

The Reporter

AND FREDERICTON ADVERTISER

Herman H. Pitts,
Editor and Proprietor.

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HERMAN H. PITTS,
Publisher and Proprietor

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have been reading the series of sermons to young men, possibly. Do you know of some young man who should read these sermons, and into whose life a new purpose and impulse might be awakened if he could be induced to think? If so is it not your duty to help that young man, by bringing these sermons to his attention or by sending the paper to him while they are being published.

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New Brunswick Reporter.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1891.

OTTAWA DESPATCHES show a surplus in the revenue for December of two and half millions. There will no doubt be lots of places to put the surplus before the year is out.

DOM PEDRO the ex-Emperor of Brazil is dead. He never fully recovered from the shock of the revolution in his own country, by which he was dethroned. He died in Paris, where he had taken up his home, when driven out of Brazil.

THE ABUNDANCE of the wheat crop in Canada is thus described by the *Toronto Globe*. The crop last year was set down by one authority at 39,231,412 bushels and by another at 40,527,562 bushels. This year the wheat crop of Manitoba and the Northwest is nearly 30,000,000 bushels, and of Ontario 32,584,426 bushels, so that, taking no account of Quebec and the Atlantic and Pacific Provinces, the wheat crop of 1891 is 23,000,000 bushels better than the wheat crop of 1890.

In China.

And now there is grave trouble apprehended in China. The government of that country seems unable to grope with the situation, and is reported to have negotiations with other nations for assistance. At all events the situation is causing much attention in political circles in Europe, particularly on account of the extreme importance attached to the reports that England has come to an understanding with China by which mutual aid will be rendered in the event of certain contingencies. The correspondent of *Figaro* cables from Shanghai that four parlers have been opened to bring about an alliance between England and China for the purpose of coping with Russia. The correspondent adds that China is sending troops to the Pamir to check Russian movement in that part of the world, China claiming that Russia is encroaching on her territory.

Blown Up.

Russell Sage has had a brief experience with dynamite in the hand of a crank. An individual by the name of Wilson dropped in to his office on Friday last and made the modest request for \$1,200,000. There is no intimation in the despatch that there was any security offered, or intention to return the amount, other than Mr. Sage was to become a victim of the grim destroyer if the amount was not forthcoming. Very naturally Mr. Sage paid no attention to the demand, and the man went to his office and renewed his demands. He was again refused, and took out of a satchel a dynamite bomb and threw it on the floor. An explosion occurred, killing the would-be assassin, and three others, and shaking up Russell Sage in a way not congenial to millionaires.

And thus we see that wealth brings with it numerous trials and tribulations the poor man knows nothing of, and dynamite will henceforth enter into a new field of work. It is true Russell Sage was not killed, though severely wounded and shaken up, but this will not deter other cranks from trying the same scheme on. It is to be hoped they will meet with the same judgment as befel Wilson who was instantly killed by his own device.

She Heeded not the Warning.

Texas Sittings in its own humorous way has an article with the above caption, and which is both significant and suggestive. It may not be the exact place for it in our editorial column but it contains such a large mountain of truth that we want to put it where it will be sure to be read and appreciated. "Her mother told her not to marry until she thought she was able to support a husband. But she heeded not her gentle mother's warning. She went and got civilly contracted to a man who was a fine long-winded talker, who could sit around and keep a stove warm better than any one she had ever seen in her life. And then how proficient he was lying in bed snoring on a December morning, while she got up and made the fire, fed the horses, split the wood, swept the floor, boiled the coffee, blackened his boots, mended the hole in his coat, sewed on that button, laid a pipe full of tobacco and some matches along side of his pillow, and how loving she must have felt toward him when he got up at last, about ten o'clock, cursed her for making a noise, and wanted to know why there was no beefsteak and eggs on the table, and why she had not pawned her watch (it was her dying mother's gift) in order to give him whisky money. And when, after three years of this, she left him and went to work as a sewing girl, people spoke of the depravity of a woman who left her husband."

What he Meant.

Mr. Laurier has been diligently explaining what he meant in his speech in Boston on the Unrestricted Reciprocity question. He does not seem to be gaining much headway however, as the plain interpretation of the language cannot be made other than annexation. This visit of Mr. Laurier to Boston and address, on political matters relating to Canada, in the centre of such a hot-bed of annexation sentiment was to say the least most inopportune for the Liberal party, and impolitic on his part as the leader of that party. There was no burning necessity for Laurier to go to Boston to a banquet anyway, and there was much less need for him to enter into a discussion of political matters bearing on annexation, particularly with the by-elections just coming on. It cannot but prove disastrous to his party, who will have to carry the responsibility. The *Boston Journal* interprets his remarks on unrestricted reciprocity very similar to that by the patriotic and loyal people of Canada. It says:

"His opinion in this respect is flatly opposed to the sentiments entertained on this side of the border. It seems to us that the American view is the right one, and that our distinguished visitor is wrong."

"In the beginning, it must be admitted that there can be no reciprocity with Canada until an agreement is reached to maintain a joint tariff against Europe. This is a proposition that is substantially undisputed, and it means that Canada's tariff must be assimilated to that of the United States. For under reciprocity the two countries would be for all commercial purposes one country, and the maintenance of two rates of duty on any given article would be the cause of endless loss and confusion. It might not mean that Canada's tariff would be dictated from Washington, but Washington would certainly have the preponderating vote."

