

R. S. Porter. PORTER'S BOOKSTORE. Comedy of a Country House, The Cruise of the Carnes, A Life Sentence, That Other Woman, An I. D. B. in South Africa, "Morahama," Bertha Vaughan.

NEW BOOKS ARRIVE DAILY PORTER'S BOOKSTORE. Friday, Sept. 19th, 1889.

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The Canadian Post. LINDSAY, FRIDAY, SEPT. 20, 1889. Circulation 4,350.

THE LINDSAY CENTRAL.

The great local event in the fall show fine—the Lindsay Central exhibition—opens next week for three days only. There are confident expectations that the exhibition of 1889 will surpass its predecessors in variety, interest and attendance.

RECIPROCITY.

It does look as if the Mail had been premature in abandoning the advocacy of commercial union, or reciprocity, as practicable. The Montreal Gazette has for some months been denouncing as specially disloyal anything favoring reciprocity, but it has evidently received a decided hint from Ottawa, and it has suddenly gone off on the other tack, without even the customary remark that "it was a pretty d—n sharp turn, but they would have to make it."

The Gazette finds "a hopeful sign" in the "increasing interest in Canada manifested by our neighbors." There was a time when a manifestation of that kind served to draw from the regular tory organs an outburst of loyalty and condemnation of things American, but now there

is a change in the tone. Instead of feverishly calling out the troops the manifestation of interest is welcomed, and we are actually told that, despite the great changes that have occurred in the last thirty-five years, "the elements of a mutually advantageous trade sufficiently exist to afford ample material for a new arrangement. The geographical location of important products, and the relative extent of the supply of raw materials in the two countries, are not destroyed in their adaptation for free interchange by fluctuations in price or cheapened transportation, and in addition to products there are the coasting trade and the transit trade to be dealt with by treaty and placed in a permanent arrangement." The Gazette does not approve, nor does any one else, of any fiscal system that would involve the surrender of our tariff control, but it "is not without hope that a middle ground can be found on which to base a treaty, one which, while retaining the fiscal independence and political integrity of Canada, will yet remove the troublesome questions now periodically recurring between the two countries and appreciably enlarge the free interchange of commodities to the advantage of both."

The Dominion government are perceiving that they must abandon their policy of restriction, that they must give up their petty attempts at harassing trade with our neighbors, and that they must show an honest desire to place the trade relations of the two countries on a satisfactory basis of a wide reciprocal arrangement. If the government adopt this course the liberal party will be entitled to the credit of having forced them to it, and we may feel confident that the people will not forget their true friends when the time comes. Special American senate committees have been investigating the conditions of trade relations with Canada and have secured a great deal of valuable testimony from practical men. The several questions involved will no doubt receive careful consideration at the next session of congress.

SOME SINGULAR IDEAS.

Some of those who are taking an active part in the anti-Jesuit agitation have expressed very singular and unsound ideas, and have betrayed a strange ignorance of the elementary principles upon which our constitution is based. They are unsafe guides and dangerous teachers of false doctrine. If tried by their own standard they fear we would be pilloried or burned at the stake. The Presbyterian Review, for instance, in criticising the opinion of the law officers of the crown, quite properly says it is not of much value; but it complains that an ex-parte statement was submitted to them, that the other side was not heard, and it intimates that the whole case was not submitted. "There was subtlety and guile here," exclaims the Review, and it enquires: "Why was this opinion not asked before the decision not to disallow was come to? Why was not the whole case, including the question of public policy, submitted? Why were not those who petitioned against the allowance of the act heard before the opinion was rendered? Our good faithful conservative religious contemporary surely does not mean to insinuate that Sir John Macdonald displayed 'subtlety and guile' that he submitted to the law officers an incomplete and untruthful statement of the case; that he lied to them—or rather that he suppressed the truth and suggested the false? If it had been Mr. Mowat, now, our contemporary would have exhibited much virtuous indignation, as in the Ross-Lynch bible campaign. The Review naturally lets poor Sir John Macdonald down easy.

We shall leave to perplexed Sir John the hard task of answering the Review's pertinent questions. We shall on this occasion simply point out the dangerous doctrine in the phrase we have italicised. Why, asks the Review, "was not the whole case, including the question of public policy, submitted?"—to the law officers of the crown? Does the Review understand the absurdity of its suggestion? Supposing "the question of public policy" had been submitted, and the law officers had decided that it was "right" to leave the bill to its operation or that it was right for the Quebec legislature to pass the bill, would the Review have been satisfied? If they had said "the public policy" was wrong would the Review have accepted the remedy from their hands? Would it not in so doing undermine and destroy the most cherished privilege enjoyed by the people of Canada? Why refer a question of public policy to two tory lawyers in England? Would not that be worse than Downing-street rule; worse than a return to the paternal methods of half a century ago? The question of "public policy" is to be decided by the people of Canada and by them alone. They will decide it after hearing the arguments on each side and weighing the consequences. The question may be wrongly decided, in the opinion of the Review, or of those who may not agree with that excellent paper; but it would be far better to have to submit to a wrong decision from the people than tamely to accept a "right" decision from the two law officers. We trust the Review will re-consider and withdraw the absurd and unsound constitutional doctrine it has promulgated; and give its readers sound constitutional opinions. We refer our contemporary to

Hon. David Mills's admirable speech lately printed in THE POST. When it has read that speech without prejudice it will hasten to redeem its reputation.

