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THE MIRROR

"OH, WAD SOME POWER THE GIFTIE GIE US, TAE SEE OORSELS AS ITHERS SEE US."

VOL III. NO 42 COMEMEE, ONT. THURSDAY, OCT. 1, 1896 CHAS. W. RICHARDS Publisher & Proprietor

A CITY REDEEMED!

REV. DR. TALMAGE PREACHES UPON MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

He Says the Castles of Sin Are All Going to Be Captured by the Sunglass of the Gospel Focussed Upon Wickedness—He Expects to Live to See It.

Washington, Sept. 26.—So much that is depressing is said about the wickedness of the cities that it will cheer us to read what Dr. Talmage has to say in this sermon about their coming redemption. The text is Zachariah, viii. 5, "And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof."

Glimpses of our cities redeemed! Now boys and girls who play in the streets run such risks that multitudes of them end in ruin. But in the coming time spoken of our cities will be so safe in the public thoroughfares as in the nursery.

Pulpit and printing press for the most part in our day are busy in discussing the condition of the cities at this time, but would it not be healthfully encouraging to all Christian workers, and to all who are toiling to make the world better if we should for a little while look forward to the time when our cities shall be revolutionized by the gospel of the Son of God, and all the darkness of sin and trouble and crime and suffering shall be gone from the world?

Every man has a pride in the city of his nativity or residence, if it be a city distinguished for any dignity or prowess. Caesar boasted of his native Rome, Virgil of Mantua, Lycurgus of Sparta, Demosthenes of Athens, Archimedes of Syracuse and Paul of Tarsus. I should have suspicion of base heartedness in a man who had no special interest in the city of his birth or residence—no exhilaration at the evidence of its prosperity or its artistic embellishments, or its intellectual advancement.

I have noticed that a man never likes a city where he has not behaved well. People who have had a free ride in the prison van never like the city that furnishes the vehicle. When I find Argos and Rhodes and Smyrna trying to prove themselves the birthplace of Homer, I conclude at once that Homer behaved well. He liked them, and they liked him. We must not war on laudible city pride, or, with the idea of building ourselves up at any time, try to pull others down Boston must continue to point to its Faneuil Hall and to its Common and to its superior educational advantages. Philadelphia must continue to point to its Independence Hall land its mint and its Girard College. Washington must continue to point to its wondrous capitoline buildings. If I should find a man coming from any city, having no pride in that city, that city having been the place of his nativity, or now being the place of his residence, I would feel like asking: "What mean thing have you done there? What outrageous thing have you been guilty of that you do not like the place?"

I think we ought—and I take it for granted you are interested in this great work of evangelizing the cities and saving the world—we ought to toil with the sunlight in our faces. We are not fighting in a miserable Bull Run of defeat. We are on our way to final victory. We are not following the rider on the black horse, leading us down to death and darkness and doom, but the rider on the white horse, with the moon under his feet and the stars of heaven for his tiara. Hail, Conqueror, hail!

I know there are sorrows and there are sighs, and there are sufferings all around about us and in the dark winter night we look up and see the northern lights, the windows of heaven illuminated by some great victory, just as we look up from the night of suffering and sorrow and wretchedness in our cities, and we see a light streaming through from the other side, and we know we are on the way to morning—more than that, on the way to "a morning without clouds."

I want you to understand, all you who are toiling for Christ, that the castles of sin are all going to be captured. The victory for Christ in these great towns is going to be so complete that not a man on earth or an angel in heaven or a devil in hell will dispute it. How do I know? I know just as certainly as God lives and that this is holy truth. The old Bible is full of it. If the nation is to be saved, of course all the cities are to be saved. It makes a great difference with you and with me whether we are toiling on toward a defeat or toiling on toward a victory.

Now, in this municipal elevation of which I speak, I have to remark there will be greater financial prosperity than our cities have ever seen. Some people seem to have a morbid idea of the millenium, and they think when the better time comes to our cities and the world people will give their time up to psalm singing, and the relating of their religious experience, and as all social life will be purified there will be no hilarity, and as all business will be purified there will be no enterprise. There is no ground for such an absurd anticipation. In the time of which I speak where now one fortune is made there will be a hundred fortunes made.

