the sums returned in the blue-book were coming to them at all.

Sergeant Jarvis, of Regina, has been appointed an inspector in the Mounted Police vice Chalmers, resigned.

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Hon. Mr. Daly and Deputy Minister Burgess, of the Interior, will probably proceed from New York to Washington to investigate the effect of the United States quarantine regulations on immigration.

The Department of Agriculture was notified that the border quarantine at Emerson, Man., is surrounded by water. Being high and dry the settlers' cattle in quarantine are quite safe, but until the flood subsides new arrivals will not be able to reach the station.

The government will shortly commence to sell some of the Thousand Islands recently surveyed. It is understood that the intention is to abolish the condition of sale which bound the purchaser to erect a \$1,000 residence upon his property. The surveyor of the department has just reported the location of a large number of islands not heretofore noted on charts of the Thousand Islands archipelago.

In Memoriam.

Mr. James Barry, of the Customs department, died at his residence on Daly Avenue on the morning of Sunday, April 30. Writing of his character a friend says: "Mr. Barry had an enlightened faith, his religion was a power, his keen intellect revelled in the study of all the questions left open to reason; his was a reverential, an enquiring spirit. His busy life left him sufficient leisure to follow the trend of the scientific mind. The clearness and certainty with which he found utterance for the developments of modern thought were delightfully set off by the modesty of his expression. His firm adhesion to, and heroic practise of his religious convictions were never affected by the new-born doctrines, which he studied carefully discerning therein the fundamental truth.

"It were penetrating within a sacred enclosure to say how Mr. Barry conceived and lived up to the sanctities of home, suffice it to say he was an exemplary (enviably so) husband and father. His bereaved ones alone have a right to speak of him here. Their loss is great, their grief sacred, even a friend can say nothing that would not hurt in this moment of desolation. May his gentle spirit rest in peace."

Father Murphy's Gold Cure.

Testimonial from a leading Quebec Physician:
Belmont Retreat, Quebec, March 25, 1893.
REV. FATHER MURPHY,
26 Cathcart Street, Montreal.

DEAR FATHER,—Allow me to inform you that your Gold Cure treatment has given entire satisfaction since you introduced it into Belmont Retreat. We are curing now over sixty patients a month and the treatment has not only proved efficacious in all cases, but has given also extraordinary and evident indications of its permanency. The wonderful efficacy of your treatment in completely repairing the injuries done to the system by alcoholic poisoning and in restoring the patients to the free vigor of perfect health, meets with the highest commendation of our citizens generally. The highest and strongest evidence of the efficacy of your treatment lies in the fact that patients who have resided in my institution for years and who were regarded as incurable, are today as free from any desire for whisky as the child unborn. I hope these words of mine, coming as they do from one who has made a specialty of alcoholism and kindred diseases for upwards of ten years, will prove of assistance to you in securing the confidence of the public in the marvellous efficacy of your treatment in other cities not yet blessed by the beneficence of your institutions. Believe me to be, Rev. Father,

Yours very respectfully,

J. M. MACKAY, C. M., M. D.

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Hints From Washington.

The following letter from Hon. John Wanamaker, late United States Postmaster-General, is well worth careful perusal, and may not have reached all our readers, though probably the members of the department resident in Ottawa have already seen and read it.

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
 WASHINGTON, D. C., 25th March, 1892.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, stating that you have been appointed by the Government of Canada Chairman of a Commission to enquire into the workings of the Civil Service. You request information as to the workings of a similar system in the United States. Of course I cannot undertake to answer for any other department than my own. I may say with reference to open competitive examinations for original appointment, that so far as the clerical force is concerned they result, in this main, in securing honest, capable clerks. However, it has been found preferable to put into operation lately a plan by which all vacancies in the central department at Washington are to be filled, not directly from the eligible list of the Civil Service Commission, but through transfer from the railway mail service, or from one of the 52 large city post offices, of clerks who have had some previous postal experience.

"This plan has two advantages: 1st. The one to which I have alluded, by which only experienced postal clerks are secured for the Washington department; 2nd. That better service is obtained through the inducement held out to the clerks in these 52 offices and in the railway mail service of promotion to Washington, if they deserve it.

"So far as the railway mail service is concerned, the appointments made from the lists of the Civil Service Commission are not so satisfactory; and this arises, I conclude, after enquiry, chiefly from the fact that there is not a sufficient physical test required from the applicants. That point for the railway mail service should be carefully provided for.

"I beg furthermore to say that these remarks are best borne out by the statement that while the cases are rare in which candidates are dropped from the central department force during probation, a large proportion of the probationers in the railway mail service are dropped, the number failing to do their work properly in that service having for a long time been from a quarter to one-third of those certified as fit for appointment. If we could come into personal contact with the candidates, and require adequate physical examination, so many of our probationers would not be men of imperfect sight, or weaklings unfit for the work.

