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CONTENTS:

THE TIMES.
TRADE, FINANCE, STATISTICS.
THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.
SHOP GIRLS.
THE TRADE AND THE FARMERS.
THANKSGIVING IN QUEBEC.
PRESBYTERIANISM REVIEWED.

Mlle. BERNHARDT'S DRESSES.
INCIDENTS OF TRAVEL.
CORRESPONDENCE.
MUSICAL.
CHESS.
POETRY.
&c. &c. &c.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

Those of our Subscribers to whom subscription accounts have recently been rendered, would greatly oblige by remitting to this office without further delay; many of these accounts are for arrears, and a prompt remittance from each Subscriber is always a tangible evidence of due appreciation of our efforts, as well as a very NECESSARY ADJUNCT to enable us still further to improve, increase and expand our endeavours to make the SPECTATOR yet more popular in every way. Registered letters, addressed Manager CANADIAN SPECTATOR, Montreal, at our risk.

THE TIMES.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent, "Nihil Verius," I have only to say, that I cannot deal further with his allegations while he remains anonymous. Your readers will see the reason for this, when I point out the possibility that such attacks as his may be written, or, as the French say, "inspired" by interested persons. If your correspondent continues to withhold his name, I shall believe that he does so because he knows that the publication of it would discredit his statements by revealing their motive.

J. Frederick Stevenson, Chairman P. B. S. C.

SIR,—I refrained from comment on the article which appeared in your issue of October 16th, with reference to certain High School appointments, for two reasons; the one being that a reply would come more suitably from the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners; the other, because I might, while answering the aforesaid article, appear in the light of one gratuitously taking up weapons in defence of his own University. But inasmuch as "Nihil Verius" has entered the lists once more, I feel constrained to break a lance with him and make a few remarks on his article, No. 2.

I cannot compliment him on his power of reasoning, or his knowledge of the subject with which he pretends to deal. Both are conspicuous by their absence, while the taste of his article is on a level with its grammar, both being eminently bad.

"Nihil Verius" says: "I hope that very few will deny that, other qualifications being equal, the preference should be given to a Canadian graduate." I beg leave to think that many will hold exactly the opposite view. In the first place, entire equality in intellectual qualifications among candidates for educational appointments is one of the rarest of phenomena. Again, something besides book-learning is required in a teacher, knowledge of the world in a good sense, geniality of temperament, sympathy with the young, a high estimate of education as a calling, should, (apart from good moral principle, an essential requisite in all) be taken into account; and these might be found more readily among University men from the old country, than among Canadian graduates. This is entirely distinct from any mere arrogant assumption that Oxford metal is always pure gold, and Canadian currency dross.

I have been a graduate for twenty-eight years, and can unhesitatingly assert that, with all my natural partiality for my own ancient university, I never estimated any man's educational or social merits from the circumstance of his having been trained at either Eton or Oxford. The former great school is not specially remarkable for its intellectual standard, and there are idle and shallow men at Oxford as elsewhere. But, after Dr. Stevenson's letter, even to hint that Canadians have not received or may not receive fair play from the Board of Commissioners is simply impertinence. This anonymous detractor, as he justly calls himself, wonders forsooth that the Oxford nominees do not speak for themselves. Has "Nihil Verius" ever been on friendly terms with a gen-

tleman? If so, he must have forgotten that gentlemen are not in the habit of blowing their own trumpets, or of replying to anonymous aspersions. Then Dr. Stevenson, in return for that refined courtesy which is one of his characteristics, receives from "Nihil Verius" the flattest of contradictions. Passing by the little story of Oswald, Heinrich & Co., which is sandwiched into the middle of the reflections on the Board and on two of its nominees, I would observe that one of these gentlemen has been for so short a time in our employ that to pass a definitive judgment on his results would be premature, while to anticipate judgment and assume that he has failed is as unwise as it is ungenerous.

As regards the other, his power of imparting knowledge to those who chose to learn was and is as great as that knowledge itself, while his departure being the outcome of his own wish, no one has the faintest right to pronounce on its causes, and least of all, in the public press.

And, let us look at the composition of this anonymous scribbler, who, with contemptible cowardice, endeavours to prejudice the prospects of two gentlemen evidently far his superior in mental attainments, who is morally, if not technically guilty of libel, and who dares to insinuate of the able and hard-working Chairman of the Board, that he neglects his duties, and is either wilfully ignorant of facts known to the more transcendental mind of "Nihil Verius," or that he is deliberately deceived by his subordinates. whoever these may be. We find this enlightened critic informing us that an evasion is a contradiction; that a feeling pervades in Canada, that these—i.e., the aforesaid evasions or contradictions (for such is the logical interpretation) are facts; that if the unfortunate Chairman does not know that these (I suppose the writer means his own assumption) are facts, he ought to (sic) and that such officials should take the necessary trouble on the part of themselves (sic).

We may well say, "Nihil Verius, tutor ultra crepidam." Let "Nihil Verius" return into well-deserved obscurity. But previously he has three duties to perform. 1st. To give his name to the public, and not shelter his pusillanimity behind a pseudonym rather than a nom de plume. 2nd. To tender his apologies to Dr. Stevenson. 3rd. To ask the pardon of the two gentlemen whom he has attacked, and whose future he has striven to damage. I should then counsel him to abstain from rushing into print until he has learnt something of the art of reasoning, that conclusions must have premisses, and till he has at all events attained some mastery over the English language. May we, till that time comes, in the interim bid him farewell!

Yours faithfully,

R. W. Norman, M.A., D.C.L.,

School Commissioner.

If "Nihil Verius" survive the gentle hints of the Dr. and the sledge-hammer blows of the Canon, he is a man to be envied. But it does seem to me that both gentlemen dwell overmuch on the anonymity of the writer. If they will take up newspaper work for a short time they will find that men are compelled to hide their personality behind a pseudonym. They would lose business, or position or something if they ventured upon a criticism over their own proper name. I can speak feelingly on this point, for—well—I won't tell the story yet.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit the correction of some errors which have crept into two of your editorial paragraphs in last week's issue. First you affirm that on the occasion of a discussion at the Union Meeting Toronto, of "what constitutes a regular Baptist Church," the Rev. Mr. Brookman was denied a hearing." This statement is misleading. A point of order was raised, as to whether Mr. Brookman was discussing the question before the meeting; this point was decided in the negative. Some however expressed a desire that Mr. Brookman be allowed an expression of his views on a point on which there was danger of his being misapprehended. On motion of the writer this was cordially granted him.

Second, you affirm that "the Rev. Mr. McLaurin told the meeting to its horror, that he did not believe that total immersion was necessary to salvation." Now Mr. Editor, Mr. McLaurin, as a matter of fact, made no such statement, nor was there any call for such an assertion. I venture however to affirm that no Canadian Baptist would feel any sense of horror had the statement been made—Yea, further, there was not a Baptist at the Union Meetings but could applaud such a sentiment. One of the distinctive principles of a Baptist

Church is, *that the ordinances of a N. T. Church are for the saved, and the saved only.* Baptists are most careful not to administer them but to those who believe they are saved through the blood and righteousness of Christ alone.

In another paragraph you speak of "Adult Baptism as a matter of importance to the Baptist mind." Now Baptists place no importance whatever on "Adult" baptism; they ignore the phraseology entirely; they take their stand on BELIEVERS' BAPTISM—the question with them is not one of AGE, but of FAITH they can therefore, with as good a conscience baptise the child of "7" as the veteran of "70."

I remain, yours truly,

Ottawa, Nov 4th 1880.

A. A. Cameron.

I very willingly publish the letter of Mr. Cameron. Of course, I got my report from the daily papers, and, of course, was misled. But I have puzzled over the "N. T." in the letter. What do the letters mean? And my good friend, don't you think that the unsaved have more need of ordinances than the saved?

The visit of Mr. Archibald Forbes to our city has been an unmixed pleasure. He gave us nothing new, nor even old, in the ways of oratorical display, but the simple recital of facts was extremely fascinating. The man put on no grandiose airs as one who had seen and conversed with royal personages—and therefore is to be wondered at, but in an unaffected style told his wonderful stories of stirring times.

The Press men of the city did well to entertain this most brilliant of newspaper correspondents at luncheon, for they can lose nothing by admiring him, and they would gain a very great deal by copying his example. First, as to carefulness in preparing reports. Mr. Forbes has always exercised great painstaking in the preparation of his letters. The words were well chosen; the phrases were studiously turned; the sentences were models of good English, and therefore they were in the whole most acceptable reading. It is a mistake to imagine that a newspaper may be thrown together any how, and that people care only for the matter it contains. It is quite true that the average English-speaking person cares less for literary style than the French, and more for the telegrams and paragraphs giving news—but the average etc. cares a great deal for literary style, and his soul grows vexed at slovenliness.

And then they, the Press men, might well take to heart and earnest consideration the fact that no small part of the great success achieved by Mr. Forbes was owing to his truth-telling. He insisted upon speaking of things just as they were. It must have been a difficult and unpleasant task to write as he did, condemning the policy of Sir Bartle Frere, and the soldiership of Lord Chelmsford, when he was in the very camp of the General—but he did it, and never faltered in his fealty to duty. The English people believed that the *Daily News* correspondent would tell them the truth about matters, and they took his word for all he said. If the Press men of this Dominion would do this they would soon effect a change in the opinion of the reading public about them. Now it is understood that each paper is devoted to its political party, and everything is made to subserve the cause. We can never be sure that a report is not a garbled one-sided statement, amounting to a vulgar caricature; and so we put no confidence in them—not even when we have read the organs of both parties.

A word might also be said to newspaper editors and managers. The *Daily Telegraph* was never over-scrupulous. It was understood that its correspondents, when dealing with political matters, would write to suit the mind and pocket of its proprietors; but the *Daily News* was always remarkable for its truthfulness. When Mr. Forbes was sent to Zululand and elsewhere to pick up news and send it home, he had no instructions as to the politics of the paper, or the financial interest of the proprietors. So he was free to speak truth. A little, a good deal of that might be done in Canada with advantage to the public morals.

Here is a case in point. During the late visit of Mrs. Scott-Siddons to this city and Toronto the daily press indulged in most extravagant praise of her acting. To read and believe them one would imagine that she was *par excellence* and other actors were not worth

counting. But as a matter of fact Mrs. Scott-Siddons is only a second rate actor at the best, and will probably never be anything better. Of course it would be difficult for the reporter to be anything but complimentary to the beautiful and gracious woman who talks with him so long and so nicely in that pretty confiding manner, by which he is compelled, for the time at least, to share in her professional joys and sorrows—but the reporter owes it to the public to tell them the honest truth about it. When the papers announce that a genius has come among them, and they find that the reality is only common place, they learn to distrust the papers, and reporters fall in public estimation. Even in the interest of Mrs. Scott-Siddons and others of her calling it is bad, for they learn to rely more upon newspaper puffing than upon their own proper merits—they cultivate reporters rather than the spirit of play writers and the rehearsal.

The *Toronto Mail* of Tuesday said: "Whether there is any truth in the rumour that the Grand Trunk railway authorities contemplate the removal of the Canadian headquarters of the Company to this city we are unable to say. The idea however, is a most reasonable one." Perhaps it is from the Toronto point of view, but hardly from that of the Grand Trunk. The Company is building offices at Point St. Charles which will cost some seventy or eighty thousand dollars. Does the *Mail* consider it likely that the Company would spend that money over offices for a year or two? General Manager Hickson is not much given to that kind of improvidence.

