THE TIMES

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THE WEEKLY TIMES

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When paid weekly, Twelve and-a-half Cents. When paid yearly, Six Dollars in advance.

Ottawa 23rd Dec. 1874

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the OTTAWA AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE COMPANY, have obtained from the Minister of Finance, a LICENSE dated 12th August 1875, to transact the business of FIRE INSURANCE in the Province of Canada.

JAMES BLACKBURN
Secretary.

Head Office, Wellington Street.
Ottawa, 13th August, 1875.

Rates and Advertisements.

NO OLD ADVERTISEMENTS INSERTED IN THIS LIST.

Ottawa Agricultural Insurance Company—James Blackburn.

Young Ladies Literary Institute.—Notre Dame du Sacre Coeur.

Local Notice—T. W. Kenny and Sons.

Local Notice—A remarkable Professional Success.

Local Notice—Consumption.

The Times.

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, AUG. 19, 1875.

DELAYING THE WRITS.

The Ontario Government are charged by the *Mail* with having delayed the issue of the writs of election in certain constituencies, viz.: West Wellington, South Oxford, East Kent and South Essex. This delay as alleged is described as shameful, and a severe lecture, all for the best to our erring administrators, is freely given. There was a time, and not very long ago, when our contemporary would promptly defend its own friends from the charge of wrong doing when they kept back the writs to serve their partizan purposes. It is the offender not the offence that constitutes guilt or innocence, as the case may be, in the estimation of the organs of the Conservative party.

We do not care to meet the *Mail* upon the legal question involved. It may be presumed with safety that the Government, how far soever they may strain the law in order to make it cover their case, will yet keep within its letter. In case they have violated the law, however, we may be quite certain that its penalties can be sued for, and feel equally well assured from our knowledge of the temper of the more prominent oppositionists that if the penalty can be invoked for the illegality of delaying the issue of the writs there will be no negligence in the setting about it.

If the law has not been violated, and we are not at all convinced that it has, then the Government have done precisely what was right in delaying the writs. Ever since the first of July the farmers in all the constituencies named have been busily engaged in securing their crops. They could not spare a day for election purposes, because at this season time is emphatically money to them. What object could there be in having elections now, or at any time within the last six weeks, more worthy of being considered than the urgency of securing the crops? We cannot think of any, nor can our contemporary name one. There is no probability of Parliament being obliged to meet before the usual time, and ere that time arrives there will be ample opportunity to hold the elections without in any measure interrupting the more urgent operations in the field.

The fact that the Government have delayed the issue of the writs on this ground tells largely in their favour. They have shown thereby their considerateness and forethought. They have given evidence of a practical acquaintance with the movement, and the several stages, of our greatest industry. And to whatever extent the faith in them of the Conservative organs has been shaken, to a much greater extent assuredly will the faith of the substantial yeomanry be established.

CONSERVATIVE vs. REFORM PURITY—MONTREAL WEST ELECTION.

The Conservative candidate in the Montreal West election, just declared void, with his supporters gets credit from the *Witness* for having better observed the election law, in so far as its provisions against bribery go, than his opponent, the Liberal candidate. We are well aware of the strong sympathy felt by our contemporary with the Liberal Party, and therefore when it comes to a conclusion that is less flattering to our friends than to our opponents we strive to respect that conclusion. We may allow that Mr. White and his friends appeared to somewhat better advantage than the other side before the election court, although we did not ourselves notice that there was any stronger evidence of impurity on one side than on the other, unless merely that technical or perhaps fanciful difference that would serve to sustain a judgment. It is a somewhat left handed compliment, at least, to give a party credit for relative purity, and even to that extent in this case we scarcely go, although the *Witness* goes to the extreme of generosity, and commends Mr. White and his friends for having carried out all their efforts for the election of their candidate with "remarkable purity," which after all, is but a relative quality. It is perfectly well known to those who have much acquaintance with the working of election courts that a great deal of the apparent purity that is sometimes credited to candidates and their supporters is due to other circumstances than a faithful observance of the law. A very partial enquiry such as too often takes place of course may not expose corruption; but it is not correct to assume, because the foul matter has not been stirred up, that therefore it does not exist. We fear that the *Witness* must be charged with having through good nature fallen into the error of granting that since the proceedings in court disclosed nothing, therefore there was nothing to be disclosed. We entirely object to that more courteous than just way of arriving at a conclusion upon the question of the relative purity of the conduct of Conservatives and Reformers in any quarter, much more so in Montreal West.

