

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

Dress and Mantle making—Miss Keating.
Change—The Cheap Cash House.
Change—C. Trovethan.

The Liberal.

RICHMOND HILL, Thursday, Oct. 15, '85

A PREMATURE MOVE.

We have more than once in these columns expressed the opinion that the present attempt to force the question of Independence on the public mind is ill-timed, ill-advised, and ill-calculated to bring about that most pressing of necessities—honest government. We deem it ill-timed because all history goes to show that every such great change, in order to be lasting and beneficial, must be evolved from circumstances the very nature of which demands it. Herein there must be no forced growth, if we are not to be met with the invariable result of hot-bed pressure—a plant, curious, indeed, to behold, but fragile, fleeting and unsuited in all requisite conditions of soil and climate.

We hold this question to be ill-advised, because there is nothing to show that those who are urging and advocating it are statesmen, patriotic, sagacious and far-seeing. On the contrary, its champions prove by every word they utter, that they are blown about by the viewless winds of change, and desire an upheaval of our present relations and constitution, not because it is necessary, but from that love of novelty which is based on the consideration that a revolution cannot injure those who have nothing, while not unfrequently it turns out for them a source of gain both of wealth and position. Our views of this phase of the subject are upheld by the pleas and arguments put forth by the Independence faction.

We are told that in our position of colony, Canada is not a nation, and cannot be one. This surely can be treated only as a 'touch of sentiment, because, colony though we may be, not the less are we a free commonwealth, unshackled by any bonds which our own hands have not riveted upon us. Then, the example of the neighboring republic is held up to us. Except to him who finds the greatest good of life to be in the acquisition of money, whose ideal of government is the demagogue, who thinks that the revolver is the best police, except to such a one the United States can present little that is pleasing.

Lastly we object to the raising of this question now, because it tends to divert the public mind from the enormous evils which now predominate in the councils of this country. Until we have the moral courage to put at the head of our affairs men of at least common honesty, it is silly to talk of our ability to walk alone. Until we burst free from the clutches of placemen and political hacks, it is idle to rave about a glorious future. Until we produce statesmen who are swayed in their actions by quite different considerations from those of the retention of power, purely for the sake of power, the accumulation of wealth, and the gaining of honors, it is utter rubbish to gloat about the weight of chains which are only fantastic, while we contentedly move along under a load of filth and obloquy compared with which slavery's most grinding fetters would be jewels, light and beautiful. We seem lost in the thick mud of ignorance and faction. We extol principle, while we delight to hold up the unclean garments of unclean men. We boast of our enlightenment, while we allow ourselves to be led by the nose by any and every political shark and trickster. If he only is a free man whom the truth has made free, then are we slaves indeed. Independence forsooth! 'Tis a pretty cry to be raised by those who emulously hurl themselves beneath the wheels of a juggernaut, which crushes and mangles all that is good and true and noble. What can Independence mean for us so long as we continue to grow fierce in the defense of men who are mainly either knaves or fools, while we placidly ignore all facts, all reason, all judgment? What can Independence mean for us so long as we give ear to those who lie and cheat for paltry ends, who speak the words of patriotism, while they rend the very vitals of the country? For the sake of decency, for the sake of shame, let us never mention the splendid word "Independence," until we become brave enough to say to these robber-rulers of ours—Give place to honest men.

THE ELECTIONS IN FRANCE.

The elections recently held in France contain a salutary lesson for a too impetuous radicalism. The conservative party in that country has made enormous gains at the polls. The cause of its great success appears to have been a violent reaction in the minds of electors against that stability-destroying dogma that all that is old is of necessity bad. It is in the nature of things that the promoters of great reforms must seem more desirous of change than of improvement. Yet the check given to the radicals of France is sure to prove only momentary. In their wild, tempestuous manner, they are real lovers of free and constitutional government. They are opposed to all class privileges, and although at times their enthusiasm may render them unjust, at heart they are sound, and must succeed.

It is impossible, moreover, not to see in this abnormally great Conservative victory a strong protest against the Ferry Government's rash schemes of conquest in China and Madagascar. Already millions of money and thousands of lives have been sacrificed in these hare-brained enterprises. It is certain that no French ministry will dare to disregard this stinging rebuke given to a policy which neglects the most vital interests at home in order to engage in vain-glorious and foolish ventures abroad.

No one need fear cholera or any summer complaint if they have a bottle of Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Dysentery Cordial ready for use. It corrects all looseness of the bowels promptly and causes a healthy and natural action. This is a medicine adapted for the young and old, rich and poor, and is rapidly becoming the most popular medicine for cholera, dysentery, etc., in the market.

Autumnal Forest Culture.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL:

Sir,—The fall is the time for tree-planting. Evergreens, indeed, do better in early June, but with care they will do well now. The great advantage of shelter belts, or what is better, broader plantations of forest trees, on the exposed sides of a farm, are now so well known that in many localities planting has of late been large. The farm without such has a barren and withered aspect, and will not sell, if the owner wishes to dispose of it, nearly so well.

Persons near woods where young trees are to be had, neither need wait to grow from seeds, or to go to nursery-men for plants. There are great quantities still to be secured, in fact, nursery-men and large planters have drawn their principal supplies from the woods, and as they have always been able to secure their stocks without much trouble, less attention has here been paid to growing from seed. The best time is after a fall rain, say about the fifteenth of October. In damp situations the plant can easily be pulled without injury; where they will not draw easily it will be necessary carefully to dig them up. It is well then to pack them tightly into the waggon-box, and, by the way, until you are ready to do this, keep them covered with moss or leaves, and keep the roots well covered with the same in the waggon. If we take them only one or two feet long, cut off the tap-root, leaving about six inches, plant them in beds at home, and in a season or two plant again where we want them, we will often make more rapid progress than if we had planted trees ten feet high from the woods at once.

Cedar, spruce, Norway spruce, pines, hemlock, larch, may all be planted now, as of course may be the deciduous trees. Where we find it possible to get large young trees with spreading, dense, fibrous roots, we can take them, they will grow at once. But with those trees which have but few roots and a long tap-root, there is more trouble. If we take these very small, and transplant twice, we shall have the best chance. We should remember to take all the leaves off the deciduous trees before planting.

Yours, &c.,
R. W. PHIPPS.

Toronto, Oct. 9th, 1885.

Thomas Robinson, Farnham Centre, P. Q., writes: "I have been afflicted with rheumatism for the last ten years, and have tried many remedies without any relief. I got a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, and found it gave instant relief, and since then have had no attack. I would recommend it to all."

MUSIC LESSONS.

Miss Bailey is now prepared to give lessons on Piano or Organ. Residence, opposite Presbyterian Church.

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