

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MATTERS THAT ARE ATTRACTING THE PUBLIC MIND.

The Scott Act Discussion Still Continues—Annexation is Not What Mr. Shibley Cracks It Up—A Very Vigorous Defence of Canada.

KINGSTON, March 15—(To the Editor): May I ask you if Mr. Shibley's letter printed in your issue of the 13th inst., was written in earnest or as a playful skit, for from the light and airy way in which he pictures the relative conditions of Canada and the United States I would fancy that earnestness was far from his mind when he wrote. It is so easy to make statements and yet so hard to prove or disprove them. I may say that almost every sentence of Mr. Shibley's remarks on Canada and her neighbor can be vigorously opposed, and to my mind successfully refuted. But as I said before any one can make a simple statement which it would take the cleverest man some time and trouble either to confute or substantiate. No one has yet proved that commercial union with or annexation to the United States will be beneficial to Canada. Assertions and statements to that effect have certainly been made, but appeals to the cupidity of both nationalities have been the only argument used. No refutations have been made to the solved arguments of those opposed to commercial union and annexation. Mr. Shibley says: "I love my country. That country is Canada." Does he ever think of the fact that with annexation the word "Canada" disappears from geography and becomes a thing of the past? Instead of Canada we shall have the various states of Ontario, Quebec, etc., and "Harrison," "Cleveland," "Franklin," etc. (vide map published in the New York World).

"Brother" then a man with soul so dead, Who never to himself has said, This is my own, my native land. I am afraid annexation would cause a serious sentimental blow to Mr. Shibley, and consequently he ought to be its vigorous opponent. What would have been the results to the world if 300 years ago a small country called England, with 4,000,000 people only, with no army and an inferior navy, had gone in for annexation to the mightiest power in Europe, whose soldiers were the best in the world at the time? The European world looked on the apparently unequal struggle, feeling certain that England would be absorbed. But I needn't repeat the story of the defeat of the armada, or relate how England, through those stormy times, proved the anchor of religious and civil liberty, as she again proved herself to be during the Napoleonic wars. England with all her faults is still to be loved, and it will be a bitter day when Canada throws off all her past historic relations with the mother country and attaches herself to a country whose population is every day getting less and less Anglo-Saxon and, consequently, less and less in sympathy with Canadians. One half of the population of the United States are not of the mother stock, but are Africans and the sweepings of southern Europe, with their touch of oriental blood. The climate of Canada alone protects her from the contamination of such influences. But this is strong language, Mr. Editor, but none the less true. Mr. G. M. Macdonnell never spoke a truer word than when, at a meeting of the imperial federation league in this town, he referred to the wide difference in the characters of Canadians and people of the United States, as a body. That this is also the opinion of our neighbors is shown by the last 4th July oration at Fargo, Dakota, by Col. Doonan, by Mr. H. L. Osgood's article in the Popular Science Quarterly, and by Mr. Talmage's sermon last Sunday at Brooklyn. All these American writers have drawn a far worse picture than I have attempted to do. And yet Mr. Shibley says that "the Star-Spangled Banner has no stain on it." No, not one. This banner tries to pose as the giver of freedom to slavery. But when the war broke out this was not on the programme, but was forced on the northern army partly by the hope of weakening southerners and partly by the demand of northern manufacturers, who did not like the competition of cheap labour. When England freed the slaves in her dominions she voluntarily paid \$100,000,000 to effect it. This is the difference of character between the two nations. One noble and self-sacrificing, the other selfish and grasping; and is Canada going to turn rashly, because she thinks she is bearing a few troubles which time will solve, from a noble mother, however ill-judged she may have been at times to another people, whose worse passions are being aroused to obtain Canada on the ground of gain and profit—to whom? Canada? No; to the people of the United States.

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIONS.

A Second Appearance in the City Hall—Natives of Many Lands.

