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### Some Old Sayings.

As poor as a church mouse,  
As thin as a rail;  
As fat as a porpoise,  
As rough as a gale;  
As brave as a lion,  
As sly as a cat;  
As bright as a sixpence,  
As weak as a rat.

As proud as a peacock,  
As sly as a fox;  
As mad as a March hare,  
As strong as an ox;  
As fair as a lily,  
As empty as air;  
As rich as Croesus,  
As cross as a bear.

As pure as an angel,  
As neat as a pin;  
As smart as a steel trap,  
As ugly as sin;  
As dead as a door-nail,  
As white as a sheet;  
As flat as a pancake,  
As red as a beet.

As round as an apple,  
As black as your hat;  
As brown as a berry,  
As blind as a bat;  
As mean as a miser,  
As full as a tick;  
As plump as a partridge,  
As sharp as a stick.

As light as a feather,  
As hard as a rock;  
As stiff as a poker,  
As calm as a clock;  
As green as a gosling,  
As brisk as a bee;  
And now let me stop,  
Lest you weary me.

St. Nicholas.

### Our Ottawa Letter.

OTTAWA, May 7th.—A broken week, that is one in which a holiday occurs, is not usually a good one for making progress in the business of the session, but last week proved an exception to the rule. Although the House did not sit on Thursday (Ascension day), and both Wednesday's and Friday's sessions were short still both in quantity and quality the progress made with the tariff on Tuesday and Friday was greater than in any week since the House has been Committee of Ways and Means. Two of the most troublesome questions—Coal Oil and Iron—have been practically disposed of, and something like 100 items in all were passed during the week. Besides this Mr. Charlton's Sunday Observance Bill, which is always more or less a stumbling block to the session, has been advanced a stage, and a few other matters occupying the attention of the House annually have been discussed, and may or may not turn up again this session. Taken altogether, the progress of the week has been good. The warm spring weather almost approaching summer, seems to have stirred up the members a trifle and to have reminded them that if they expect to spend Dominion Day at home, they must do more work and less talking.

### THE COAL OIL DUTIES.

Tuesday was devoted almost entirely to the discussion of the Coal Oil question. The debate was opened by Mr. Davies of Prince Edward Island, who viewed the matter from a Maritime Province standpoint, claiming that the Maritime Provinces paid a heavier rate of duty than Ontario and Quebec, and that in the case of Prince Edward Island this amounted to about 200 per cent. The Hon. Mr. Foster admitted frankly that the duty on coal oil was a heavy one, and that a great many people would like to see it entirely removed. At the same time he pointed out the importance of protecting the industry and reviewed very briefly the steps which had been taken in that direction by the Liberal administration under Mr. Mackenzie, and which had been continued by successive Governments. He next referred to the charges made last year which afforded relief to the extent of about one or two cents a gallon and also to the action

taken by the producers of oil in adopting better means of distribution, which had caused a very great decrease in the retail price, than the lowering of the duty itself had. He quoted from a carefully prepared paper the retail price of coal oil in various parts of the Dominion in '91-'92, and last year to show that a very material reduction in retail price had taken place. He referred to the difficulties in the way of the producers of coal oil in Canada, the fact that crude oil was not of so good a quality in certain respects, so easy to manage, and does not show so large a percentage as the American oil, and also dwelt on the fact that coal oil had to be used to a certain extent for the purpose of producing revenue. About half a million dollars in duty was got from coal oil, and this enabled the Government to let in at lower rates other things which come into consumption in the farmers and the artisans families, in which way they got the advantage of the cheapness of those articles.

### \$1 A YEAR FOR COAL OIL.

Continuing he said: "Now let the farmers count up and say how much oil they use. That question has been put them at public meetings, and we have got various answers. One man says he uses ten gallons a year, and put the duty paid at five cents a gallon. There is a dollar which the farmers pay in duty by way of supporting the revenue and keeping up the industry of this country. It would be a pretty harsh thing for us to destroy this industry, in the face of the fact that it is the means of living of hundreds of thousands of people, and that it has been planted and fostered, and has had a helping hand from every Government from 1867 to the present time. It is not a great monopoly. A large proportion of the wells in the oil region are worked just as a man works his vegetable garden. A man owns his plot of ground, sinks his well, has it connected with the pumping machinery, and the three-fourths of a barrel, or the barrel of oil pumped out each day is his living; and unless we have very excellent reasons, we must pause before we destroy an industry of this kind."

