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The Liberal.

RICHMOND HILL, Thursday, Jan. 21, '92

THE DUKE OF CLARENCE.

The sad intelligence of the death of the Duke of Clarence, eldest son of the Prince of Wales, has been received in all parts of the British Empire with expressions of the deepest sorrow. Universal sympathy is felt for the Prince and Princess of Wales, as well as for her, who would in a short time have been a bride, had not the icy hand of death been laid upon her affianced. The death need not be looked upon as a national calamity as deceased was not possessed of brilliant accomplishments, and the vacant chair is not likely to make any different arrangement in the political situation of England. It is thought, however, that a marriage will be brought about between Prince George and Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, in order to remove the possibility of the Fife succession. As it now stands, in the event of death of the Prince of Wales and Prince George, the throne of England would revert to the wife of the Duke of Fife, and after her death to her daughter. Such a succession, which is not at all likely, would not suit the nobility of England. Had the reign of Queen Victoria been no better than some of her predecessors, many people might now be clamoring for the downfall of monarchical government. But her reign has been that of a perfect constitutional ruler, and her subjects have reason to love her as they do. In the recent death the nation also mourns with Queen Victoria, as the Duke of Clarence was regarded as her favorite grandson.

The Evening Telegram of Monday said in one of its editorials: "Population is one great need of this Dominion. The Canadian problem is solved when that need is supplied, and this being true, the wonder is that an enlightened Government should not shape its policy so as to serve these great ends."

The Telegram shows much surprise at the course of "an enlightened Government," yet it supports that Government in its so called National Policy, which is driving our people across the lines every year by tens of thousands. The same journal suggests the encouragement of immigration, but what is the use of expending large sums of money in bringing Europeans to this country when they will not remain with us. During the ten years between 1881 and 1891 the Dominion Government paid out over \$3,000,000 for 800,000 immigrants, but the census shows that the increase in population during the decade was less than the number of immigrants by about 300,000.

If you want to buy or sell a Farm, advertise in the Toronto WEEKLY MAIL. That paper reaches 100,000 Farmers' homes every week, and your advertisement should meet the eye of someone who wants to purchase. Advertisements of this class are inserted in the Toronto WEEKLY MAIL for Five Cents a word each insertion, or Twenty Cents a word for five insertions. Address THE MAIL, Toronto, Canada.

Places for Leisure Hours.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL:
DEAR SIR,—A letter from Dr. Wilson, published in your last issue, was read by me with considerable pleasure. In accordance with suggestions contained therein I have ventured to make a move, and ask for a little space in your columns, and much forbearance on the part of your readers, in order that a few words may be said on a subject which calls for serious and careful consideration.
The subject, or perhaps we might say, the question before us, is, "Where shall our young men spend their winter evenings?" This question comes up again and again as the season comes round, but up to the present time no solution has

been offered. In passing along our principal street in the evening, groups of young men and youths may be seen standing on the street corner, or sauntering listlessly along, hands in the pockets, a cigar or pipe in the mouth, seemingly nothing to do and nowhere to go.

Now, Mr. Editor, can we not make a move, go to work in earnest, and provide a place where these very important members of our village may be amused, interested and benefited. Can we not have a night school for those whose daily work prevents from attending the day school, and may there not be those who were careless about their school work when younger, but would gladly put their minds to it now when the experience of a few years has shown them the value of what they then neglected. Can we not have a Reading Room where the daily papers and current literature of the day may be provided for those who are anxious to seek information from these sources? Can we not have a place where music and games may be enjoyed, free from any harmful associations? In short can we not have for our young men a place where these may be combined, and form such an attractive resort that the long winter evenings will pass pleasantly, and with benefit to all?

We noticed in the report of a recent meeting of the Methodist Ministerial Association, of New York city, a paper was read on this subject, and it was proposed in earnestness to utilize the basements of the churches by turning them into gymnasiums, billiard parlors, reading rooms, etc., in order that the young men may be kept from the baleful influence of the bar-room with its gambling and kindred evils.

Will our village take up the matter, and let us have it well discussed in THE LIBERAL?

MARY WILEY.

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Discussions.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL:

SIR,—As a reader of THE LIBERAL I was glad to see Dr. W. J. Wilson interesting himself in the intellectual development of our people, young and old, by urging them to exercise their literary abilities in essay writing and discussions through THE LIBERAL. I think the doctor's suggestion excellent, and hope many will take the hint. In doing so, however, I do not think that it follows that an author should always write, over his own signature, as the doctor seems to intimate should be done, unless he prefers doing so. *Nom de plumes* are assumed by many of the best writers of the day and are often retained long after they have become famous. Fictitious names too have their advantages. We are more likely to judge correctly of the weight of an argument or the literary merit of a story if the character or the standing of the author is to us unknown. Such judgment is founded, not on the author's position but on his ability to interest, convince or amuse the reader. We do not want to know whether an author's standing in society is high or low or whether his circumstances in life are rich or poor, but we do want to know how to realize beneficial results from his education, his genius, his literary attainments and his argumentative acumen in the discussion of interesting subjects. If we are unacquainted with an author's individuality, in the heat of debate, we are less likely to drift into personalities.