It is our opinion that it a greater apparent purity was discernible in the case of Mr. White and his friends it arose from causes that will be understood when we quote the old adage that "a burnt child dreads the fire." Mr. White and his party have had a scorching, and it is quite in the nature of things that they should still be impressed with the stern lesson which they were taught when a couple of years ago their sins had found them out. We are not however here giving assent to the proposition implied if not fully expressed by the *Witness*, and which is that Mr. White and his party were more scrupulous as to purity than Mr. Mackenzie and his party. We don't yield that point yet. We may admit that the *Witness* according to its light is correct when it gives the mete of praise to Mr. White, but its light we fear is clouded. Just as the trick of the thimble-rigger appears to the unwary to be honestly done on the face of it, so does the election and its management by Mr. White and his promoters appear to the *Witness* to have been purely conducted. We decline to believe that the Conservative leopard can change his spots so suddenly as some good people are willing to allow, and what is more there are many who don't believe that he would change them if he could.

The *Witness* does not however give Mr. White much hope for the future. It says plainly that, "should there be another contest between the same men, the elements of support will be considerably altered." And the probable alteration is disposed of in this way:—"Feeling that was warm against "Mr. Mackenzie on certain points *will "be comparatively cool now*, and certain "elements that were strong in his favour "would go in mass against him *or remain "neutral*. Whether Mr. White's party "has or has not gained any additional "support from the hard times, and his "vigorous ascriptions of them to the lack "of protection, we have as yet no means "of knowing; but an Opposition is al- "ways strengthened by hard times as a "Government always is by good times."

It would appear from this that Mr. Mackenzie may have both gained and lost, and that Mr. White may have made something by the outcry raised of late in behalf of protection and by having yielded to it. It is not probable, however, that there is any good ground for the anticipation that the Conservatives will win the constituency. Montreal, it is true, is rather fickle in her political attachments, but we do not believe from what we have seen and heard that the western division is prepared to go back to the arms of the vendors of public charters, and the believers in the policy of bribery.

RETIRING FROM THE RETAIL TRADE.—Mr. W. A. Annable is selling off his entire stock of furniture at a small advance on cost. Call early if you want a bargain, at No. 5 Rideau street.

THE YEAR'S COINAGE.—The British coins struck in the year 1874 were of the nominal value of £2,405,368. The gold coinage of the year comprised 520,713 sovereigns, and 1,884,432 half sovereigns. This is much below the average gold coinage of a year, which may be reckoned at five millions sterling; but there had been a very large gold coinage in 1871 and 1872, and the importation into the Bank of England of Australian sovereigns and half-sovereigns, amounting in 1874 to £1,972,000 contributed in a sensible degree towards maintaining the supply of gold required for circulation in this country. About two-thirds of the bullion used in the gold coinage of 1874 consisted of light gold sent in to the Mint for re-coinage. The silver coinage in 1874 was large, exceeding £874,000. The amount issued to the public was £771,146, of which £188,000 was for the colonies. The issue comprised nearly £200,000 in half-crowns, the coinage of which has been resumed. The demand for threepences has increased remarkably, and upwards of four million pieces were issued in 1874 for circulation at home and in the colonies.