A friend well versed in the science of heating sends the following valuable suggestions;—

"With imperfect systems of house-warming it is a critical thing to attempt to show, without seeing the dwelling and the stoves, how it all could be made better. The broad principle is, that we need for breathing during sleep a nearly equalized air as to temperature, as distinguished from intermittent gushes and rushes of hot and cold. To this end, it is well to seal window-edges with batting and pasted paper—to rely upon window-slides or hinged panes for ventilation, and to have these to match in the inner and outer windows—to let in sufficient bulks of fresh air from time to time rather than continuous drafts in all the rooms in cold weather—to remember that a stove will not burn without a draft of some kind, which should generally be brought into the house near ground. If it burns there is a draft. To recognize that the stovepipe draft is a very fair exhaust, much wider in area than a good many human throats or vitiating orifices, and three times as continuous in action—to understand the principle of the warm-air chamber, and see how easily it may be applied to a room—to keep a free burning stove in cold weather, with separate pipe system, on each floor of the dwelling, and yet to have no more heat at night than you absolutely need—to inquire how far dumb-stoves can be made available for warming a floor, and it is also extremely advisable and proper to place the sleeping couch in each room in the best part of the room for avoidance of drafts—to watch the weather like a Vennor, and to a useful purpose. To study the effects of opening chamber doors and the best degree of such opening—to know the symptoms of your own lungs and breathing apparatus generally, and what is meant by laboured breathing. To know the look of the face of a person who has breathed well during sleep, or the contrary. Not to suppose that when the chest is oppressed, or the throat suffering, it is of any use to pile on more bed-covering. To know that when air comes into the house freely, through an opening of any size, there is no need to be anxious about the corresponding exhaust. It must be equally free. And to ask yourself, finally, whether hot-water heating, with proper attention to the admission of air, is not far better than all the stoves—for the sleeping time especially—as giving more gradual and better-diffused increments of warm air; and, last of all, to keep your temper, and the tempers of all about you, during the whole series of enquiries. There is, at any rate, one good position for the couch—so often like a ship in a storm—and that is near the moderately burning, self-feeding coal stove, and at the same time out of the drafts. You get *radiation* and *conduction* here, as well as that *convection* which is to be so sparingly used. This is what I have already termed the Domestic Florida. It will be good for invalids, and the doctors should be asked to pronounce upon it in particular cases."

Matters at Ottawa are getting a little more settled and palpably definite. At last the long talked of Ministerial changes have been made. M. Masson retired on account of ill health and M. Baby retired on account of a Judgeship, and Messrs. Mousseau and Caron have hastened to the help of Sir John. It will hardly be said that the

Cabinet is in any way weakened by the change in its *personnel*, for if the two new members are comparatively young and altogether inexperienced they have not very difficult offices to administer; so they will have ample time and opportunity to learn all the sweet mysteries of place.

M. Chapleau knowing his own value to his party in Quebec, and anxious to keep it in power and carry through some of the undertakings he has entered upon, remains at his post as was to be expected—whereupon some idiot, having no sense but that of favours yet to come has proposed that a subscription of money be taken up as a substantial reward for this piece of party loyalty. No one can suppose that M. Chapleau would entertain the insult for a moment, but the proposal is a humiliating thing to the whole community. But no part of it is half so scandalous as the proposal made by "a prominent official of the Catholic School commissioners"—I wish I knew his name—that the school teachers shall pay ten dollars per annum toward this fund so long as M. Chapleau shall remain in Quebec. The bare proposition is a crime, and any effort to carry it into practice would be a general disgrace.

I am disposed to agree with Mr. Goldwin Smith in the *Bystander* that the question of building the Pacific Railway should be submitted to the popular vote. The scheme is altogether so great—involving a sum of money so utterly out of all proportion with our present available resources—that the country should have an opportunity of pronouncing upon it. As a matter of fact it has never been before the constituencies as a distinct issue, the *Montreal Gazette* to the contrary notwithstanding. In 1872 it was a vision from which nor facts nor figures could be evolved; in 1873 it was a vision from which most ugly facts and damaging figures were evolved, but none of them gave practical ideas concerning anything but the Government of the day; and in 1878 the tumult of the National Policy drowned all other noises. Now the thing is before us in tangible and measurable form. In round numbers it will cost two hundred millions of dollars,—a sum just barely thinkable to financial minds, but terribly real as to the matter of interest each year; and it would be well—at any rate, it would relieve the Government of a tremendous responsibility, if, after the whole scheme has been laid before Parliament and discussed, an appeal were made to the popular vote of the country.

The practical difficulty in the way of this appeal lies in the fact that it cannot well be made a question between the parties. The Liberals when in power had an ill-defined scheme, and a costly way of carrying it out. They blundered in buying stuff for their works, and blundered still worse in beginning to build a line at two ends, and one of them at the wrong place—they had no idea of the cost, and never had a plain word to say to Mr. A. de Cosmos. Sir John knows what he is about and what he hopes to do, but it is very likely that if he make appeal to the general opinion of the people he will have to modify somewhat the magnificence of his scheme.

I called attention a week or two ago to the vulgarity of the *Globe's* advertisements—I mean as to their appearance, of course, and a friend calls upon me to say that the *Mail* is quite as bad. I am bound to acknowledge that the demand is almost justified by the facts of the case. I do not think that taking paper for paper the *Mail* is as great a sinner against good taste as the *Globe*, but even the *Mail* comes out with advertising cuts which no decent Punch-and-Judy showman would allow to have a place on his wooden box. Tradespeople would advertise no less if the papers named would do a feeble little in behalf of art-taste by toning down the vulgarisms in their advertising columns.

The speech of Mr. Gladstone at the Lord Mayor's banquet was worthy of the man—calm, dignified and determined. In dealing with the Irish question, he once again affirmed that the intention of the Government is to deal in a radical manner with the wrongs of Ireland. There will be no attempt to rush legislation, nor to pass laws in the dark, but careful search will be made into the condition of the

land laws, and where they are found to operate against the best interests of the people changes will be made so far as equity will allow. In sight of that we may well ask what good can result to the Irish people from the Land League agitation. The British Government will not be intimidated by Mr. Parnell and his hot-headed following: any commission of enquiry into the operation of the land laws would hardly be influenced in favour of tenants by agrarian outrages and cowardly murders—for when they analyse the working of laws they will probably analyse the nature of the people demanding the change in the laws, and it is quite possible that they might come to the conclusion that the people are not capable of self-government and must, in order to the keeping of peace, be ruled with a firm and determined hand.

For a long time it has been held that concessions should be made to Irish discontent. No man has held that more firmly, nor acted upon it more successfully than Mr. Gladstone, but no sooner has he returned to power, and made an effort to do yet something more for Ireland—struggling as he must do against the landlord interest which predominates in the Upper House—than the Irish, instead of helping him on in his friendly work for them, blaze out in a fury of discontent and lawlessness. This is not exactly the kind of encouragement men want and is more than likely to depress the spirit than to inspire it with zeal and patience. The startling rumours to hand that Mr. Gladstone has resigned the Premiership are not true, of course, but that he does not resign is proof that he can rise above disappointment and maintain a steady purpose to do what he considers his duty.

It must be confessed that Mr. Parnell has achieved some success as an agitator, but as a collector of funds he is an utter failure. His speechifying tour through the United States and Canada was not very productive, and the *New York Herald* fund commanded almost entirely the American confidence. Again he is making most frantic appeals for money, and the response is very feeble. Only three or four hundred pounds have been scraped together yet, and that will not pay many hotel bills and lawyer's fees in Ireland. If Mr. Parnell be quieted and kept at home for want of funds it will be among the very few good things poverty ever did; for it would be a mercy to the Irish and all concerned, if for the present they would cease agitating until it is seen what the British Government intend to do.

Mr. Gladstone is just as firm on the Eastern question as on the Irish difficulty. The Cabinet is united, he tells us, in the determination to uphold the Treaty of Berlin—which means that Turkey shall fulfil the obligations imposed upon her by international agreement. This is for her own good, and the good of all Europe. To the stand taken by Mr. Gladstone and his Government we shall owe the good result, whatever it may be.

M. Jules Ferry is already floundering about in a Ministerial crisis. So far as he is personally concerned it has no significance, but so far as M. Gambetta is concerned it probably means much. The Chamber is weary of having one man wearing the name and another wielding the actual power. They want to see Gambetta take a more decided position and announce himself—but Gambetta prefers to wait. To become Prime Minister would cut him off from the Presidency, and he will be content with no office short of the highest.

Mr. Seward, the Minister of the United States in China, has been removed from his post, and it is said that a Commission is on its way to Peking to modify the conditions of the Burlingame treaty. This, if it should happen to be carried out, will be but a step in the direction of prohibiting the immigration of the Chinese into the United States. The treatment of the Chinese in California is one unparalleled record of crime and injustice, and they were shamefully maltreated within a few weeks at Denver—the mob being incited to their cruel acts by the publication of the forged Morey letter. However, the removal of Mr. Seward has been effected by Secretary Evarts, and Mr. S. naturally feels sore, and has been venting his spleen through the press; his statements ought perhaps to be taken *cum grano salis*. EDITOR.

TRADE—FINANCE—STATISTICS.

CONCERNING SENSATIONAL REPORTS AND THE DUTY OF THE PRESS IN RELATION THERETO.

(Concluded.)

The *Bulletin des Halles* of the 10th October says :

"The Russian journals are filled with the most distressing reports of the misery which reigns in the interior by reason of the deficient crops. In the governments of Tver, Vladimir and Samara there is scarcely sufficient rye for the sowings, while in the government of Sarator they estimate that the existing stocks are scarcely sufficient to feed one-third of the population. At Taganrog, Bardeanski and Marianopoli (Azov ports) stocks are completely exhausted, and in the Black Sea ports the reserves are meagre, although some export still goes on to Mediterranean ports, probably in execution of old contracts."

In substance these reports are, that great scarcity exists in the governments of Tver, Vladimir and Sarator. These four governments have a total population of somewhere in the neighbourhood of seven millions, and with the exception of Sarator are among the poorest and most sterile divisions of European Russia. Vladimir in particular has, according to the best information at our command, rarely produced sufficient food for home consumption. Thirty-seven million of bushels of wheat would feed the whole of the afflicted people if they had not produced a pound of any grain, and we must have something stronger than this to neutralize the fact of a great surplus in England, France and America estimated as a unit in production and consumption.

The *Detroit Free Press* of the 14th October publishes among its foreign telegrams a supposed extract from the *Golos* of St. Petersburg to the effect that "the outlook for Russia is very gloomy, as the country, whose ordinary export is forty million quarters, will have to import grain from abroad." This would indeed be gloomy; but when did Russia export 320,000,000 bushels of wheat? and what has become of the crops of Esthonia, Courland, Podolia and Benarattia—in fact, of all Russia, except the governments round Moscow?

Russia is a big country, and has always had an inter-government trade in cereals, and we may see there a state of affairs similar to that in India, where \$50,000,000 are expended by government in famine relief measures in one province, while the country as a whole exports food. We are suspicious; it seems to us that the *Golos* would be no more likely to think or express itself in quarters than would the *Squashtown Democrat*.

We note that the St. Petersburg telegrams to the *Bulletin des Halles* always quote prices per tchetwert (5.93 bushels), and we assume that to be the measure by which grain is bought and sold there.

We do not see in quotations anything to lead us to suppose that in Russia they know of this state of general famine. On the 12th October the price of rye was, at St. Petersburg, just 8 per cent. above the quotation of 17th September, while in New York during the same period wheat advanced over 9 per cent.

The German rye crop has assumed great importance in the situation this season, but there is reason to think that the deficit has been exaggerated. While the German farmer is holding back this staple to make a market for American wheat, the trade in Berlin, Hamburg and Cologne was selling it on the 14th October, for March delivery, at some 6 to 7 per cent. below the price of the cash article. In Amsterdam it is about 4 per cent. below, while in Paris November and March rye are together.

This would indicate that the price of cash rye is much strained, and that the trade do not expect it to hold at present figures. It certainly seemed a reckless speculation for French operators to sell in Rouen, on August 26th, American red winter wheat, for delivery January to April, at \$25.75 per 100 kilos, when on that date the cash article was bringing 27 francs; but now all the facts of the crop are ascertained, and the German operators are selling their own crop with their eyes open and in face of a great advance and a strong feeling in all countries in favour of moderately high prices.

The professional manipulator who undertook to sell the American farmer's crop for him for \$1 at seaboard, has reaped his whirlwind where he sowed the wind; but a point has been reached when the farmer should think seriously before attempting extortion, and his true friend will advise him to receive with caution all reports of a sensational character tending towards further inflation.

Qui Hye.