### THE DUTY REDUCED.

He touched for a moment on the danger of the whole coal oil business of Canada falling into the hands of that huge monopoly the Standard Oil Co. of the United States, if the duty was entirely removed, and in conclusion said: "I do not wish to inflict a speech on the House. I just wanted to state frankly what there is in the whole matter. It is a large duty, I acknowledge. It is a duty, however which under present conditions, does not bear very hardly in amount on the individual consumer. And the industry is one that I would not like to see wiped out of the country. We have given a little relief this year with reference to the duty on the barrels, which makes it less onerous to the people of the Maritime Province. I think that the greater number of our people are reasonable on this point, and will hesitate to strike down an industry of this kind. We pared the duty down last year, we have already given some relief this year and I propose with the consent of the House, to ask the chairman to change the present reading of the item by substituting 6 cents for 7.15th. In doing that, I hope the House, and I believe the country, will consider that all it was possible to do has been done." The debate was continued by Messrs. Davies, Flint, Casey, Hazen, M. Neil, Gibson, Gilmor, McMullen, Moncrieff and others who discussed the Coal Oil question generally rather than the proposed reduction, after which the motion was carried. A noticeable feature of the debate was a little scrap between these two leading lights of the Opposition Messrs. Lister and Casey, in the course of which Mr. Lister plainly told Mr. Casey that he did not know what he was talking about. The fact of the matter is that the member for Lampton, (Mr. Lister), although theoretically a free trader, is the soundest of protectionists when coal is concerned, knowing full well that he would have no chance whatever of re-election if he showed the slightest disposition to move the tariff on coal oil altogether. A reduction of one and one-fifth cents per gallon is equivalent to about seventeen and a half per cent.

### THE IRON DUTIES.

Friday's session was mostly devoted to the iron and steel duties, several changes and reductions in which are made by the new tariff. The proposals of the Government are practically in the direction of encouraging the production of iron and steel in Canada, and especially of the conversion of the ore into pig and bar iron, while at the same time reducing somewhat the duties on the manufactured article. As Mr. Foster put it the desire of the Government is to cheapen, if possible, the price of the finished article, to the consumer, while at the same time affording sufficient

protection to the manufacturer, in the way of lowering the cost of production, of the raw material, to protect and encourage the iron industry in Canada. The first item involved an increase in the duties on imported scrap iron from two dollars a ton to three dollars, and after the first of January next, four dollars. The object of this is to encourage the use of Canadian pig iron for the protection of bar iron instead of scrap, which has been largely imported for the use of the rolling mills at Montreal, Toronto, and other places. The iron produced from scrap is undoubtedly of an inferior quality from that made from the ore, and by increasing the cost of this refuse stock, it is expected that a considerable development will take place in iron mines of Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces. The Liberals were more liberal than usual in their consideration of this matter. Sir Oliver Mowat's action in placing a bounty on iron ore mined in Ontario, seems to have had a very convincing effect on them, as to the benefit of protecting one of Canada's greatest industries, and consequently such an ultra free trader and opponent of the Government as Mr. McMullen was found approving of the Government's course.

### MISTAKES OF THE OPPOSITION.

One of the features of the debate was the evidence given by several members of the Opposition of their lack of study on questions which they opposed simply because they were proposed by the Government. For instance, Mr. Laurier made what he considered a very strong point by claiming that the Government was practically abandoning its protective policy by decreasing the duties on agricultural implements and at the same time doubling the duty on scrap iron, the raw material from which agricultural implements are manufactured, and seeming very much surprised to learn from Mr. Foster that scrap iron was not used at all in the manufacture of agricultural implements. In the same direction was Mr. Casey's blunder that the bounty had not caused the production of a pound of charcoal iron in the Dominion; and the loquacious member for Elgin seemed positively unable to believe his ears when Mr. Chesley kindly informed him that over seven thousand tons of charcoal iron were produced in one part of the Dominion last year. Although the increase of duty on scrap iron was opposed by Mr. Chesley, and a few others representing the rolling mills, still the general trend of the discussion on the iron duties was unmistakably in favor of protecting the mining of iron ore in Canada and the manufacture here of our own iron in preference to the importation of foreign scrap and bar iron. There was an unmistakable tendency on the part of Liberals towards the protection of our own iron, which is the foundation of so many and varied industries, in preference to leaving Canada, which has the largest and best iron mines in the world, to a great extent dependent upon foreign countries for our raw material. The rolling mills may find it a little more inconvenient, and perhaps a trifle more expensive at first to be obliged to use Canadian bar iron, but there can be but little question that the present policy of the Government, endorsed as it has been by Sir Oliver Mowat in Ontario will have a very beneficial effect in developing the production of iron in Canada.