"In regard to your enquiry as to how to promote a business-like spirit of work in the offices, keep out laziness, loafing, and inefficiency, as well as how to manage promotions so that the competent and able men will get on and the other men be left behind; and how to get rid finally, in defiance of political influence, of men who prove of no use after trial, and of those who have fallen into confirmed bad habits, I have the honour to state that the desired ends, it is believed have been fully met by a plan of competitive examinations upon merit, inaugurated in this department 1st July last, and on 30th November extended to each of the 52 large city post offices. Immediately upon the occurrence of a vacancy in this department, the clerks in the next lower grade are entitled by right to compete in a written examination for the promotion, which written examination counts as for 40 points only in a schedule of 100. The remaining 60 points are embraced in a daily office record of efficiency, kept in every division of the department, so that practically each clerk is passing an examination

daily. The averages made by the candidates in the written examination and in the daily office record are combined, and upon this basis alone are promotions made. They are removed absolutely from every other influence.

"The benefits of this system it is difficult to over-estimate; it has resulted in a reduction of petty absences and derelictions, and in securing a greater quantity and a better quality of work through the entire department. Each clerk seems to feel that his advancement depends entirely upon himself.

"A somewhat similar system is in vogue in the railway mail service. Once each quarter the records of efficiency in the department and the post offices are reviewed by the departmental Examining Board, and if any of the clerks are found to be below a fair average of efficiency, they are admonished that unless an improvement be made on the succeeding quarter the question of reduction of salary will come up for consideration; if there be no improvement for two or three successive quarters, there is strong probability that a dismissal will be recommended.

"I send you herewith, for information, copies of two orders upon this subject."

"Yours respectfully,

"JNO. WANAMAKER,

Postmaster-General.

"GEORGE HAGUE, Esq.,

"Care Merchants Bank of Canada,

"Montreal, Canada."

A Board of Examiners.

Among the witnesses examined by the late Civil Service Commission was Mr. John J. McGee, clerk of the Privy Council, and early in his evidence comes the following question and answer:

How should the Board of Civil Service Examiners be constituted, and what should be their powers?—I am of opinion that the appointment of an independent Civil Service Commission such as obtains in England or the United States would, at the present time be inopportune, and as the best substitute I suggest that deputy heads of the several departments should be constituted a Civil Service Board and should be the Board of Examiners as well, having a permanent secretary. The deputy heads, understanding the requirements of the service, are in a position to know the kind of men needed and the best means of testing the ability of applicants. They, too, are of all men most interested in securing good material for the service. The bringing of them together as an organized body would have a most beneficial effect. They could settle any clashing and make general rules on general principles to apply to all the departments. No men could do more for the good of the service than they, provided that they were thoroughly in accord and in earnest in the work. Some may object to this arrangement, on the ground, as it may be alleged, that it would throw too much work on the deputies.

Like many other suggestions, these have not hitherto received much attention, and are open to considerable criticism. This subject is one of vital interest to the service at large, and also one on which many members of the service, who had not an opportunity of giving their views on the matter before the Commission, are well qualified to speak. As it is probable that a new Civil Service Act will be introduced at the next Session of Parliament, now is the time to submit any hints for the consideration of the Government.

Mr. George Johnson, Dominion statistician, has returned from Halifax, whither he was called a few days since by the fatal illness of his mother.

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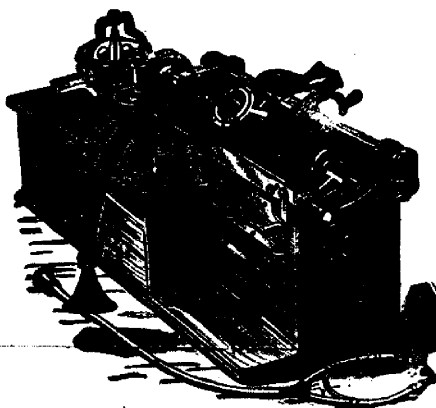
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Our Dates of Publication.

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Baroness Macdonald Here.

Baroness Macdonald and the Hon. Mary Macdonald, arrived here from Winnipeg on Saturday morning. They are staying at Mrs. St. Hill's, 41 Gloucester Street.

The New Commander of H. M's Forces.

Lt.-General Montgomery Moore, the new commander of Her Majesty's forces in Canada, was born April 6, 1836. He was appointed a lieutenant in the 7th Dragoons in December, 1850, and was made a captain in the same corps in 1856. In 1867 he was created a major in the 4th Hussars, and the following year was raised to the Lt.-colonelcy. He was made a brevet-colonel in the army in '73 and major-general in 1884. He has had no war or foreign service, but has been A. D. C. to the general officer commanding the forces in Ireland, and from '87 to '91 was major-general commanding the forces in the south-eastern division. He is said, however, to be an exceptionally able military man.