FROM an inquiry recently made by the *Tribune*, it appears that the exportation of live cattle from the United States now exceeds that of dressed meat. The shipments last season were 105,324 head; this year, up to the beginning of August, they have been about 118,000, besides which many shiploads are sent by way of Canada (Montreal). New York takes the lead; Boston ships about two-thirds of the number shipped from New York; Philadelphia and Baltimore rank next, and both exceed Portland. The aggregate trade, including sheep, approaches \$35,000,000 a year. The low freights on live cattle give that branch of the trade a considerable advantage. Large numbers of cattle from the States shipped by way of Montreal go (it is said) to the north of England, and are sent to the southern districts as Scotch cattle, bringing the highest prices. The same cattle sent from New York or Boston are not allowed to go out of the receiving depot, and must be slaughtered

within seven days. The exported cattle come principally from Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado. Some cattle are brought from Texas, but they are usually not so large and fine as the others. They are all slaughtered and sent to Europe as dressed beef. Only the largest and finest animals are sent alive. The trade began experimentally in 1875. In 1876 the shipments amounted to 22,500, nearly all dressed carcasses. In 1877 the number had reached 60,000, of which one-quarter were live cattle. In 1878 the shipments were 95,600, of which 30,000 were live cattle. In 1879 the number reached 105,324, of which 32,295 were live cattle and 72,029 dressed carcasses. For 1880, from January up to the first two weeks of August, the shipments were 64,853 live cattle and 53,533 carcasses of beef—a total of 118,386.

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.

At no former period in the history of this country was there so much activity as now in railroad construction. In the Northwest the North Pacific is pushing on steadily and surely in its great object of furnishing a continuous railway system to the vast region west of the Mississippi extending to the Pacific coast. In the Southwest the Southern Pacific is constructing its lines from both ends of the route, and will within the next two years meet and form a continuous link from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In the Southern States there are new routes projected and new links building, all tending to unite in one complete system the network of railways in this section. Through Texas and New Mexico two lines are being constructed to the Mexican border and will in time form a connection with the railroad developments going on in Mexico. Eastward the Chesapeake and Ohio is completing the links necessary to reach tidewater and form an additional Trunk Line from the West and Southwest to Atlantic ports. In New England short lines are pushing to completion and soon another important route will be opened up to Boston and the Canadas. So far during the present year 4,388 miles of new railroad have been constructed as against 2,739 miles reported for the corresponding period of 1879, 1,635 miles in 1878, 1,668 miles in 1877, 1,875 miles in 1876, 986 miles in 1875, 1,363 miles in 1874, 3,075 miles in 1873, and 5,709 miles in 1871. The year immediately preceding the panic was an era of great railroad building and speculation. The work was overdone, and the disaster of 1873 was largely brought about by the absorption of so much capital in useless railroad enterprise. Lines were constructed far in advance of the wants of the country. The revulsion of 1873 burst the bubble, and railroad construction declined until the revival of prosperity in 1878. Since that period a great march forward has been taken, and the enterprises now pushing to completion are the outgrowth of general business prosperity throughout the entire country.—*U. S. Economist.*

BANKS.

BANK.	Shares per value.	Capital Subscribed.	Capital Paid up	Rest.	Price per \$100 Nov. 10, 1880.	Price per \$100 Nov. 10, 1879.	Last half-yearly Dividend.	Per cent. per annum of last div. on present price.
Montreal	\$200	\$12,000,000	\$11,999,200	\$5,000,000	\$158 3/4	\$146 1/4	4	5.04
Ontario	40	3,000,000	2,996,756	100,000	98 3/4	73	3	6.08
Molson's	50	2,000,000	1,999,995	100,000	101	74 1/4	3	5.94
Toronto	100	2,000,000	2,000,000	500,000	136 3/4	120	3 1/2	5.12
				*250,000				
Jacques Cartier	25	500,000	500,000	55,000	96	60 1/2	2 1/2	5.21
Merchants	100	5,798,267	5,518,933	475,000	112	89 3/4	3	5.36
Eastern Townships	50	1,409,600	1,382,937	200,000	111	..	3 1/2	6.31
Quebec	100	2,500,000	2,500,000	425,000	104	..	3	5.77
Commerce	50	6,000,000	6,000,000	1,400,000	135	117 1/4	4	5.93
				*75,000				
Exchange	100	1,000,000	1,000,000	.....	60	30	..	..
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Montreal Telegraph Co.	40	2,000,000	2,000,000	171,432	132 3/4	88	4	6.03
R. & O. N. Co.	100	1,565,000	1,565,000	.....	58	39 1/2	..	..
City Passenger Railway	50	.....	600,000	163,000	118	75	16	5.68
New City Gas Co.	40	2,000,000	1,880,000	.....	148	127 1/2	5	6.76

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

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

COMPANY.	1880.			1879.		Week's Traffic.		Aggregate.		
	Period.	Pass. Mails & Express	Freight and L. Stock	Total.	Total.	Incr'se	Decr'se	Period.	Incr'se	Decr'se
*Grand Trunk	Nov. 6	64,183	162,808	226,991	219,262	7,729	.....	10 w'ks	641,333	.....
Great Western	Oct. 29	37,987	82,592	120,579	117,280	3,299	.....	18 "	278,124	.....
Northern & H. & N. W.	" 30	15,417	23,134	38,551	39,607	.....	1,056	18 "	63,927	.....
Toronto & Nipissing	" 30	1,880	4,246	6,126	6,620	.....	494	18 "	4,616	.....
Midland	" 30	3,146	9,038	12,184	11,856	328	.....	18 "	30,549	.....
St. Lawrence & Ottawa	" 30	1,461	2,001	3,462	3,028	434	.....	18 "	.....	2,379
Whitby, Pt Perry & Lindsay	" 30	924	2,592	3,516	3,226	290	.....	18 "	5,618	.....
Canada Central	" 21	2,996	6,748	9,744	8,157	1,587	.....	17 "	35,963	.....
Toronto, Grey & Bruce	" 16	2,515	5,253	7,768	7,601	167	.....	16 "	67	.....
†Q., M., O. & O.	" 31	10,997	3,079	13,986	7,680	6,306	.....	16 "	150,033	.....
	Month					[Month]	Month			
Intercolonial	Sept 30	73,440	75,153	148,593	125,597	22,996	.....	3 m'nth	93,017	.....

*NOTE TO GRAND TRUNK.—The Riviere du Loup receipts are included for seven weeks in 1879, not in 1880; omitting them the aggregate increase for 19 weeks is \$669,533.

This traffic is a large reduction from the previous week's gross traffic and increase caused by bad weather, by Thanksgiving Day and by All Saints Day, a statutory holiday, and by the interference with business caused by the Presidential election in the United States.

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

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

There are rumours of difficulties being placed in the way of General Garfield to prevent his taking up his residence at the Presidential mansion. It appears that General Hancock had a plurality of votes amongst the people, but as this does not affect the question as to the Presidency, it goes for nothing. The mode of election is but imperfectly understood, and the following notes are apropos:—

“No one except a natural born citizen, is eligible for the office of President of the United States; nor any one who has not attained the age of thirty-five years, and resided fourteen years within the United States. A person, having these qualifications, is selected as a candidate at a representative caucus of his friends and it depends upon the votes of the various States which of the candidates shall be president. The States vote as follows: They appoint, in whatever way their legislature may direct, a number of presidential electors equal to the number of representatives and senators, to which the State may be entitled in Congress. The representation of the State in Congress depends upon its population and two senators are added. Thus New York State has 33 members in the House of Representatives and two senators; Indiana, being less in population has only 15 representatives and the two senators. Thus, then, New York is entitled to 35 presidential electors and Indiana to 17. The usual way of selecting there is, that the party men of each town or district send representatives to a district convention, each party having a separate convention. The district conventions of both sides send delegates to separate State gatherings. The Republican State gathering then selects their men it wishes to form the State electoral college, and the Democrats, Greenbackers or any other party select their men. These chosen ones are put up for popular election in all the States on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, and the state electoral colleges are thus formed. The Electoral Colleges then meet in the various States on the first Wednesday in December to record their vote and send the result to the President of the Senate at Washington. The State votes solid for either one party or the other—that is, that if the Republican party obtain a majority of one in the State, the Electoral College is Republican, and the whole State vote goes for that party, or *vice versa*. As the results from the various States are known just after the election in November, it is understood who is to be the next President long before the Electoral Colleges meet in the various States.”

The Democrats continue to feel very sore over their failure in 1876 to secure the Presidency for their party, and now, through some error in their New York electoral management, they are again defeated, and it would seem that they are now prepared to go to any extremes in order to secure the Chief Magistracy. There is very great danger that they will yet cause serious trouble, and it is a great pity that they cannot become reconciled to their defeat and allow the affairs of the nation to be administered in a peaceful manner. All this doubt and squabbling must damage commercial interests, and the rise in stocks and other securities consequent upon the presumed election of General Garfield must or ought to have made it patent to every Democrat that the world at large have every confidence in the Republican party and in their financial policy. To some the only blemish upon their platform is their adherence to a protective policy, but this is much less to be combated or opposed than a financial policy tending towards depreciation of the currency, or perhaps entire repudiation.

SHOP GIRLS.

In several journals both in England and the United States have appeared articles advocating the placing of chairs or stools for the use of shop girls, who in many cases, if not in all, are obliged to remain on their feet from morn till night. This over-work cannot fail to be productive of bad results as regards the health of the girls and any efforts made to ameliorate their condition ought to be warmly seconded by every philanthropic person. The question evidently has not been sufficiently agitated in our good city of Montreal, for, if such had been the case, we would have seen some resultant effects; on the contrary, things appear to remain *in statu quo*. That this should be the case is deplorable and we would draw the attention of the public to this important subject. Without being extreme in our views we hold that this inattention or want of interest on the part of employers is cruelty—the effects, however, being extended over a comparatively long period of time are not apparent to a superficial observer. Every one will admit that some steps ought to be taken in the matter, and it has been stated that the evil is in some cases aggravated by the dilatoriness of ladies in making their purchases. A little forethought on their part would be proper and they should not visit stores unless with a definite purpose. The only means of relief the poor shop girl obtains is that at long intervals, she is enabled to lean against the shelves at her back and get relief—but this is a poor apology for a stool.

Many shop girls, who are not ill in the literal sense of the word, are able to work, but the day's work is gone through despondently and with a “disproportionate sense of effort;” they do not know what is the matter with them, yet they continue to feel ill and dejected—this is the result of over-work. This lowered vitality, should any attack of sickness come, tends to put the patient more in danger, and sickness will come unless some change is made in time. Add to this another cause of sickness, namely, the want of nourishing food, which results from the pittance given by employers, and we have a sad state of affairs. There would seem to be no escape for the poor girl except through the philanthropy of others and this has been attempted with success

at a place called Sunninghill near London, England. It was founded by the late Sir Frederick Grey and is called a Home of Rest and has within a year received forty-five girls. This Home accommodates at one time eight girls, and the rooms are pleasantly furnished: pictures hang on the walls and books and magazines strew the table. “In the garden, tired girls resting among the flowers beds, under the shadow of the trees, form pathetic pictures that might tempt an artist to paint. It is half sad, half amusing, to hear those girls prattle of the delight of those lazy, happy days, when in many cases they have for the first time been introduced to rural sights and sounds. One girl has spent the larger part of her young life polishing coffin handles, without any break of brighter associations until she came to Sunninghill; another had turned a mangle as long as she could remember, without a holiday.”

The above shows that in London, they have got even further than the providing of stools; they take an interest in their health sufficient to provide a Home where they may recuperate. In New York the late A. T. Steward left money to be devoted to building a Women's Hotel wherein the shop girls could be independent and self-supporting; through some cause or other, we know not what, it has not succeeded as well as might have been expected. We have heard that the rates were excessive and that some very stringent rules were enforced, so stringent as to become humiliating. That this should be allowed to be even a partial failure is greatly to be deplored, and it is to be hoped that measures will be taken to improve it.

Some idea of the importance of shop girls, apart from benevolent considerations, may be gained when the fact is known that nearly one-eighth of the commercial population of the city of Boston consists or is composed of shop girls. If more attention were paid by employers to the health of their employées, and a kindly interest shown in their welfare, the results both physically and pecuniarily would be very beneficent and gratifying. *Sappho.*

FREE TRADE AND THE FARMERS.