### THE TWENTY FEET CHANNEL.

It seems to be an understood thing now that in at least one or two days every session will be taken up with a discussion of the advisability of deepening the canals of Canada to a uniform depth of twenty feet. For the last two years the subject has been introduced on motion of Col. Dennison of Toronto that the Government should change its canal policy adopted in 1870, of deepening the canals to 14 feet and adopt the 20 feet standard. The dream of the advocates of this scheme is that a vessel should be able to load wheat at Port Arthur or Chicago or Duluth or Toronto or Hamilton, or almost anywhere else in the interior of the continent and unload it at Liverpool or some other foreign port without breaking bulk. Neither the costliness nor the impracticability of the scheme deter them in the least. It has been pointed out more than once that it would cost all the way from one hundred and fifty to two hundred millions to establish a 20 feet waterway from Lake Superior to Europe, and that as a commercial enterprise it would not pay. But a few hundred millions of dollars are nothing to these enthusiasts who dream of making ocean ports in the middle of a continent a thousand or two miles from the sea. Nor does the fact that the same class of vessels which is serviceable for navigation in the open would not be suitable for inland navigation make any difference to them. These gentlemen have a pet hobby and every year they must mount it and ride it around for a day or

two. It just wastes so much time of the House, but probably the time would be equally wasted on some other subject if the 20 feet waterway was not brought up.

### SUNDAY OBSERVANCE BILL.

Another matter on which the time of the House had been annually wasted for the last five years is Mr. Charlton's bill for the better observance of the Lord's Day. Last Monday was devoted to this bill, it was read for the second time, and will probably be killed in committee or share in the "slaughter of the innocents" at the close of the Session, both of which rates have befallen it in former years. Mr. Charlton wants to stop all work of every description on Sunday, and for this purpose he frames his bill in such a way that it encroaches on the power of the Provinces with regard to civil rights, a fact which is annually pointed out to him by his friend Mr. Mills, of Bothwell, whose advice, however, does not seem to have any effect on the members of Norfolk. Mr. Charlton's bill would also close all the post offices in the Province of Quebec, where they are open for an hour or two Sunday morning. The almost universal custom in the Province of Quebec is to have the post offices in the country parishes located somewhere near the parish church and it is a great convenience for the inhabitants to receive and mail their letters and papers on Sunday when coming to or going from church. The Government could if it pleased, stop this by order from the Post Office Department; and Mr. Charlton could have used his influence with his friend the late Mr. Huntingdon, when he was Postmaster-General under the Mackenzie administration, to stop what he considers a desecration of the Lord's Day. As he did not, however, he has for several years past been endeavouring to get the House of Commons to shut up these post offices by act of Parliament. So far he has failed in his efforts, and he is not more likely to be successful this year than he has been in past attempts.

### MINOR NOTES.

The annual discussion of the two cents postage rates for Canada, took place on Monday, and occupied about half the session for that day. The motion this year was introduced by Mr. Coatsworth, and the same arguments were used as on the previous occasion. While every one would be glad to see the rate of postage reduced if practicable, few would be disposed to support Mr. Coatsworth in his proposition to recoup the Government for its loss of revenue by imposing a duty on newspapers. Sir Adolph Caron pointed out a loss of revenue by a reduction of postage from 3 cents to 2 cents per ounce, would be about eight hundred thousand dollars, and that so great a reduction could not be entertained by the Government.

The attention of the Supreme Court has been occupied nearly the whole week by the arguments on the test case committee as to whether local legislatures have the right to pass Prohibition acts. A case will be agreed on by the Government of the Dominion and Ontario and submitted, and other Provinces also joined in the argument. The Court reserved judgment.

A deputation consisting of Messrs. Bennett, McDennell of Algoma, Sproule, Territt, Fairbairn and Madill, M. P.'s, and the Mayor of Midland and Mr. Thos. Long, had an interview with the Members of the Government on Friday, and urged that the export duty be replaced on saw logs. It was pointed out that last year, over five hundred million feet of lumber were taken out of Canada in the shape of saw logs, and sawn in the United States, while the Canadian saw mills with nothing to do. Sir John Thompson promised that the matter should receive consideration, and there is now a very general impression that an export duty on saw logs will be reimposed before the close of the present session.

