

RAILWAYS AND CANALS.

Canadian Railways to be Brought Under the Interstate Law—Tolls on Canadian Vessels.

A Washington despatch says: Senator Cullom, chairman of the special committee appointed to investigate the alleged diverting of commerce from the railways of the United States to those of Canada and the alleged discrimination on Canadian canals against American vessels, presented the report of the committee to the Senate today. The substance of the report was recently published.

In concluding the report the committee says that the entrance fee of 50 cents and clearance fee of 50 cents, or \$1 every time an American vessel visits a Canadian port on the great lakes and their tributary bays, rivers and straits, constitute an unjust discrimination against American vessels, Canadian vessels being exempt from such charges by a license fee of 50 cents payable once a year. Such discrimination violates the spirit if not the letter of the Washington treaty of 1871. The laws of Canada place American and Canadian vessels upon the same terms as to entrance and clearance fees, but the discrimination is made through an order-in-council.

The committee recommends that so long as such discrimination continues all Canadian vessels should be required to pay entrance and clearance fees of equal amount on entering and clearing the ports of the United States on the great lakes or their tributary navigable waters.

The report also says that the rebate of 18 cents per ton in tolls on certain products of the United States passing through the Welland Canal, if bound to Montreal, constitutes an unjust discrimination against ports of the United States on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. This discrimination is an open violation both of the spirit and letter of the Treaty of Washington.

The committee recommends that so long as this discrimination is made, a discriminating toll on the tonnage of all Canadian vessels shall be imposed every time they pass through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal.

The report says that the proposition that Canadian railways which compete with American railways for traffic between different points of the United States shall be subjected to the same requirements of law and regulations which apply to American railways, must command the assent of every fair-minded person. The Canadian laws justify Canadian railways in disregarding the long and short haul clause of the Interstate Commerce Act.

The committee recommends that either such a license system shall be established as will be applicable to the Canadian railways doing business in the United States, or that some other plan not injurious to the general trade and commerce of the country be adopted, which shall secure to American railways an equal chance in competition with Canadian railways.

Mr. Platt, a member of the committee, dissents from the above report. He wants the long and short haul clause and the pooling clause of the Interstate Commerce law repealed.

DRIVING OUT CANADIANS.

A U. E. Treasury Spy's Story About Employment-Seeking Canucks.

A Washington despatch says: A special agent of the Treasury Department today informed the Immigration Committee that in New England the Canadians have taken the place of Americans, and that at Gloucester 75 per cent. of the fishermen are Canadians. The Contract Labor law was under consideration. Mr. Lee was examined by the committee. His territory extended from Norfolk to Brunswick, Ga., and his duties were to investigate and prevent violations of the Contract Labor law in that section of the country. He said several hundred Canadians came and went every year, working while there in loading cotton in the steamboats. They did not do any more work than the native laborer, nor did they work for less wages, and it was his belief the employers were not benefited financially by their labor. They were more pliant, Mr. Lee thought, than the native laborer, and for that reason were desired. He had worked up a case against one Norfolk firm for the importation of 35 Canadians, and the case is now pending in the United States Court at Richmond. The Canadians themselves, fearing trouble, had left West Point and returned home. The greater number of these Canadians worked at Norfolk, West Point and Savannah.

Trouble Over a Leprosy Case.

A Boston despatch says: Experts examined Mrs. Johnston, the suspected leper, at quarantine today, and pronounced the disease genuine. This has given rise to a peculiar question in international law. The Customs authorities have ordered the Cunard Steamship Company to take her back; the company declines to do so, as the woman has been taken off the ship and received on American soil. They say also that if they take her back the health authorities at home will not allow the diseased woman to land, and they will not know what to do with her, as they cannot go sailing the seas with this pestilence on board. The Customs people decline to acknowledge quarantine as being in the meaning of the law, and the woman goes back on board the steamer if it takes a fleet of revenue cutters to do it.

Portugal Still Hedging.