The great business disasters of this country have come from the work of godless speculators and infamous stock gamblers. The great foe to business is crime. When the right shall have hurled back the wrong, and shall have purified the commercial code, and shall have thundered down fraudulent establishments, and shall have put into the hands of honest men the keys of business, blessed time for the bargain makers. I am not talking an abstraction. I am not making a guess. I am telling you God's eternal truth.

In that day of which I speak taxes will be a mere nothing. Now our business men are taxed for everything. City taxes, county taxes, state taxes, United States taxes, stamp taxes, license taxes, manufacturing taxes—cense taxes, manufacturing taxes—taxes, taxes, taxes! Our business men have to make a small fortune every year to pay their taxes. What fastens on our great industries this awful load? Crime, individual and official. We have to pay the boards of the villains who are incarcerated in our prisons. We have to take care of the orphans of those who plunged into their graves through sensual indulgences. We have to support the municipal governments, which are vast and expensive just in proportion as the criminal proclivities are vast and tremendous. Who support the almshouses and police stations, and all the machinery of municipal government? The taxpayers.

But in the glorious time of which I speak grievous taxation will all have ceased. There will be no need of supporting criminals, there will be no criminals. Virtue will have taken the place of vice. There will be no orphan asylums, for parents will be able to leave a competence to their children. There will be no voting of large sums of money for some municipal improvement, which money, before they get to the improvements, drops into the pockets of those who voted it. No over and terminer kept up at vast expense to the people. No empaneling of juries to try theft and arson and murder and slander and blackmail. Better factories. Grander architecture. Finer equipage. Larger fortunes. Richer opulence. Better churches.

In that better time also, coming to those cities, Christ's churches will be more numerous, and they will be larger, and they will be more devoted to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and they will accomplish greater influences for good. Now it is often the case that churches are envious of each other, and denominations collide with each other, and even ministers of Christ sometimes forget the bond of brotherhood. But in the time of which I speak, while there will be just as many differences of opinion as there are now, there will be no acerbity, no hypercriticism, no exclusiveness.

In our great cities the churches are not to-day large enough to hold more than a fourth of the population. The churches that are built—comparatively few of them are fully occupied. The average attendance in the churches of the United States to-day is not 400. Now, in the glorious time of which I speak, there are going to be vast churches, and they are going to be all thronged with worshipers. Oh, what rousing songs they will sing! Oh, what earnest sermons they will preach! Oh, what fervent prayers they will offer! Now, in our time, what is called a fashionable church is a place where a few people, having attended very carefully to their toilet, come and sit down—they do not want to be crowded like a whole seat to themselves—and then, if they have any time left from thinking of their store, and from examining the style of the hat in front of them, they sit and listen to a sermon warranted to hit no man's sins, and listen to music which is rendered by a choir warranted to sing tunes that nobody knows. And then after an hour and a half of indolent yawning they go home refreshed. Every man feels better after he has had a sleep.

In many of the churches of Christ in our day the music is simply a mockery. I have not a cultivated ear, nor a cultivated voice, yet no man can do my singing for me. I have nothing to say against artistic music. The $2 or $5 I pay to hear any of the great queens of song is a good investment. But when the people assemble in religious convocation and the hymn is read, and the angels of God step from their throne to catch the music on their wings, do not let us drive them away by our indifference. I have preached in churches where vast sums of money were employed to keep up the music, and it was as exquisite as any heard on earth, but I thought at the same time that for all matters practical I would prefer the hearty, outbreaking song of a backwoods Methodist camp meeting.

Let one of these starveling fancy songs sung in church get up before the throne of God—how would it seem standing amid the great doxologies of the redeemed? Let the finest operatic air that ever went up from the church of Christ get many hours the start; it will be caught and passed by the hosanna of the Sabbath school children. I know a church where the choir did all the singing save one Christian man, who, through "perseverance of the saints," went right on, and afterward a committee was appointed to wait on him and ask him if he would not please stop singing, as he bothered the choir.

