

THE WOODSTOCK DISPATCH.

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Editors and Proprietors

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SIR WILFRED'S MISSION.

The premier and Sir Louis Davies have gone to Washington, their main business, it is stated, being in connection with the seal dispute. But, it is also said that an informal conference will be held with the United States authorities on the question of better trade relations between the two countries.

Everyone who has the interests of the country at heart will hope that Sir Wilfred will succeed in his endeavour. Why should there be such determined efforts made by politicians on both sides of the line to prevent trade, when the general public on each case is anxious to trade?

If the Americans ever really thought that Canadians desired annexation, they must have been convinced that they were in error. Some Americans say that they do not wish to have Canada and would not take her with the responsibility which would go with the new acquisition. Well! they are not likely to be deterred with such a responsibility!

But the senseless alien labor act, by which Canadians are prevented from working on the other side, with its natural consequence of somewhat similar restriction on Americans coming to this side, are not worthy of the age or the continent.

It is not reasonable to expect that the opposition journals will wish Sir Wilfred well. The better he does, the worse are the chances for their return to power. But the fairly independent voter will not be led by the nose forever, and will trust that a better understanding and more civilized legislation may result from the trip to Washington.

It would not be a site good for a house on a volcano, even if extinct, for the occupant would never feel sure that the volcano would not resort to its old tricks.

Neither is it pleasant to be next door neighbor to one who is continually practicing the arts of pugilism, with a view of using them in one's demolition.

There is no earthly reason for the United States and Canada to be perpetually at logger heads, when a mutual understanding would benefit trade on both sides and advance the prosperity of each country.

ST. JOHN'S POSITION.

We all wish to see St. John prosper, even if we do not enjoy the great advantages of being within the boundaries of that historic, loyal and intellectual city. Everyone in Carleton County will rejoice to learn that St. John is becoming a large and important place.

There is some sentiment in this and sentiment is not to be underrated. There is also something of the practical in the good feeling we have toward St. John. While not a very big metropolis, it is the metropolis of the province, and we wish to see it grow and prosper. If St. John were half as busy as Boston, what a bonanza it would be for the Carleton Co. farmer. It looks now as if St. John had a future ahead of it, and the time may not be far distant when it will number 100,000 souls.

On St. John's success as a winter port depends in many ways the success of our farmers. The English market must be cultivated. If our farmers will make first rate articles they can get that market. The way is easy with St. John as a port for shipping. Here in Carleton Co. we are right on the coast, and have a distinct advantage over the western farmer who has to send his produce thousands of miles before he reaches the sea. Constant and direct intercourse between St. John and Liverpool must result in the increase of trade between these Maritime Provinces and the old land, that is if the farmer wakes up to his new chances.

We have watched the papers pretty closely on the new arrangement by which the Beaver line gets the contract of carrying the mails. It means that the Beaver line must call at Halifax. St. John is disappointed because the call at Halifax means the lengthening of the time in crossing between St. John and Liverpool. We trust the objections are more imaginary than real.

Of one thing St. John people may be quite certain. Any government, liberal or conservative cannot and will not ignore Halifax to benefit St. John, nor ignore St. John to benefit Halifax. They are both Canadian ports and on the principle that Canadian ports shall be entitled, each has special claims.

The arrangement whereby the mails will be called for at Halifax and taken on, seems to be settled. St. John must then make the best of the arrangement, which by the way, Mr. Campbell, manager of the Beaver line, think will work all right for St. John.

Subscribe for THE DISPATCH.

Siberia, The Land of Exile.

Prince Kropotkin, delivered the last of his public lectures in this vicinity last night. His subject was: "Siberia, the Land of exile." He treated of the physical features of Siberia, its population and the exile system.

Siberia, he said, is much larger than Canada, and it has a population of 4,500,000. The climate is extensively cold in winter and extensively hot in summer. In many parts of Siberia there is no vegetation. So severe is the winter that steel becomes brittle, and in Ver, which is about 500 miles from the Arctic ocean, 75 deg. below zero is not uncommon. A river north of Ver is open only six weeks in the year. Those who dwell along the banks of this river have to catch fish enough during this period to last them through the year, or else they starve.

If Andree has landed in northern Siberia, the river referred to will have to be frozen over before it will be possible for him to send a message by dogs, and the carrying of that message will require a long time.

The population of Siberia consists of Russian and Polish exiles and of those who have voluntarily emigrated to escape service in the army or for other reasons. Twenty thousand men, women and children are exiled yearly, at the present time, and of those, thousands are never given a trial in any court of justice. The exiles are compelled to make most of the trip on foot, and are heavily loaded with chains. When they enter a village they begin to sing the "Commiseration Song" and the villagers flock out of their houses and give the prisoners bread and coppers. The journey into exile is sometimes 4000 miles, but many women voluntarily follow their husbands.