A Lisbon cable says: The Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs has replied to Dr. G. P. Loring, the United States Minister here, accepting the principle of arbitration proposed by the United States Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. He suggests that the question as to whether the case of the Delagoa Railway is or is not one for international arbitration shall be referred to some impartial friendly nation. He further put forward that if it be decided in the affirmative the same arbitrator might decide on the terms and basis of settlement. In the case of the arbitrator deciding negatively, the arbitration would be between the Portuguese Government and the Delagoa Railway Company.

The late Mr. David Buchanan, M.P., of New South Wales, was a native of Edinburgh, became a barrister of the Middle Temple, developed into a successful criminal lawyer in the colonies, and has sat in the Sydney Parliament for some thirty years.

TWICE READ.

Balfour's Land Bill Gets Its Second Reading in the Commons.

A London cable of last night says: The wind-up yesterday of the Irish land purchase debate was exceedingly interesting, far surpassing in that respect any previous stage of the proceedings. Mr. Balfour delivered what is known as the characteristic speech, well interlarded with flouts and jibes. Mr. Sexton presented a good specimen of Irish eloquence. Mr. MacCartney, a Conservative Irish landlord, entered a very emphatic protest against the bill. Lord Hartington was moderate, earnest and judicious, as he always is. Mr. Morley summed up in a masterly manner, and with much literary grace as well as oratorical force, the main points against the bill. Such a programme is not to be despised, and it was not. Mr. MacCartney, speaking from the Ministerial side, declared that the bill would ruin all landlords with incomes below £5,000. A year ago he spoke of it as involving a scheme of scientific spoliation. Mr. Sexton declares that the tenants did not want the measure. Mr. MacCartney alleges that it will destroy the landlords. Has the bill any friends at all outside the Irish Office?

Although Mr. Parnell's alternative scheme was frequently referred to last night, the Irish leader was not visible. There was a strong reinforcement, however, of the main guard of the Nationalists. Messrs. Dillon, William O'Brien, the two Healy's, the two Hartingtons, and most of the fighting men were there. Mr. Gladstone also was there, backed by his chief supporters. The Ministry were in full force, as it is their duty to be on such nights. And now the main work in connection with the bill still remains to be done. The second reading of the measure was carried by a majority of 80.

KEMMLER'S CASE.

The Case to be Brought Before the U. S. Supreme Court at Once.

A New York despatch says: Roger M. Sherman will go to Washington tomorrow and apply to a Judge of the United States Supreme Court for a writ of habeas corpus in the case of Kemmler. The object is to bring the case directly under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and skip the Circuit Court. Sherman's first step will be to secure an order upon the District Attorney of Erie county, requiring him to show cause why a stay should not be granted. This order will probably be made returnable a week from Monday in Washington. Sherman thinks the Supreme Court will insist that proceedings must first come before the Circuit Court, where the case now is. If it goes directly to the Supreme Court, or if the Supreme Court Judges refuse to grant Sherman a writ or order to show cause, then Judge Wallace will cancel the existing Circuit Court writ. This cannot be done in time, however, to allow of Kemmler's execution under the sentence for this week. It would be necessary to re-sentence him. Sherman positively declines to state who his employers are.

Married in Haste, Repenting at Leisure.

A Denver despatch says: On Monday a stranger arrived in Colorado Springs who gave the name of James Howell of Topeka. He at once called at an employment agency and said that he desired a house-keeper for his mansion in Topeka, being willing to pay the agent \$10 as his fee. While the conversation was going on Mrs. M. E. Reed, proprietor of a restaurant, entered, and hearing part of the conversation suggested that she could take the place. The meeting of the two occurred at 4.30 p.m., and at 5.30 they were married. Howell late in the evening visited and proposed marriage to another woman, but was indignantly refused. On Tuesday the groom deserted his wife and left for parts unknown, leaving her to mourn his loss, as well as that of a sum of money.

Cronin's Remains Finally Interred.