All over England the supply of farms now greatly exceeds the demand for them. Various causes have contributed to produce this result. In the first place, the run of bad harvests has severely tried all tenants who have not been abundantly supplied with capital upon which they could fall back. The value of those meteorological forecasts which we daily publish is indisputable; but Mr. Scott does not undertake to prophesy the yield of next year's harvest. On this matter many people are satisfied with a sort of rough and ready form of the doctrine of chances. Nor do they fail to be misled by the besetting fallacy with which that doctrine is connected. It is no doubt true that the chances are heavily against the occurrence of five bad harvests in succession. But it does not follow that, as many people rather assume than deliberately infer, after five bad harvests the sixth is likely to be good. On that point no conclusion can be drawn whatever. A small farmer when he takes a bit of land probably reckons on being able to tide over one or two bad seasons. But five or six throw him on his beam ends. All his plans are spoiled by the failure of the condition on which they depended, and he throws up his farm in disgust, thanking his stars that he is not a leaseholder. The present state of agricultural affairs has pressed with special severity on tenant-farmers on a small scale. A peasant proprietor would get in his corn with his own hands, assisted by his family. The large farmers put on an extra supply of labour, and took full advantage of the golden days of August. The great object of the unfortunate class who are just struggling for a bare livelihood was to spend as little as possible. All through the precious days of sunshine they leisurely reaped and slowly carried, till the rain came and found a good deal of corn still out, and soaked it through, and even penetrated many stacks which were neither thatched nor covered with a tarpaulin. So ears sprouted and lost their goodness, and thus the harvest became worse than ever. This, however, is not the whole of the present crisis. It is not only the small farms that are vacant. Mere combination will not extricate the landlords from their disagreeable situation. Many large farms are lying idle, and though this is probably but a temporary phase, it is sufficiently serious in itself and its consequences. For part of their embarrassment the landlords have themselves to thank. They have persisted in putting their game before their tenants, till at last the tenants have been forced to consider whether they should sacrifice themselves to the game and the landlord. The pheasant vice of excessive preservation has become an instrument to scourge the preservers. To this practical evil the Ground Game Act has applied an appropriate, if not an adequate, remedy. The axe has not, perhaps, been laid to the root of the tree, but the tenants have in some measure been enabled to protect themselves, and the landlords have to some extent been rescued from the consequences of their own imprudence. But the Act must have time to work. In England it will not be long in operating, for English tenancies are as a rule tenancies from year to year. Independently of legislative interference, the landlords have been taught a lesson on the subject of game. When several candidates competed for every vacant farm, the interests of the farmer were naturally postponed to the sacred pheasant and the venerated hare. But times have changed. The tenants have, for the time at any rate, got the upper hand, and landowners will think a good many times

before they again bring themselves into their present situation, when many of them are glad to let their tenants stay on without paying rent at all. Side by side with bad harvests and over-preservation has come the pressure of American competition. There was a time when the popular toast at a farmers' ordinary was, or was supposed to be, "a short yield and a long war." Whether a long war is still desired we do not know; but a short yield is of course no longer accompanied by a more than corresponding rise of prices. It is impossible to foresee with any exactness what will be the ultimate effect of free trade on the position of English agriculture. Mr. Pell and Mr. Read, in their interesting report of what they saw in America, express the opinion that the American wheat cannot long continue to be sent over at its present price. The increased freights which expanded commerce brings will alone be sufficient to cause a substantial rise. The rapidly growing population of America itself will diminish the quantity which can be exported. Whatever be the proper weight to be attached to these considerations, the great influx of wheat into the English market from the other side of the Atlantic cannot but permanently affect the conditions of agriculture in this country. We shall in all probability grow less corn in the future than we have grown in the past. Perhaps a certain amount of arable land may be transformed into pasture, and the tables may be turned against American beef. Perhaps more attention will be paid to timber. It is not improbable that, as Mr. Gladstone suggested some time ago, the business of market gardening may be increased and extended. The inevitable tendency of free trade must be to diminish the number of industries in each country and to confine the energies of a nation to those products which are especially suited to the qualities of its soil and the character of its inhabitants.—*Daily News.*

THANKSGIVING IN QUEBEC.

Our Dominion has been highly privileged in having this year the nomination by the Governor-General of a general thanksgiving day for the whole country. The services were exceedingly interesting to the old city of Quebec. The unanimity with which the festival of harvest gratitude was observed among our Protestant brethren was pleasing. With Roman Catholics the difficulty was said to be that they have many days of celebration about this season. There was a grand display of decorations and impressive remarks from the pulpits, for the people had come together with the thought of the 65th Psalm: "Thou crownest the year with goodness, and Thy paths drop fatness. The pastures have been clothed with flocks, the valleys covered over with corn. They shout for joy; they also sing." At the Cathedral, in his sermon comparing this our modern service with the Jewish feast of Tabernacles, the Bishop said:—

"There was no ingathering of harvest in the wilderness, and hence this feast served to remind them also of God's blessings to them, and to give them feelings of thankfulness and gratitude for the regular recurrence of seed time and harvest. We too need a similar reminding. Too often year after year we gather in the harvest with no thought of God's goodness to us. We wonder as we contemplate the mystery of the earth's creation, but the mystery of the earth's preservation is as great as that of its existence. The bursting bud and the ripening ear are indeed mysteries. Life is a mystery, as well of a plant as of a man, and this as we think of it brings us into the presence of God, 'in whom we live and move and have our being.' In His handiwork the very perfection of the work hides from us the workman's hand. It is well that we should celebrate and remember the gratitude we owe to God for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life. In the working of the earth's production there is an element of uncertainty and vicissitude. Though we know that seed time and harvest shall not fail, yet experience teaches us that in some places and times the earth does not give its increase. Therefore it is natural and reasonable that we who have gathered safely in the fruits of a bountiful harvest, should be thankful and pour out our hearts to Him from whom all blessings flow. Thanks-offerings should always go with thanksgivings. What we think we must act. Devotional exercise alone without action must result in an unsentimental, unwholesome state of mind. Action grows stronger and feeling weaker every time it is put into use. On the contrary, where feeling is excited without corresponding action, a stimulated excitement ensues, and the result is nothing but a state of sensationalism, apart from practicability,—a most melancholy condition. The command 'Bear ye one another's burden' points out the way in which thankfulness may be put into effect. Life without obedience to this command is a delusion. The most fearful denunciation that ever fell from the Saviour's mouth was not addressed to evil-doers, but to those who do nothing: 'Depart from me into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.' This is not addressed to murderers, to robbers, or to adulterers, but to those who do no other harm than that they do no good."

At Chalmers' Church (Presbyterian) Rev. Dr. Matthews reminded us that "we have had no war in our land, and been saved the loss of life and property from which the United States suffered so long. The congregation had cause of thankfulness for its many privileges, and for anything God had enabled its members to do in the way of church work or Christian giving. And then as individuals, each had received many benefits, some of these being then enumerated by the preacher, after which, the sermon closed with an appeal to show their gratitude by taking Christ to be their Saviour, to cherish a spirit and sense of Christian stewardship, and to exhibit this in daily life, by more liberality, more activity, more holiness."

In the Methodist Church Rev. Mr. Chambers said:—"Only last year, deep necessity extorted the cry for help from unhappy Ireland, a land made dear to many of us as the land of our birth, or the birth place of our fathers.

And at the present hour even a severe famine prevails in that land of beauty and of sorrow; a famine of loyalty, followed by a famine of peace, and both eagerly owing to a famine of loyal men and true to counsel and encourage the kind-hearted, but impetuous multitudes of that fair country. How thankful we should be that we live in this land of peace and plenty. Let us show our gratitude not only by the expression of our lips, but also by the consecration of our lives to God and the best interests of humanity."

The Cathedral service in the morning was a union meeting, but the Revs. Dr. Cook, G. V. Houseman and W. Marsh also addressed eloquent discourses to their several congregations. And thus from our recognised pastors we have substantially learned that however proper and consolatory it may be to cultivate the subjective side of existence, that is not the whole duty of man under the Gospel. The pursuit of an object of beneficence with faithfulness and persistence—an object not in the first place, a selfish one may be more trying to the human spirit but it is a part of the true theory of Christ's teaching, as we may assert without our being able to penetrate the full meaning and scope of that teaching. The grand decorative display on this occasion was pleasing so far as it was a humble tribute to the Giver of all good and Preserver of our Nation and Empire, and the warmth of feeling called forth at this glad time might well extend to the stranger within our gates whether British or Foreign. He ought not to be left to perish either morally or physically through any defective arrangements on our part. It might be cynically urged that this expense and labour of decoration could have been saved and the money bestowed upon the poor whom, in one sense or other we have always with us. In Quebec the physically poor are not ill cared for. The somewhat too frequent solicitors of alms on the streets might often indeed have work provided for them. Our treatment of the immigrant has long been creditable to Canadians as a people, but with this the city has little to do. When we consider the multiform social pact upon which it is built up and sustained, a great and well governed city is a triumph under heaven, of Christian and material effort. But we must look at things as they are, and while our poor need not be neglected, we know that the condition of the seamen—the men by whom this port's prosperity is so greatly built up, forms a terribly urgent claim not so much for money as for better social and governmental arrangements. The providers of those votive offerings will certainly deduce from their Bibles that there could be no more acceptable tribute to the one Benefactor than a sacred and civic hospitality to the brave fellows who plough the wave. On their arrival in this port they are beset with grievous temptations, and it is a pity that no efforts have been made to remove these and provide innocent amusements. In Montreal there is a Sailors' Institute, in which concerts and prayer meetings are held, and which is well appreciated by the sailors.

Thoughts spring to my mind concerning decorations, which have their just place, as they always have had, in the social life; the soldier is ambitious to gain them; they typify rejoicing, or may be the emblems of woe. But that life in the world is something besides decorative, we need only take the following fine passage from the lecture of Archibald Forbes to prove. In reading it we may know even better than we had done before how much we have to be grateful for in this Canada of ours, in having been so constantly spared the bitter trials of human conflict, and may become impressed with the duty of giving practical effect to our Christian professions in the relief of pain and the promotion of smooth and comfort-bringing system in all our social life. Life-consuming neglects in business and pleasure travel, and in some departments of labour should not longer be allowed to continue. It is a joyful thing, and it is often not difficult in the way of organization and method to save life. The following is the extract which, in its grandeur of description, points these humble remarks as contrast:—

"Plevna," said the lecturer, "lay down yonder in its snug valley among the foliage, calm and serene like a sleeping babe amid a pack of raging wolves, the sunlight glinting on the spires of its church towers. Behind us the Russian cannon belching fire and iron. Close to us the general, with set face and terrible eager eyes, the working of his lips and fingers belying his forced composure. And at our feet hell itself, raging in all its lurid splendor, all its fell horror. A chaos of noises came back to us on the light summer wind—the crackle of the musketry fire, the ping of bullets, the crash of exploding shells, loud shouts of men bent on death or victory, shrieks and yells of anguish, aye, even groans, so near are we. Look at that swift rush; see the upheaval of the flashing bayonets; listen to the roar of triumph, sharpened by the clash of steel against steel. There is an answering hurrah from the gunners above us, for the Russian infantry have carried at the bayonet's point the first Turkish position. But they go no further. See the stubborn, gallant fellows there standing leaderless—for nearly all the officers are down—sternly waiting death for want of leaders either to cheer them forward or to march them back! A craving that is almost irresistible comes over one to abandon inaction and to do something—something, no matter what—in this acme, this climax of concentrated strife. The mad excitement of the battle surges up in the brain like strong drink. You, sitting quietly here, can have no idea how hard it is, in such a convulsion of emotion to bide at rest and write out a telegram, in pencil, with industrious accuracy—how difficult to compose coherently when the brain is on fire and the pulses are bounding as if they would burst. The Russians were repulsed, and then came the terrible work of the correspondents to get to Sistova, to telegraph the tale. The lecturer described the ride in graphic and touching terms, not without regrets for the horse which fell dead beneath him, leaving him six miles to walk and carry his saddle on his head. On reaching Bucharest, he despatched the memorable Plevna despatch 'which per-chance,' said he, 'some of you may remember to have read.'"

PRESBYTERIANISM RE-VIEWED.