An Interesting Military Question.

When General Herbert gets back from the old country he is expected to give a decision that will be of interest to military men all over the Dominion. It appears that for some time past the Dominion military authorities and the legal fraternity of Quebec have been at swords drawn on the question of the right of an accused at a court martial to be defended by a lawyer. The military authorities take the ground that military law is entirely separate from and superior to civil law, and decline to allow lawyers to appear. The lawyers on the other hand claim that where a British subject's life or liberty is at stake, by a court martial or any other way, he is entitled to get the best show he can at defence.

The lawyers appealed to General Herbert for a ruling as to the imperial practice just before he went away and he promised to look into the matter on his return.

Kilts and Claymores.

At the quarterly meeting of the Ottawa St. Andrew's Society the question of forming a highland company as an adjunct to the 43rd Rifles, was discussed and among others the Clan Gordon was suggested as an appropriate name in view of the fact of Lord Aberdeen, the next Governor-General, being a Gordon. A Special committee comprising President McLean, Ex-President McLeod Stewart and Mr. A. H. Taylor were appointed to confer with the officers of the 43rd Battalion in reference to the matter. With regard to the annual celebration, as to whether it should be games or excursion, was left in the hands of the committee.

Among the members of the society the greatest enthusiasm prevails touching the formation of a company of kilties. Many efforts have hitherto been made in past years, but have always met with a squelching on the part of the last Minister of Militia, on the ground that no separate regiment could be formed, and there was no other corps to which they might be attached. Now, however, that the 43rd Rifles are to be made a city corps, the shuffling necessitated by the change leaves a vacancy for another company, and there is every reason to believe that the project will meet with no opposition from the Militia Department, in fact it has been understood that the formal request will be met with immediate consent.

Judge Burlidge, accompanied by Mr. Morse, official reporter, left Ottawa to-day to open the Exchequer court circuit in the maritime provinces.

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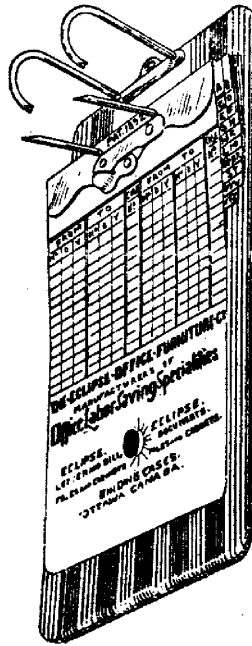
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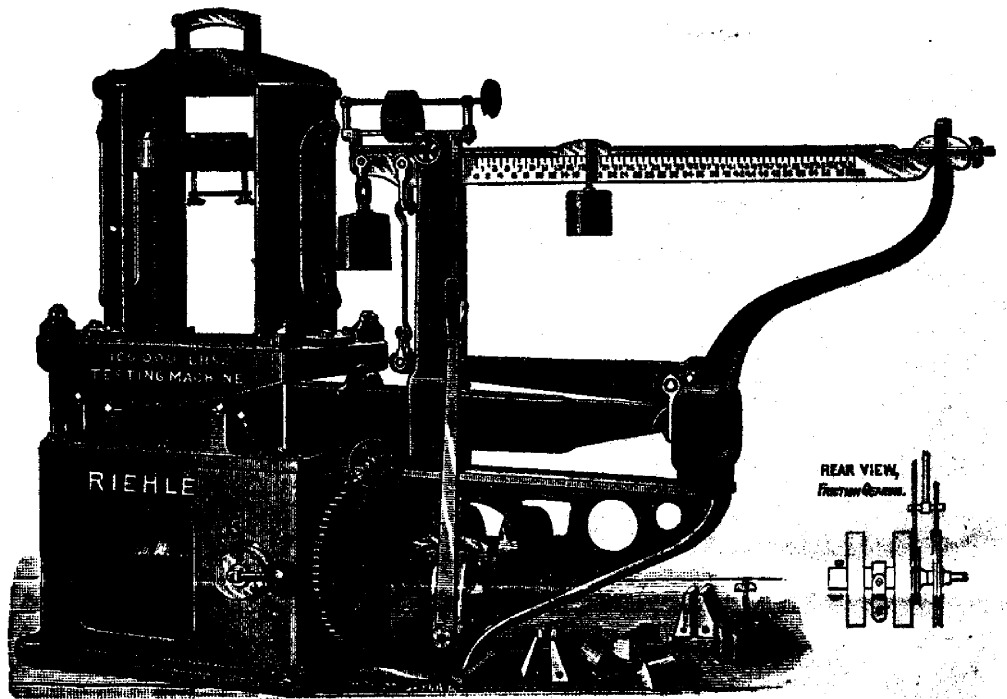
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