Let those refuse to sing,
Who never knew our God,
But children of the heavenly King
Should speak their joys abroad.

"Praise ye the Lord. Let everything with breath praise the Lord." In the glorious time coming in our cities and in the world hosanna will meet hosanna and hallelujah, hallelujah.

In that time also of which I speak all the haunts of iniquity and crime and squalor will be cleansed and will be illuminated. How is it to be done? You say perhaps by one influence. Perhaps I say by another. I will tell you what is my idea, and I know I am right in it. The gospel of the Son of God is the only agency that will ever accomplish this.

A gentleman in England had a theory that if the natural forces of wind and tide and sunshine and wave were rightly applied and rightly developed it would make this whole earth a paradise. In a book of great genius and which rushed from edition to edition, he said: "Fellow men, I promise to show the means of creating a paradise within ten years where everything desirable for human life may be had by every man in superabundance without labor and without pay; where the whole face of nature shall be changed to the most beautiful farms and man may live in the most magnificent palaces, in all imaginable refinements of luxury and in the most delightful gardens; where he may accomplish without labor in one year more than hitherto could be done in thousands of years. From the houses to be built will be afforded the most cultured views that can be fancied. From the galleries, from the roof and from the turrets may be seen gardens as far as the eye can see full of fruits and flowers arranged in the most beautiful order, with walks, colonnades, aqueducts, canals, ponds, plains, amphitheatres, terraces, fountains, sculptored works, pavilions, gondolas, places of popular amusement to lure the eye and fancy, all this to be done by urging the water, the wind and the sunshine to their full development."

He goes on and gives plates of the machinery by which this work is to be done, and he says he only needs at the start a company in which the shares shall be $20 each, and $100,000 or $200,000 shall be raised just to make a specimen community, and then, this being formed, the world will see the practicability, and very soon $2,000,000 or $3,000,000 can be obtained, and in ten years the whole earth will be emparadised. The plan is not so preposterous as some I have heard of. But I will take no stock in that company. I do not believe that it will ever be done in that way, by any mechanical force or by any machinery that the human mind can put into play. It is to be done by the gospel of the Son of God—the omnipotent machinery of love and grace and pardon and salvation. This is to emparadise the nations. Archimedes destroyed a fleet of ships coming up the harbor. You know how he did it. He lifted a great sunglass, history tells us, and when the fleet of ships came up the harbor of Syracuse he brought to bear this sunglass, and he focused the sun's rays upon those ships. Now the sails are wings of fire, the masts fall, the vessels sink. Oh, my friends, by the sunglass of the gospel converging the rays of the sun of righteousness upon the sins, the wickedness of the world; we will make them blaze and expire;

In that day of which I speak do you believe there will be any midnight of the rooms occupied by politicians and off from the marble steps of shivering mendicants? Will there be any unwashed, unfed, uncombed children? Will there be any blasphemies in the streets? Will there be any inebriates staggering past? No. No wine stores. No lager beer saloons. No distilleries, where they make the three X's. No bloodshot eye. No bloated cheek. No instruments of ruin and destruction. No fist pounded forehead. The grandchildren of that woman who goes down the street with a curse, stoned by the boys that follow her, will be the reformers and philanthropists and the Christian men and the honest merchants of our cities.

Ah, we do well to punish small crimes, but I have sometimes thought it would be better in some of our cities if the officials would only turn out from the jails the petty criminals, the little offenders, $10 desperadoes, and put in their places some of the monsters of iniquity who drive their roan span through the streets so swiftly that honest men have to leap to get out of the way of being run over. Oh, the damnable schemes that professed Christian men will sometimes engage in until God puts the fingers of His retribution into the collar of their robe of hypocrisy and rips it clear to the bottom! But all these wrongs will be righted. O expect to live to see the day. I think I hear in the distance the rumbling of the King's chariot. Not always in the minority is the church of God going to be or are good men going to be. The streets are going to be filled with regenerated populations. Three hundred and sixty bells rang in Moscow when one prince was married, but when righteousness and peace kiss each other in all the earth, ten thousand times ten thousand bells shall strike the jubilee. Poverty enriched. Hunger fed. Crime banished. Ignorance enlightened. All the cities saved. Is not this a cause worth working in?