A Sunday's Chicago despatch says: The formal interment ceremonies over the remains of Dr. Cronin were held at Calvary cemetery today. The assemblage gathered closely about the grave as the few brief words of the service were spoken by Fathers Muldoon and Toomey. Planks were laid on the sand beside the opening, and after the religious services were over those present passed in double file viewing the coffin. When all had passed the coffin was lowered, a heavy stone was put in place closing the tomb, which was then sealed.

A Fiendish Murder.

A Bristol, Conn., despatch says: Arthur Jackson, a worthless negro, on Friday night called his wife out of a hotel where she was employed as a waitress, and compelling her to go home with him made her hold a light while he killed his dog with an axe. He then attacked his wife with a razor and cut her throat, slicing off several of her fingers in the struggle. A neighbor found him kicking the dying woman and attempting to burn the house. Jealousy was the cause of the crime. Jackson never supported his wife. He escaped, but was captured at Plainville.

He Fooled With the Machine.

A Boston despatch says: Geo. Morse, press boy in the Lynn Bee office, attempted yesterday to test the strength of the current applied to the electric motor which supplies the power. He completed a perfect circuit and received the full force of 500 volts. The pressman found him unconscious on the floor. He remained insensible twenty minutes. The doctors say he will be all right in a few days.

Cause for Delay.

"George," she said, after she had promised to be his wife, "please don't announce our engagement until next week." "Why not, darling?" he asked, tenderly. "Because I'm going to the theatre with Henry on Friday night."

Sir James Crichton Browns says the Scotch brain averages 50 ounces, the English 49 ounces, the German 48.3 ounces and the French 47.9 ounces. Sir James is a Scotchman.

A Warton blacksmith has added dentistry to his business.

WORK AND WAGES.

A Bird's-Eye View of the World's Labor Field.

Detroit has two women carpenters. Brooklyn housemiths work nine hours. Brooklyn unions will parade on Labor day.

Holyoke (Mass.) has twenty-three paper mills. Brooklyn coopers struck against a non-union man.

A Wyoming law gives equal pay to men and women teachers.

Machines now make the most intricate and delicate embroidery.

Port Huron (Mich.) tunnel-workers struck for 50 cents an hour.

Some Brooklyn bricklayers have ratified to the scale—50 cents an hour.

Thirty Syracuse moulders struck against working for less than \$2 a day.

Furnace and roll men in a Cleveland steel works demand \$2.07 a day.

Buffalo unions talk of prosecuting ship carpenters who work on Sunday.

The Omaha policemen will soon have their day out to eight and nine hours.

Nashville sheet metal workers struck for nine hours and 25 cents a day advance.

The Knights and the Federation have a hot fight against each other at Baltimore.

The Louisville Butchers' Society will operate an ice factory and boycott Chicago beef.

Some Brooklyn riveters struck against driving 350 rivets a day—an increase of 50.

A big building in Cleveland is occupied by a complete store of the various businesses.

Indianapolis plasterers have won eight hours and an advance in wages on May 1st.

At Duluth, Minn., riveters in a steel works get \$3 per 100 rivets; two riveters, \$1 each; holder, 60 cents; heater, 40 cents. The holders struck for 75 cents per 100.

Syracuse unions have induced councils to allow none but American citizens to work on city operations, and the city will do its own street cleaning instead of contractors.

Silk ribbon weavers at Marlboro, Conn., struck because a walking delegate was discharged. By a contract those who left their looms before the warp was out lost whatever wages was owed them. The strike was lost also.

The New York German House Painters' Union has fixed upon \$3.50 a day for nine hours and eight hours on Saturday, and \$3.12 for eight hours and seven hours on Saturday as the schedules to be enforced this year. Sunday work and overtime is to be paid at double rates. Wages to be paid weekly.

The Webster's Dictionary Humbug.