Should it be supposed that the Presbyterianism set forth in the quotations from the "confession of faith" and the "longer catechism" is in any sense a thing of the past, surely the confirmatory attitude of the Pan-Presbyterian Council ought to be sufficient to refute such a conclusion. But lest any doubt should remain, it may be advisable to quote further from the formularies assented to, or subscribed, by students when licensed, and by ministers when ordained. Here are some of the questions to which these are required to give their assent:—

"Do you believe the Westminster Confession of Faith, as adopted by this Church, in the Basis of Union, to be founded on, and agreeable to, the Word of God, and in your teaching will you faithfully adhere thereto?"

"Do you believe the government of this Church by Sessions, Presbyteries, &c., to be founded on, and agreeable to, the Word of God, and do you engage as a minister of this Church to defend and maintain the same?"

"Do you own the purity of worship at present authorized by this Church, and will you conform thereto?"

"Do you promise to give a dutiful attendance in the Courts of this Church, &c., to be subject to them, &c., to follow no divisive course, but to maintain the unity and peace of the Church?"

"Do you promise to submit yourself in the Lord to the several judicatories of this Church?"

The following is the formula to be signed by all office-bearers, ministers inclusive:—

"I hereby declare that I believe the Westminster Confession of Faith, as adopted by this Church, in the Basis of Union, and the government of the Church by Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods and General Assemblies, to be founded on, and agreeable to, the Word of God; that I own the purity of worship at present authorized by this Church; and that I engage to adhere faithfully to the doctrine of the said Confession, to maintain and defend the said government, to conform to the said worship and to submit to the discipline of this Church, and to follow no divisive course from the present order established therein."

Beyond this "confession of faith" no progress is permissible. There is no provision whatever for any advance or change. It is only fair, however, to state that the first question to which the assent of students and ministers is referred is: "Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and manners?" But this is wholly neutralized—at least as regards those who would still remain Presbyterians—by that other which insists that they hold "the Westminster Confession of Faith to be founded on, and agreeable to, the Word of God."

These are plain, hard, recorded, creed-bound facts of the position assumed by the Presbyterian Church, and sustained by its recent Pan-Presbyterian Council,—a Council authoritative surely as embodying and repressing "the mind of the Church."

It is not this writer's present purpose to enter into any detailed dispute as to the soundness or unsoundness, in a doctrinal point of view, of the extensive creed evidently so tenaciously held by Pan-Presbyterianism. But it may not be out of place to state in plain terms the standpoint from which a large and increasing section of "the world" will, and do, regard their attitude.

That vast mass of intelligent humanity in the present day, who believe in the expansion of the spiritual life within man (which is man) outward into all and every form of usefulness; who have found by experience that there seems practically no limit to the powers with which man is gifted by his Creator if he will but use them; who are Gnostics enough to feel sure that the faculties of the spirit (or, mind, if you like the term better) are far more real than the physical, because able to interpenetrate them with ever-increasing ability of use—cannot fail to recognize this attitude assumed, and rested in, by Pan-Presbyterianism as only a subtler form of "Agnosticism." Agnosticism in its old form of denial of the existence of aught but matter can hardly be said to exist in this age. Even the most advanced materialists have, by honest search and real experience, reached the conclusion that life—its origin or cause—is not to be found within, but must be sought apart from, matter. As proof, take the recent admissions of such men as Tyndall or Huxley and the constant references to the same truth by Herbert Spencer. To these it may, perhaps, be permitted to add, without offence, that socialistic thinker, Colonel Ingersoll, who, in his latest discourse, clearly indicates his growing conviction that intellect and affection (or will and its thought) are at least as real and lasting as matter, and transcend in usefulness the material forms in which they are manifested, and by which, and on which, they act. Thus the advancing life of the age, having so far conquered the more material form of agnosticism, finds itself confronted with precisely the same evil on a higher plane—in short, meets with the rarified agnosticism of Pan-Presbyterianism. This vast body of so-called orthodoxy seems to them to take up a position antagonistic to everything which does not come within the range of those formulated perceptions of truth called doctrine which are the external senses its inherent life has formed for itself, within which to live, as the soul lives within the body. Everything must be touched and tested by this body of sound belief, and whatever is beyond the grasp of its doctrinal senses must for ever remain to it as though non-existent. It does not want to know any more than these doctrinal senses tell it. So content is it to live in and by these—to limit itself and its life within their boundaries—that it denies as impossible the existence of anything not perceptible to these senses.

Should this seem somewhat extreme, one more quotation from the Confession of Faith will surely suffice to convince. It is to be found in the section regarding the Holy Scriptures:—

"The whole counsel of God, concerning all things necessary for His own glory, man's salvation, faith and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture, unto which nothing at any time is to be added whether by new revelations of the Spirit, or traditions of men," &c.

This precludes even the possibility of "any new revelation of the Spirit," and is in direct contradiction to our Lord's own words: "When the Spirit of Truth is come He will guide you into all truth." Have those who are followers of the Lord yet been led into the all of truth? Whatever "the Church" may think, "the world" will take leave to doubt it. Nor will that "world" in which the practical religion of usefulness, the desire to avoid any course which may injure our fellow men, and to join itself thus to the current of life from above, which, in ever-increasing measure, seeks to advance whatever of good is possible in the present condition of humanity, readily admire, reverence, or find it possible to use, that denial of the possibility of increase of light which lives in self-chosen darkness as modern agnosticism.

The expansion of our Lord's life voluntarily received, fed upon, and assimilated into his being by man, necessitates and leads directly towards increase of light. For life is first, and ever forces its way outwards and upwards towards the light. In the inception and growth of vegetable, plant, tree or animal we see that truth exemplified. Nor is it otherwise with man; and if the natural realm be but the shadow, or effect, from a spiritual cause, as we modern Gnostics believe, what folly it is to deny the lesson taught alike by observation and experience; or by a blind agnosticism, deny the provision of wisdom clad in the light of knowledge with which our Lord has clothed Himself in the inner or spiritual sense of that Divine Word which is His very self. Can we by searching find out God? Can we find out the Almighty to perfection? Need we then fear to search? Need we fetter our growing life by denying it light, in fear that our Lord in His infinite providence has not provided for all our future needs as well as our present ones in the light which flows from and lives in His Divine Word? Leave men free and unfettered to live upward towards the Light; to grow by the warmth of Love—Live contained within the Divine Wisdom; for that Divine Wisdom, revealed to us in word and symbol in the Holy Scriptures, is but the reflection of Him whose life was and is the light of men. What man, or body of men, who share their Lord's love for all His creatures shall dare to fetter or limit with their self-made windows of doctrine the influx of His light into His chosen temple—man?

Spero.

HATS IN CHURCH.

To all wearers of silk hats, when once they get inside the church the hat becomes a serious difficulty. Of all the various expedients by which ingenious churchgoers have endeavoured to safely dispose of their hats, there is no one that has not proved to be fallacious. The extreme danger of placing a hat in the aisle immediately outside the pew is universally known. The first lady that sweeps up the aisle carries with her a confused mass of defenceless hats, which are deposited in the shape of a terminal moraine in the front of the pew which is her final goal. Of course the hats which have been subjected to this process are reduced by attrition to a rounded form and are covered with scratches, reminding one of the marks of glacial action on granite boulders. However interesting they may be to the geologist, they are of no further value as hats, and can rarely be bent into a shape that will allow their owners to wear them home. In the days when expensive crinolines were in fashion, the fate of the hat deposited in the aisle was still more appalling. When a well-dressed lady passed by in its vicinity it disappeared totally from human sight. There are cases on record where one fashionable woman has thus caused the disappearance of thirteen separate hats during her passage from the church door to the pew in the neighbourhood of the pulpit. What was the final fate of those hats was never ascertained. The hats simply vanished at the rustle of crinoline, and left no trace behind. Whether they were absorbed by contact with soft kid, or resolved into thin chemical elements by proximity to steel, is yet to be discovered. The boldest men shrank from making investigations as to their fate, and preferred to bear their loss in sad and dignified silence. As to putting one's hat on the floor underneath the seat, no man who follows this reckless course can expect anything but disaster. If there is a small boy in the pew he will infallibly discover that hat, and kick it to the further end of the pew within the first thirty minutes of the service. If there is a lady in the pew a surgical operation will be required to remove her boot from the interior of the hat, while in any event the hat is certain to absorb every particle of dust within a radius of eight feet, and to fasten itself to the floor with the aid of forgotten Sunday School gum-drops. Neither under the seat, on the seat, nor in the aisle can the worried hat find rest, and the plan of establishing a hat pound in the vestibule, where hats can be ticketed and kept during service, would simply result in converting a church into a hat exchange, where the sinners would secure all the good hats, and the saints would be compelled to content themselves with worn-out and worthless ones.—*Hatter's Gazette*

Mlle. Bernhardt's Dresses and Paris Fashions.

The American papers have contained recently accounts of the grand reception given to Sara Bernhardt on her arrival in New York; it was a Royal Progress. The widow of the martyred President passed unnoticed along the crowded streets. What a lesson to the thoughtful mind! However, it is of the dresses of Sarah Bernhardt and of her extravagances we propose to speak. She was obliged to pay a customs duty of five thousand dollars upon her articles, which consisted of satin-lined trunks, Velasquez hats with brims painted by leading artists, perfumed gloves and other eccentricities. Before she left Paris, her stage dresses, made by M. Felix, were exhibited to a favoured few. We are enabled to quote from the *Queen* the principal ones in "Frou-Frou," "The Sphinx," "Adrienne Lecouvreur," and "L'Etrangère." The dresses in "Frou-Frou" are mostly copied from paintings in the Louvre Museum: there are three. The first is a black Venetian brocade, studded with dark and light roses; the front is cherry satin, worked with chenille and jet; a cherry plush scarf is tied round the hips, with a large bow at the side. The second dress is ivory Surah, heavily trimmed with ivory lace and moss fringe; the lace fichu is fastened down with pearl plaques. The third is a Spanish dress in scabious satin; the front is old-gold satin, worked with amber beads and scabious chenille.

For the "Sphinx" there are four dresses—one dark-blue plush (of which material we shall have something to say further on), with bodice covered with pale-blue heads, and a scarf studded with blue stars in beads; a ball dress in white and gold brocatelle, ornamented with laburnums and buttercups; a third dress in grey bengaline and satin, made with much casing or gatherings.

In "L'Etrangère" there is a beautiful ball dress of ivory velvet, embossed with ruby dahlias, made with satin paniers and fraise, eminently suited to a slight figure. The second dress is black velvet, painted by hand, with birds and flowers and studded with rainbow beads. The train is black satin, lined with flame-red plush.

The dresses in "Adrienne Lecouvreur" are copied exactly from those worn in London. A pink and blue Pompadour toilette, with a train of brocade made specially in Lyons for Mlle. Bernhardt, and after a design of the time of the heroine of the play. The ground is silver-grey satin, and it is strewn with sprays of eglantine. The cost was £12 per yard.

Another dazzling costume is of cloth of gold trimmed with swansdown and lined with pale green satin. The gauze underdress is confined round the waist with a girdle of precious stones; and the headdress matches the girdle.

But the dress in the "Dame aux Camélias" is considered the *chef d'œuvre* of the outfit. It is of ivory satin, with train embroidered with camellias in white satin, silver and pearl, and it is fastened to the shoulder with a diamond agrafe. There are two deep flounces of camellias on the skirt, resting on a lace background. There is another dress of cream velvet, painted by hand, with pink camellias, butterflies, and humming birds. Surely such an outfit is exceptional.

As stated above, we have some remarks to make concerning the material plush. This is already in great favour for dress trimmings and mantles, and later on there will be a *furor* for it. To meet the demand, plush is produced in all colours and in all widths—seal-skin plush (perfectly imitating real seal), black plush, striped plush, &c. In fact, it will replace fur for jackets and mantles; it will replace velvet for dresses; it will replace satin for pockets, cuffs and plastrons; it will figure largely in the millinery world, and yet it is a most perishable material.