Then what municipal governments, too, we will have in all the cities. Some cities are worse than others, but in many of our cities you just walk down by the city halls, and look in at some of the rooms occupied by politicians see to what a sensual, loathsome, ignorant, besotted crew city politics is often abandoned. Or they stand around the city hall picking their teeth, waiting for some emoluments of crumbs to fall to their feet, waiting all day long and waiting all night long.

Who are those wretched women taken up for drunkenness and carried up to the courts and put in prison, of course? What will you do with the grogshops that make them drink? Nothing. Who are those prisoners in jail? One of them stole a pair of shoes. That boy stole a dollar. This girl snatched a purse. All of them crimes damaging society less than $20 or $30. But what will you do with the gambler who last night robbed the young man of $1,000? Nothing. What shall be done with that one who breaks through and destroys the purity of a Christian home and with an adroitness and perfidy that beat the strategy of hell, flings a shrinking, shrieking soul to ruin? Nothing. What will you do with those who fleeced that young man, getting him to purloin large sums of money from his employer—the young man who came to an officer of my church and told the story and frantically asked what he should do? Nothing.

Oh, you think sometimes it does not amount to much! You boil on in your different spheres, sometimes with great discouragement. People have no faith and say: "It does not amount to anything. You may as well quit that." Why, when Moses stretched his hand over the Red Sea it did not seem to mean anything especially. People came out, I suppose, and say, "Aha!" Some of them found out what he wanted to do. He wanted the sea parted. It did not amount to anything, this stretching out of his hand over the sea. But after a while the wind blew all night from the east, and the waters were gathered into a glittering palisade on either side, and the billows reared as God pulled back on their crystal bits. Wheel into line, O Israel, March! March! Pearls crashed under feet. Flying spray gathers into rainbow arch of victory for the conquerers to march under. Shout of hosts on the beach answering the shout of hosts amid sea. And when the last line of Israelites reach the beach the cymbals clap, and the shields clang, and the waters rush over the pursuers, and the swift-fingered winds on the white keys of the foam play the grand march of Israel delivered and the awful dirge of Egyptian overthrow.

So you and I go forth, and all the people of God go forth, and they stretch forth their hand over the sea, the boiling sea of crime and sin and wretchedness. "It doesn't amount to anything," people say. Doesn't it? God's winds of help will after a while begin to blow. A patch will be cleared for the army of Christian philanthropists. The path will be lined with the treasures of Christian beneficence, and we shall be greeted to the other beach by the clapping of all heaven's cymbals, while those who pursued us and tried to destroy us will go down under the sea, and all that will be left of them will be cast high and dry upon the beach, the splintered wheel of a chariot, or thrust out from the foam, the breathless nostril of a riderless charger.

SOME LATE CABLE NEWS

A GREAT STORM SWEEPS OVER THE BRITISH ISLES.

Discovery of Explosives—Russia and China—The Czar and Czarina in the Highlands—Railway Collision in England, &c., &c.

A despatch from London says:—A terrific gale has swept over this city and the coasts of the United Kingdom. The storm broke on Tuesday evening, and lasted all night long, playing havoc with the trees in the London parks, and causing a great amount of damage among the coasting and fishing craft. The loss of life, however, is reported to be slight. The Red Star line steamship Rhynland, Captain Beynon, from Philadelphia for Liverpool, arrived at Queenstown Wednesday morning, and reported having passed through the full force of the gale yesterday. Heavy seas swept over her and flooded her deck-house and state-rooms. The mail boat running between Calais and Dover was badly damaged by the storm.

It transpired on Wednesday that enough of the explosive known as cordite to blow up a house was discovered on Monday hidden in the hollow of a pillar on Stamford street, which is inhabited by Russian Hebrews, who are suspected of Nihilism. The police are now actively searching the premises in that neighbourhood.