In many of the villages which have established by those who are not exiled by the government, land is owned by all in common and such a thing as private ownership is unknown. The people are noted for their honesty and their kindness towards each other. If a man loses a cow his neighbors give him another.

Regarding the Siberian railroad, the prince said that, when completed, it will cover a distance of 6700 miles, the line running from Moscow to Vladivostok. The road is already finished as far as Tomsk (2000 miles or more) from Tomsk to the end of the route the work was beset with the greatest difficulties. A river several miles wide had to be crossed, and when it had rained more than a month this river became about 12 miles wide. The last section of the line will run through Chinese territory, and eventually Russia may control China.—Boston Herald.

NEURALGIA TORMENTS.

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OPEN CHURCHES.

They Impress the Editor of the Toronto Globe.

Mr. Williston, editor of the Toronto Globe, spent some weeks in England this year. The following extract is taken from a letter he writes to his paper:

"All throughout England the old churches hold the door open to the stranger, and many of the lanes and courts of London lead to the thresholds of these ancient tabernacles. Out of a crowded London thoroughfare as by a single step we seem to pass into an earlier century and into the very antechamber of the peace that is beyond.

All the jarring notes of life,  
Seem blending in a psalm,  
And all the angles of its strife  
Slow rounding into calm.

There is something in the atmosphere of these old English churches that one does not catch in the new world, and it is art as well as age that gives the tone of peace and the near presence of Divinity. It is the arched roof, and the stately pillars, and the softened light streaming through glorious windows, and the measured chanting of trained voices, and the majestic cadences of the great organ, and the white, silent statues of the kings of human kind standing all about, and the color of age over all, that makes St. Paul's holy ground, the very urn of England's glorious past and the very seat of the Divine mysteries. The open church is a fashion that should spread in America.

In St. Paul's there is a daily service at 4 o'clock, and in not a few of the churches of London there are noonday meetings. The fashion does not seem to extend to the churches of the Nonconformists, except in rare cases, and of course it is the Nonconformists rather than the English churches that predominate in America. But in Canada and the United States, outside of two or three of the great cities, the doors of even the English churches are closed, and as a rule only the Catholic Church keeps open sanctuary for its worshippers. It does seem, however, that the open door makes the Established Church peculiarly the church of the English people, and that in this respect the evangelical churches could well afford to learn from the English Church and the Church of Rome. If our best churches were

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thrown open to the public and were made more a part of the daily life of the people we would hear less of the charge that they are merely the religious clubs of the wealthier classes. In America we build temples that are among our best examples of architecture, and garnish the interior with the best craftsmanship, and then rigidly close the doors except on one day of the week. It is true we have almost nightly services, but we build a lecture room for the real work of the church and keep the great temple as a sort of best room for the display of our best clothes and our best behavior. The principle of a State Church cannot be successfully defended, but it must be confessed that the Established Church of England is in a very real sense the home of the people, while many of the great churches of America are rather show rooms for religion on parade.

ONE HONEST MAN.

Dear Editor.—Please inform your readers, that if written to confidentially, I will mail, in a sealed letter, particulars of a genuine, honest, home cure, by which I was permanently restored to health and manly vigor, after years of suffering from nervous debility, sexual weakness, night losses and weak shrunken parts. I was robbed and swindled by the quacks until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but thank heaven I am now well, vigorous and strong, and wish to make this certain means of cure known to all sufferers. I have nothing to sell and want no money, but being a firm believer in the universal brotherhood of man, I am desirous of helping the unfortunate to regain their health and happiness. I promise you perfect secrecy. Address with stamp, W. T. MILL FOLD, Agents Supplies, P.O. Box 29, St. Henri, Que.

The present writer some time ago had given a grammar lesson on the noun, and, after the lesson, was asking for the names of the different kinds of fish. The common names, such as cod, herring, mackerel, trout, haddock, plaice, sole, etc., were soon exhausted, but still one little boy held up his hand and seemed anxious to answer. "Well Tommy, what other name do you know?" "Fried fish," replied Tommy.

Deep and worthy love, whether of woman or child, or art or music, is hardly distinguished from religious feeling. Our caresses, our tender words, our still rapture under the influence of autumn sunsets, or pillared vistas or calm majestic statues, or Beethoven symphonies, all bring with them the consciousness that they are mere waves and ripples in an unfathomable ocean of love and beauty; our emotion in its keener moment passes from expression into silence, our love at its highest flood rushes beyond its object, and loses itself in the sense of Divine mystery.

There is one universal honor paid to high and noble principles of life, which is that everyone claims them for his own. No one acknowledges that his principles are inferior or unworthy. Many a man will admit that certain of his actions have been wrong, when he will stoutly deny that their sources have been bad. He will confess to having done a selfish deed, but never to being a selfish man. He may acknowledge spiteful or revengeful conduct, but will warmly resent the charge of a malevolent disposition. Whatever guilt may be confessed, evil intentions are always repudiated.

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