THE NAVIES OF EUROPE.—It is refreshing to hear that we are still supreme in our navy. Holland has 113 ships (17 armour plated), 981 guns and 7, 250 men; Norway and Sweden, 65 vessels (five armour plated), 491 guns; Germany, whose navy is yet comparatively in its childhood, is manned by 9,000 officers and men; the Russian navy which is every day increasing in importance, consists of some 300 vessels (25 ironclads), with 1,500 guns; Turkey has one of the finest ironclad navies in the world; Austria and Hungary a fleet of eight or ten ironclads in the Adriatic; Portugal, 50 ships, of which probably not more than one half are seaworthy; France has 350 ships of war, with an ironclad fleet of 50 strong; while Great Britain has 586 vessels afloat (including ironclads), 29 building (also including ironclads), 6,250 guns, and 60,000 men. In navies, therefore, Great Britain is supreme; then come in their order—France, Russia, Turkey, Austria, Germany, Italy, Spain, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Portugal, with an aggregate total of 2,039 vessels, of which 209 are ironclad, the whole being manned by some 280,000 men, and armed with 15,000 cannon. One hundred and ten ships of war are building in European dockyards and of these 56 will be armour plated; and the expenses incidental to these forces exceed £112,000,000 sterling per annum, of which fully three-fifths are devoted to the land forces. Of all these armaments, those of Turkey and Austria are maintained at the least cost, viz., at about £29 a year per man; that of Great Britain at the most close upon £100 a year.

Charley Ross.

WESTERVELT TO BE TRIED FOR COMPLICITY—HOW HE HAS BEEN TREATED—WHAT HE KNOWS OF THE CASE—WILL THE MYSTERY BE SOLVED?

The absurd rumor about the recovery of Charley Ross, originating not in Philadelphia, singularly enough (where such stories are frequently started), but in an obscure sheet nearer New York, revives the interest in this unfathomed mystery and all who have been connected with it. The readers of the *Herald*, doubtless, have not forgotten that Westervelt, the brother-in-law of Mosher, the dead burglar, is now in prison in this city, awaiting trial for complicity in the case, probably as the scapegoat of the bungling police authorities. His trial is now fixed, after many delays by the District Attorney, for Monday, August 30, and a brief outline of the history of Westervelt's detention here may not be *mal apropos*.

WESTERVELT'S CASE.

Westervelt, who had been assisting the police detectives in New York by telling all he professed to know about his worthy brother-in-law, came to this city voluntarily on the 13th of April last by invitation of the Philadelphia authorities. As afterward transpired, he had been indicted by the Grand Jury here on the day before for alleged complicity in the kidnapping, and this was the reason for inviting him to come. This was carefully concealed from him, however, and Westervelt expected to return that evening. He was detained in custody, without really knowing that he was under arrest. He was kept at the Central police station until the following day, closely questioned by the police authorities, and his statement of his whole knowledge of the case taken down in writing. He was then hurried to the Buttonwood street police station and locked up in a cold cell without proper clothing. Thence he was conveyed to the Eleventh street station, where he remained until the following Tuesday, April 20. On this day he was taken to Moyamensing Prison, and has remained there since. All this may have been done with the best intentions by the police, and with the idea that the end justified the means; but the law was certainly strained to suit their purposes and the accused treated with injustice; for during all this time the prisoner had been denied a look at the indictment against him, and all information as to the cause of his arrest. Even after he had secured the services of Joseph T. Ford as his counsel, that gentleman was refused a copy of the indictment at the District Attorney's office, and it was only by a resort to *habeas corpus* and *certiorari* that the usual privileges of a prisoner were obtained for him. It was at length ascertained that Westervelt was jointly indicted with his wife, Mosher and Douglass for kidnapping and secreting Charley Ross in one count, and in another with conspiracy to kidnap and extort money. His bail was fixed at $16,000 by Judge Briggs, and he was committed to prison in default. Mr. Ford moved for a bill of particulars on the conspiracy count, and Judge Pratt was to have rendered a decision to-day. It is probable he will deny it. In the act of 1785 it is provided that if a prisoner is not indicted and tried before the close of the first term, or two months after his commitment, the court is required to discharge him, upon furnishing bail, and if he is not tried before the end of the second term, or four months, he must be discharged from custody. The District Attorney has gone so far as he dare in postponing this trial, and has fixed the day of Westervelt's trial for the 30th of this month, the last of the August session.