Some "enterprising" Americans have recently put upon the market what they call the original Webster's Unabridged Dictionary at a very low price; in some places in the United States it sells as low as \$1.65 retail, and it is given as a premium by grocers and others. It is a reprint of Webster's Dictionary of over forty years ago, but it lacks many of the words that men look for now. Let any readers of the Times should be deceived into buying this bogus book, under the impression that they are getting a modern "Webster's Unabridged," the following quotation from the New York American Bookeller of a recent date is given:

"We have before us a circular issued by an enterprising house of what professes to be the 'Original Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.' We have also seen the thing itself. To call it a book would be a libel on every book manufacturer. It is not printed from type, but reproduced by some photographic method; it is not printed on paper, but on some material inferior to wood-pulp; it is bound in a marbled cover of some hideous stuff, and it gapes at the edges as if it were going to burst. It is the most discreditable-looking volume ever offered for sale to an inoffensive public. It is a book which no one would buy for its external appearance. The contents of this precious volume consists of Webster's Dictionary of 1847; that is, it is fully forty-two years behind the time. The etymologies are utterly misleading, and naturally so; for when the Webster of 1847 was issued comparative philology was in its cradle. The definitions are imperfect, requiring condensation, re-arrangement and additions. The vocabulary is defective, some of the commonest words of to-day, especially scientific terms, for which a dictionary is most often consulted, being entirely absent. In not one of these three prime requisites of a dictionary is the Webster reprint a trustworthy guide, or, rather, it is a misleading one. While the orthography and pronunciation of 1847 have not undergone such changes, as the departments mentioned, they have in many respects been changed, and therefore here, too, the 'reprint' is not a safe instructor. All these things are known to every intelligent man. But this 'reprint' is not intended for intelligent men. It is made expressly to be foisted by all the arts of the book canvasser on those who have been precluded from a knowledge of what developments lexicography has undergone during the last forty-two years. This is the cruellest feature of this money-making enterprise. The only persons who can be expected to touch the book are persons of small means, who have the most praiseworthy ambition to improve their minds, their style, or their language. For this they are willing to make great sacrifices, and a common regard for decency ought to prevent any firm calling itself respectable from palming off on them all kinds of misinformation."

Wanting No Display.

The following is an extract from the will of the late Rev. D. B. Cameron, of Aston: "Considering the extravagance displayed by the community in general and as a protest against it, I direct that my body, when dead, shall be decently wrapped in bleached cotton, neatly prepared for the purpose, laid in a simple coffin made of pine, with no ornamentation, not as much as my name, and carried to the grave in a sleigh, if in winter, or a spring wagon, laid in the grave without a shell; and that no monument or stone of any kind be put up to mark the place, unless some friend take a boulder from the field to mark the spot, and if he fancy to do so, cut thereon the initials 'D. B. C.' In all other respects I confirm my said will."

An Unerring Marksman.

"Whisky never misses fire," said a man to us the other day. No, it never does. It is sure to bring down its victim sooner or later, whether he is high or low in the social or intellectual scale. And fluttering about him will always be the wounded hearts of mother, father, wife, children, sisters, brothers and friends, while beyond and behind all this is too often a trail of ruined virtues and contaminating influences. At least six hearts on an average carry a lifelong, overshadowing, dreary sorrow for every victim alcohol brings down. The undertow of all and dreary heartache over the victims of alcohol. No, whisky never misses fire, never.—Advance.

Women's Cause.

Since drunkenness comes first and hardest upon woman, since it is to her what a swine is to a garden, rooting up every sweet blossom and destroying every fruit, and making a wilderness of the garden of the Lord, I have a right to say to every young woman: By your look, by your word and by your act bear testimony and exert your influence against intemperance. Let not your fair hand, that yet one day shall go out in pledge, convey to another the cup which shall desolate and destroy the household. If there be one thing that woman should stand for it is temperance.—Henry Ward Beecher.

The Prosaic Broker.

"Oh, for the wings of a dove!" sighed the poet. "Boah!" said his friend, the broker. "The breast of a turkey is much better to fill up on."

A Historical Secret.

Charlie Rivers—And so you will be eight next week, Flossie! Why, you are getting to be quite an old lady. Flossie—Yes; I'm getting old much faster than sister May is. She has been twenty-three ever since I can remember.

