

REMNANTS

—IN—
WALL PAPER

we will clear out all our
Remnants at a
BIG SACRIFICE.

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PORTERS
BOOKSTORE.

The Watchman.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23 1892.

Editorial Notes.

BULLETIN 8 of the Dominion census issued shortly ago, contains the first of a series of reports upon the manufacturing interests. The total number of manufacturing establishments in Canada in April 1891 was 75,765. In 1881 the number was 49,923, showing that during ten years there was an increase of nearly 52 per cent. The total number of employees in these establishments in 1891 was 367,496, as against 254,935 ten years ago, showing an increase in that period of 44 per cent.

SOME idea may be gained of the development of our North West during the past ten years, by comparison of its cereal production with that of the older provinces. Last year the crops in Ontario were exceptionally good, and the yield of wheat was 32½ million bushels, whilst in Manitoba, a province which ten years ago was not exporting wheat, the yield last year was over 23 million bushels, and including the North West territories the total yield was close upon 30 million bushels. From these figures an idea may be formed of what the next ten years will accomplish in the development of our great North West.

Mr. McLEAN, the member for East York, introduced a motion in the Dominion House asking that parliament legislate in the direction of compelling the railways in Canada to reduce passenger rates from 3 cents per mile to 2 cents. After considerable discussion the motion was withdrawn for the present. Railways enjoy large public privileges, and are essentially public institutions, and it will be generally admitted that parliament is justified in legislating for the purpose of regulating these corporations within reasonable limits. In England the Government lowered the passenger rate to a penny a mile, and the result has been that owing to the increase in the number of passengers, the railways have been the gainers. When the subject will have been carefully looked into, there is no doubt that the Canadian public will enjoy similar privileges, and that the railways in the end will profit by the change.

THE Hon. Edward Blake has accepted an invitation from the Messrs. McCerthy, Davitt, Sexton and O'Brien wing of the Irish party to contest an Irish constituency for a seat in the British House of Commons. The Canadian reform journals seem to encourage Mr. Blake in the acceptance of the offer with a good deal of fervor, if not relief. It is very questionable that all this is the result of their faith in Mr. Blake proving a success in his new role as a leader in Irish political life. His sphynx-like attitudes will scarcely suit the temper of the Irish people, nor is his eloquence the kind they care for. It is a great mistake, however, on the part of these reform journals to assert that Mr. Blake leaves this country and Canadian politics in disgust, because Canada "appears to prefer Haggart and Caron and boodle to Edward Blake." It is but a short season ago since Mr. Blake told the world over his own signature that he retired from Canadian public life with the greatest regret on account of the dangerous and disloyal policy of the leaders of his party. He had all along been able to stand "the Haggarts and Carons and the boodle," but what he could not stand was the Cartwrights and the Lauriers and their policy.

THE Montreal Star has recently an able article on the subject, "Is Independence Feasible?" in which whilst admitting that the desire of young Canada to be independent is a worthy and patriotic ambition, to aim at such a condition at the present time is simply playing into the hands of Annexationists. The Monroe doctrine is not dead, and the American people are not hostile to us because we are British, but because we occupy more than half of the continent which according to that doctrine belongs by nature and by right to the United States. In the recent disputes we have had over the Atlantic and the Behring Sea fisheries, Canada would have simply been crowded out, had the Americans not known that such a proceeding would have precipitated a war with Great Britain. Now we are in a position to meet the Washington ambassadors on equal terms, because we are in a position if necessary to appeal any aggression to "the stern arbitrament of war." Even under such favorable conditions our hostile neighbor has rendered tardy justice. These circumstances with the hostile tariff legislation of recent date point clearly to what we might expect were Canada separated from the Empire, and that independence is not feasible for a long while yet, but the life of Canada depends on British connection.

THERE were no less than nine criminal cases on the calendar at the court of sessions here last week, three of which were of a serious nature: one of horse-stealing, one of arson, and one of attempted poisoning. In the poisoning case the jury disagreed, in the horse-stealing case the accused was found guilty and received a sentence of eighteen months in the Central prison, whilst in the arson case the verdict was "not guilty." The machinery of the law has therefore failed so far to reach the criminals in two important cases, whoever they may be. The arson case excited the strongest public interest, the court-room being crowded throughout the trial. On the 5th of April last the barn of Mr. W. Wright of Linden Valley, near Cambay, was destroyed by fire, along with no less than 46

dumb brutes, most of them splendid stock, which were housed in the basement. The evidence at the trial entirely discredits the theory that the fire might have been accidental. It was clearly the work of an incendiary, and one, as the attending circumstances show, of the most hideous and revolting type. A criminal, therefore, of the most dangerous stamp is abroad somewhere, a not very comforting reflection for the community. Owing to the difficulties in the way of tracing crimes of this nature, which are done as this one was at the dead of night, it is not probable that the criminal will ever be brought to justice. This is too often the experience of communities in which incendiaries have been committed, and this community has not been an exception in the past. It becomes the authorities, however, to spare no effort in the interest of public safety.

It is broadly hinted in several public journals that there is a move on foot amongst the members at Ottawa to increase the sessional indemnity on account of the length of the session. It is to be hoped Sir John Thompson and Sir John Abbot will not recede from the position announced some time ago, that no extra allowance would be voted, even should the session last six months. One thousand dollars for six months is precisely two thousand dollars per annum, and it is safe to say that three-fourths of the members at Ottawa would not earn any such sum had their love of country only allowed them to quietly and modestly remain at home. And it is just as safe to say that one thousand dollars for six months is a pretty high figure to pay for three-fourths of the "work" done during the present session. Deduct the length of time consumed in senseless obstruction, coarse personalities, cock-crowing and still more objectionable vocal exhibitions, and the public will readily see that two out of a possible six months' session would fairly cover all the solid and valuable work, so far as the country is concerned. So long as the country will tolerate these "round-robin" raids upon the treasury, so long will the average member delight in long-wind-

ed sessions. They are in the majority of cases, if so rewarded, rather a god-send than otherwise. If the Opposition are responsible by their obstructive tactics for the unusual length of the session, the overwhelming government majority can well afford to sacrifice themselves on the altar of their country, by guarding the treasury at the rate of one thousand dollars for a six months' session even, should that period be reached. Last year, owing to the lengthy boodle investigations, each member received an additional five hundred, which for the five months netted him the neat little sum of three hundred dollars per month. We don't think the country will tamely "pay the piper" on the same scale for 1892.

BURN'T RIVER.
Special to the WATCHMAN.

A good time is in store for our citizens on 1st July (see bills). There will be a platform for dancing, with good music. Crops are looking well, and farmers feel glad. There was a heavy fall of rain last Sunday night. Mrs. Robt. English started on the 14th to visit friends at Nesbit, Manitoba. We wish her a pleasant trip. Mrs. R. Stewart is not improving. Mr. C. Armstrong has been laid up this week.

JOHN A. BARRON, Q. C. (Solicitor for Dominion Bank.) Lindsay. Offices William St., in new Dominion Bank building.

Horticultural Show.

THE First Annual Exhibition of the Lindsay Horticultural Society will be held on
Friday, July 1st, 1892,
in the COUNCIL CHAMBER. Rules and Prize Lists can be procured from the Directors or from
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Wm. HERLIHEY.
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