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DAILY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1902.

THE PROPOSED CELEBRATION.

The citizens of Fredericton some weeks ago, entered very heartily into the preparations for the proper celebration of coronation day, but unhappily the King's ill health postponed that event and threw all calculations out of shape.

The proposal however for a loyal observance of the day is again before the public, and even greater enthusiasm should be apparent in making the day a notable one in Fredericton. His Majesty, who has passed through sore disappointment and physical affliction, is rapidly recovering his health, the coronation is fixed for Saturday Aug 9, and rejoicing over his convalescence will be mingled with joy at his coronation.

We trust therefore that the Fredericton Executive Committee, which meets tomorrow afternoon to renew preparations for the celebration, will take hold of the matter with the same earnestness and vigor they displayed some weeks ago, and that all who promised aid in making the celebration a great success, will be fired with zeal in support of the excellent programme already arranged.

THAT INVESTIGATION.

Some of the newspapers are working themselves into a state of great indignation over the investigation into the affairs of the Deaf and Dumb Institution, and a lot of bad blood is being engendered among the usually calm, dispassionate members of the press. One law suit is already developing as a result of the heated discussions, and charges and counter charges are being flung around with seeming disregard for the dignity of the investigating court and the reputation of the newspapers.

The whole difficulty apparently hinges on the decision of the commissioner to investigate the immoral charges levelled against the management of the Institution behind closed doors, and the subsequent infraction of the understanding by one of the newspapers, whose representatives for obvious reasons has access to the investigation at all times.

Mr. Barry was certainly acting in the interest of good morals when he decided that the evidence likely to be given in support of the immoral charges should be heard in camera, although doubtless had the enquiry been public the newspapers would have been careful to exclude from their columns anything likely to prove offensive to healthy public taste. So far as the Herald has observed, there has been no serious infraction of the understanding that the objectionable evidence should not be published, but it is impossible to prevent some leakage when conflicting interests are represented by various persons in the enquiry. The public, however, should be slow to decide on such fragmentary testimony as has been reported on the streets.

Commissioner Barry no doubt is making every effort to conduct the investigation on lines calculated to bring out the whole truth, and anybody who knows of the honorable reputation he bears as a prominent member of the bar, and as a citizen and a man, will put full confidence in his conduct of the present enquiry. The insinuation of a St John newspaper, that it is uncertain whether the commissioner or the lawyers engaged are running the investigation, is scarcely worth noticing, for nobody believes that Mr Barry would permit any infringement of his rights, or that Mr Phinney or Mr Gregory would attempt to impose on the commissioner.

The Herald's advice to its newspaper

friends is to keep cool, and await the result of the enquiry with confidence that if there has been wrong doing in the Institution, it will be punished, and that on the other hand, if the charges are not sustained, the parties under fire will be justified. The commissioner will report the evidence to the government, who will have the final disposition of the matter, and it may be taken for granted that full justice will be done.

In the meantime the trial of the case in the columns of the newspapers is neither dignified nor profitable, nor would the moral sentiment of the country relish the publication of the evidence which it is understood has been offered in support of the immoral charges.

A CHANCE FOR CANADA.

One of the most promising fields for the sale of various Canadian products is apparently in the new British provinces in South Africa, an opening that should be taken immediate advantage of if we are not to be crowded out by other competitors. The country through the ravages of war has largely been denuded of many of its resources, of foodstuffs, articles of apparel, building material, etc., and there is certain to be a rush of new settlers, and a return of those who were driven out by the war, and Canada should be in a position to take full advantage of the opportunities offered.

Mr. Jardine, the Canadian trade commissioner, now in South Africa, writes that he finds business in Natal in the hands almost entirely of English people, very much wedded, naturally, to their old-fashioned way of doing business. A men's Goodyear welt boot retailing in Canada for \$3 or less sells there for twenty-four shillings (\$6). Furniture, doors and sashes, timber, railway ties or sleepers, agricultural implements, trunks and valises are sold at enormous profits. All these and other things, cheese, eggs, canned goods (all kinds) ought to come largely from Canada. But, remember, there are not 800,000 whites, including the military Tommies, in the whole of South Africa—half naked, wearing no shoes, living on mealie or Indian corn, 20,000 whites will purchase more necessities than these two and a half million."

Mr. Jardine says the hotels and boarding places are looking for a tremendous influx of people from all over the world, and what half of them are going to do after their money is spent he cannot tell. He trusts our young Canadians will not think of throwing up jobs to go out to South Africa just because they hear wages are considerably higher. There are quite enough artisans there to fill the vacancies and more clerks than can find work. Uitlanders are waiting in the coast towns by hundreds to go back to the interior and there are 40,000 to 45,000 Boer prisoners returning, many of whom are clerks and artisans.

