

THE DAILY WHIG. "Opiter per Orlem Dior."

OUR LITERARY FUTURE.

At a dinner in Toronto to Gilbert Parker, the minister of education made a brilliant address in which he spoke hopefully of the outlook for the literary future of Ontario. And he based his opinions on substantial grounds, which he thus enumerated:

1. The teachers in all our schools and colleges are better educated than ever before. True, there is still a good deal of horrible and inexcusable slang abroad in the land. Like the malaria that usually infects a new country before it is drained and cultivated, this most insidious foe to all literary excellence still lurks and stalks even in unexpected places and poisons the mental health of man and woman otherwise robust and vigorous.

2. Our universities give more attention to English literature than ever before. Possibly, in some cases, they aim more at a critical dissection of an author than at an intelligent and sympathetic appreciation of his work; still criticism presupposes some knowledge of the author's mind.

3. Our press has materially improved its literary standards within the last ten years. Editors have a finer and more form that must react upon the public taste and accuracy of expression.

4. The pulpit, so great a literary educator in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, is beginning to recover some of the ground lost at the beginning of this century, and the "sounding cymbal" is comparatively rare.

5. Free libraries are to be found in nearly every town and village in the province. We read in 1897 over 2,000,000 volumes as against about a quarter of a million fifteen years ago, and our reading embraced the whole circles of profitable and instructive literature, including the works of Gilbert Parker and other great writers of fiction.

Hon. Mr. Ross' reasons are sound, indeed.

THE INSPECTOR'S OFFICE.

The newspapers outside of Kingston have taken very early opportunity of attacking the post office inspector's branch here and of encouraging the government to discontinue it. It is suspicious when such suggestions emanate from Toronto. There is a steady movement in that city to deprive every other place of its officials, that they may be centred in Toronto and to fill up its vacant residences. It was therefore to be expected that an attack would be made upon the Kingston inspector's office when its lack of discipline was exploited in the court so freely last week. Of course, the officials are themselves to blame. It is a singular thing that when some men have a good public office, a snap in fact, that they are not content to live in peace and comfort with fellowmen, but must be always parading themselves to show how independent they are and how superior to official censure or interference. It is the misfortune of these officers to have liberal friends at their backs to assure them they are all safe, otherwise they would not be going about with chips on their shoulders challenging criticism or complaint. It is a singular thing also that clerks cannot devote themselves honestly to their share of public business, but must go on month after month literally doing nothing, as has been shown in an office not a hundred miles from the inspector's office, though not within it. They may devote so much time to ingratiating themselves with superior officers that they may succeed in keeping themselves in office against public policy and against the best opinions of their party, as well as the opposite one, but the day will come when there will be an overhauling like that which occurred last week in the post office inspector's office: then they will not alone suffer, but the whole community will be punished as well. Should the inspector's office be taken from Kingston it would be a blow to the city as the centre of eastern Ontario. Enquiries on behalf of Kingstontians are very numerous in the post office. These could not be carried out as effectually in Toronto and, therefore, Kingston has a reason to be disturbed at the prospect of losing a useful inspector.

SUPERANNUATION ABOLISHED.

The federal government has been obliged to abolish the superannuation scheme which has been so expensive and so unsatisfactory. It was meant originally to be self-sustaining, but there has been paid out, so far, in allowances, to retired officials, nearly three and a half millions more than has been paid into the fund.

The proposal is to suspend the operations of the act so far as those under ten years' service are concerned, and to apply the provisions of the new act, which deducts five per cent. from the salaries and allows interest at five per cent., computed half yearly and compounded. Any one not desiring to come under the new act, and its provisions, can retire and draw from the government one month's salary for every year he has been in the public service. The consideration the government has given the matter warrants it in assuming that the operations of it will be fair and equitable.

Of course the opposition objects. Mr. Foster thinks that the superannuation act, as the conservative government amended it, would eventually work all right, and Mr. Davin and Mr. McNeill joined him in declaring that the new measure will destroy the efficiency of the civil service. The superannuation scheme was designed to make the service permanent and to reward those who were faithful in the discharge of their duty. But the men who have so much anxiety about the service are the men who help to demoralize it. When they wanted offices for friends they had no hesitation in retiring those who were fresh and vigorous, and to whose service a period of years was added in order to make the superannuation allowance more acceptable. This was an iniquity, a proceeding not calculated at the founding of the fund, and it accounts in large part for the failure of the scheme. In truth superannuation had nothing to do with the permanency of the

service. It never stood in the way of Mr. Foster when he wanted to make a change.

