

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1911.

COMPLAINTS AND THAT SORT OF THING.

Reformers in all ages have been outspoken in their complaints against existing wrongs and abuses.

There was once a fair city not one hundred miles from Charlottetown that had no system of water supply except unwholesome, contaminated wells and it had no sewerage system at all.

Time was when the Province had no better means of communication with the mainland than the old steamer Northern Light.

If no one had complained against the oppressions, neglects and dishonesty of absentee landlords, we might have them still.

AS TO RECIPROCIITY AND ANNEXATION.

Toronto Saturday Night, which discusses public affairs with ability and independence in an engaging manner withal, is a little doubtful about the reciprocity agreement and thinks the country ought to be consulted, and that the Government should hold a general election, with reciprocity as the issue before formally sanctioning the agreement.

The easy answer to this contention is that reciprocity as a moot question has been before the people of Canada ever since the Dominion was formed and long before and that its desirability in some form has been affirmed from time to time by the leaders and lieutenants of both political parties.

But Saturday Night is not at all frightened by the spectre of annexation, or the vapors of Champ Clark and Representative Bennett. It says "The whole proposal resembles one published in The Guardian of Charlottetown, P. E. I., a few months ago, which was probably intended as a satire on the paralyzing annexation talk that is frequently heard in New England."

A score of prominent American newspapers took up The Guardian's article and commented upon it in a genial or humorous fashion. None of them took it too seriously or got offended. Why cannot Conservative journals in Canada see the lurking

not now have responsible government. If so one had complained about the evils of the liquor traffic we would be yet without the boon of prohibition. Perpetual agitation is the price of all reforms, just as increasing vigilance is the price of liberty. And unless somebody makes further complaint and trouble our existing difficulties, disabilities and grievances will go on without remedy.

These citations afford no excuse for the making of unreasonable or trivial complaints. But is it unreasonable to complain that it costs 15 cents per 100 pounds for sending Is-land produce from Kensington to St. John, a distance of 150 miles, while from Montreal to St. John, a distance of 735 miles—almost five times as far, and with Government service in both cases—the rate for the same quantity and class of freight is but 9 cents? Is it unreasonable to complain against the extortionate charges for passengers and baggage by the Capes' iceboats, operated by the Government? On the contrary, would it not be unreasonable not to complain of such things?

Is it unreasonable to complain that Prince Edward Island cannot get a Judge or a Senator appointed to fill long-standing vacancies? Or to object that our people are being deprived of the ballot in elections, or that many rich and well-to-do persons are practically exempt from income tax which the laborer, the mechanic or the clerk is required to pay? These are in no proper sense of the word party questions. They are questions of public right, of justice to the Province, of fair play all around, on which good men of both parties might agree. At least it would seem that they are questions which might be discussed in calm reason and without the need of abusive epithets. In any case these are questions which must be discussed from time to time until a reasonable and satisfactory remedy is found.

humor of Champ Clark and Bennett? To treat their annexation nonsense seriously, or worse still, to become angry over it, is to dignify it with undeserved importance, and shows a sad want of the saving sense of humor. And the real merits or demerits of a business arrangement in trade matters can not be changed or affected by Clark's or Bennett's annexation proclivities any more than by the brand of cigars they smoke or the color of their neckties.

THE INADEQUATE MAIL SERVICE

Roughly speaking as The Guardian is informed there are about 175 bags of mail weighing one ton due to come inwards from the mainland daily. The average is not evenly distributed as Monday's mails, owing partly to the big Saturday newspapers and the many weeklies arriving on that day, are much heavier than on other days of the week.

Five iceboats at the Capes leaving Tormentine daily for Traverses are supposed to carry 400 to 500 pounds of mail each, but do not really carry nearly so much, especially when the crossing is bad. When they miss a crossing there are two days' mails to bring, and the bags pile up at Tormentine, or are stopped at Sackville to be sent on via Pictou and the winter steamers.

Inspector Wear, who is painstaking and indefatigable, has no sin-cure in regulating the movements of the mails and special trains under such conditions. All are agreed that he has done his best and acted with good judgment. But it is inevitable that while the Capes' route is the main route for mails, the large surplusage over what the iceboats can carry, must be sent via Pictou and the steamers, whose ability to cross is uncertain.

How uncertain they are the following facts from The Guardian's daily record will show: The Minto made but four round trips between the Mainland and the Island during the month of February and the Earl Grey but nine round trips. Thus from the inadequate service at the Capes we have had from time to time a sadly belated dump of letters and newspapers coming by way of the steamers, running thus irregularly. The obvious lesson from all this is that the Department should provide enough iceboats at the Capes to carry all the mails, instead of but a part, when the mails are being brought and sent by that route. This trouble is now a generation old.

The Guardian has always been the advocate of reciprocity, believing it would be of great value to this Province, and we have the same faith still. But we cannot disguise the fact that even in this Province where the great benefits would in our judgment be offset by the fewest disadvantages, there is little enthusiasm for the agreement. And the advocacy of the local Liberal press has been so far singularly feeble and ineffect-ive.

DOCTOR ADVISED HOSPITAL

But Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Cured Her.

Upper Sandusky, Ohio.—"Three years ago I was married and went to housekeeping. I was not feeling well and could hardly drag myself along.



"I had such tired feelings, my back hurt, my sides ached, I had bladder trouble awfully bad, and I could not eat or sleep. I had headaches too, and became almost a nervous wreck. My doctor told me to go to a hospital. I did not like that idea very well, so when I saw your advertisement in a paper, I wrote to you for advice. I have done as you told me. I have taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Liver Pills, and now I have my health.

"If sick and ailing women would only know enough to take your medicine, they would get relief."—Mrs. BENJ. H. STANBURY, Route 6, Box 18, Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

"I have taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and such unquestionable testimony as the above proves the value of this famous remedy, and should give everyone confidence.

A noteworthy feature of the reciprocity discussion in Parliament is the declared opposition of Hon. Clifford Sifton to that measure, and his apparent withdrawal from the Liberal party. Only twice since confederation—in 1878 and 1891 have there been so many prominent Liberals who announced themselves as unable to support a principal plank in the party platform, and one by which it must stand or fall.



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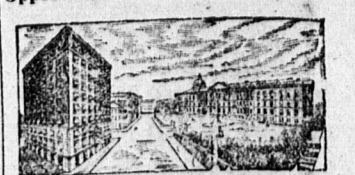
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They will give your room that soft cheerful, artistic glow so much desired by people of good taste. A large number of patterns. See them in our window and select while assortment is complete. Prices 25c to 1.00 each.

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SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH WEST LAND REGULATIONS.

ANY person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency or Sub Agency for the district. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency, on certain conditions, by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader. Duties:—Six months residence upon cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister. In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre. Duties:—Must reside upon the homestead or pre-emption six months in each six years from date of homestead entry (including the time required to start homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres extra. A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead rights and cannot obtain a pre-emption may enter for a purchase homestead in certain districts. Price \$3.00 per acre.—Duties:—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$200.00.

W. W. CORRY, Deputy of the Minister of the Interior N. B.—Unauthorized publication of this document will not be paid for. 12-26dm

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