

The Durham Review

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17, 1908

Strathcona and Edmonton.

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The jumping-off place in what has been called "the best west." It is becoming known however how erroneous is that impression.

The financial stringency of 1908 has affected all the west, but there is here especially, an exciting waiting feeling that a new and greater development era is about beginning.

Strathcona was a revelation to us. We were far from expecting a city of about 8000 population with elaborate lighting, sewerage and fire protection systems, quite independent of Edmonton.

and though about to be linked this fall with a street railway service, have rivalries enough to produce a snarl now and then.
As elsewhere it is gratifying to find Educational interests well to the front.

There are of course abundance of beautiful homes, surrounded by richest of gardens, and the vegetables would startle South Grey Show. Everything but fruit.

The cities lie on opposite banks of the Saskatchewan about 250 feet above the river level. Edmonton is certainly a city on a hill, built close to the bluff while Strathcona is not.

Edmonton is a city of over 20000, growing to "beat the band" as is evi-

denced by two large schools erected this year. Its fine main street, Jasper Avenue, is almost ready for the street railway, which running by a belt line to Strathcona will cut out the great bus nuisance at present inflicted upon them.

We saw the massive cement-steel foundations of the new Parliament buildings, which in a few years will be a conspicuous object. The gravel used goes through a washing machine first, and it is said enough gold is found in the process to pay for the running of it.

The R. C. Church has a large Mission here, owns a great deal of property and has magnificent hospitals, churches, &c. At St. Albert, 10 miles north, they are erecting an enormous Convent, which we did not see.

In addition to what might be called modern industries, there is still an immense fur trade here, conducted since the earliest days of the Hudson Bay Co. Here is "the old Fort" perhaps as old as Toronto, situated on a strategic bend of the river, and near the new Parliament Buildings.

The streets, lined in many places by poplar groves are quite attractive. In the groves here and there, especially in the suburbs, are numerous tent homes, half tent-half lumber, occupied winter and summer, rents being very high.

For much of the material of this letter was furnished to Mr. A. C. Beaton, of Strathcona, formerly of Guelph, who with unalloyed kindness which will not soon be forgotten, took us to places of interest in both cities. He is now one of the leading city contractors and owns considerable property here which will inure to his benefit.

Another regret was missing by a few minutes our old friend, Will Harris, who left for Durham that day.

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Lenahan & McIntosh.

they approach the great religious questions from the "one point of view." As in medical research Serretus made discoveries as to the circulation of the blood, which with all the crudities of his theories, gives him a place in the line of investigators who paved the way for the work of Harvey, so in his bold speculations he takes his place among the fathers of the New Theology.

Nothing more clearly marks the change wrought in men's minds during those centuries than the reception given to the work of Serretus compared with that accorded to modern workers of a like class. When "The Restoration of Christianity" was published it was with the greatest difficulty that a printer could be secured. When Arrouillet of Vienna was at last persuaded to undertake the work he had to be done with the utmost secrecy. Neither place of printing nor name of author was impressed on the title page, though the original letters M. S. V. on the last page were later taken as evidence that it was written by Michael Serretus of Villeneuve. Never did author get a more hostile reception, for both Catholics and Reformers were bitterly opposed to it.

It is evident that such an issue is not to be settled without humble, patient, persevering and prayerful search for truth. Nothing is gained by harsh words and bitter recrimination. Surely the fires of that October day have given to the Reformers a cup to drink that has been bitter enough without adding more of the wormwood and the gall. Every individual has rights which demand not only tolerance but respect. No soul has ever been fired with a conviction that was not based on some phase of truth. Ours is to speak the truth in love, remembering that we are members one of another.

Now can it be settled by any appeal to authority. No creed has commanded itself to the Christian conscience with such universality as that of Nicea. By Catholic and Protestant it has been viewed as belonging to the very vitals of our religion, yet even such doctrines as those of the Trinity and the Person of Christ are not to be thrust upon us because of the authority of the body that formulated them, but because they are the true life of vital principles. The right of examination into the most sacred shrine must be conceded. Our motto must still be "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good." It is no time to lull ourselves to sleep with the assurance that the changes suggested by the new system are but trifling, yet we may be permitted to express the conviction that when the battle is fought out and we are put on record the things that are most surely believed among us, with greater humility and deeper reverence we shall acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Eternal Son of God and our Saviour.

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Cattle Breeding. II—Heredity.

T. H. BINNIE.

Editor REVIEW:

The great fundamental idea in all questions of cattle breeding is that "like produces like." Under ordinary conditions every animal will reproduce its own kind and even in the vegetable kingdom is this so. Who would look on an apple tree for pumpkins? From the beginning it was ever thus—like produced like. But this rule, like most others, has exceptions and these very exceptions serve to show the breadth and the minute influence upon detail, which the power embodied in this law has. Let us cite a few cases to show this power. First we have race peculiarities such as the large framed blonde type of the Teutonic peoples, the smaller dark-hued type of the Italian, the yellow of the Mongolian and the dusky curly-haired type of the negroes. As long as the races are kept pure these characteristics will be reproduced. Secondly we have family resemblance. Look at the pictures of the sovereigns of the house of Stuart and see how hard it is to tell one from the other and as they were alike in looks they were also alike in their headstrong, incapable nature that could learn from neither precept or experience. Thirdly we notice peculiar inheritances. For example we note that the race horse King Ban imported into Kentucky, had a very peculiar habit of standing with his forelegs crossed. Every year it was noticed that quite a number of his colts had inherited the same peculiarity. We often notice that bulls of a good milking strain will transmit this quality to their off-spring. Thus we say, "like begets like."

But while all these good qualities are highly inheritable we must also guard against the inheriting of diseases. Consumption and scrofula—for example, are both inheritable but even if the young animal does not inherit the disease it inherits a weak constitution in that direction and very readily yields to the disease. Diseases are not always inherited by the direct descendants. Often it will skip one generation and appear in the next.

Thus we see that the different characteristics and diseases are hereditary but in what proportion are they inherited from each parent? Many attempts have been made to show that one parent controls the outward appearance while the other controls the disposition. While this may be correct in a large number of cases there are a great many times it is not. Therefore this and all other theories must be cast aside. Until we find some such theory which can be proven let us say that the influence of each parent is equal. We know that this is not always the case but it is the basis of all calculations. We know that special influences such as prepotency often affect the calculation. But as like begets like we must consider each parent equally.

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