Another singular and far more absurd and uncharitable idea was expressed recently by Rev. Mr. Morley at Duncannon as reported in the Mail. Mr. Morley is reported to have said that "if the Jesuits were now to repeat a part of their history and compel Mr. Mercier to pass a law which required every Catholic upon a given signal to murder his Protestant neighbor, Messrs. Mills, Blake and Cartwright would declare that the matter was entirely within the jurisdiction of the province of Quebec, that the autonomy of the province was a principle of the liberal party." Mr. Morley has been trying to go one better than Rev. Dr. Wild in "malicious sensationalism," but his mental outfit must be extremely limited. Dr. Wild's short and quick remedy for the "intolerable evil" was to shoot the Jesuits at sight, and his claim that this plan is based on an old English law still in force may be sound. No one has yet tried it, however, and we fancy there is not any more confidence placed in Dr. Wild's law than there is in his theology. "Grip" expressed an idea not unlike Mr. Morley's when it wanted to know what Mr. Blake would say if Mr. Mercier introduced a bill endorsing or compensating the Fenians. The bird and the preacher seem to think the liberal view of provincial rights would necessitate the declaration that the matters were "entirely within the jurisdiction of the province," and therefore they could not be disallowed. But the two supposititious acts are in no sense similar to the Jesuit act. A bill to endow the Fenians would fall to the ground, if passed, as an act of high treason; it would be stopped by the Lieutenant-Governor, who would arrest its proposer for high treason. In fact, Grip's idea is too silly to be mischievous. Mr. Morley as a clergyman should have weighed well his words and studied our constitution before he ventured to express such an atrocious idea. Mr. Mercier could not pass any bill of the kind because criminal legislation is not within the competence of the provincial legislatures. Mr. Morley will have to shift his ground and declare that Sir John Macdonald or Mr. Laurier will pass such a law if a stop is not put to Jesuit aggression. Sir John probably could pass such a law. If he were to do so we presume Mr. Morley would not attend any fall show the veteran premier might open, and a certain tory organ would again withdraw its allegiance. This is almost too serious a matter to jest about, but what can be done with people who express such absurd not to say wicked notions.

The late William Gooderham of Toronto, whose sudden and lamented death is elsewhere recorded, left \$125,000 to the building fund of Victoria college, and \$75,000 for the endowment of the college, conditional on its removal to Toronto. It is expected this generous bequest will move the principal objection of the anti-federalists, and that harmony will be restored in the church educational work. Mr. Gooderham also left \$10,000 to the Salvation Army, \$10,000 to the Home for Incurables, \$50,000 to the Methodist missionary society, \$10,000 to the Superannuated Ministers' Fund. Mr. Gooderham was continually giving a helping hand to those in need, in a quiet and unostentatious way.

J. Wetherup.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

Hon. O. Mowat and Mr. Fisher of Bromo will speak at the Toronto meeting to be addressed by Hon. Mr. Laurier on the 30th inst.

Now it is a man named Fisher who has died in Germany leaving an estate of \$51,000,000, for which heirs are wanted. It looks decidedly "fashy."

The general elections in France take place next Sunday. The principle questions are the revision of the constitution and Boulangerism. It is expected the government or the policy it represents will be sustained; and that Boulanger will receive his quietus.

A circular has been issued calling a meeting in Toronto next Monday afternoon to consider the question of erecting a statue or some other suitable monument in memory of the late George Laidlaw. So much of Toronto's progress and prosperity is due to the enterprise, energy and foresight of George Laidlaw that the least the "Queen City" can do is to give some tangible evidence of her gratitude and esteem in a suitable memorial.

The personal charges against Mr. Colter of Haldimand have been dismissed. They were based on his having given three or four cigars to as many active supporters during a resting spell at the close of the poll. The charges began in smoke and ended in smoke. Mr. Colter was unseated because an enthusiastic supporter—not an agent—opened a keg of lager. That was a proper proceeding; but it is rather tough that Mr. Colter should be unseated therefor.

The indignation of our old tory friend, the Watchman, at our exposure of another old tory trying to pass himself off as an independent-no party-equal rights man, is quite natural. We understand it all, and don't mind its attacks on THE POST. We have shown up the funny spectacle the Watchman presents in the same line of masquerading. The Watchman has voted for Sir John all his life, and will continue to do so, no matter what may happen. No one should be so simple as to be deluded by its professions of "independence." As to the "missionary work" our suggestion to have the canvassing done in Emily and Ups—amongst the tories by an old tory—is clearly in the interests of the equal rights movement itself. A missionary in that kind of work should labor where he is best known and where his appeals would have most weight.

John Burns, the leader in the great strike of the London dockmen, just brought to a successful conclusion, is a singular man. He was offered and has declined the liberal nomination for Dundee in the house of commons on the ground that it would look like taking a reward for his labor during the strike. This decision, says a cable correspondent, is very characteristic. His later speeches to the men after their success was assured have been on a very high level of intelligence and value. His exhortations to the men to treat the episode as a turning point in their existence and to devote themselves hereafter to better lives, a greater attention to their wives and children, and the making of brighter homes, were received with more earnest cheering and cries of "We will!" than has greeted any of his earlier utterances of defiance.

E. E. W. McGaffey.

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