There is much that is new in lace. Effect is sought after rather than exquisitely fine work. The quantity of gold and glitter introduced into black lace is surprising. Gold thread is used for outlining the design, and masses of glittering tinsel enliven others, silver, gold, and copper-red tints are combined in the most cunning manner; the result is showy. Black Torchon laces have leaves of gilt threads and the black Spanish laces have the large leaf designs entirely of gilt, that, it is said, will not tarnish. White Spanish lace has gilt or silver threads, and is beautifully beaded with pearl and opal cut beads. Black Brussels net beaded with jet in foliage designs and in stripes, also in passementerie patterns, is to be used for trimming black silk dresses, while for evening dresses the same designs are repeated on white net with white jet and iridescent opal beads. There are also new white laces for trimming lingerie. The point fleurette is especially pretty for bordering mull muslin fichus and collarettes. It is on the same fine-meshed net used for Languedoc and point d'esprit, but instead of the large figures of Languedoc, or the pin dots of point d'esprit, it has tiny detached flowers wrought upon it in rows, and is then finished with small points or scallops. Vermicelli lace is also new, and is made by drawing cord-like threads through it in serpentine designs. New appliqué laces have large artistic designs made of mull muslin applied on Brussels net, with button-hole stitching on the edges. This is one of the most effective of the new laces, and should be sewn on plain without gathers, in the way the Russian laces are used. There are also several inexpensive laces made in the designs of round point, some of which are called Alençon, and others point de

Brabant lace, all testifying to the fact that the rage for imitation lace is always on the increase.

Whether the long cloaks prepared in Paris for winter wear will "take" in other places it is difficult to say; but here there are two varieties—one very long, for carriage wear, and long skirts, while for handsome short costumes are cloaks of equal elegance, both in design and fabric, but of medium length, extending just below the knees. Black is the colour preferred for these Spanish-looking wraps, and the materials are stately brocades or else plain lustrous stuffs, such as satin de Lyon or the repped Sicilienne satins, and indeed, the plain satin is also employed in its richest qualities. The brocaded satins and brocades velvets differ from those used last year in having large detached figures rather than the small matelasse effects then popular. A clinging shape following the outline of the figure, and supplied with large, square loose sleeves, or else wing-like side pieces, is the general design, which is varied in small details. The large collar of the material of the trimming is more often seen on these cloaks than the hood, which is a feature of plainer wraps. High, full ruches about the neck also add to the stately effect. These ruches are made of the feathers, the plush, or plaitings of the material used for trimmings; chenille fringe is also arranged in new ways to form rich ruches. Galloon with jet and shaped ornaments of passementerie contribute to the flat trimmings. When the garment is meant for a slender figure, drawing or gathering is introduced on the shoulders and across the back in the way illustrated several months ago in *The Queen*. A special feature of these cloaks is their gay lining of plush, especially in red and golden shades, and in the heliotrope tints. These linings vie with those of fur in their richness, warmth, and extravagance. In some cloaks the sleeves are turned up in capricious ways to display the plush lining, and sometimes black plush used in this way is the only trimming. What is called sealskin fringe is a new chenille fringe that is rich and effective. Mossy ruches of feather and of passementerie, also very wide borders of black ostrich tips, are on the handsomest cloaks. Laces are again used, especially on the quaint Directoire garments, and on the Spanish wraps. Instead of the thick plaitings of lace seen last season, these laces are now most often gathered to form full frills.

INCIDENTS OF TRAVEL.

(From the *Queen*.)

To travel for pleasure only—all our arrangements made with care and forethought, with leisurely preparation and full knowledge of what we have to do and how it is to be done; to take the freshness of the morning and the cool of the evening at will, and to manage so that to the nights are given only the uninteresting stretches of the way: the mind set to enjoyment only—and the mind has an odd mechanical trick of following its appointed track: to care as much about the beauty of the journey as about the point to which we are bound; to have left all our worries and anxieties, our business and our vexations behind and to be out on a holiday pure and simple;—well, that is one thing and a delightful thing enough; and, barring any terrible disaster by carriage or rail or boat—barring too the most impossible kill-joy of ill-temper and discontent—nothing is likely to happen that should mar the perfect enjoyment of the time. But to travel hurriedly by long stages—anxious only to reach our ultimate destination; to know nothing of the way beforehand, and to be too preoccupied and soon too fatigued to appreciate what beauty it may have; to sit through the long hot dusty hours, eating out our heart with anxiety; pushing forward in the waste of the night and the heat of the noon alike; to be more like a parcel sent from place to place, by one mode of conveyance and another, than an animate human being with will to act and the power to choose; to be fevered with doubt, saddened by sorrow, racked by dread and bewildered by what has come upon so suddenly;—that is another thing, and one which makes a mark in our life as an experience never to be forgotten. Yet, however painful the feelings and incidents may be at the time, for even these, as for all other forms of experience, we may thank God; for it is experience which makes all the difference between a rich life and a poor one, and which gives us sympathy for those who suffer and are ill at ease.

Say that you are called suddenly away at a moment's notice on one of the most melancholy missions possible to a human being; say that you are a woman no longer young and with no beauty of person by which men should feel interested in you and should, therefore, make themselves helpful and protecting—also with no circumstances or evidence of wealth by which you might buy what you can no longer expect to receive by the free gift of natural grace; say that you are in an unknown district of a foreign country, and that you have no more idea of your way to England unless you retrace your steps over the Bernina, and so by the Albuia to Zurich—thus losing a whole day at a time when hours count as precious treasures—than if you had suddenly dropped down on one of the mountains of the moon; say all this, put the picture wall in the light, and then perhaps you can follow this sketch and trace out its details.

You start at four in the morning, just as the day is beginning to break. The quiet lake lies as still as if it were a solid sheet of lapis lazuli, and the rugged mountain tops, with patches of snow still among the deeper ravines and soon the burnished gilding of the sun upon the peaks, are mirrored back from its windless surface without the fracture of a line. The lower heights are green and luxuriant; and mist wreaths hang over the summer pastures and the darker woods in vaporous veils of softening beauty. It is a picture which photographs itself on your mind for ever; and you look back, as far as you can see, to the peaceful little valley at the foot of the eternal snow, where you have been living for some time as if in a dream, absolutely alone, lost to all the outside

world, and alive only to your work, to nature, to thought to contemplation. Your way leads you first by the side of the still lake and then by a long and gradual descent three thousand feet below where its blue waters shine to the sky. The rapid river of the Adda falls in tumbling cascades by your side. You remember its birthplace up there among the snows of the Bernina Pass; but now it passes away from even those mitigated reminiscences of its cradle in the Lago Bianco, which it still retained at Poschiavo, and you and it fall down into the full summer heat of the long, low, narrow valley of the Valtellina, famous for its wine.

You are in your mountain costume. Having had as little use for summer garments as for city finery, you have parted your wardrobe and left the various divisions where you could best bestow them. But the heavy leathern boots, the black cloth dress, the thick-caped ulster, which were so valuable to you among the snows, become insupportable here among the vineyards and maize fields. You have been unable to get a place in the diligence, and you are sent on in a small open carriage close after the huge machine. Thus you are "in the wash," and have all the dust of the larger vehicle; and soon after you leave Tirano you might change places with the village miller—save that his powdering is clean and yours is not. However, there is no help for it. You have to go; and there are worse things in the world than this.

Nevertheless, when you stop at Sondrio for breakfast, you find yourself unable to do more than brush your dusty garments and wash your grimy face. The heat has taken away your appetite, which the tough and half-cooked beef-steak does not restore. So you scald your mouth with boiling coffee and pay three francs for the pain.

At Sondrio you pick up passengers who share your carriage and add to your discomfort. These are, an old man—father or grandfather, you cannot tell which—with a pretty little fragile nervous child say of five, and a young fellow of mild manners and with the appearance of a servant. The child is the embodiment of restlessness. She sits opposite to you and is not still for half a minute at a time. She is for ever shifting her position, arranging her little shawl, tying and untying her necktie, fanning herself with womanly grace, and kicking your shins as she moves her feet like a pendulum. You gently and smilingly put her a little more to the side; when your action brings down on her poor little nervous frightened head such a shower of harsh reproach from her father, or grandfather—himself as nervous as the child—that you bear the infliction without more resistance rather than let the poor little creature be rated and terrified again. So you go on till you come to Colica, where you have the wider space of the boat, and where little Miss Quicksilver may be as restless as she will, or as her gross-zrained old caretaker will allow, without disturbing anyone. Here, too, she and her severe old guardian are met by two rough-looking men; were they English you would say they were sea captains; both of whom are all tenderness and affection to the little creature, so that she laughs and kisses them and seems sublimely happy and content when in their arms. You hope that one of them is her father, and that the cross-cornered old gentleman is less than kin, and only a temporary caretaker for the journey; but when they get ready to off at some small village, then the child is kissed good-bye by her two rough-looking but tender-handed friends, and the old fellow clutches her by the frail little arm, which is not much thicker than a walking-stick, as a kite might clutch a chicken, and hauls her down the gangway into the rough country boat that is to take them on shore. You are sorry for your poor little companion, and you fall to wondering, as so many times before, and so uselessly always, how is it that the old can be so brutal, so unfeeling to the young as they so often are; why, for that their own blood is now frozen, their own energies decayed, they cannot look back to the time when they too wanted movement, space, amusement, love, all the same as this poor little mite; and why, with memory and experience to guide them, they are not more sympathetic to those who have all to learn and all to suffer, and whose brief little day of careless enjoyment it is scarcely worth while to overshadow or curtail. We must, however, in justice say that the Italians in general are singularly good to children; and that this cross-cornered old gentleman of your experience was a striking exception to the rule.

It is evening when you reach Milan; night when you come to Turin; night when you pass through the Mont Cenis tunnel, and early morning when you come to Modena—the gentlest, least annoying of all the custom houses in the world, and where you get perhaps the worst coffee and the least satisfactory soup to be had for the money. You are in your carriage quite alone, as you have been, by good fortune, ever since Turin. A lady with her little son enters, and looks at you with a frown. "Madame," she says in French; "there is a special compartment for ladies alone; you had better go into it, as I wish to be alone with my son." "Madame," you answer, "I have not the slightest wish to go into the special compartment for ladies alone; but if you desire to be alone with your son you can go there." The lady calls the guard, and asks him to insist on your leaving the carriage; giving her reasons again, that she wished to be alone with her child, a boy about eleven. She adds that as Madame, yourself, is alone, she ought to be made to go into the carriage allotted to *Les dames seules*. She evidently confounds convenience with obligation, and the exclusion of men with the incarceration of women. To her the words *Dames seules* mean women who are travelling alone, not women who wish to be only with other women. The guard laughs, and puts the label of feminine exclusiveness on the door of the carriage where you are. "Now," he says good-humouredly, "you are all in the compartment for ladies only." The train moves off, and the lady is entrapped. She makes things unpleasant to you by the insolence with which she ignores your existence in her proceedings with her boy; and at the next station she whisks herself out of your obnoxious presence without any of the conventional forms of ordinary usage.

Presently you have to fight with wild beasts of even a larger and rougher kind. Three coarse-looking men come to the door. "Madame is alone," they say; "Madame had better get into the coupé. We wish to enter here." You grumble, but good-naturedly get out to look at the coupé. The fierce sun is blazing into it like a furnace; there is no shade from end to end, and its shallow depth suffocates you, weary and exhausted with heat as you already are. You return to your carriage. "No," you say, "I will not go into the coupé. I prefer to stay where I am." "But madame, we wish to enter," they remonstrate.

"Messieurs, this carriage is as free to you as to me. Enter, if you desire to do so." "Madame, we wish to smoke." "Messieurs, this is not a smoking carriage." "Does madame object to smoke?" "Certainly, if Messieurs wish to enter, it is free for them to do so, but if they desire to smoke there is a smoking carriage destined for that purpose." You happen to know this fact, and that it has only two occupants, having looked through the train while searching for your own compartment, which you have the trick of losing at every opportunity. Messieurs appeal to the porters, to the guard, finally to the station-master, to exert their joint authority to force you to leave the carriage. Your British blood is up, and what you might have conceded for good-nature, you will not grant to brutality. You stand on your rights; the law is with you; the station-master declines to interfere; the guard looks at you compassionately, the porters curiously, and finally *ces Messieurs* are accommodated elsewhere, and you, the obdurate obtrusive, are left in peaceful occupancy of your place. You have no more troubles to encounter till you finally arrive at Paris in the dawn of that early morning, and cross from the Gare de Lyon to that of the Nord, just as the streets are being swept, the early shops opened, and the first sprinkling of ragged loafers are bestrewing themselves about the *portes cochères*.

