

Today's Probabilities

Tuesday, October 8.—(Special)—West and southwinds fair and a little warmer.

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THE MORNING GUARDIAN
MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1902.

COMBINES IN CANADA.

It appears that while Canada has plenty of coal within her borders to stave off a famine, Canadians cannot in many cases purchase it. Recently Mayor Howland of Toronto wrote the Dominion Coal Company of Nova Scotia in regard to a supply of anthracite for Toronto. The company replied that all the coal they could mine was required for their own use and that they could not send coal to Toronto at practical prices. In speaking of the matter Mayor Howland said: "The conclusion I arrived at was that they had the coal but would not supply it. It is plain to one that the monopoly which has acquired control of the deposits in Nova Scotia is so closely identified with the American mine owners that it won't enter into competition with the United States monopoly. It brings home forcibly the tremendous error committed by the Nova Scotia Government in surrendering all the mines in Nova Scotia to an international monopoly, which now makes it necessary for subjects of Canada to protect themselves from the combine. The question which now presents itself is whether it is constitutionally possible to acquire by expropriation a portion of these mines and

not leave us at the mercy of an international monopoly for a supply of our natural commodities. As showing the connection between the combines it is only necessary to point to the statement in the newspapers that the Dominion Coal Company has contracted to furnish 25,000 tons of coal to the city of Boston at \$5 per ton—and yet we are refused a supply in Toronto. Inasmuch as the Dominion Coal Company has erected enormous works at Montreal for the storing, handling and distributing of coal, and have a fleet of steamers for the transportation of their products, it is ridiculous to say that coal cannot be supplied to Toronto if advantage is taken of the waterways."

In the matter of combines Canada is rapidly following in the footsteps of the United States.

The Montreal gentleman whose generous offer to furnish \$100,000 to purchase coal for needy inhabitants was made to the city, is Senator Forget.

It is reported in the Boston Transcript that a Salem lady—and she must be of a turn of mind making her equal to emergencies—has written to somebody in that city concerning the coal situation:—"We have a half a ton and are holding on to that like grim death. I'm burning everything else I can lay my hands on. The partition in the old woodshed has gone, as well as the board borders to the flower beds. They served the purpose well. I began yesterday on father's library of Reports of the Bureau of Labor and Statistics." The latter is a useful hint, says an exchange for the wives of members of Parliament and such others as may be blessed with the possession of Blue Books, Hand-ards and other specimens of the voluminous publications of a charitable government.

The Guardian has received from Rev Arthur Watson, father of Midshipman Watson, whose remains lie interred at People's Cemetery in the family plot of Mayor Warburton, a note of thanks to the Sons of England in Charlottetown for their thoughtful act on their recent Decoration Day. Rev. Mr. Watson writing from Cowes, Isle Wight says: "I read with much interest the account in your paper of the first annual Decoration Day of the Sons of England, and write to express our warmest thanks for the kind feeling which prompted the gentlemen to place a wreath and flag over the grave of our son, Midshipman Watson, who died August 27th, 1887, on board H. M. S. Bellerophon, (afterwards the flagship of his uncle, Admiral Sir C. W. Watson,) far from his home and native shores, a youth of great promise, much beloved and regretted by all.

A lengthened explanation of the coal strike and its causes is given in a Boston paper which labors to show that it lies not from the miners but from their "help." It seems the miners are well paid and can make anything they like from \$50 to \$100 a month. Having done their work they lie off and each hires a man to handle the blasted coal. These are a low class of foreign laborers badly paid by the miners, and they have so it is stated, struck for an equal "divvy" with their employers, the miners. From which premise the Bostonian arrives at the conclusion that the miners are not to be blamed for the present situation. Amid a storm of recrimination the public can judge for itself. But the same public will have to say whether it be miner or whether it be operator or miners' help who is responsible, this we know, that we are suffering for want of coal. And that is about all they have to do with it.

The following from the Montreal Witness will be of interest to many who have following the records of the Police Court in our own city and have viewed with regret the large number of children who have been before the court to answer for crimes of a more or less serious nature:—"A boy of fifteen, sentenced to be hanged for a murder of a playfellow in St. John, N. B., is an incident of too terrible significance to be passed over in silence. From what transpired at the trial it is evident that this is the culmination of a youthful career of viciousness made possible by neglect and indulgence. Several other cases of juvenile murder have been chronicled within the past few days. Only to-day we have an account of a lad of fourteen shooting an old Indian from behind with perusable intent to kill him. These cases raise questions about the contributive effects of neglect, of trash juvenile literature, of cigarette smoking, of running loose in the streets, of intemperance in the home, and of parental example and responsibility generally. Less restraint is exercised over the youth of both sexes now than in former times, and any one may observe the decline of manners in the unconscious lack of respect shown by young people to their elders. Some children in our cities run absolutely wild. Apparently they have no one to

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