

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

Farm to let—James Oliver.

The Liberal.

RICHMOND HILL, Thursday, Aug. 20, '91

BE COURTEOUS TO ALL.

It is the duty of every grown-up person to endeavor to teach the boys and girls to be respectful at all times, and particularly to strangers. If this were done it might often save them from getting into trouble. Only a few weeks ago one of our citizens received an ugly stab from an infuriated passer-by who had been interfered with by some of the boys. On Monday afternoon a number of the small boys irritated and annoyed a couple of strangers until it was feared the latter might, through anger, harm some of the youthful offenders. It can scarcely be expected that the younger members of the population will be respectful towards strangers if they are told by grown-up on-lookers to "peit them with stones." The most that could be said against the strangers on Monday was that they were endeavoring to play music on a couple of wind instruments. A word now and again from our Village Fathers, when misconduct comes under their notice, would go a long way in correcting the boys' habits and manners. The Council should not think that building side-walks is their only duty.

There is a move among the members in both Houses at Ottawa to vote themselves an additional indemnity for this session to the amount of \$500, making for the members of Parliament, \$1,500 for the session. If this be done it will amount in the aggregate to about \$145,000. When such a suggestion is made in the House there is no difficulty in forming a coalition, whereas in all other matters it seems that the "Blues are always against the Buffs." In this question of salary it is said that many of the members on both sides have signed a round robin in favor of the advance. Those who have done so may expect their action to be criticized as it has already been condemned by both sides of the press. Before an election takes place it is a common occurrence to see a dozen or more planks in a candidate's platform, but never have we noticed one advocating an increase in the indemnity from \$1000 to \$1500.

The Public Schools in rural sections re-opened on Monday last after the holidays. In incorporated villages, towns and cities the High and Public Schools will recommence duties on Monday, the last day of this month. It is very important that pupils should be in their places at the re opening, as much confusion is often caused by entering after the classes have been formed. This is particularly the case with candidates preparing for examinations, and now applies to the Public School as well as to the High School, as in future the Entrance Examinations will be held only once a year—namely, at midsummer. Many a candidate loses an examination by a little carelessness at the beginning of the term.

If the Council expects the village constable to assert his rightful authority at public gatherings they should get for him a suit, a cap, or some other badge of office. At lacrosse matches, for instance, when excitement runs high, it is often necessary for him to tell strangers to move from certain positions. If the constable be dressed in civilian's clothes the strangers may think they have as good a right as he to stand in certain places, or do as they see him do. When people are told to "move on," as it were, it is only

right that they know from whom the orders come. By all means let the Council provide some article of dress by which our constable may be known while on duty. It is only justice to him as well as to those who are expected to obey his commands.

The third page of the Toronto DAILY MAIL is noted for "Want" Advertisements. If you want to buy or sell anything. If you want a situation, a mechanic, a business, machinery, lodgings, if you have lost or found anything, or if you want to find out where anyone is, advertise in the Toronto DAILY MAIL and read the advertisements on the third page of that page. The charge is Two Cents a word each insertion, Address THE MAIL, Toronto, Canada.

Civic Holiday.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL:

SIR,—Our Civic Holidays are not what they should be. Some individual takes it into his head that our village ought to have a Civic Holiday. That idea is perhaps suggested by a representative of some organization or society whose members are desirous of an outing without the loss of an extra business day. Those who are asked to sign the requisition do so as a matter of custom—a fear of disarranging the society's plans, or of indifference, rather than because of any particular interest they take in the proposed holiday. I have no disposition to find fault with the way in which our Civic Holidays are obtained, but rather with the result when that course is pursued. When a strong organization goes from home it takes with it the best part of the youthful bone and sinew of our village, leaving a large number of our citizens who have not the means, the privilege, or perhaps the invitation to accompany the excursionists, to mope at home, too few to venture on any effort of general amusement.

