

THE REVIEW.

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Best Advertising Medium in North-east New Brunswick.

RICHIBUCTO, N. B., MAY 28, 1891.

BLOODSHED ON THE PUNGWE.

Painful tidings have come from South Eastern Africa. There has been a fight and bloodshed on the Pungwe river, the use of which is claimed and needed by the British South African Company. An expedition, apparently armed, was sent by that company up the river on its way to the fine interior region to which the Boers threatened to trek. The use of the river by the British company has been formally assented to by the Portuguese Government, but it seems the local Portuguese officials resolved to do all in their power to prevent the use of the river by the British. They interfered by force several times before to obstruct the movements of the company. But until the late occurrence, they had shed no blood in these attempts. They seem to have fared badly at the hands of the expedition. Their daring assault will no doubt be followed by a prompt settlement of the whole quarrel between the Portuguese and the British. The British authorities have exercised great forbearance in the case. Of course there will have to be an end to that.

THE FISHERY BULLETINS.

The appearance, morning after morning, in the daily Maritime Province journals, of bulletins from the various fishing grounds around the St. Lawrence Gulf coasts, giving an account of the fishery doings in the respective localities during the day preceding is a novelty. The information given is always interesting and sometimes very valuable, especially to fishermen in need of bait. The electric telegraph is a wonderful contrivance and its uses are being multiplied continually. It already plays a great part in the affairs of the world. There is no department of human action not served by it; and nobody can say just where its service will extend. Observing the important work done now by the use of this means of communication, one wonders how the world got on in other days without it.

THE MAJORITY.

The means for determining the size of the Macdonald Government majority in Parliament seem to be at hand. The first division, a few days ago, showed a majority for the Government of twenty-seven. A division soon after, raised it to twenty-nine, with an almost certainty of a further increase shortly. Several so-called independent Liberal Conservatives are loosely attached to their party, but they are likely to vote as often at least with the Government as against it. Occasionally, therefore, the Government majority may reach thirty-five, and occasionally it may sink rather below thirty. With the occurrence of by elections, the case will probably be more or less altered to the Government's advantage.

SLANDERING CANADA IN BRITAIN

The slandering of Canadian men and things in Britain, going on; is an unspeakably mean performance, no matter what party interest is sought to be promoted thereby. High minded men would scorn to resort to such means of advancing their respective fads. It is to be hoped the men engaged in this base work will be traced and unveiled.

THE ONSET AGAINST SIR CHARLES

The feeling against Sir Charles Tupper among his political opponents is very bitter. It is natural that it should be so. He himself has a habit of handling things he discusses without gloves, and of fighting to a finish. He is, without question, the very ablest stump orator in the Dominion. He is a man to be dreaded by a timid, or ill-informed or rashly-speaking opponent. He appears to keep a record of the doings and sayings of his adversaries, and seems to have it at his finger's ends for instant use on occasion. His scrap-book is a terrible arsenal from which to draw in time of need. Woe to the inconsistent talker that crosses his path in conflict. Fierce attacks have been made on Sir Charles in Parliament and in the Reform press for his intervention in the late electoral contest. It was a sorely felt intervention. Those who complain of it however should be thankful that it was so short. Had it numbered as many months as weeks the result would have been still more damaging to opposition interests. Condemnation of the intervention has been chiefly based on the allegation that Sir Charles was precluded from political

partizanship by his position in the Civil Service as High Commissioner. There is some reason apparent in this contention, but it is merely technical. Sir Charles is a civil service officer, but he is substantially a member of the Macdonald Government. And, at all events, civil service members are at liberty to engage in politics, providing they hold themselves ready for dismissal, if the fortune of war should turn against their party.

WHEN PROHIBITION IS PRACTICABLE.

The temperance element throughout Canada is fighting fiercely for prohibition. It does not yet appear what will come immediately therefrom. The whole question is involved in serious difficulty. But one thing must appear clear to all lucid thinkers on the subject: There is no possibility of enforcing and maintaining an effective prohibition unless it is demanded by an immense majority of the people in downright earnest in their support of the measure. Does such a majority exist? Opinions differ on the point. It would seem wise to settle the question by a direct appeal to the electorate on the matter pure and simple. Possibly this will be done.

THE SEAL QUESTION.

Late information seems to point to the conclusion that the British and United States governments are agreeing on a close season, during which the seal fishery is nowhere in Behring Sea to be prosecuted. But one cannot feel very sure in the matter. Information on many points relating to the seal fishery has proved unreliable. It may do so in this case.

THE PRINCE SLANDERED.

It was published wide and far lately that the Prince of Wales was on the verge of bankruptcy, from which he was only saved by the sacrifice of an immense sum by the Queen, his mother. It was also stated that the relations between the Queen and the Prince were in a highly strained condition. It now turns out that both statements were untrue. Some of the writers most responsible for the circulation of the slanders have recalled their statements, acknowledging that they were authoritatively contradicted.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE REVIEW.

The brief communication in a late issue of your paper, in which I called attention to the provisions of the Liquor License Act, as it effects some of the late judicial appointments by the Local Government in this county, appears to have "hit" in more than one place.

A correspondent, "Next," whose *nom de plume* savors of the barber's shop or card table, appears to construe it into an expression of disapproval of the appointments by the Government as a reward for political services. Not so. If Mr. Blair and his wire pullers in the county think it necessary to recognize these important services and to "distinguish between their friends and their enemies," by all means let them do so, but do not violate the law and insult the friends of temperance and good order as has been done in the instances I have pointed out. It may be necessary for them to properly label their friends in the county, and feed their hungry followers with the few crumbs that the Government may permit to fall from their table (always assuming they are good Grits) but I am of opinion that it only needs a few more such extraordinary appointments to so disgust the electors of the county, that no Demosthenes or D'Arcy McGee either, will be required to "make the school houses ring with fierce denunciations of Blair."