WHAT WESTERVELT KNOWS.

It is asserted on behalf of the prisoner that he knows nothing more than he has already willingly told of the fate of Charles Ross. The District Attorney's office, however, claims to have discovered evidence implicating him in the kidnapping and throwing light upon the mystery. What this evidence is they will keep secret until the trial. Mr. Ross, the boy's father, believes Westervelt to be the guilty party, that his son is yet alive and that this man may help to discover him. What the truth is it is hoped the trial will disclose. Meantime, this case remains, to use a Beecher-Tiltonism "monumental" as a specimen of police bungling and incapacity.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The Republic of Nature.

From the London Times

Seventeen years ago Narcisse Pierre Pelletier, the son of a shoemaker in a small town in the department of La Vendee, went to sea, and after a few months was wrecked with a large cargo of Chinese coolies. By miracle and promptitude he survived the brutality of his own captain, the cannibals who ate up most of the Chinese, starvation, and more fatal thirst, to fall at the last gasp into the hands of a native Australian tribe.

In the settled portions of that continent a native is as great curiosity as in this metropolis, but the aboriginal races still have much to teemselves the parts nearer the equator. This was about thirteen degrees south, not far from Torres Strait, New Guinea, and the Louisiade Archipelago. The savages were very kind to the poor dying lad, adopted him into their tribe, found him a valuable member of society, and were proud of their possession. He acquired titles of honour, inscribed upon his skin and carried in his nose and ears, he learnt to carve canoes, and obtained an acknowledged pre eminence in strength, skill, and counsel.

The tribe is a republic in the strictest sense of the word, acknowledging no superiority, and fortunately offering small field for the ambition which leads to higher political developments. They have no clothes, except a fringe in the case of women; no houses, except umbrellas extemporized out of leaves when it rains heavily; no tools, except bits of hoop iron found in wrecks; no arts and sciences; a very small vocabulary, and an arithmetic stopping short at ten, and indicated by pointing to various parts of the body. They have no religion, no history, no social institutions, not even marriage. Regarded from our point of view, life is one great negative, and the only wonder is they get on as well as they do. The women, however, go to the wall, wall, as in all savage life; they are the property of the stronger, two or three at a time, and are put out of the way, as a useless horse is with us, when no longer useful or agreeable. This is animal life.

Narcisse Pelletier was quickly absorbed in the new current of his existence. He became a pure and simple savage, and as much forgot that he had ever been anything else as if he had lived in a long dream. He could not speak a word of French; lost reckoning of days and years; knew not his own age; perched on a rail like a bird; had restless monkey eyes; clave with strong instinct to his adopted fraternity, and only remembered his relations as beings of another world who must long since have passed away.

But Narcisse Pelletier has returned to life. On the 11th of April in the present year the *John Bell* schooner, engaged in the Beche de mer fishery, anchored at Night Island, a small island of the north east coast of Queensland, to which boats were despatched from the ship in search of water. The sailors sent on this duty encountered in the bush a party of aboriginal blacks, with whom they found a white man, who was, like the blacks perfectly naked, and appeared to be completely identified with them in language and habits. The white savage was induced to enter one of the ships boats, and the *John Bell* brought her prize to Somerset, the settlement at Cape York, where he was clothed and cared for by the resident magistrate. The dream of the long night is past away and is forgotten. To-day takes up the thread of yesterday, and forgets the gap between. Narcisse is already reading French novels.