A despatch to the Globe from Shanghai published says it is believed there that the despatch of a Russian squadron to Shanghai will be the first result of an agreement reached between Li-Hung-Chang and Russia, which is viewed with great anxiety and suspicion in Japan. China, it is added, is preparing the docks and workshops of Port Arthur, and is storing there vast quantities of coal. It is thought these movements indicate a startling development in Russian policy.

A despatch from Ballater says:—The Czar and Czarina are recuperating from the excitement of yesterday, and passed a quiet time. The rain kept the Imperial and Royal personages at Balmoral indoors all Wednesday morning, but they braved the elements in the afternoon for a deer drive, the Czar killing a splendid stag. It is understood that the Czar and Czarina will possibly extend their stay in Great Britain a fortnight.

An express and an excursion train collided on Wednesday at the March, Cambridgeshire, station of the Great Eastern railway. Both trains were wrecked, and seventeen persons were injured, many of them sustaining serious injuries.

A rich gold discovery is reported to have been made near Grahamstown, Cape Colony.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Liverpool gave a banquet in connection with the annual meeting of the British Association, for the Advancement of Science, which has been in progress there. Mr. Bayard, the United States Ambassador, was the chief guest of the evening. In responding to the toast to the President of the United States, Mr. Bayard referred to the Queen's prolonged reign as a triumph of good and settled government in a free country. He also eulogized President Cleveland's financial integrity and good faith. His chief reason, he said, for coming to-night was his warm appreciation of the noble words spoken by Baron Russell of Killowen, the Lord Chief Justice of England, now in the United States, in favour of international arbitration, which Mr. Bayard said, he hoped would sink into the consciences of both people

ABOUT THE FLUTE.

Said to Be the Most Dangerous Musical Instrument to Play.

It has been discovered that the flute is the most dangerous instrument that is played on—dangerous to the player. A profound medical authority says that it is doubtful if a healthy man playing any instrument in a correct method ever suffers through playing upon any reed or brass instrument, but those who have any weakness of the heart or circulation may be injured by playing any wind instrument.

As it is quite easy for a musician to draw in his breath between the phrases of the music, but impossible for him to expel air without overblowing his instrument, it follows that the instruments that require the least expenditure of breath are the more injurious, for the reason that the player must hold his breath for long intervals.

This is the case with both the flute and the oboe. The change is also probably true that the curious tickling of the lips that is caused by the double-reed mouthpiece of the latter instrument frequently causes cancer.

WONDERFUL FIGURE.

Some men are hard to please, especially in their flustered and ill-natured moods.

One day, when nothing had gone to suit him, he broke out suddenly to one of the clerks in a tone like a thunder-clap:

"Look here, Jones, this won't do! These figures are a perfect disgrace. An office-boy could to better. If he couldn't I'd discharge him. Look at that five, will you? It looks just like a three. Nobody would take it for anything else. Look at it, I say."

"I—er—I beg pardon, sir," began the trembling clerk. "I beg pardon; but—er—well, you see, sir it is a three."

"A three!" roared the manager; "a three! Why, you idiot, it looks just like a five!"

And the subject dropped.

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

The Hamilton Street Railway Co. is reducing wages.

Work on the Grand Trunk car shops at London has commenced.

Seal fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the past season was a complete failure.

Mr. Byers, caretaker of a Public School at Stratford, died from an overdose of laudanum.

The Richlieu & Ontario Navigation Co. is having plans prepared for two new steel steamers to add to their fleet.

The Norwegian barque Cleveland, from Liverpool to Quebec, is ashore about two hundred miles below the latter city.

A lad named Oliver Emboux, aged 12 years, fell between the cars of a freight train at Hamilton on Monday night, and was instantly killed.

The Department of Marine and Fisheries have granted permission to continue herring fishing through the month of November.

Dr. Ridley, the oldest practising physician of Hamilton, died on Tuesday, taking a holiday in the Province of Quebec.

A branch of the Canadian Historical Society has been organized at St. Catharines, with Mr. W. J. Robertson as President.

A fund of $600 has already been subscribed in Berlin, Ont., to erect a statue of the German Emperor William I. in Victoria Park there.