A feature of the new bill is the provision that in the demise of anyone, or in the event of his retirement (at any age), or death, the sum total to his credit, with interest, will be paid to him or his representatives. That is right. The money is his, retained by the government, saved by it for him, and with a higher interest added than he could get upon it by any other investment as the money market now stands.

There are some who feel that the government would be the better without any of the schemes, that the civil servants should be trusted to make their own investments, but if there must be something of the kind the new measure is a great improvement upon the old, and it does not permit of abuse.

THE WOMAN OF FORTY.

Some Men Prefer Her To The Girl Of Twenty.

Is a woman of forty more attractive than a woman of twenty? is the question that was discussed the other day in the columns of the Chicago Times Herald. It was Balzac who explained the secret of the older woman's charm when he said: "The woman of twenty must be pleased, while the woman of forty tries to please."

Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus was one of the men interviewed by the Chicago reporter. "That's a deep subject," he said; "Speaking generally, however, a man of twenty is fond of a girl of twenty, and when he gets into his second childhood he is again apt to be fond of the girl of twenty, but the middle-aged man, as a rule, likes the mature woman."

"There is an interesting literary phase to this question," continued Dr. Gunsaulus, with a sudden inspiration. "To the man of genius for instance, youth is attractive for what it means to art. In other words, there is such a thing in art as a maiden being an old man's darling. There was Goethe, who certainly gave a most picturesque representation of youth. Rossetti, representative of mature art, found Miss Siddall interesting from an artistic point of view. To Dante, Beatrice was always young."

"On the other hand, Browning always liked to work with material found in the mature woman. Tennyson's growth in letters may be measured by the age of the women in his poems, and at last he wrote altogether of the older woman. This is also true in art, a splendid example being Watte, the great portrait painter, who refused to paint a woman who had not reached maturity."

The man of twenty is the creature of promise; the woman of forty possesses the fulfilled beauty.

"Of course, the caprices of the girl of twenty are delightful. One likes to see a young girl brilliant at blundering, because she has youth to get over it. If the sap is not running in the green tree, you know, there is little hope of brilliant foliage in the autumn. However, if she reaches middle age and is still a fool, there is no hope. The first childhood may be delirious because there is time to recover from its friskiness, but the second childhood is hopeless, because the next thing is the grave."

"You, both have their places in our hearts," asserted Dr. Gunsaulus in conclusion. "It would be a poor world without both of them."

REGULATE THE SPEED.

Cyclists Should Be Taught That They Cannot Search in the City.

"In my opinion I think the city council would do better to enact a measure regulating the speed at which bicycles could be ridden through the city streets, instead of considering the question of compelling the wheelmen to carry lamps and bells," remarked a citizen last evening as several searchers sped down Princess street. "Just observe those two bicyclists. Look at the speed at which they are riding. Supposing either one was to run down a citizen, the whole army of bicyclists would be made suffer for his thoughtlessness and carelessness. It would be an easy matter to determine the speed at which a bicyclist travels. Let the city engineer measure certain 'blocks' about the city, and a policeman or any citizen who sees a wheelman covering the distance at what they consider speed greater than that permitted by law, can easily time the offender and in this way bring him before the magistrate. There is more need of such legislation than there is in compelling all bicyclists to carry lamps. I don't think any of them would object to carrying bells, but often those I think are superfluous."

PRESS TOPICS.

Acts Shamefully.

Toronto Star. In its desire to further the interests of a political party the majority in the senate exhibits a shameless disregard of the plain limits of its functions.

John Bull is Good To His Own.

Buffalo Express. It is reported that a British warship has been sent from Kingston to carry provisions to a single English family in Santiago. That's the way Great Britain takes care of her subjects.

A Mob Of Partisans.

Toronto Telegram. He must be a daring friend of the senate who will be able to claim that the upper house is acting like anything but a mob of partisans if it rejects a franchise act which is a great improvement upon the inequity which its friends forced upon this country.

Carrier Pigeons At Sea.

Railway Review. The Federative Colombophile de Marseille (France), which has for five years been training homing pigeons for the purpose of securing information from ships at sea, now furnishes reports of the complete success of the experiments. Birds released from Marseilles steamers at a distance of three hundred and twelve miles from that port have reached the home lofts promptly. Similar experiments are being made on the Atlantic line, and it is not too much to expect that in the near future there will be less uncertainty concerning the fate of belated steamers.

A Baker's Dozen Of Saws.

Them ez wants, must choose. Them ez hes, must lose. Them ez knows, won't blab. Them ez guesses, will gab. Them ez borrows, sorrows. Them ez lends, spends. Them ez gives, lives. Them ez keeps dark, is deep. Them ez kin earn, kin keep. Them ez aims, hits. Them ez hes, gits. Them ez waits, wins. Them ez will, kin.