"How would England regard the spectacle of her most important colony heavily taxing British manufactured products, while admitting the competing products of her bitterest rival free? Such a situation would inevitably lead to a further estrangement between London and Ottawa. Under all these circumstances, it would be a marvel if the unnatural political connection between Canada and England could endure a single year."

"The products of Canada and the United States are largely identical, and the argument for a free interchange rests on a totally different basis from the argument for reciprocity with Latin America. And we must face the fact that, with Canada, political union must inevitably follow, if it does not precede commercial union."

New Financial Scheme.

A new scheme has been devised by Right Hon. George Goschen, chancellor of the British Exchequer, for increasing the reserves. It has recently been disclosed by him to some of the leading bankers of London. The scheme seems to be following the lines adopted by the Dominion in issuing notes to take the place of gold. Despatches state that Mr. Goschen favors an issue of £1 notes to replace light gold, the issue to be based on a reserve partly of gold and partly of consols.

It is estimated that the light gold in circulation amounts to £25,000,000. But only £5,000,000 in notes will be issued at the first instalment.

The rise in consols yesterday was due to rumors to the effect above mentioned.

Mr. Goschen in explaining his scheme to the governor of the Bank of England gives the following further particulars:

"The Bank of England is now permitted to issue £16,450,000 against securities and also issue an average of £21,500,000 against gold. In this respect nothing will be changed beyond authorizing the issue of pound notes as well as higher denomination notes. Beyond £38,000,000 the four-fifths gold arrangement comes into force. Thus, supposing a total of £63,000,000 in notes be issued, the Bank of England would hold £41,550,000 in gold, the balance, £21,450,000, being against securities. Mr. Goschen desires to add to his original statement that should the total issue amount at any time to £88,000,000 he would propose that an issue above that amount must be fully covered by gold, and thus avoid drawing an indefinite amount of gold for circulation. Permission to issue additional notes against securities by payment of interest would be only good when the gold reserve amounted to £30,000,000. The rate of interest would be fixed by law, neither high enough to make permission inoperative, nor low enough to encourage speculation."

The *News*, commenting on Mr. Goschen's financial scheme, says: "We doubt whether Mr. Goschen's plan is altogether worthy of a wealthy country like England. The plan is justly open

to the accusation of cheese-paring. City men do not agree that the scheme is simplicity itself."

The *Post* appeals to the public to give the scheme attention quite apart from Mr. Goschen's politics.

The *Times* says: "Mr. Goschen displays remarkable ingenuity and as much clearness as could be expected in his treatment of a subject so complicated and controversial. We are glad that he has dropped the idea of issuing small notes against silver. After the recent vicissitudes, and in view of the uncertainties of the silver market, the time is not opportune to disturb a settled point in our monetary policy."

Mr. Goschen's scheme was received on the London Stock Exchange favorably on the whole, but doubts were expressed on all sides about the popularity of the pound notes.

The *Standard* says: "There is nothing very revolutionary in the proposal. If we must have a fiduciary issue, we could not have one more modest or more guarded. Nothing could well be more cautious than the provision suggested for checking an excessive note issue. The plan, however, does not touch a serious weakness in our happy-go-lucky style of business, which occasionally ends in a crisis and a desperate struggle for gold."

A Prominent Oddfellow.

The Dominion Oddfellow published in Toronto, of which C. Blacket Robinson is managing editor, in last week's issue contains a life-like portrait of our well known townsman, John Richards, Esq. The following interesting sketch accompanies the portrait.

The subject of our sketch is a native of Fredericton, N. B., and is now in the sixty-second year of his age; he has been Clerk in the House of Assembly in that Province for a period of thirty-five years; is a Justice of the Peace and sitting magistrate for his native city; and in the latter capacity, it is said, he is "a terror to evil doers;" is a Masonic Past Master, and belongs to a number of secret societies.

Brother Richards was first elected Grand Master of British North America at Summerside, P. E. I., at the annual session of Grand Lodge in August, 1880. He at once entered on the duties of the office with much vigour, and during the year visited, officially, every lodge in the three Provinces comprising the jurisdiction, with two exceptions only. So satisfactory were the duties performed that at the meeting of the Grand Lodge at Wolfville, N. S., in 1881, he was unanimously re-elected to the chair, and a public reception tendered him in Grand Lodge. This year he was again conscientiously active in the discharge of his duties, and in the following year he was again, for the third term, unanimously re-elected Grand Master—something never before known in the history of Oddfellowship in the Maritime Provinces. He was also tendered re-nomination in 1883, but owing to ill-health declined.

Brother Richards is an active member of Victoria Lodge, No. 13, Fredericton, and has been ever since its formation in 1873; previous to this date he was a member of Pioneer Lodge, No. 9, St. John, N. B.

Socially, Brother Richards is one of the most companionable of men, and it goes without saying that he has many friends. He warmly admires his beautiful city and native Province; but he also loves "this Canada of ours," and takes a proper pride in its progress and prosperity. It is possible that Brother Richards may be induced to pay a visit to our western wilds. If he only sees the happy homes of Ontario; the fertile fields of the Prairie Province; the magnificent scenery of the Rockies, and the varied resources and striking natural beauties of the Pacific slope, he will return to his home by the noble St. John River with a higher appreciation and a firmer hope in the grand possibilities and great future of the Dominion than it was possible for him before to entertain

In the Russell divorce trial Friday counsel for both sides finished their arguments. Justice Butt, is summing up, stated that he did not agree with Sir Charles Russell. The suit was only instituted with the object of obtaining an allowance. The case was given to the jury, and they returned a verdict in favor of Earl Russell.