In carrying out the Doctor's suggestion there is no scarcity of subjects, moral, religious or scientific,—real live questions of every day life—but it needs someone with ability and good judgment to push them into the arena of public discussion. There is really no necessity, as the Doctor thinks, to leave it to Foresters, Royal Templars, Workmen or any other organization to lead off. Collective wisdom is composed of the best ideas of individuals. The Doctor himself is an important unit in more than one of these very organizations. He is a gentleman of education and unquestioned ability. He is just the stuff. He should say, "Come, boys, let us have a debate. I will take the affirmative." Let him start the car of mutual improvement by utilizing some of the motive power in his own storage battery of intellectual dynamites and he will soon find others who will "catch on."

In our village we have ministers, High and Public school teachers, and a host of budding professors, besides ex-teachers, news paper correspondents and poets, a sufficient number of intellectual dynamites to electrify the whole community. The difficulty is in making the start. There are those of us who are willing to help. It is true we can not drive a fine horse and rig in the shape of a brilliant literary effort, but like the kids on the street, we can hitch our little sleds on behind, jog along, and enjoy the fun. The Doctor's prescription is alright, but we would like him to supply the tonic that will regenerate our failing intellects, and invigorate our mental capacities for the reception of his prospective knowledge. His advice is apropos, very suggestive, but it is like a hat without a head in it. Let the Doctor trot out a hobby.

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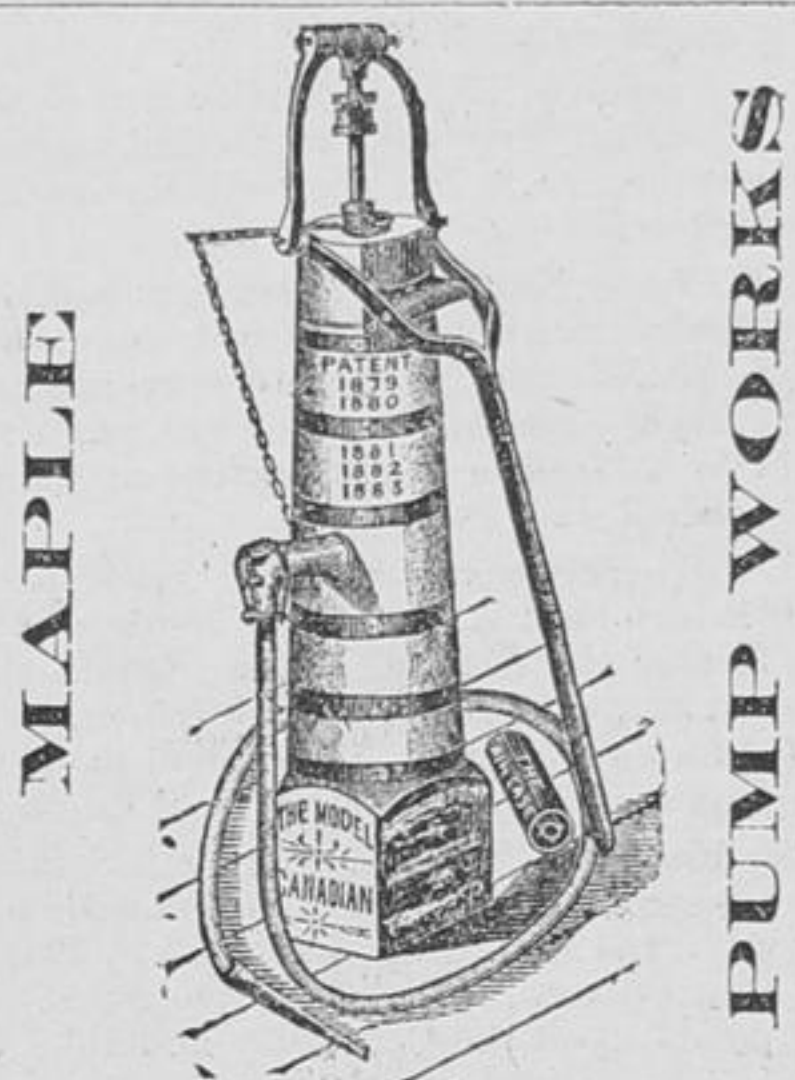
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