There was a fair audience in the city hall last evening when the Olive Branch mission band of the Presbyterian churches repeated its entertainment with the addition of many novel features. The poultrytrials of various national costumes and customs were faithfully accomplished, and proved interesting and instructive. Prof. Marshall, of Queen's university, occupied the chair and made a short but very happy address, and then brought on the various items of the programme. Queen's university orchestra supplied delightful music during the evening. India was represented by Mr. Potter, Miss Maggie Allen and Miss Givens, who had a little native with her in the person of Nickle McCormack. After Mabel Boyd had given a charming recitation a Hindoo school opened in which Misses Beattie, Claxton and others participated. Trinidad was presented by Mr. McLennan, Misses Thomson and Maggie Houston. The almond-eyed Chinese were fitfully portrayed by Messrs. Ed. Crumley and J. T. Scott, Misses Pottle and G. Hardy, and little J. McN. C. Scott. George Andrews offered a recitation, followed by the presentation of New Hebrides, exemplified by Mr. Kelllogg, Misses Alice Campbell, Annie McBride and G. Hardy. Miss Gertrude sang very sweetly "Far, Far Away." She has a remarkably clear voice. The North-West costumes were shown upon the persons of Mr. J. A. Macdonald, Mr. Walter Ross, Misses Nellie Harold, Miller and Jennie McLeod. The school was conducted by Miss Thomson. Japan was happily represented by Misses McCormack, Maggie Harold and Allen. Toshi Ikenara gave an address and sang in his native tongue. He caused amusement. Master Willie Grant appeared in genuine Japanese dress. Africa was present in Ethiopian gloom. The characters were Messrs. R. Houston, W. McGaw, Philip Nash, Misses Ethel Claxton and McMahon. The other countries delineated were: Egypt, Mr. Scott, Misses Campbell and Connors; Arabia, Mr. Miller; Palestine, Mr. Menzies; Ceylon, Mr. Ecklin; Walter Nash, Miss Houston; Greenland, Mr. Shorey, Miss Hudgins. The recitation of Miss Maggie Henderson was delightful. The children sang sweetly.

Truths About the Scott Act.

KINGSTON, March 15.—(To the Editor): My attention has been attracted by an article in the WHIG of the 12th instant, intitled "Mistakes of the Scott Act Party." The whiskey loving correspondent who wrote that article is grossly ignorant of the matters about which he is writing, and so blinded by prejudice in favour of the liquor traffic that he could not tell the truth if he knew it. He says: "There is no question but that more liquor has been consumed in the county, and more people have used it during the time the Scott act has been in force than in any similar preceding period." Now this statement is a most unmitigated falsehood, and would be made only by a man who is ignorant or prejudiced. Certainly no man who travels through the county and stops at the places that were once licensed taverns would make such statements if he had any regard for truth. One may take any road out of the city he likes, and in the places where before the Scott act he would find ten or a dozen or more persons on their way home from market, and perhaps as many more from the surrounding hamlet or village, or scattered country houses where there was no village about the tavern, crowded into the bar-room, drinking, smoking, telling nonsensical stories, indulging in loud talking and laughing, and always being accompanied by much swearing and sometimes with quarrelling. They spent their money and wasted their time, leaving their teams to shiver outside, and their families at home expecting them with very unpleasant forebodings. I will now find nobody hanging about, and at most two or three sober men warming themselves quietly while their teams feed and rest. Persons who needed to stop for that purpose, and not half drunken individuals such as formerly gathered in these places to prolong further, and often far into night, the spree which they had begun in the city. Your correspondent does not know, or if he does, fails to tell the truth about these matters, for any body who travels the country at all cannot fail to see around him, everywhere, incontrovertible evidence of the fact that Scott act has suppressed nine-tenths of the drinking with its concomitant

rhyme of the races.

TOMMY GREEN MENTIONS THE MANY CURIOUS INCIDENTS.