The Canadian immigration returns up to the end of August show a falling off to the extent of about 10 per cent. from the immigration returns of last year.

Miss Katherine Ryder of Niagara Falls was assaulted by an unknown man, and her hat pin was driven an inch and a half into her head. She will recover under medical treatment.

A man who registered as H. Nanta, New York, was found dead in his bed at the Queen's hotel, Toronto, on Wednesday morning. The circumstances surrounding his death point to suicide.

By th efforts of Miss Sarah Mickle, Toronto, a well-executed portrait of Sir Isaac Brock has been brought to light, and has been placed in the hands of Mr. Gerald S. Hayward, the portrait painter, for reproduction in engraving.

The last surviving child of the hero of Chateauguay, Lieut-Col. C. M. de Salaberry, died on Monday in Montreal. She was Dame Charlotte Emelie de Salaberry, widow of Mr. Augustus Hatt, mother of Mr. Hatt, Usher of the Black Rod in the Quebec Legislature.

An influential deputation waited upon Mr. Laurier, on Thursday, and requested him to place fifty thousand dollars in the supplementary estimates to enable the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association to hold a Dominion Exhibition next year. Mr Laurier said he was much impressed with the arguments advanced, and would at once bring the matter before his colleagues and give a reply at the earliest possible moment.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Sir John Evans, one of the trustees of the British Museum, has been elected president of the British Association.

Ex-Judge Denman, of the British High Court of Justice, who retired from the bench in October, 1892, is dead. He was seventy-nine years of age.

The Queen has received an enormous number of telegrams from all parts of the world, congratulating her that her reign has become the longest in English history.

The London Times expresses the belief that Russia and Japan have agreed to a joint protectorate over Corea, Russia virtually taking the position there that China held before the war.

Mr. Gladstone delivered a speech on Thursday afternoon before an immense audience in Liverpool. He denounced the Sultan as the direct author of the Armenian massacres, and advised the withdrawal of the British Ambassador from Constantinople.

Edward J. Ivory, alias Edward Bell, who was recently arrested in Glasgow charged with being connected with the dynamite conspiracy, of which Tynan is the moving spirit, was arraigned at the Bow street Police Court on Thursday morning, and evidence given associating him with Tynan.

UNITED STATES.

Rochester banks have boycotted Canadian silver.

The United States paid $133,214,000 for pensions last year.

Counterfeit American silver certificates, raised from $2 to $10, have appeared in Toledo, Ohio.

The schooner Badger, of Toledo, is ashore near Alpena, Mich. The crew was saved. The vessel will be a total loss.

A hypnotist at Lexington, Kentucky, buried a man for two days, then had him taken up and restored to his natural condition.

A fierce whirlwind and waterspout swept the great South Bay, Long Island, for several miles on Tuesday, doing much damage.

The apple crop in Niagara county this year is an enormous one. It is estimated the yield will be from two to three and a half million barrels.

The will of Enoch Pratt, the Baltimore banker and philanthropist, disposes of an estate of $3,000,000, of which the widow receives $500,000.

The Reading Railway property was sold at Philadelphia to Mr. Carter, of New York, representing the Reorganization Committe. The bid was $16,000,000.

GENERAL.

Smallpox is decreasing at Santiago de Cuba.

Latest reports show no abatement of yellow fever in Cuba.

The Ulema College of the hierarchy at Constantinople has declared its right to depose the Sultan.

Gen. Blanco, Spanish Governor of the Philippine Islands, has disappeared, and it is believed he has been murdered.

Gen. Kitchener telegraphs from Dongola that he has captured 900 prisoners, and the cavalry is still pursuing the enemy.

The insurgents of the Philippine Islands are said to be putting people to death by wholesale. A number of monks were tied to trees and burned to death after being covered with petroleum.

P. J. Tynan has written to Mr. James B. Eustis, United States Ambassador to France, stating that he is an American citizen, that he was not engaged in any dynamite conspiracy, and asking Mr. Eustis to use his influence to prevent his extradition by France

The demand of the British Government for the extradition of P. J. Tynan has been presented to the French Government. Mr. Eustis, the United States Ambassador, had a conference on Thursday with M. Hanotaux, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, regarding the Tynan case.

A SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC.

THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER SUFFERS BY THE PLAGUE.

Ignorance of the Benefits of Vaccinatio the Cause of Many Deaths—The Commerce of the City Almost Paralyzed—A Costly Lesson.

The serious outbreak of smallpox which has raged during six months of the present year in the English cathedral city of Gloucester is one of the lessons which communities all over the world may well lay to heart. Gloucester was one of the places in which had gradually grown up a prejudice against vaccination. There is an Anti-Vaccination Society in England, and Gloucester was one of its pet towns. Many of the citizens preferred to act on the dictates of their crude ignorance rather than to abide by the conclusions of science and experience. They have had a bitter awakening to a sense of their folly. Out of a population of a little over 40,000, 2,063 persons were attacked, 443 of them fatally, by the fell disease.

In February, 1887, a resolution was passed by the Gloucester Board of Guardians of the Poor, "that the vaccination officers take no further steps in vaccination prosecutions until authorized by the board." The Board of Guardians is the authority that deals with free public vaccination. Previously to the date mentioned it had enforced the vaccination law by prosecution of those who did not have their children vaccinated within two or three months after birth. The Central Local Government Board in London, which controls and supervises the Boards of Guardians throughout the country, apparently neglected to attend to this

DERELICTION OF DUTY

on the part of the Gloucester board, and contented itself with academical remonstrances, to which the Gloucester men responded with polite evasions. In 1888 the Royal Commission on Vaccination was appointed, and this appears to have been taken by the Gloucester board and some others as a tacit admisson on the part of the Government that the question of compulsory vaccination was an open one. The following tabular statement of the decline of public vaccinations will show how soon the class of the population for whose benefit gratuitous vaccination is provided began to take advantage of the option which was thus offered to them:—

	Total Vaccinations.
1886	1,095
1887	472
1888	140
1889	95
1890	60
1891	34
1892	39
1893	38
1894	34
1895	371
Total vaccinations in ten years	2,378
Total vaccinations in nine years (1887 to 1895)	1,283

During these ten years 15,682 children had been born in Gloucester, of whom 3,176 had died, leaving a balance of 10,128 children to be accounted for. The increase of vaccination in 1895 is accounted for by the fact that towards the close of that year the epidemic which had prevailed throughout Western Europe made its appearance in Gloucester. In January, 1896, there were fifty cases. There had only been thirty in the whole of the previous year. Then began a race between the City Council and the epidemic. One temporary building was erected after another to provide isolation arrangements. By March it seemed as though smallpox would paralyze the commerce of the city. The

RAVAGES OF THE DISEASE

had become known outside, and a boycott was proclaimed against the city. The threatened financial catastrophe led to the citizens appealing to the City Council to take immediate steps to arrest the epidemic. The Gloucester doctors, in meeting assembled, declared that the only possible measures were the isolation of those attacked, and the vaccination and revaccination of those who were not protected against the disease. The advice was acted upon. The Board of Guardians rescinded their former resolution, and ordered the enforcement of the vaccination laws. From first to last upwards of 36,000 vaccinations and revaccinations were effected. By the end of July the epidemic was stamped out of existence. It is not to be wondered at that Gloucestershire has established a society the object of which is "to counteract "the mischievous efforts so persistently made to discredit the name and "work of Edward Jenner, and to bring "home again to the mind of the nation on this, the centenary of his "great discovery, the immense benefit "he conferred by it from mankind." The society has the Earl of Ducie for its president, and includes on its council all the leading men of Gloucestershire.

PURELY CANADIAN NEWS.

INTERESTING ITEMS ABOUT OUR OWN COUNTRY.

Gathered from Various Points from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Bears are numerous in Muskoka.

The tax rate at Woodstock is 20 mills.

Woodstock will not have night schools this year.

A panther appeared in Coldwater the other day.

Stratford is to have more electric street lights.

Bowmanville's rate is 19 mills and Peterboro's 17.