Galveston sign writers and grainers get \$5 a day; tanners, \$3.50 to \$3; bricklayers, \$4 to \$5, and plumbers, \$2.50 to \$3.

It's a foolish man who doesn't know enough to fall down when he sleeps.

THE GRACEFUL MINNET.

European Society Returning to the Once Popular Dance.

The minnet which Strauss is about to introduce to the partial exclusion of his own waltz was the first ball dance which had a really world-wide popularity. It is a slow, dignified dance, an appropriate product of the time and place of its birth. It is very old. When Don Juan d'Autria went incognito from Brussels to Paris nothing he saw during his famous trip excited his admiration half so much as the grace with which the beautiful Margaret of Burgundy danced the minnet. Other beaux and titled dandies of the same period also put in writing flattering allusions to the beauties of this dance. Nevertheless it is exceedingly doubtful that the minnet of those times was the original model of the minnet of to-day.

The minnet, which very recently has appeared in the Parisian salons, was invented by the French ballet master Gardel, or rather was evolved by him from a much older dance for the celebration of the marriage of King Louis XVI. "Minnet of the Queen" is the title which the gallant Gardel gave to his new dance in honor of Marie Antoinette. The figures of a dance of the time of Louis XIV. were utilized by Gardel as the basis of his new minnet. The old dance, with which every court ball of Louis XIV. was opened, consisted mostly therein that the gentleman and the lady faced each other, moved a few steps forward and backward in time with dignified and sonorous music, bowed deeply and returned to their places. This dance was called the "Braud."

It was succeeded by the gavotte, in which the gentlemen kissed the bouquet of flowers, and, with a deep bow, handed it to his partner." From this gavotte Gardel derived the minnet. The famous dancing master Pecourt introduced an important innovation by changing the 8 figure into the 2 figure, which is still danced. The minnet is the only dance which preserves the courtly dignity of the old regime, and, therefore, has ever been regarded as the most aristocratic of dances. The most popular of minnet music is from the first finale of Mozart's "Don Juan." This music is the model of all other music to which the minnet has been danced of late years.—Berliner Borsen-Courier.

Too Public Spirited.

"He was a good fellow, was Smithers," said the old miner as he stood with bared head where Smithers had last been seen, but no man can go foolin' along in a camp like this kickin' off every tin can he sees lyin' on the sidewalk. It may be public spirited, but it ain't good policy for an individual. Course Smithers didn't know that ornery Bill Jones had left a full can o' dynamite on the walk, jest from bein' too lazy ter carry it inside, but he orter bin on the lookout. What is Smithers now? He's all over. He was public spirited, ez I said, and m-bbe it's a comfort ter him ter be all over the camp at once, but his influence is too much diffoosed now ter count fer much. That's a lesson in this, boys. Don't diffoose your influence. An' that's another lesson; don't be too public spirited. The leadin' men ain't that way in big cities. They talk big and do a little suthin' now an' then, but fust they look out fer the individual. Wal, Smithers ain't here, an' he was a good man. Let's slicker."

Mr. Funch's Dictionary of Social Phrases.

"You are one of the few people with whom I can really enjoy a quiet talk, all to our two selves"; i.e., "I should be very sorry to introduce you to any of my set." "What, you here?" i.e., "Wonder how the deuce this confounded cad got an invitation." "Ah, by the way, just let me introduce you to Farrood. You two fellows ought to know each other"; i.e., "Call that killing two bores with one stone." "Thanks for a most delightful evening. So sorry to have to run away"; i.e., "Bored to extinction, and fairly famished. Must run down to the club for a snack and a smoke." "I'll look at my list when I get home"; i.e., "You don't catch me." "Drop in any day"; i.e., "When the chances are I shan't be in." "No party"; i.e., "Must ask him, and do it as cheaply as possible." "Come as you are"; i.e., "Be careful to wear evening dress." "Don't trouble to answer"; i.e., "Think it very rude if you don't." "What! going already!" i.e., "Thank goodness! Thought she'd never move." "What a fine child!" i.e., "Don't know whether the brat is a boy or girl, but must say something."