It is quite true, as your correspondent says, that "Mr. Woods could not, legally, be made a returning officer or a Q. C.," but the revenues derived from his bar might buy him an LL. B., which would sit on him as well if not better than "the honorable degree of J. P."

I made no reflections on Mr. Bailey's honesty, which "Next" seems to consider it necessary to champion, and it may be that as "a very good temperance man," he is perfectly satisfied with the company in which he finds himself,—company, by the way, which is not unlike that which certain public men in the county are especially attracted to on their visits to this place.

Concluding, let me say, that I have not yet had the dignity (?) of J.P. thrust upon me, nor am I, now, particularly anxious for that honor, nor likely to receive it. The rights of litigants and the peace and good order of the community, are in the opinion of the present Government, no doubt, for the time being quite safe in the hands of the "hotel magistrates." Kingston, May 25. OBSERVER.

Portland, Me.

DEAR READERS.—Was our last sufficiently interesting and palatable to make you willing to have us intrude ourselves again for a little while on your notice. Bear patience with us if our conversation is sometimes dull and monotonous, we will become more entertaining as we grow older.

The weather has been very unsettled here for some days and quite cool for the season. We had a very heavy rainstorm Friday night, Saturday and Saturday night but yesterday dawned bright and cool, and

the streets were thronged with eager worshippers, all anxious to respect the Sabbath morn and to praise the Author of the Resting Day.

The gripe has not yet finished its rounds. It has had several victims here since our last conversation with you. Our friend Joe had a very severe attack, but is now convalescent. There were many sympathizing friends near, all of whom missed the pleasant face of the jolly entertaining Joe. Our friend, "463" on Cumberland, had just recovered from a like attack, so knew how to pity Joe, and was very attentive. Oh, by the way, speaking of Joe, we think there will be a change soon, and he may elope with the poet. Good luck, dear Joe; play your cards well and you will come out all right—but do not forget your old friends.

Our friends on Danforth street are, we are pleased to hear, quite well and enjoying themselves. Norah pines for the long pleasant winter evenings gone by, as, in her opinion, no amusement can compete with a game of whist or high-or-low Jack, and these are the favorite games on Danforth street. Well friend Norah, we agree with you, these are very pleasant games especially when we have the right partners. But cheer up, the summer is too beautiful to last. The days glide quickly by, and old winter will be here before we know it. Some say N. is going to change her name soon, we hope it is false, as we should miss her dreadfully did she throw us over.

Our friends on Pleasant street are meditating a change. Eh, marriage? Oh, no, do not misunderstand us; not a matrimonial change. We often see old heads on young shoulders, and these two are wise enough to look well before making the final leap. We are glad it is so, as, once they are linked in the golden chain, we are likely to be thrown forty degrees in the shade, and as this prospect is not inviting we are in no hurry for the change. Still we are not so selfish as to wish to delay (if indeed it were in our power) what would be for the dear girls' happiness. The change they meditate is, however, an entirely different one. We hope it may be pleasant.

Mary was intending to make a visit down east, but the earnest entreaties of a friend who would feel very forlorn in her absence, have, we are told, prevailed, and she is to remain another season. We are glad of it, as her presence would be much missed by all.

Several of our young ladies have decided to go home during the summer. You see they do not forget the land they left, and they love to go and see it once in a while. Well, perhaps we are mistaken, it may not be the land that is the magnet that draws them thither, but the ones they left behind them. Whatever the attraction, they will be much missed when they are gone, and gladly welcomed when they return. Our friend M. is feeling quite despondent at the idea of so many of her friends going east, while she must remain. She is trying to console herself, however, with the very agreeable prospect of a pleasant summer at the island.

Duty before pleasure—this is the motto of the Portland—N. B. girls; as we think it is a very laudable one, we will follow their example, and foregoing the pleasure of a longer chat with you, we will say good-bye for a week. TWIN SISTERS.

May 18, 1891.

A Friendly Gathering.

On Wednesday evening the members of the Richibucto W. C. T. U. and the children of the Legion, gathered at the Temperance Hall, in response to an invitation to meet the Sons of Temperance.

We hardly knew what to expect and naturally felt a little backward. But as has ever been the case, our worthy President led the way and we followed her to as pleasant a surprise as ever awaited our Union.

The meeting was opened by singing the lodge ode, and service by the Chaplain. We then had the pleasure of listening to several very pleasing addresses by members of the lodge.

They have given us a great deal of encouragement, and will help us much in our uphill work. For there is nothing so dear to the hearts of those who are trying to do good as friendly sympathy with the work they have taken up. So we thank the brothers for their kind recognition, and pray for the success of the Division, of which we sincerely hope to see some of our Legion boys worthy members.

Before I close I will touch lightly on the special meeting of our Union, which we found it necessary to call on Friday afternoon for the purpose of appointing a President to take the place of our former leader who we shall miss very much.

At the close of this meeting we were led into another room where there awaited us a well spread table, for which we must not forget to thank a lady friend, whom we hope soon to add to our Union.

To our late President we tender our heartfelt thanks for the trouble she has taken to make both the Union and Legion successful.

We pray that God will be with her where ever she goes, and if it is his will that she should return to us again we will be glad to welcome her back.

A MEMBER.

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