A Civic Holiday ought to be something more than a day of cessation from business—a mere shut up day to give to a few individuals who have the means to exert a chance to give some other town a gala day, or some distant park the benefit of their presence. It is not for villages and small towns to imitate large cities in their modes of celebrating their holidays. To cater for the amusement of so many tens of thousands is an unworkable affair, and as in the recent "Carnival" in Toronto sometimes an expensive failure. The natural tendency of the many thousands who are pent up in close streets all the year round is to rush to the country for a draught of fresh air, a blessing to us of daily enjoyment of which we have an abundance of the very best in circulation. Individually or collectively we all have the privilege of availing ourselves of cheap excursions whenever they are offered and we could fix our civic holiday so as to avoid them, but we must not forget to be loyal to our own town. At least once a year we should concentrate all our abilities and capabilities in the consideration of the greatest good to the greatest number.

Perhaps the best idea of the proper method of spending a Civic Holiday is to have what its name implies—something in connection with our own town. A programme in which all will be interested, old or young, male or female, rich or poor, gentle or simple, either as spectators, managers or performers. There is plenty of room for such a day of general amusement in our town. Fair day, the 24th of May, is to us a day of business, Dominion Day is utilized for church purposes, so also is Thanksgiving Day. We have no day in our village when we can all shut up house and camp out. Our children are growing up among us, if they could have a few lively Civic Holidays stuck full of fun in their experience, they would be red letter days in their memory when they bend under the responsibilities of later years.

Our Reeve and Council have authority to proclaim the day to be observed as a Civic Holiday. Could they not exert a little more authority and provide for its better local celebration? An energetic committee of active citizens could draft up a programme of rustic athletic games with simple prizes attached such as books, vases and articles useful and ornamental such as would be freely contributed from houses, shops and stores, gifts of but little value to the givers, but would be appreciated by the winners. Fire Brigade and other promotions, contests in lacrosse, football and toys of war, trials of speed, strength and activity and a score of other athletic games could be made to assist in making a civic holiday a day of hilarity to young and old.

And there need be no risk in the matter. We have a beautiful park in which to gather, with suitable surroundings. In case of a wet day the Agricultural Hall would accommodate all who needed shelter, with room in the centre for most of the games. Music such as the village could provide could be brought into requisition. If it was thought proper a small fee of five cents could be charged at the gate, so that outsiders as well as villagers could assist in defraying the expense. This would provide a fund for the better celebration of the next, making it a permanent affair. Civic Holidays like these would be enjoyed by all the kids, and boys of larger growth would shake off a little of their growing stiffness, spread themselves for a hearty laugh and join in the general fun.

CITIZEN.
Richmond Hill, Aug. 18th, 1891.

The International Sunday School Executive Committee is in session at Chateaufort, Quebec.

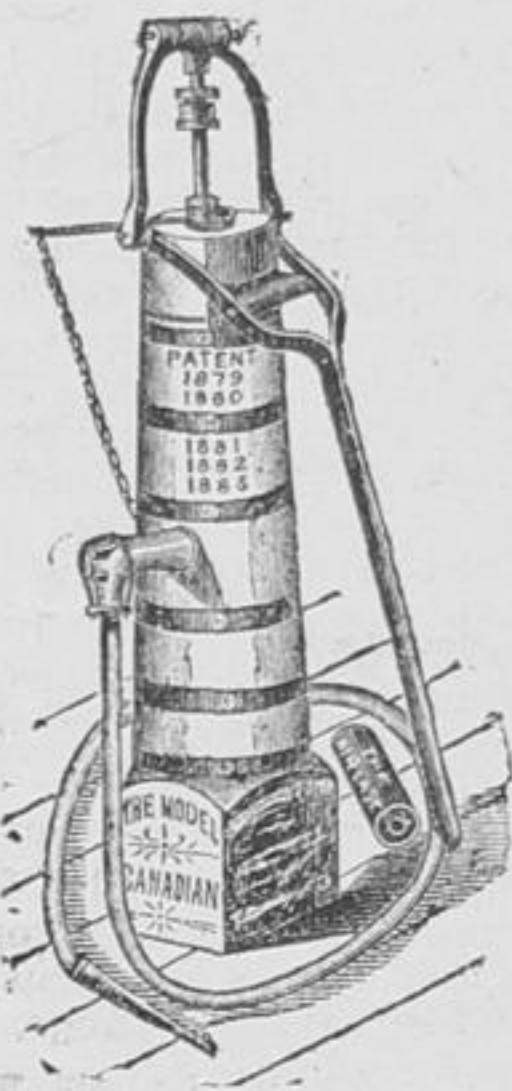
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