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RANDOM READINGS.

Broken up Into Sled-Lengths and
Sifted Through the Brain of The
Editor.

Queen's Jubilee Notes.

On Thursday last, Mr. Fielding presented
to the house a message from the Governor-
General transmitting a special estimate of
twenty-six thousand dollars to cover the ex-
penses of the Jubilee contingent to England.
The House immediately went into committee
of supply upon them.

This is a pretty stiff price for Canada to
pay for the great show. What has become
of Laurier's democracy? Has he also been
seduced by the syren of Imperialism?

The Irish Will Not Participate.

LONDON, May 28.—Mr. John Dillon,
chairman of the Irish parliamentary party,
presided to-day at a meeting of 25 Irish
members of parliament who adopted a reso-
lution declaring that the Irish parliamentary
party is unable to take part in the celebrations
of the Jubilee. "on the ground that the
demonstration is not simply commemorative
of the private and public virtues of the
monarch; but is mainly an imperial jubi-
lation over the development of the principles
of self-government and the growth of
prosperity, wealth, comfort, etc., in which
Ireland has not shared.

A "Peaceful" Reign.

A remarkable feature of the Queen's reign
is the great number of wars, "little and
big," that have marked its progress.
Scarcely a twelve-month, indeed, without
finding England at war in some part of the
world. Here is a list of the principal
campaigns and expeditions:—Afghan war,
1838-40; first China war, 1841; Sikh war,
1848-49; Burmese war, 1850; second Kaffir
war, 1851-52; second Burmese war, 1852-53;
Crimea, 1854; third war with China, 1856-
58; Indian mutiny, 1857; Maori war, 1860-
61; more wars with China, 1860 and 1865;
second Maori war, 1863-66; Ashantee war,
1864; war in Bootan, 1864; Abyssinian
war, 1867-68; war with the Bazotees, 1868;
third Maori war, 1868-69; war with Loo-
shasis, 1871; Zulu war, 1878-79; third
Afghan war, 1878-80; war in Basutoland,
1879-81; Transvaal war, 1879-81; Egyptian
war, 1882; Zanzibar, 1890; India, 1890;
Matabele wars, 1894 and 1896; Chitral
campaign, 1895; Third Ashantee campaign
1896; second Soudan campaign, 1896.

A Suggestion.

If true Christian maidenhood, wifehood,
nobleness of soul and purity of life are to be

honored in the Queen, in the great celebra-
tion to be gotten up in her honor, these
virtues should not go unrewarded when
found in the more lowly walks of life, lest
it be said:—"that it was simply because
Victoria is a queen that she is thus honored
and not through any merits of her own."
She has reigned over the various peoples
under the British flag for nearly sixty years
and has been personally all that could be
desired as a good and noble lady.

The merits or demerits of monarchy does
not enter into this argument; it is only the
personality of the ruler of which we now
speak.

There are thousands of good and noble
women in Great Britain and the colonies
who have worn the crown of unsullied
maidenhood and motherhood, worked hard
to raise large families; large numbers of
the boys comprising these families have laid
down their lives for their flag and country,
and yet the world never hears of them.

Let sixty of these old ladies, the
humbler walks of life, of the same age as
the Queen, be chosen from great Britain,
Ireland and the colonies, and ride in the
procession just behind the Queen, and let
her give a dinner in their honor to them,
in Buckingham Palace, at which the Queen
and Royal Family will preside and entertain
and converse with them as equals, and
when dismissing them not send them away
empty-handed.

This would show, as nothing has shown,
the sympathy and Christian humility and
interest in the happiness and well-being of
her subjects, which the Queen is said to
evince so strongly; and do more to cement
the bond between the people and the crown
than anything else in the history of the
nation.

Perpetual Holiday.

The proposition to make May 24th a per-
petual Holiday is, we think, ill-advised, and
sets a bad precedent. When Albert comes
to the throne his birthday will be the
Empire Holiday, and then if the British
public get the habit of keeping every ruler's
birthday there would soon be no days left to
carry on business. With Dominion Day,
Thanksgiving, Arbor Day, Christmas, New
Years, and Good Friday we have already a
plethora of holidays, and if the craze gets
once started they would not stop at the
Queen's birthday but make public holidays
of the birthdays of Salisbury, Chamberlain,
The Marquis of Lorne, and every one who
happened to be in a high position or have a
handle to their names.

One Square Meal.

In the arrangements for the jubilee
festivities, the outcast poor of London were
entirely overlooked, but the Princess of
Wales, with that kindness of heart for
which she is noted, headed a subscription
which insures them one good square meal
on that day, each, perhaps the first in their
lives. Be thankful, poor outcasts and
victims of "mans' inhumanity to man:"—
you will get enough to eat for once though
you starve for the rest of your miserable
existence.