The impression is gaining ground that nothing will be done in the way of insolvency legislation this year. The Senate Committee has had several meetings, and is making its way slowly through the bills, section by section; but the adoption of the clause, placing farmers on the same footing as traders, and opening them to the danger of being thrown into insolvency, if a bad harvest should temporarily embarrass them, will no doubt cause the House of Commons to be a little careful about passing the bill. The present probability therefore is that even if the bill gets through the Senate, it will not become law this year, but that the farmers will be given an opportunity of expressing their opinion on it.

One of the features of the week has been the visit here of the Hon. Robt. Reid, Minister of Defence for the Colony of Victoria, Australia. Mr. Reid addressed a meeting of the Board of Trade in the City Hall, on Friday, the Hon. McKenzie Bowell presiding, and pointed out the ad-

vantages which could accrue from closer commercial relations being established between the Mother country and her great colonies of Canada, Australia and South Africa. Mr. Reid did not advocate anything in the way of Imperial Federation, as that scheme is commonly understood; but he spoke very strongly in favor of a sort of commercial union of the empire, which would tend to bind it more closely together. Mr. Reid is on his way home from a visit to England, and will not be able to attend the conference which opens there on the 21st June, but of which he is a strong advocate. The scope of this conference will probably be more enlarged than at first contemplated, as in addition to the Australian delegates it is expected that representatives of the Imperial Government and of the South African Colonies will be present.

MR. A. PHILLIPS.

### All Men

Young, old, or middle aged, who find themselves nervous, weak and exhausted, who are broken down from excess or overwork, resulting in many of the following symptoms: Mental depression, premature old age, loss of vitality, loss of memory, bad dreams, dimness of sight, palpitation of the heart, emissions, lack of energy, pain in the kidneys, headache, pimples on the face and body, itching or peculiar sensation about the scrotum, wasting of the organs, dizziness, specks before the eyes, twitching of the muscles, eyelids, and elsewhere, bashfulness, deposits in the urine, loss of will-power, tenderness of the scalp and spine, weak and flabby muscles, desire to sleep, failure to be rested by sleep, constipation, dullness of hearing, loss of voice, desire for solitude, excitability of temper, sunken eyes, surrounded with LEADEN CIRCLES, oily looking skin, etc., are all symptoms of nervous debility that lead to insanity unless cured. The spring of vital force having lost its tension every function wanes in consequence. Those who through abuse, committed in ignorance, may be permanently cured. Send your address for book on diseases peculiar to man, sent free, sealed. Address M. V. LUBON, 24 Macdonnell Ave., Toronto, Ont.

### Timely Hints.

The dull boy needs more patience and encouragement on your part than does the smart one.

Plant a few carrots for the horses. They are the best succulent food for horses in winter.

"Meant to do it" never accomplished anything, but has caused much needless work, expense and worry.

Try a quarter of an acre, or more, of mangels or sugar beets for the cows. They are also an excellent green food for poultry, and cheap, too.

The three-year-old colt, if large and strong, may be worked in occasionally as a third horse, but never more than a few hours or half a day at a time.

Plan for a good grass pasture for the hogs during the summer. Cheaper and better pork can be made in such a pasture than where the hogs are pen fed all the time.

Go slow in starting the horses in the spring's work. The work is rushing, but if the horses are rushed before they become hardened and accustomed to it they will soon go "off feed."

### BEWARE OF FRAUDS.

The unflinching Success of Dodd's Kidney Pills induces Fraudulent Imitators to attempt to Pass Worthless Remedies on the Public.

TORONTO, May 7.—This appears to be an age of fakes and frauds. It seems impossible for any new idea or valuable invention to be made known without a host of imitations trying to foist their worthless goods on an unsuspecting public in the hope of making an unmerited profit out of their worthless ideas. The unequalled success of Dodd's Kidney Pills in curing all forms of kidney disease, has led to the introduction of many cheap and base imitations that are worse than valueless. Dodd's was the first kidney remedy ever offered in pill form. For their own safety, purchasers should buy none but Dodd's Kidney Pills. Sold in large boxes; price, fifty cents per box or six boxes for \$2.50. To be had of all dealers.

### Late Cabbages.

It is not necessary for a crop of late cabbage to start the plants in a hotbed. Make a place out doors as rich and mellow as possible, sow the seed in drills rather thickly, and cover lights to keep in the heat. It is very important to make a rapid but stocky growth. This may be done by putting nitrate of soda in the drill row and transplanting each plant once if not more times before finally setting it out where it is to make a head. Plants thus treated are worth double those grown closely crowded in a matted bed.

Every traveler should have Johnson's Anodyne Linctum in their satchell. Safe and reliable.