Rates of Mortality in the British Islands.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Scottish Meteorological Society, held in Edinburgh recently, Mr. Buchan stated the results of an inquiry he has been making in regard to the relative rates of mortality for the various towns in Britain. After explaining that the period dealt with was in most cases ten years, he said that a general result of the curves which had been laid down was to show that in England in the winter months every one of the large towns showed an excess above the average mortality. That excess, however, was very unequal. Wolverhampton, for example, showed a greater susceptibility to cold, and diseases of the respiratory organs were relatively more fatal there than in Manchester. In Scotland again, Aberdeen showed a steady rise from the beginning of October to a maximum at the end of the year; whereas Greenock showed much less of the effect of winter cold. For the summer season, between July and September, every one of the large towns of England, with the single exception of Bristol, showed an excess of deaths above the average. Another curious point was an inequality in the distribution of those deaths over the period. In London, the mortality rose highest in the end of July and beginning of August; Liverpool came next in point of time; Manchester was also pretty early, and so was Glasgow. Norwich was the latest, its maximum not occurring until the middle and end of September. But the most remarkable fact that came out was that in Leicester there was an excess of forty per cent in the summer months, being double that of any other place. In Scotland no town exceeded its average in July and August; in England every one but Bristol did. In Glasgow there was an approach to the average, so also in Paisley, Perth and Leith, but the population in these latter places was too small to found upon. In Dublin the state of things was similar to that of Scotland. Glasgow and Edinburgh ran very parallel to each other, with the exception of a higher death-rate for the end of July and beginning of August in the former than in the latter. In Aberdeen, the furthest north of the towns discussed, the lowest rate of the whole year occurred in those months. Of annual rates of mortality the highest was that of Glasgow, amounting to 35 per thousand. The nearest to this were Manchester and Liverpool, each with 30. Next to Portsmouth in the west of England with a rate of 29 stood Aberdeen in Scotland with 24. The English towns had a low rate in April, May, and June, probably owing to the milder weather there prevailing. In Scotland the fall from the winter rate was much slower, but it was a steady fall; such was also the case with Dublin. Every one of the English towns showed a tendency to a minimum in October; and in Scotland also the rate was low at that season. Taking now the case of London, it appeared that, when diarrhoea was abstracted, there was an excess of deaths in the cold part of the year and a defect in the warm part. So that when deaths of children under one year were taken out, the summer excess was due to diarrhoea in the case of infants under one year. The deaths in London under one year oscillated about five per thousand in the end of June, then rose to 10 in the beginning of August, and again fell to 5. In Bristol those deaths rose in summer to only 8 per thousand. In Liverpool, which, during the cold part of the year had the highest infant mortality, the deaths in question rose in summer to 16, or double those of Bristol; but in Leicester, the most astonishing of all, they kept about 7 or 8 till the beginning of July and then shot up to 24, falling from the middle of August to the point they started from. In regard to the mortality from diarrhoea, Edinburgh never showed so much a rate as 2 per thousand; next came Bristol with 3 odds; Portsmouth, 4; London, 5 odds; Liverpool, 10. Here again Leicester stood conspicuous, showing in number 12 deaths from diarrhoea for every one that took place in Edinburgh. The smallest death-rate from diarrhoea during the summer months, when deaths from this disease reached the maximum, was that of Aberdeen, amounting barely to one per thousand; and this, it was to be noted, was the town furthest north, and with the lowest summer temperature. The rate of Perth was one and a tenth; that of Edinburgh, ¼; Leith, ¼, and so on, every Scotch town having a lower mortality from diarrhoea in summer than the English towns, whose temperatures were all higher. In Scotland the town that showed the greatest summer mortality was Dundee, and then again Glasgow, Greenock and Paisley. Then, again, cold was a great destroyer of life, but the rate of death from this cause varied according to the housing of the people, their clothing, food and habits.

Mixed Marriages at Bagdad.