A house of four small rooms, no bath, in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg costs £6 to £10 (\$30 to \$50) monthly. Board and bed for a young fellow (three and four in a room) is 25 to 40 shillings a week, with few of the comforts of a Montreal or Toronto boarding house at \$4.

It will take many years and an enormous expenditure on railway improvement, irrigation, and house building to place South Africa within measureable distance of Canada's position at this time," says Mr. Jardine, and he concludes with an urgent request for the publication of these facts as widely as possible, to prevent misery and heartaches hereafter.

AN EDITOR'S PUNISHMENT.

It appears that New Brunswick is not to have a monopoly of the business of punishing editors for attacking the court. At Victoria, B. C., last week Mr. McAdams, editor of the Sandom Paystreak, was hauled up before the full supreme court bench on a charge of contempt of court. Mr. McAdams, who made his own defence, reviewed the circumstances of the case, which elicited his comment, that the case had been delayed because one of the parties had a pull with the court. He pointed out what hardship had been imposed on one of the parties in the case, though, he said, he

should not have charged the court with being corrupt.

Chief Justice Hunter and Judges Walker and Drake heard the case, and sentenced him to nine months' imprisonment, and to furnish four securities of \$1,000 each for good conduct; failing this he gets a year's additional imprisonment. Mr. McAdams has wired his friends in the upper country to circulate a petition to the Minister of Justice against the sentence, which is regarded as very severe.

While Editor McAdams may have been guilty of the charge preferred against him, there should be a strong protest against the manner of his trial. Any man in this free country, and especially so useful a citizen as an editor, is entitled to a trial by his peers, a jury properly selected and without bias, and should not be tried and condemned by the court against which an alleged offence is committed. (Mr. McAdams' article) whether it was justified or not, was directed against the judges, and the man he charged with being corrupt, although he afterwards admitted that he was in error, heard the case and inflicted the punishment. Surely such judicial methods are out of place in a free country like Canada. The meanest offender against the law is entitled to a trial by a jury of his peers, and if an editor or any other man makes charges against a court, he is entitled to at least equal privileges with those who are brought before the bar of justice for other offences.

The system by which any Canadian citizen can be hauled before a bench of judges for an alleged offence against those who are to try him, cannot be justified on any ground, and the sooner it is abolished the better it will be for all concerned.

The Herald does not mean to denounce the judges, who acted promptly in defence of their own honor and of the institution which they are bound to guard; they only followed the system in vogue in this country and probably meted out deserved punishment for the admitted false allegations against their probity, but it should not be possible that persons accused of any misdemeanor may be the judges in the trial of the man who makes the accusation.

The Sovereign Life Insurance company, a new Canadian organization, incorporated with a capital of \$1,000,000, has among directors such well known capitalists and business men as Senator McSweeney of Moncton, Senator Templeman of Victoria B. C., E. Gas Porter, M. P., W. M. German M. P., E. E. Sheppard of Toronto, and others equally well known, and should meet with success. The company are now offering \$250,000 of their stock, and no doubt it will be rapidly taken up by those desiring a judicious and promising investment.

A report is current at Ottawa, that Sir John Bourinot, clerk of the House of Commons, now seriously ill, will be superannuated, and that the position will go to Mr. Flint, M. P., for Yarmouth.

Sir Oliver Mowatt, governor of Ontario, was 83 years old Tuesday.

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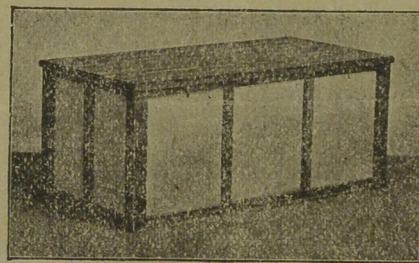
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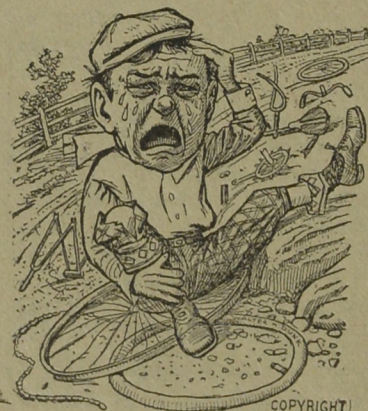
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