High Jinks Among the Spectators—The Snowball Brigade Make It Very Warm for Some People—A Policeman's Dilemma—rotting Under-Difficulties.

The Camptown ladies sing dis song. do da, do da. The Campton race track's five mile long. Oh do da, do da do. I'm gwine to run all night. I'm gwine to run all day. Bet my money on de bob-tail nag. Somebody bet on de bay. —Camptown Races.

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIONS.

A Crime For Which a Batteryman Should be Sternly Treated.

Gunner T. Crannem, of "A" battery, was tried at the police court to-day for sodomy. The proceedings were conducted with closed doors. H. Jones, a trumpeter in the corps, was the chief witness. The crime occurred on March 8th, the prisoner forcing the lad, who is fourteen years of age, to go with him to the wash room. Here the vile offence was attempted. The prisoner was disturbed by another soldier, and the facts were revealed when the lad was examined. It was thought Crannem had given the youth liquor and this was why he was questioned. The prisoner pleaded drunkenness, and declared that he was the victim of spitefulness. Jones said that while he was in the bath room his cries were suppressed by the fellow keeping his hand over his mouth. The prisoner admitted serving five years in the penitentiary for a similar crime. The magistrate reserved his decision.

Superannuation Fund.

Mr. James Devlin, engineer of the Kingston penitentiary, is in Ottawa representing the officers of the Kingston and St. Vincent de Paul penitentiaries, asking that the superannuation system be extended to the officers of the penitentiaries, on the ground that they were employed in dangerous public work. The minister admitted the justice of the claim, but made no promise.

The Giving of Puzzles.

Joseph Theobald has presented five puzzles to the police force. He might have made it the even half dozen but for his extreme sensitiveness. However, here is the sixth one, that he kept back: "Where were the police when Joe got his plug hat knocked off with a snowball at the races?"

RHYME OF THE RACES.

TOMMY GREEN MENTIONS THE MANY CURIOUS INCIDENTS.

High Jinks Among the Spectators—The Snowball Brigade Make It Very Warm for Some People—A Policeman's Dilemma—rotting Under-Difficulties.

Bringin smartly to their senses those who got beyond control, And having settled Gallagher with Johnny took a deal, Johnny Wilmot, down from Pittsburg, who made the judges feel Extremely small indeed by the way in which he shouted, That they didn't know their business, but that he knew about it, And Johnny would have blustered without the least cessation For a week, if not for snowballs blocking further conversation. Mr. Theobald's plug hat suffered damage in like fashion, (This wearing plugs in winter with Joe is quite a passion.) A race that was announced between a splendid pair of mules Was stopped when Simmons notified 'twas bang against his rules. As a member of the Army he'd joined for his salvation, To ride races on the fair grounds, though he did it round the station When he ran with Mr. Taylor, and next day they got no prizes, But narrowly escaped the coming spring assizes. Of course there were refreshments, these always should be present On a race course well conducted, and help to make things pleasant. I was told by one I trusted that intoxicating drinks Werent sold upon the fair ground, being apt to cause high jinks; That the only grateful liquid to give thirsty ones relief Was supplied by Pat McLaughlin and was Johnson's Fluid Beef. It may have been but this I know, and don't hesitate in stating, This fluid beef of Johnson's has great power of elevating, For Johnson's beef made some rejoice, each moment growing gladder, Until they really couldn't see a hole through any ladder. There's one incident that's trifling, but its just as well to mention, About the shoe of Governor that caused no much attention. He lost it (so they say) when the night was drawing nigh, But afterwards, when much refreshed, gave the other nags "go by." But to tell of all the sports, their noises, and their tricks Would put yours very truly in a rather mazy fix; And there's not a man in Kingston who was present at the fun Could remember half the curious things that on that day were done. It might have been the cold or the slush or Johnson's beef (That grateful fluid Patey gave for thirsty one's relief) That made me mix my notes of names, ages, and the places Of the splendid show of skin-bags gathered in for Kingston races; But this I know, that ne'er before were races ever seen That caused so much amusement to your faithful TOMMY GREEN.