The Ottoman authorities require that the Indian Mahometans and Afghans who are British subjects and domiciled at Bagdad, and who marry Ottoman subjects, should follow the nationality of their wives, and should consequently be liable to military service and the Ottoman laws generally. Sir Henry Elliot has been engaged in the consideration of this question for some time past, and has addressed a communication to the Porte to the effect that the carrying out of such an order would be not only contrary to the capitulations, but to the Ottoman law itself, which provides that in the case of mixed marriages the wife shall follow the nationality of her husband, as well as the children born of such marriages. The Porte replied that the law in question could not be applied in this case, seeing that considerations of policy militated in favor of an exception being made in the case of the vilaet of Bagdad, and that the Government could not permit the formation of a foreign nucleus in that province, which might eventually become a large colony, professing the same religion as the inhabitants, but living under a different jurisdiction. The English Embassy has not replied to this last communication. For the present, the marriage of Turkish women with English Mahometan subjects will not be forbidden, as in the case of the Persians, but with the condition *sine qua non* that the husband shall follow his wife's nationality.—*Legal Herald.*

The last Mexican Congress gave a great impetus to railway development in the republic by its action in granting concessions to several American capitalists. One of its last acts was to ratify the contract with Edward Lee Plumb, whereby the great sugar and coffee producing districts of Central Mexico will be opened up to direct communication with the leading marts of the United States. Under the Plumb contract a road will be built from Leon, in the State of Guanajuato to the American frontier at the Rio Grande, 700 miles long, for which the Mexican Congress has granted a subsidy of $15,288 per mile. The Blair concession is for a railway through the State of Sonora to the Arizona border, and it is expected that the line will ultimately be extended to the important port of Mazatlan on the Pacific. A third concession was granted for the building of a short road connecting Matamoras with the Gulf. The shallow bar of the Rio Grande is the great obstacle to the prosperity of Matamoras and its American neighbour, Brownsville, and if this can be overcome by a railway, both places will be vastly benefitted. It is gratifying to know that we are advancing to meet the Mexicans half way. The railway system of Texas contemplates ultimate connection at several points with Mexico. When the Texas International and the Leon and Rio Grande lines and other connections are completed, it will be possible to make the through all rail journey between the City of Mexico and New York, by the way of St. Louis and Denison, Tex., or New Orleans, in six days. This iron link will bind the republics indissolubly together.—*World.*

FOR SALE.

A FAST STEAM YACHT; accommodation for 30 passengers.
Apply P. O. Box 38,
KINGSTON.

DEPARTMENT OF

Militia and Defence.

Tenders will be received until Noon on the

15th Day Of September, 1875,

For the supply of

FORAGE CAPS,

Also for the manufacture from Government Cloth of such

JACKETS, TROWSERS, and GREAT COATS,

As may be required for militia purposes during the years of 1875-6.

Patterns may be seen and further information will be given on application.

The Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

W. POWELL,
Colonel Adjutant-General of Militia.

Ottawa, Aug. 17, 1875.

GRAND

Scottish Gathering

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

St. Andrew's Society

OF OTTAWA,

Will be held at the BASE-BALL GROUNDS on

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1875.

FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS

in valuable prizes and purses will be awarded successful competitors in the celebrated Caledonian sports. The novel feature of "putting the ring" will be introduced for the first time in Ottawa. Some excellent horsemen have signified their intention of competing in this exhilirating Scottish pastime.

PROGRAMME:

Quoits—(Open to members only) 1st prize, an elegant silver cup presented by His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, to be retained from year to year by the winner; 2nd, $5.00.

Quoits—1st prize, gold medal, $20, by Hon. Jas. Skead; 2nd, writing desk, $12 50, by Smith & Stewart.

Boys Race—¼ mile, open to members sons under 14, 1st prize, silver cup, by Mr. J. Dimbleby; 2nd, $2.

Standing Long Jump—1st prize, gold medal, $10, by Mr. F. Champness; 2nd, $4.

Running Long Jump—1st prize, $5; 2nd $4.

Running Hop, Step and Leap—1st prize, $5; 2nd, $4.

Running Hop—1st prize, $5; 2nd $4.

Running Race (Heats) 1st prize, silver medal, $10, by Mr. A. F. Robertson; 2nd, $4.

Light Stone—1½ mile, open to members sons under 14, 1st prize, silver cup, by Mr. J. Dimbleby; 2nd, $2.

Standing Long Jump—1st prize, gold medal, $10, by Mr. F. Champness; 2nd, $4.

Running Long Jump—1st prize, $5; 2nd, $4.

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