

THE DAILY HERALD

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DAILY HERALD.

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1902.

THINKS WE LACK ENTERPRISE.

A former York County man now residing in Boston and connected with an important industry, is of the opinion that Canada needs a waking up, lest our great resources, the chance to make money and develop the country may fall under the control of foreign capitalists.

Our friend gives his views in a private letter to the editor of the Herald, but we take the liberty of publishing some extracts from his vigorous pen, and commend his ideas to our people.

He says: "Not a few of our good Canadians get the idea of stopping with perfect satisfaction at the point where they live almost entirely off of others; we do not attempt to create wealth. To me it seems rather a pity that so much money is locked up in our Savings Banks at 3 per cent., literally rotting, while foreigners are going west with their capital and energy to develop the mines and the farms that create wealth. Last year between 9,000 and 10,000 emigrants from the United States crossed the border and took up Canadian wheat fields and farms. American capital and English capital is developing our mines and incidentally getting possession of our grand old Canada. Some fine day we'll wake up and find it isn't ours.

"This ought not to be. We should be able to supply England with every bushel of wheat and corn she needs. We should have owned every share of The Dominion Coal Company years ago at \$8 or \$10 instead of paying as we have done this year, \$100 to \$140 per share and controlling perhaps 80 per cent of it. Canadians have the money, if not how can we afford to pay such enormous prices for such stocks? We've got the brains all right, but we're too slow, we want to wake up and take advantage of our opportunities. If some of our farmers in and around Fredericton (whose Savings Bank reports \$902,000 of deposits) would take the time they spend in caressing their \$1,000 bank book and in driving in to get their pittance of \$30 interest each year on that \$1,000; if they'd spend that time in farming they'd make more; the country would be better off. If he'd take his \$1,000 and improve his farm he could make 10 per cent. easily.

"Pardon my intense feeling on the matter, but it is genuine, and I wish some way could be devised that would stimulate our good people in the provinces to some sort of action whereby they might develop the wonderful resources of Canada. You editors have the best opportunity—lecture them, 'call them down' in your editorials, give them facts and good advice, wake 'em up, we all need it and I hope we'll be constantly reminded of it.

The young Canadians that come to the U. S. in most cases make a success. They've got the brains and the brawn. They don't stop at home, because our monied men give them nothing to do, and, in my opinion, the capitalists are to blame. Here, wealth is being constantly used to open up new fields. The profits that come into the city of Boston alone from western mines are enormous; from one mine alone I know of about \$5,000,000 yearly profits, consequently there is employment; money makes it.

Victor Hugo, in "Les Misérables," the greatest work of literature and philosophy I know of, says "the first problem is to create wealth, the next to distribute it." Piling it up in Savings Banks is not distribution. Equal distribution isn't right; intelligence ought to play a part, and expansion, perhaps, as much."

THE ST. SWITHINS' TRADITION.

People who take stock in the belief that if it rains on St. Swithin's day there will be wet weather for the following forty days, will be interested in an explanation of the peculiar tradition.

Chambers in his "Book of Days" gives the following explanation, derived from Brand in his "Popular Antiquities"—an explanation which is generally conceded to be correct: "St. Swithin, Bishop of Winchester, was a man equally noted for his unrighteousness and humility. So far did he carry the latter quality that on his death-bed he requested to be buried, not within the church, but outside the churchyard, on the north of the sacred building, where his corpse might receive the eavesdroppings from the roof and his grave be trodden by the feet of the passers-by. His lowly request was complied with, and in this neglected spot his remains reposed till about a hundred years afterwards, when a fit of indignation seized the clergy at the body of so pious a member of their order being allowed to occupy such a position; and on an appointed day they all assembled to convey it with great pomp into the adjoining cathedral of Winchester. When they were about to commence the ceremony a heavy rain burst forth and continued without intermission for the 40 succeeding days. The monks interpreted this tempest as a warning from heaven of the blasphemous nature of their attempt to contravene the directions of St. Swithin, and, instead of disturbing his remains, they erected a chapel over his grave, at which many astounding miracles were performed. From this circumstance, it is stated, arose the popular belief of the anniversary of the attempted translation of St. Swithin being invested with a prophetic character in reference to the condition of the weather for the ensuing six weeks."

NEWFOUNDLAND AND UNION.

The confederation of Newfoundland with Canada is likely to be a live topic on the return of the statesmen now in England. Sir Robert Boud, premier of the island colony, is apparently willing to take the matter up, if properly encouraged by the Canadian government, but as on former occasions, Newfoundland may demand terms that cannot be conceded by this country. It is evident, however, Newfoundlanders are getting lonesome, out in the cold, and if left to themselves will be willing to come into the confederation eventually on conditions that will meet with the approval of the Canadian people. We would like to round off Canada by the addition of the island, but we are not prepared to pay too high a price even for sentimental reasons. And then there is the troublesome French shore question, which has been the cause of so much irritation. Canada is not anxious to inherit a legacy of that kind.

Mr. Ford cables that the prevailing opinion in the London political clubs is that Mr. Balfour, the new premier, may be made a peer, and Mr. Chamberlain succeed him as government leader in the House of Commons. Mr. Ford adds that many people believe that Mr. Chamberlain will eventually succeed to the premiership, and it would have given great satisfaction throughout the country if the King had chosen him to step into Lord Salisbury's shoes.

E. D. Davidson, Liberal, M. P. P., for Lunenburg, N. S., and one of the most prominent lumbermen of the sister province, is seriously ill, suffering from a stroke of paralysis, due it is believed to an injury he received some months ago in his mill. Mr. Davidson is an enterprising man, wealthy and popular, and his death would be a serious loss to his country.

J. H. Parks, head of a big Birmingham iron firm, now visiting Sydney, N. S., is much impressed with the possibilities of that growing town, and declares that he would not be a bit surprised to see Sydney become the Birmingham of America within twenty-five or thirty years. The position at Sydney, he says, for manufacture of iron and steel is as good as anywhere on the American Continent.

Financial circles in Nova Scotia are interested in the amalgamation of the Union Bank of Halifax and the Commercial Bank of Windsor, or rather the absorption of the latter by the former. Both institutions have done a successful business.

Hon. Mr. Sifton is going to the Yukon to look over conditions in that country, so that he will be in a better position to discuss matters that concern it when brought up in Parliament.

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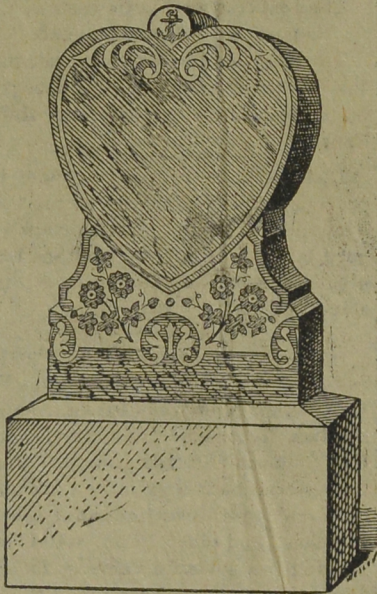
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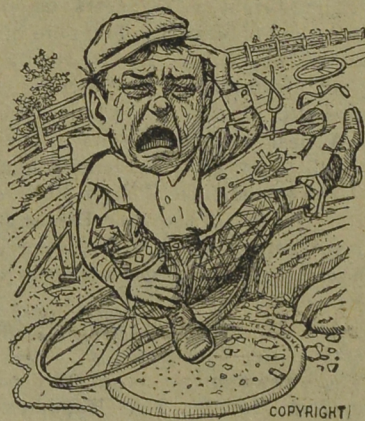
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