CIRCLE OF THE CHURCHES.

Denominational Paragraphs That Will be Read With Much Interest.

Rev. L. Perrin, B.A., Queen's university graduate, has accepted a call to Pickering, Ont. Rev. Dr. Hooper will preach in the Baptist church to-morrow morning, and the pastor in the evening. Rev. J. J. Leach, Ph.B., Newburgh, has received a call from the Methodist congregation at Calgary, N.W.T. The evangelistic services in the Baptist church on Monday and Tuesday evenings will be addressed by Rev. W. W. Weeks, of Brockville. Rev. Mr. Smythe, of Wellington, has resigned and will leave the parish about Easter. He is father of Dr. E. H. Smythe. Rev. George McKelvie, having intimated a preference for Mhow, India, as his field of labour, was appointed by the mission council to take charge of that station. Rev. J. H. Buchanan, M.D., was married January 25th, in the Canadian mission church, Indore, to Miss Mary Mackay, M.D., one of the lady medical missionaries of our Central India staff. Missionary services will be held in the Methodist churches, Queen and Sydenham streets, to-morrow. Rev. Thos. Crosby, of Fort Simpson, B.C., who has been identified with the Indian work in the Pacific coast since 1868, will be one of the delegation. He is a man full of enthusiasm, one who has dared much and whose life has been miraculously saved on many occasions. His narration of incidents in that rough and uncivilized country are well worth listening to. Rev. Dr. Antliff, the exponent of Methodism in Dominion Square church, Montreal, is a gifted man. He is an English man, and was the leading clergyman of the Primitive Methodist church. He has filled many important pulpits. He is a graduate of Edinburgh university. He is a brilliant speaker with a powerful voice and a highly cultivated mind, brimful of knowledge. One of his pupils, when teaching in England, was the now celebrated Michael Davitt. Mr. Antliff preaches in Queen street Methodist church in the evening.

PERSONAL MENTION.

People Whose Movements, Sayings and Doings Attract Attention. Mr. Farrar, editor of the Toronto Mail, has resumed his duties. Rev. S. G. Bland is quite comfortable. He suffers very little pain. Peter Keogh, of the inland revenue department, has been transferred to Guelph. On dit that J. Ross Robertson will be the next grand master of the grand lodge A.F. & A.M. Rev. T. Crosby, missionary from British Columbia, is the guest of A. Chown, Queen street. James Wilson, Kingston, is in charge of Mr. Cascallen's undertaking department, Napanee. Joseph Perry, formerly of Sharbott Lake, is conducting a ten cent store in Little Rock, Ark. Mr. Stinson and family will leave for Emerson, Manitoba, next week. They will reside permanently there. Col. Hance will accept the presidency of Cape Vincent village. He will also take the village postmastership if President Harrison consents. The salary is \$1,200. Hon. John Macdonald, Toronto, has resigned the presidency of the Dominion evangelical alliance. He objects to the alliance endeavoring to utilize the organization for political purposes. Eugene Schuyler, assistant secretary of state, Washington, D.C., will have charge of the Canadian consulates. From him all instructions will be taken. He is an accomplished gentleman and a diplomat. He has been minister to Rumania and consul general to Greece and Turkey. He is an author, having written "The Life of Peter the Great."

A. W. WRIGHT ON LABOR.

TALKS FOR SEVERAL HOURS TO KNIGHTS OF LABOUR.

Some of the Wrongs Under Which Labour Labours—Over Production is Not the Cause of Panics—Advocating Shorter Hours—The Workingman Will Benefit By the Change.