A Whole Evening Marred.

Mr. Van Astor—Did you enjoy the opera last night? Mrs. Van Astor—No; not very much. The actors made so much noise that I couldn't hear more than half of Mrs. Van Cortlandt's conversation, and you know her box is only the third from ours.

Time is Money.

Mrs. McCrackle—That new clock is gaining half an hour a day. McCrackle—Good enough! It will soon make enough time to pay for itself.

Never Saw Anything Like It.

"What does your little brother look like, Willie?" "Nothin' I ever saw before."

A Great Idea.

"We must fake up some new freak or close the show." "I have it! Just the thing. Get an Anarchist and make him sit in a bath tub."

Hastening Matters.

She—Yes, I will marry you in April if papa says I may. Will you ask him? He—I did. She—What did he say? He (sadly)—He said "Maroh," and I marohed.

Horseback riding in the early morning is fashionable with certain Hamilton belles.

"So far as possible," says DeWitt Talmage, "let all women dress beautifully." That is good advice. A decent costume is a woman's first right, and we could prove it to our Mother Eve were alive.

THE LAND O' CAKES.

Interesting News Notes From All Over Scotland.

An effort is about to be made by the congregation of St. Michael's, Linlithgow, raise funds to restore the interior of the fine old church.

Baillie Cumming on April 9th laid the foundation stone of the new bridge in progress of construction over the Kelvin at Great Western Road Glasgow.

After the lapse of nearly seven months the bodies of the 33 men who were entombed in the Mauricewood mine, near Edinburgh, have been recovered.

The well-known Craiglockhart Hydro-pathic Establishment, near Edinburgh, which cost about £48,000 not many years ago, was sold recently for £13,800.

At a meeting of the Adam Smith Memorial Committee at Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire, on the 31st ult., it was announced that the subscriptions amounted to £8,300.

The Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, M.P., Minister of Agriculture, is to receive the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Edinburgh on the 18th inst.

The Queen has appointed Mr. Alexander Crum, of Thornliebank, to be a member of the Universities (Scotland) Commission, in room of the late Mr. Craig-Sellar, M.P.

James Prain, senior partner of the firm of James Prain & Son, spinners and manufacturers, Larchfield Works, Dundee, died on the 9th inst. at the advanced age of 87 years.

The Duke of Edinburgh has consented to open the Edinburgh International Exhibition on 1st May, and it is probable that he will be accompanied by the Duchess of Edinburgh.

It is understood that the Rev. James Fleming, of Whitburn, will be nominated for the Moderatorship of the approaching meeting of the United Presbyterian Synod in Scotland.

At a meeting of the Dumbarton Town Council, on the 9th inst., it was intimated that Denny Bros., Leven Shipyard, proposed to hand over Knoxland Square for the benefit of the public.

The extensive buildings of the Edinburgh International Exhibition at Merchiston were on the 4th inst. practically completed, and the final arrangements are in progress for the opening on the 1st of May.

The death is announced of the Rev. Alexander Mackay, who was the pioneer of Christian missions in the Uganda country in Africa. Stanley places Mackay along with Livingstone and Moffat in the highest rank of Africa's Christianizers.

Dr. McLeod, Houston; Dr. Edgar, Mauchline, and Mr. Gilroy, Dreghorn, who all died in Scotland on the same day, were all ordained at the same time, were nearly of the same age, and were all ex-Moderators of the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr.

Queenshill House, Kirkcudbrightshire, was destroyed last week by fire. It was the residence of Col. Neilson, who died only a short time ago. This catastrophe has caused great regret throughout Scotland, for the mansion was really a museum and picture gallery, being crammed with valuable objects, and its collection of pictures was one of the finest in Scotland, whilst many of the curios and antiquities were unique. The magnificent testimonial which was presented to the late Mr. Neilson, the inventor of the hot-blast, was saved.

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