The Cook Of The Walk.

Is the Columbus Royal Flash bicycle, on view at Corbett's hardware.

DISTRICT DASHES.

News of the District Condensed From the Whig's Exchanges.

Charles Collins, an aged and respected citizen of Tweed, died on Wednesday. Wilson Thomas and Maud Goodfellow, Sydneyham, were married at Poodaddy on June 1st.

G. W. Thornton has purchased the boat livery of Thomas Diamond, Belleville, and will supply a first class outfit for enjoying the pleasant pastime.

Augustus Keech, North Fredericksburgh, has a sow that astonished and delighted him with a litter of sixteen pigs at one time recently. Who can beat that record?

M. J. O'Brien, Renfrew, is busily engaged getting horses and equipment ready for a trip to Nova Scotia, where he has secured an eighty-mile contract of railway building.

J. C. Long, Richmond, shows a sample of barley already headed out before the 28th of May. This is the earliest Mr. Long ever remembers seeing barley headed out at that date.

On Wednesday Miss Minnie Dorway, Lanark, was united in marriage to Rev. R. G. Watt, St. Stanstead, Que. The ceremony was performed in the Congregational church in the presence of a large number of invited guests.

Word has been received from South Africa that John W. Easterbrook, late of Tweed, has been laid up with the fever. He has been taken to a hospital. William Leal, William Maunders and Frederick Gard were also ill with fever.

On May 7th James Jackson died in the township of Ameliasburg. The position in which the body was found by the spring proved the death was the result of an accident. A statement appeared that James Jackson had committed suicide. The heirs desire this erroneous report contradicted.

Two or three months ago John M. Ferguson, Renfrew, purchased from an itinerant salesman a little rustic table and with it decorated his sitting room. This week the tripod legs began to grow, and out through paint and varnish green shoots have thrust their way and are now growing steadily.

Helen Hallaghan came to Belleville with a certificate of character from the rector of Ormsby. She found employment at W. L. Hamilton's, but after a few months' service left hurriedly for, it is supposed, her home. Simultaneously \$400 worth of silverware was found missing, and suspicion rested upon the girl. Mr. Hamilton and chief of police Newton, have gone in search of her. A gold watch a diamond brooch, etc., were found missing about a month ago, but no one thought Miss Hallaghan guilty of such a crime.

A LONG LIST.

This Whole Column Would Not Contain The Names Of The Many Prominent Ministers, Members Of Parliament and Professional Men All Over This Continent Who Have Been Cured Of Catarrh By Dr. Agnew's Catarrh Powder—It Gives A Relief In Ten Minutes.

Volumes of testimony have been written of its curative powers. Catarrh is an aggravating malady, insignificant in its beginning—a little cold in the head—neglect it and soon you're in its thrall. Eighty in every hundred have the taint. Dr. Agnew's Catarrh Powder will cure the slightest cold in the head, and cure the most stubborn case of catarrh. "Its action is instantaneous says one." "I feel it my duty to recommend it to the public," says another. "Never got relief until I used it," says another, and so on and on. Acts like magic and always cures. Sold by W. H. Medley.

George Henry, eight years old, is missing from London.

It is poor economy to buy ordinary tea when Blue Ribbon can be had at a reasonable price.

DO YOU WANT To Buy Some Special Bargains This Week?

The Taylor & Co. Bankrupt Stock Sale

Is offering many inducements. Some things can be bought ahead for early Fall and money saved on it. Mantle Cloths at half price. Heavy Dress Goods at half price.

Bargains in Shirts and Cottonades at 10c, 12 1/2c yard. Grey Cottons at 5c and 6c yard, extra good. 40 in. Grey Cotton 6c yd. 36 in. Apron Gingham 10c yard. Linen Towels worth 35c for 25c pair. White Quilts, largest size, \$1.50 for 90c. Lace Curtains, about 25 pairs left, extra cheap. Women's Fast Black Cotton Hose, spliced heel and toe, 10c, 12 1/2c pair. Women's Full Fashioned Tau Cotton Hose worth 25c for 15c. Shirt Waists 75c for 50c. Shirt Waists \$1.25 and \$1.50 for 75c. Lace Collars at half price. Men's Black Striped Shirts at 50c worth 75c. Men's 50c Flannelette Shirts for 35c. Men's Linen Collars 5c each.

For Big Bargains Come to the Winding-Up Sale of the TAYLOR & CO. Stock.

"THE BLACKSTONE" CIGAR. "THAT'S ALL."