An interesting lecture was delivered last evening by A. W. Wright, of Toronto to the knights of labour of this city, in their hall. The room was crowded. Many toilers had to stand. During the course of the lecture, lasting two hours, Mr. Wright said that in discussing the labour question, (perhaps more correctly called the social problem,) they must begin right, and according to the rules laid down governing discussion. Men divide themselves into two classes. There are the slow-going conservative men, cautious and anxious that every step they take is well shaped. Then there were the more radical men, hot-headed and hasty. It was well that these two classes compared ideas. There were also two classes of men having two entirely different places. If this were not the case there would be no social problem worth discussing. There were men guided by internal tendencies, and if nations and people were guided in this way the social problem would not need to be dealt with. These men believe that they are creatures of blind chance, and their only religion is fatalism. He considered that this doctrine was not true. If, on the other hand, the conditions by which men are surrounded are largely determined by the direction they take in life, then there was a social problem to decide. He believed they could change the character of men by changing their conditions. Have not all the inventions and improvements the world has ever seen been due to the environments and surroundings of the men who made them? He claimed that there is an unfair distribution of wealth. People will tell them that this is due to the greater intelligence and thrift of the wealthy people. This was not correct. It was because there was not enough wealth for all classes. They had men tumbling over each other producing nothing, and dozens of people doing what one person could do. Factories and business establishments are cutting each other's prices and making men suffer by this. Leaving the idlers out, if the wealth of the world were fairly divided poverty would be abolished. It is claimed that the cause of suddenly recurring panics is over production. During the bread riots in New York the advocates of the over production theory pointed to the well stocked granaries overflowing with grain, and argued that they knew over production was the cause of the trouble. This was said in the face of the fact that thousands of people were starving. Another argument used was that the population of the world is growing faster than the power of wealth. He believed in one universal God, and that He, who created this world, was infinite in His wisdom. In as much as they found these myriads of worlds moving in harmony they could not accept any doctrine which argues that God planted in the human heart two wishes equal in themselves, but which if worked together would destroy each other. There have been many inventions, but they are not labour-saving, but money saving machines. They decrease the demand for labour and reduce the price of wages. The increase in the population has also the same tendency. If these two good things work evil to the human race then there must be something wrong. It must, therefore, be the competitive wage system which is wrong, and they should try to remedy it. Two hundred years ago the hours of labour per day were eight, and now they were advocating a return to the old system. Reference was made to the fundamental evils which underlay the commercial system of the country, and cause the unequal distribution of wealth and the terrible poverty existing on all sides. He held that the earth was given to all God's children. God is just, and to prove that He is unjust is to prove there is no God. He saw the following scriptural passage in the walls of a church in Detroit: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." It was a wonder some person did not change the passage to read: "The earth is the landlords and the fullness thereof." He denounced land monopoly, and contended that land purchased for speculative purposes and unimproved should be taxed as high as improved land. Usury was another practice the lecturer condemned. He instanced the several kinds of usurers in existence. It was the aim of the knights of labour to get rid of land monopoly and usury. He believed in land nationalization. He referred to the railway system and claimed that railways should be built by the government in the interest of the people. The objection was made that in such a case there would be great corruption. If this occurred would not the opposition papers expose it? The government should control the telegraph systems and issue money for legal tender. He held that women should be at home instead of in factories. They should be the instructors of their families and this they could not be if they made their homes only lodging houses. He deprecated strikes and said the knights of labour were not in sympathy with them. But they should organize not only for wage purposes but for educational purposes. They should study the co-operation of a wiser system of political economy. By organization they will prevent bloodshed when a social rebellion was brought about. They should patronize the goods that are made by people who get fair wages.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

Table with columns: STOCKS, MONTREAL, ASK'D, OFF'D. Lists various stocks and their prices.

JOSEPH FRANKLIN, Windsor Hotel Block, Princess Street, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

PRODUCE COMMISSION DEALER. Headquarters for Clover, Timothy, Field and Garden Seeds. Choice Family Flour, Strong Bakers' Flour a specialty.

Easterly winds, fair weather, a little higher temperature.