Golden Lake settlers are about to build a church.

Considerable building is being done at North Orillia.

Longford Mills has a Young Ladies' Literary Society.

Chatham has voted a fund to bore for natural gas there.

Insurance rates value the London fair buildings at $66,000.

The Thames, at London, has a live alligator in its waters.

A woodenware factory has been established in Formosa.

A recent Division Court docket at Ottawa had 400 cases on it.

Surveyors are outlining the Trent canal about Grass Lake.

Aboutt 140 Listowel properties are to be sold to pay back taxes.

Fred Chaplin, a well-known merchant of Woodstock is dead.

The skeleton of an Indian was recently found in a Dundas garden.

Brant county has been divided into four County Council districts.

During a recent thunder storm 30 telephones were burnt out in Berlin.

Two farmers have been fined for sending skim milk to the Kinmount cheese factory.

The boiler of the new Shakespeare flax mill recently exploded, but no one was hurt.

An Orr Lake farmer has a cornstalk growing that measures 10 feet 3 inches in height.

It costs nearly $550 more to run Blenheim school then all the rest of the town rate.

The late Samuel Toor, of St. Thomas, gave $10,000 to the Protestant churches of that place.

The newly laid-corner-stone of a London Congregational church was robbed of its contents.

Newmarket has voted for corporation electric lights and $2,500 for public improvements.

The Kingsville woollen mills have again resumed work, after a suspension of several months.

A man named Wm. Smith lost a thumb and three fingers in a "chopper" at the Barrel Works in London.

Capitalists in Chicago are joining with local capitalists in the erection in Chatham of a monster cold storage warehouse.

B. H. Rothwell of Detroit, who bought the Chatham Opera House, has bought the St. Thomas Opera House block for $16,000.

T. R. Glover, M. A., formerly of St. John's College, Cambridge, has been appointed professor of Latin in Queen's College, Kingston.

Mrs. Charles Hurton, of Hamilton, has, with several other Canadians fallen heir to an Irish estate valued at about a million dollars.

Hon. Senator Vidal, of Sarnia, has been presented with a handsome jewel as honorary president of Bridgewater Lodge, No. 204, Sons of England.

Wm. G. Beach, a former Londoner, died recently at Colombo, Ceylon. Deceased was 22 years of age, and a son of George Beach, broker, London.

Mr. McDonald, a Cincinnati millionaire, has built a magnificent structure at Tracadie, P.E.I., and is expected to spend $20,000 a year on the island.

Wm. Elliott, employed at the Peterboro' Electric Works, found a pot half filled with gold pieces the other day while digging a post hole for a circular clothes line.

A traveller returned from Manitoba says that when he was at Crystal City he saw Premier Greenway in his shirt sleeves, and wearing a straw hat, directing the work going on in his fields.

A strange way of showing a minister that his people did not appreciate his services was that taken by a congregation in the Ottawa Valley. The minister's salary was $1,200 per annum, payable quarterly, and one quarter the whole of the $300 was paid to him in cents he took the hint and left.

The Council of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., recently passed a by-law to regulate the running of bicycles on the sidewalk. It provides that the speed shall not exceed four miles an hour; that riders shall carry a lantern at night; and that the chief of police shall have the right to prohibit riding on the sidewalk if the town is crowded. When passing pedestrians the rider must go to the right, and when overtaking shall pass on the left. The penalty for any infraction of the by-law is $5, or ten days.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKEN.

An intelligent foreigner is said to have expressed himself after the following fashion on the absurdities of the English language: "When I discovered that if I was quick I was fast, if I stood firm I was fast, if I spent too freely I was fast, and that not to eat was to fast, I was discouraged: but when I came across the sentence: 'The first one won one one-dollar price,' I was tempted to give up English and learn some other language."

A virulent plague is prevalent in Bombay, and in many other parts of the Presidency, from which a hundred or more deaths have already resulted.

Puffy—Just saved a man's life?

Guffy—How was that?

Puffy—Met a fellow on the street. Said he'd blow my brains out if I didn't give him my watch. Gave him the watch.