At Paris, after you have breakfasted and made your toilet at a delightful café just opposite the station of the Gare du Nord, you get into a carriage where all are Continentals save one gentleman; and in him you recognise at first sight the familiar lines of an Englishman and in all probability an Indian officer. So it proves. He is an Indian officer returning to the old country by way of Venice and a few other Italian cities. With him you are at once at home. That wonderful sympathy of compatriotism! Weary, bewildered by this long unbroken journey taken alone in the heat and under specially trying mental conditions of sorrow and fear, it is like the rest, like sleep to you, to be adopted as a weak sister, needing a little kindly protection, by your fine-looking generous military brother. You tell him, with silly tears in your eyes if your lips are full of smiles, that the moral support of appearing to belong to someone, after all the surprised queries of "Madame est seule?" from men to whom it is both strange and somewhat revolting that women should take long journeys alone, is worth hours of repose. He laughs with true British good humour and manly carelessness of praise when you say this and add to it warm thanks for his care, and assures you that you have nothing to thank him for, and that he has only done his duty. He helps you over all the bad bits of your way—at Amiens for refreshment; embarking at Calais and landing at Dover; at the custom house at Charing-cross; and into your cab at last. And it does not make his goodness less striking when you learn that he is a man of eminence and high rank, of noble birth and well-known fame. He made the one green spot in the desert of those sad days of travel; and you are glad to bear testimony to his kindness by your gratitude.

Then the last halt comes. The carriage which is to bear you to that house of love and agony whither you are bound meets you at the station; a kind young face looks for you on the platform, and your journeyings are over for immediate present. As you press the hands held out to you in loving welcome, you say below your breath: "Is he alive?" And suddenly you lose even the sense of fatigue for the gladness of relief from your worst fear when she answers back: "Yes; and he expects you."

(To be continued.)

PHYSICAL CULTURE.

In many schools, board schools particularly, military drill has been introduced. But this is not sufficient. It might even be shown that the drill of the soldier does not develop equally all parts of the body, but tends to make it stiff and unwieldy. Apart, however, from this objection, it is not adapted to young children and girls—those who really require the most attention in this respect. Then there is another objection to the military drill, and one which will prevent it from being generally adopted in schools. I refer to the fact that many object to drill because they think it tends to cultivate a military spirit in children. The objection may appear a weak one in some; but there it is, and there it will remain, and probably grow stronger and stronger so long as we see such evils as arise from the large armaments of Continental States. Then on more than one school board the military drill is objected to on account of its cost, a drill instructor's salary making a considerable addition to board school expenses, everywhere already high enough. What is wanted is a system of gymnastics at once simple and inexpensive; and these we have in a system largely in vogue in the schools of the United States, where the corporeal development of the young is not lost sight of in the ardour for intellectual education. The system referred to is a modification of that of Dr. Dio Lewis, of Boston. An American gentleman was recently observing some pale and puny-looking school children, and asked if in our English schools there was no system of gymnastics practised. The answer that such a thing was an exception rather than a rule surprised him, and he described the simple but efficient method of giving the boys and girls exercise in the primary school in which he was educated in Philadelphia. The class-rooms were all on one floor, and were simply separated from each other by large sliding glass doors. At a signal, given by the head master twice a day, that is in the middle of the morning and afternoon school, the doors were thrown open, boys and girls stepped to the wall, where wands were arranged in racks, took one each, and fell into line in the middle of the floor; then one of the teachers went to the piano and played a simple tune, to which the wand exercises were performed. "Five or ten minutes of these exercises morning and afternoon," said the gentleman, "had a wonderful effect in wakening us up and putting fresh vigour into our studies."

—Ex.

LOVELL'S ADVANCED GEOGRAPHY, recently published, is an admirable work; it reflects credit both upon Mr. John Lovell, the publisher, and upon the Dominion. It is admirably arranged; the type is good and clear, while the maps are a work of art, and show the latest changes in the national boundaries. The introduction is devoted to physical geography, while the remaining part treats of the world in a full, clear and concise manner. The work has received the authorization of the Minister of Education for Toronto, and is the best publication of its class ever issued in Canada.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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.

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.

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.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR:

SIR,—By a typographical error in the Historical Sketch of Queen's University which appeared in your last issue, the name of the second Principal, is given as the Rev. Dr. Maclear instead of the Rev. Dr. Machar, a clergyman long well known in Kingston and in the history of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

A. M. M.

Kingston, November 6th 1880.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR.

SIR,—In your last issue you say that it is generally conceded that Montreal East shall be represented by a Frenchman, Montreal Centre by an Irishman, and the Western division by an Englishman or Scotchman. I think they ought to be represented by the best man that can be found, no matter what his birthplace or creed; I am sorry to see you even tacitly consenting to any such ridiculous arrangement.

You also seem to think it difficult to find an Irishman capable of representing the Central division, forgetful of the fact that both it and the *Anglo-Scottish West*, are at present, and have been for years past, represented by Irishmen. Is it not time that this sectional nonsense should cease, and all citizens of Canada be called and looked upon as Canadians?

Quis Separabit.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR:

SIR,—As several communications have appeared in the SPECTATOR concerning a proposed Illustrated History of Canada and the capabilities of the artists and engravers of the country, permit me to say, that the writer was established here as a wood engraver and draughtsman long before your correspondents were heard of, and it would be a strange thing that if in all these years of constant practice he could not acquire skill sufficient to make original drawings and engrave the same in a satisfactory manner. To labour for a work of the kind proposed would have been a source of pleasure, as my ambition would have been to excel in such work, but my existence has been ignored—never having been applied to for a design or specimen of work. It would have shown a sincere desire to encourage native talent and industry and benefit themselves as well, on the part of the publishers, to have first made themselves acquainted with the ability of those already here before going to England or elsewhere for engravers—to starve—but the fact of a man's name not appearing as a member of an art society, together with the amount of very inferior drawing and wood engraving (mostly commercial work) that is done in Montreal, would seem to have caused this Mr. O'Brien to jump at conclusions. It would also seem that they have applied to the wrong persons for the kind of drawing required, but it is to be hoped that the whole thing is not an advertising boast merely.

Yours truly,

Montreal, November 8th, 1880.

J. H. Walker.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR:

SIR,—The subject of Anglo-Israelism or the identification of the lost tribes of Israel, with the Britain of to-day, is exciting much comment in the parent country, and is supported by a strong and increasing party which has already extended its ramifications to the principal colonies and the United States. In this city also an association has been formed for the study of this interesting subject, and for once the various Protestant denominations are united in the search for knowledge, and a prominent Congregationalist is shortly to lecture upon the subject under the chairmanship of an Anglican Bishop; while leading Presbyterian and Methodist laymen will support both. The clergy however are, as a rule, opposed to the theory, some laughing it to scorn, others ignoring it *in toto* while more are alarmed and regard it as rank heresy.

No more suitable means for a public discussion of the matter can, I think be found than the columns of the SPECTATOR, and if you, Sir, deem the subject of sufficient import, I am willing to take up the cudgels in support of the theory and will lay the subject before you in a series of letters, providing that I am not set upon by an unlimited number of correspondents. I should nevertheless be pleased to meet with one champion who would agree that unsupported assertions are not to be made on either side, that the discussion shall be free from personalities, and conducted in a fair and amicable spirit. Should this

challenge be accepted I am prepared to abide by the foregoing conditions myself and while writing over the subscribed assumed name, will have no objections to my own being given to my opponent provided a like favour be accorded me.

Lia Phail.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR:

SIR,—Allow me again to ask space in your paper for the enclosed relating to the formation of a Domestic Training School in this city. I address myself to the ladies of all denominations relative to their interest in its establishment. This article is written by an old housekeeper who has had many years of experience under circumstances peculiar, varied and favourable, combined with a natural taste and desire for knowledge in Domestic Economy; I can therefore speak practically, and seeing the great want of instruction in our domestics, and having at the present time leisure, I am willing to impart my knowledge to the rising generation of this community, if only as reasonably supported as the nature and character of the work deserves. Advocated as the plan has been during the past 18 months or more by the Press and others of this city, the writer is encouraged to hope for success in this appeal to the mothers of every household. So far little has been done and progress has been very slow towards the desired end, if we except the happy event recently inaugurated by Mr. A. Joyce, of this city, in establishing a School of Cookery, to whom the public should feel much indebted. However greatly to be desired is good cooking, there are so many other domestic duties of consequence to be performed in every household, to relieve the hundreds of weary mothers of families who strive to make their homes comfortable and happy, and who do their best to protect their husbands' pockets and spare their digestions. At present the ignorant waste for want of some training is enormous, besides is not the amount of irritation incident to being obliged to pay high wages for so poor an equivalent in the shape of the most miserable and ill-performed work worthy of consideration, and this, too, at a time when perfection in all other branches of labour sought for and obtained, and let me ask is this branch, that of domestic work, to be neglected? and again I ask, why should it be the only one left to chance and itself to do as best it may? one upon which all our comforts depend daily and hourly through life, and be sure, ladies, it is high time for you to be up and doing, as I feel sure very many of you know and have felt. I am sure mutual benefits would accrue to the employer and employed, if this association were formed. I am also persuaded that no effectual remedy will prove permanent in any other form than in a Training School which, if judiciously arranged, would in a short time, like the National School at Kensington, England, become self-supporting. One of the many things to be done would be: A lady should visit, during the summer vacation, the most populous rural districts for the purpose of explaining the object of the school and the many advantages which must accrue to the mothers and daughters of every family, whether their children are, or are not, destined for domestic service. This institution would necessarily improve and raise the standard of servitude, which is now admitted greatly to be desired.

It is to be understood that the writer of this article is impressed by a higher motive than that of self-interest in any way whatever, and that her main desire is to promote this philanthropic work, even if it can be effected only on a small scale. It is devoutly to be wished that many ladies will be willing to assist in so good and necessary a work to the performance of which the writer is able and willing to devote herself. Details of her plan would be too long for this article, but she will be happy to see any lady or ladies at her domicile, from 2 to 4 p.m. daily, at No. 20 Lorne Avenue, Montreal.

Harriet Smith.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR.

SIR,—Recent events in Canadian educational circles have brought education [in its varied aspects more prominently before the public mind, and the question of the relative values of certain branches of study has been widely discussed. The study of the Classics, which in the minds of many has long held an undue prominence in college courses, begins to be less popular. As we know, the Principalship of Toronto University has passed from the Professor holding the Chair of Classical Literature and been conferred on the Professor of History. Now, I think that besides the fact of the known ability of Dr. Wilson for the position, there is, in this appointment, an acknowledgment of the high place that course should hold in a college course. The instruction in history at Toronto is ample, and under the teaching of its distinguished Professor is not the least among the many attractions at University College. While we have good reason to be proud of our own University (McGill), there are some defects in the course of study which need to be remedied. The most glaring defect is, to my mind, the course in History in the Faculty of Arts, which course is confined to the Honour Lectures of the fourth year, and consist of a little constitutional and English history. Now, there is at McGill a gentleman with the high-sounding title, "Professor of History," and the college calendar dignifies the above-mentioned lectures as a "History Course." This forming a History Course at a distinguished university cannot be otherwise designated than as a perfect farce. The advantages

to be derived from the study of history are fully appreciated by all, and it is anything but creditable to McGill College that while providing efficient teaching in most other branches of learning, it yet passes over this without any compunction. This state of affairs has existed for some time, and the college authorities seem to be labouring under the impression that there is an adequate amount of history taught, because hitherto there have been no very loud complaints. Perhaps they think that in providing a "Professor of History" they have done all that is necessary. In these days, when the searching eye of public criticism rests upon all matters connected with the general weal, it is a daring thing for a college or any other institution to disregard the voice which tells them of a defect in the system. I have ventured to intrude upon your space with the hope that this matter will be remedied, and both in the interests of the college and its students what cannot be regarded as other than a fatal error in its course of study may be rectified.

Yours, &c., C.

CANADIAN CHARACTERISTICS.

We're "a little too late" in so many things—
The Americans call it "slow";
We're reminded too often that "riches have wings,"
As "over the line" they go!

We shake our heads doubtfully; hesitate long
Over new projects and plans,
Forgetting that *youth* is the time to grow strong;
That *age* will prohibit the banners.