Home Work for Families. SIMPLE OPERATION. A PAIR IN 30 MINUTES. WE WANT the services of a number of families to do work for us knitting Seamless Bicycle Stockings, Woodmen's Socks, and Motormen's Mittens. WE FURNISH machine and material under contract to Reliable Families Only. Yarn is very light, and by sending it out and having it returned by parcel post as finished, we are enabled to employ a larger number of people, and thereby save taxes, insurance, and interest on money. STEADY WORK and GOOD PAY (whole or spare time) to those who make prompt returns. For particulars ready to commence send name and address: THE CO-OPERATIVE KNITTING CO., Georgetown, Ont.

"Round Shouldered" A special type of "Fit-Reform" suit, cut loose and straight, with skillfully moulded collar, which rolls high in front, but low and full, with ample cloth at back, giving more erect appearance, and greater prominence of chest. Best business suit, for such a form is a three button Sack like this—for dress, Tuxedo. Close fitting body coats as 'Morning', 'Shooting' or 'Prince Alberts' accent the rounded curve of the back. A man may know just how his suit will look on him before he buys, if he selects the right shape of ready-to-wear "Fit-Reform" garments. Makers' brand and limited price in left breast pocket. FIT-REFORM CLOTHING. \$10, \$12, \$15, \$18, \$20 per Suit. Catalogue from Fit-Reform Clothing Co., Montreal.

Nearest Agencies—D. W. DOWNEY, Brockville, THE KENNEDY CO., Limited, Montreal.

More June Bargains.

Just placed in stock \$500 worth of Silk and Val Laces in Creme, Black and White, also 75 dozen Swiss Embroidered Handkerchiefs. The entire lot goes on sale to-day at prices equal to 65c on the dollar. Silk Laces from 10c yard up. Val Laces from 15c per dozen yards up. Swiss Handkerchiefs from 10c each up.

ANOTHER JUNE BARGAIN—

Stripe Pongee Silks, in handsome color combinations, worth 75c for 50c yard. New Ribbons in Plaids, Moire, Silk and Satin, all widths, selling at less than wholesale prices. A lot of New Millinery Trimmings and Ornaments at half prices. Every day new lines are coming in that will put snap and life into the June buying. Store open to-night until 10 o'clock. When 10 o'clock comes the door is closed, business stops. We don't keep open until the last nickle on the street has been gathered in. Not built that way. We have some consideration for our employees.

Starr & Sutcliffe, FORMERLY RICHMOND & CO. 118 and 120 Princess Street.

CHANGE IN BUSINESS SALE OF HIGH CLASS SHOES at SUTHERLAND'S COMMENCING SATURDAY, JUNE 4th.

On account of a change in the business on July 1st we have decided to inaugurate a Gigantic Sale of High Grade Shoes in order to reduce stock prior to the change. This will not only be a Sale of Cheap Shoes at Immense Bargains, but a sale of the Finest Shoes, manufactured expressly for our best trade, by high grade manufacturers, which will be cut down to Clearing Out Figures.

On account of the Ridiculously Low Prices at which goods are being marked ALL SALES WILL BE FOR CASH ONLY. JOHN H. SUTHERLAND. POSITIVELY NO APPROBATION DURING SALE.

Lawn Mowers, Garden Hose, Water Coolers, Refrigerators, Ice-Cream Freezers, Wire for Window Screens. A Good Assortment and Prices Right. McKELVEY & BIRCH, 69 and 71 Brock Street, Kingston.

THIS IS THE CELEBRATED "DAZZLER LAMP" WE SEND TO ANY ADDRESS IN CANADA ON RECEIPT OF \$1.25.

5,000 "Dazzlers."

WE RECENTLY PURCHASED A JOB LOT OF 5,000 DAZZLER BICYCLE LAMPS, AND IN ORDER TO CLEAR THEM HAVE APPLIED THE PRUNING KNIFE TO PRICES.

THE DAZZLER BICYCLE LAMP is recognized among dealers and wheelmen as one of the best lamps manufactured to-day.

Some few weeks ago the manufacturer offered us a big reduction, providing we ordered 5,000 of them. The cut was a substantial one, and we accepted the offer, having the entire lot delivered at our Brantford factory.

Already a large number of them have been sold, and orders are now being received daily.

To clear out the entire lot quickly, we will send a single lamp to any address in the Dominion on receipt of \$1.25.

To the trade we offer substantial discounts on lots of a dozen or more. A post card will bring special prices.

WRITE TO-DAY, AS THEY ARE GOING RAPIDLY, AND CANNOT BE REPLACED AT PRESENT PRICES.

ADDRESS The Brantford Bicycle Supply Co., Limited, BRANTFORD, ONTARIO. In writing, kindly mention this paper.