Why should we grow rusty? refuse to progress,
With such *pushing* neighbours as ours,
Who boast of their wisdom, superior *finesse*,
And speak with contempt of the *powers*

Which govern, direct us, and hold us in check,
A slow, ambling joy to maintain,
Which is warranted safe for both limbs and neck
If a firm hold is kept on the *rein*?

For our *rulers* think it unsafe to adopt
New measures and policies bold
Which, pungent and fresh from sane *thinkers'* brain crompt,
So, lay them aside to grow cold!

If we nothing venture, we shall nothing have,
A proverb we *should* bear in mind,
For we may have occasion to feel very grave,
And wonder why we were so blind!

Why should we do as our ancestors did,
If there is a "more excellent way"?
And why should its light "'neath a bushel be hid,"
If on us has dawned a new day?

Grave questions are these; we should ponder them well,—
Resolved to win honour and fame;
Be bold, independent; make the strokes *tell*,
And make for our country a name!

Then "God save the Queen" we can cry,
And say with an honest pride:
"We have done what we could as the years roll'd by;
Our influence is felt far and wide."

And our Sovereign the Queen need not be ashamed
Of her subjects over the sea;
If we've "fought a good fight," and the victory gain'd,
To our God will the glory be.

Montreal, October 29, 1880.

H. R.

We have received from Dawson Bros. "Bricks Without Straw," a new work written by Judge Tourgee, the author of "A Fool's Errand." This new work describes accurately Southern life, and gives a realistic picture of the coloured people. It also strives, and in a great measure successfully, to explain the feelings and thoughts of educated Southern people—striving also to increase the friendship which ought to, if it does not, exist between the North and South. All the characters are truthfully drawn, and the shades of thought and feeling delineated with a true artist's skill; the work is pleasantly written and is extremely interesting—no marks of carelessness or haste are evident, and the plot is well worked out. It should be read by all who desire instructive reading in a palatable shape, and, as there is so much trash published at present, it is a pleasure to read works like these, and by these a better literary taste will be cultivated.

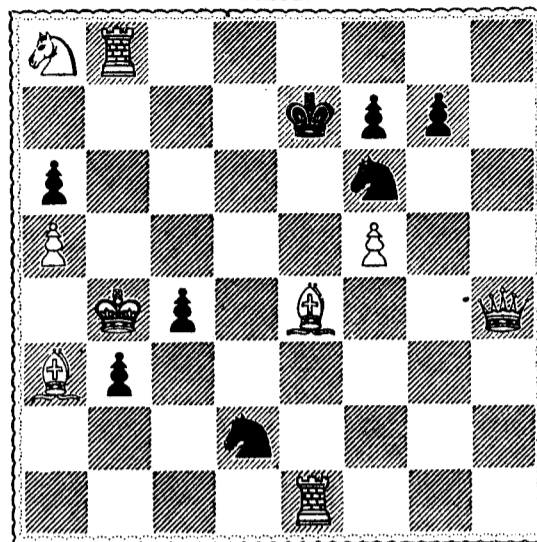
Chess.

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

Montreal, November 13th, 1880.

PROBLEM NO. CXIII.

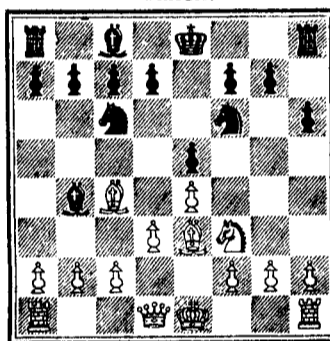
By Mr. James Pierce. From *The Field*.
WHITE.



BLACK.
White to play and mate in two moves.

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. H. N. Kittson, Hamilton.
BLACK.



WHITE.
Mr. J. W. Shaw, Montreal.

Position after Black's 8th move, when the Conductor of the Tourney confirmed Black's claim, requiring White to mate him in 50 moves.

THE LAW OF COUNTING 50 MOVES.—The operation of this law has been invoked and supported in a game between two players in the Hamilton Chess Correspondence Tourney under circumstances which, if it were maintained, would, to say the least, reduce every game to a draw in which one player succeeded in winning the exchange, unless he could mate his adversary within fifty moves. The game commenced and proceeded as follows:—

- | White. | Black. |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 P to K 4 | 1 P to K 4 |
| 2 Kt to K B 3 | 2 Q to K B 3 |
| 3 B to B 4 | 3 Kt to B 3 |
| 4 Kt to Q B 3 | 4 B to Q Kt 5 |
| 5 Kt to Q 5 | 5 B to B 4 |
| 6 Kt takes Q (ch) | 6 Kt takes Kt |
| 7 P to Q 3 | 7 P to K R 3 |
| 8 B to K 3 | 8 B to Kt 5 (ch) |

The diagram shows the position of the game at this point. Black intended his second move to read Q Kt to B 3, and only discovered his error when White captured his Q on the 6th move. Having thus lost the exchange, Q for a Kt, he announced his demand that White should mate him within 50 moves.

This strange request was, of course, referred to the Conductor of the Tourney as being an outrageous interpretation of the Law, but stranger still, the Conductor gave it as his decision that the case came within the operation of the Law and ruled accordingly, submitting the case to the Chess Editor of the Toronto *Globe* as referee. But can it be believed? that gentleman also maintained that the Law, as laid down in Staunton's Praxis, by which the Tourney is governed, became operative in this case, and the game is now proceeding, under protest, it is true, but still in accordance with the ruling of these two chess authorities. On October 30th we devoted our entire column to the publication of two letters from Mr. A. P. Barnes, of New York, who fully exposed the specious arguments of the *Globe's* Chess Editor. The Law, as applied in this case by Black, amounts simply to a punishment for White in being so lucky as to win his opponent's Q for a Kt. The Law cannot be invoked in any way as a punishment. The *Globe's* Chess Editor has certainly peculiar notions of what constitutes an end-game, when he says that it certainly has become an end-game when one player has so early obtained such an advantage, and classes as end games such positions as the one in the above diagram. He also propounds the query, "is it too much to ask that the superior force shall finish the game in 50 moves?" The use of the word *finish* is one of those specious expressions by which the absurdity of the argument is cloaked. It may not be too much to ask that the superior force shall reduce the game to such a position as that Black might honourably resign, as he would do under ordinary circumstances, but it may be altogether too much to compel him to *mate* his adversary within that number of moves. The application of the Law in this case is denounced in the *Chess Monthly* as "certainly preposterous." The whole of the Law in Staunton's Praxis has but one interpretation. It was framed on laws which had been known and used for centuries, adopted by Lopez, Gianutio and Salvio, and in later times by Jænisch and Van der Laza. In all these no reference is made to any but end-games which *appear to be drawn or can be forced*. To these only does it apply, and any attempt to class such a position as the one above as an end-game is absurd. The Conductor of the Tourney and his Referee split on the rock contained in the clause, Praxis, p. 21: "And whenever one player considers that one side can force the game," &c. This clause is simply that addition which Staunton made to cover end-games in which there were uncomplicated pawns, the law having previously excluded them, and the cases are enumerated in which they may form an additional element. The word "whenever" does not mean at the whim of an opponent who may have lost the exchange, but it is "the pound of flesh" to our friends in Ontario, who have a funny knack of interpreting Staunton's Chess Laws in a manner peculiar to themselves. In the first paragraph on page 49, of Praxis, Staunton clearly enunciates both the theory of the Law and its practical effect, and with such a lucid explanation staring both the Conductor and his Referee in the face, we can only wonder at the lack of common sense which can so distort the plainest language into something so opposite to its meaning. To show the absurdity of such an interpretation, we may ask what would be White's position supposing he now lost his Q for Black's Kt? Would our friend, the *Globe's* Chess Editor, still consider it an end-game, or would there be a game with two ends? For the honour of Canadian Chess, we hope the Conductor of the Tourney will see fit to reconsider his interpretation of the Law and reverse his decision. Unless he do so, we expect to see nearly every game in the Tourney drawn in consequence. Certain it is that every chess journal, or authority of any standing, will be arrayed against him, and the paltry minority who may hold the same view will only render his position the more ridiculous and untenable.

"CANADIAN SPECTATOR" PROBLEM TOURNEY.—The following is a list of the competitors in this Tourney :—

- 1. Motto: "The Amaranths." R. H. Seymour, Holyoke, Mass.
2. "Orange Blossoms." J. G. Nix, Tucker's Cross Roads, Tenn.
3. "Fortis et Hospitalis." M. J. Murphy, Quebec.
4. "Now I will believe, &c." Jonathan Hall, Boston.
5. "Muskoka." A. P. Barnes, New York.
6. "Strategy." (2nd prize). W. A. Shinkman, Grand Rapids, Mich.
7. "Problemetic Characters." "Marc," Bronson, Mich.
8. "Gladstone." H. F. Lee, Brantford, Ont.
9. "A Happy Thought." J. Wibray, New Orleans.
10. "Sic est Vita." F. A. Knapp, Montreal.
11. "Ginx Baby." Bert. Berry, Detroit, Mich.
12. "Gemini." (1st prize). W. Atkinson, Montreal.
13. "L'échec n'empêche pas, &c." Wilhelm Droysen, Danzig.
14. "Insuperabilis." J. H. North, London, England.
15. "Ars est celare artem." F. W. Markwick, Brighton, England.
16. "Sua cuique voluptus." H. W. Butler, Brighton, England.
17. "Thrift, Thrift, Horatio!" L. Von Bilow, Echede, Hanover.

I have great pleasure in tendering my thanks to these gentlemen for their contributions and the trouble they have taken to render the Tourney a success. A copy of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR of October 23rd, containing the Judge's Report, has been sent to each, and also a copy of this paper. Those not receiving them will please communicate with me.— C. S. BAKER, CH. ED. CAN. SPEC.

Musical.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING.

We revert once more to this well-worn topic, our mind being directed thereto principally by an address delivered in the Central Methodist Church on Thanksgiving Day by the Rev. Mr. Johnston. That gentleman evidently knows the value of music as an accessory to public worship, and deserves credit for the efforts he has made to introduce it largely into the services at his church.

First of all, we take exception to the specimens of hymnology adduced by the lecturer, "The God of Abraham praise," which he puts forward as a model hymn; this is of faulty construction, and altogether unfit for rhythmical setting.

Now, what are we to understand by the word "lead"? Is it that the choir shall sing each successive note before the congregation? If so, we will certainly not attend the Methodist Church. Yet what else can it mean? If the choir does not go ahead of the body of singers, how are the latter (not being musicians nor having music) to know what to sing?

Let us take the matter in a general light. Music is an art which requires a certain amount of talent, tuition and years of practice for its due rendition. Not one in fifty of those who form our congregations can sing even tolerably a simple hymn-tune, while the more elaborate ones are a complete mystery to them.

It may be supposed that we are writing against congregational singing per se, but such is not the case. We well know and appreciate the effect of a number of voices in concert, and do not see any reason why the people should not join in the singing, were they competent to do so.

In order to make congregational singing even fairly successful we should have :—

- 1st. People willing to learn.
2nd. An embargo placed on all others.
3rd. Classes for instruction in singing and musical notation.
4th. Harmonized tune-books in the notation taught.
6th. A CONDUCTOR to beat time for organist, choir and people.
6th. Periodical rehearsals for the whole church body.

When these things are instituted in every church (and not till then) will we have congregational singing. In the meantime would it not be as well for congregations to remain silent and not to spoil the (oftentime excellent) singing of those who understand what is required, and attend to it?

THE Episcopalians celebrated the Harvest Thanksgiving on Wednesday evening in the Cathedral, when there was full choral evensong. The Rev. Mr. Dixon intoned the pieces, the remainder of the service being taken by Rev. Mr. Baylis.

Dr. Davies has been appointed organist of Zion Church, and will shortly preside at the organ in the Queen's Hall, whither the congregation are about to remove.

A Musical Union has been formed in connection with St. George's Church.

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From The Canada Educational Monthly, Toronto.—And just here comes in the contrast of the position of the Englishman with that of his kinsman on this side of the Atlantic.

There should not be a school in the Dominion, where access cannot readily and constantly be had to it. No teacher, and we might add, no reader of the language, can afford to be without it.

From London Quarterly Review.—On the whole, as it stands, it is most respectable, and certainly the best practical English dictionary extant.

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