

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1895.

STILL AN ALLIANCE.

What are the present relations between the Conservatives and the Liberal Unionists of Great Britain, is a question not easily answered. Has there been a fusion of parties or is the connection between them still an alliance? It seems almost impossible for two parties working together for a common end and contending against a common enemy to remain long separated and distinct. One would suppose that in the nature of things they must soon coalesce in spite of all opposing influences. If the Liberal-Unionists were all Whigs, like the Duke of Devonshire and Mr. Goschen, fusion would be simply a work of time. The distinction in these days between the Liberal-Conservative and the old-fashioned Liberal is so small that it requires a political magnifying glass to discern it. Some Liberal-Conservatives are much more liberal than many Liberals, and some old style Liberals—Whigs—are far greater Tories in principle and in practice than a very considerable section of the Conservative party. But the Radicals when they become Liberal-Unionists are still radical. It is almost as hard for a Radical to forget or ignore his radicalism as it is for an Ethiopian to change his skin. No matter by what name he may be called, he is still a radical. It is the handful of Radicals that are among the Liberal-Unionists that prevents the two parties becoming one.

Still there are those who believe that in time political distinctions between the elements of the Government party will be, if not forgotten, disregarded. If this ever does take place the change will be effected very quietly and almost without the consciousness of those who are the subjects of it. It is evident from a speech lately made by that most conservative of Liberals, the Duke of Devonshire, that the Liberal-Unionists have no intention to coalesce with the Liberal Conservatives. In a speech which he made a short time ago he said of the Liberal-Unionists:

"Our independent existence has been recognized in the clearest manner in the formation of the present Government; the preparations for the general election in the Unionist interest have been made, and it is now being conducted with complete harmony by our independent organizations, and there is not, as far as I am aware, the slightest desire or intention on the part of anyone, except perhaps on the part of our opponents, to put an end to the existence of either of the independent parties whose close alliance has, up to the present time, been attended by such remarkable success."

Mr. Chamberlain in one of his speeches, which are, by the way, wonderfully clever, said this on the relations existing between the two sections of the Government supporters:

It is possible that the Conservatives can have swallowed up the Liberal-Unionists, and at the same time that the Liberal-Unionists have swallowed up the Conservatives. I ask you, which is inside the other? The only thing that has happened is this: that the Unionist alliance, which was loyally maintained during the whole period of the existence of a Conservative Government, which was continued and strengthened during the whole time in which we were in Opposition, has now been cemented and confirmed in the same Government and in the same Cabinet. We came into existence—in order to defeat a policy which was believed to be dangerous if it was not fatal to great national interests. And now it is going to be continued in order to promote the national policy of progressive legislation. Neither the Conservatives nor the Liberal-Unionists have been swallowed up, but we are the two wings of a greater party than ever, of a national party to which every patriotic man may be proud to belong, which is pledged, on the one hand, to maintain the greatness and the integrity of the Empire, and which is equally pledged to a policy of constructive social reform.

There may have been reasons why, while the election was going on, the Liberals should stick to the name Liberal, and should not give occasion to their opponents to declare among the electors that they had "turned Tory." But when the election is over and there is no immediate cause to consider the prejudices of bigotted electors, many Liberal-Unionists will find it hard to realize that there is any real distinction between them and the men by whose side they are fighting and with whom on all matters of importance they are voting.

THE HARVEST.

The crop in many parts of the Dominion is now out of danger. There may be some anxiety in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories lest the frost should injure the late sown grain, but there appear to be but few forebodings. The harvest has commenced in many districts and the hopes of the farmer have been fully realized. We gather from the accounts we have read that a splendid crop will be harvested in almost all parts of Manitoba and the Northwest. It is predicted that the yield of wheat alone will be 60,000,000 bushels. This may be an exaggeration, but the exaggerator has left the less hopeful quite a large margin to off and still leave a very fair crop. In Ontario there have been sad complaints of drought, which has affected the hay crop chiefly. The spring frosts, too, have injured the fruit crop, but notwithstanding these drawbacks the farmers of Ontario have very little to complain of in the yield of this year. From the Province of Quebec the accounts are cheerful. Where the farming has been good the crop is abundant, and where there has been bad farming it would be folly to expect a good harvest.

The year promises to be a plentiful one in the Maritime Provinces. Crops of all kinds have grown well, and it is quite safe to predict that there will be no want for twelve months in that part of the Dominion. In British Columbia the farmer is cheerful. The season has been good, and it is confidently predicted that the crop will be double that of last year. It is to be regretted

that so little of the land of the Province is cultivated. A very large proportion of the food of the people has still to be imported. This, it must be remembered, is not the fault of either the soil or the climate. There is as good land in British Columbia as there is in any part of the world, and the climate is peculiarly favorable to the operations of the farmer. It is, however, cheering to find the cultivated area increasing every year and that the farmers are paying more attention than ever to the proper cultivation of the soil and the kind of crops they raise.

The crop reports from the United States are cheerful in tone. The harvest in all sections will be a good one. This is not the case, we grieve to say, with the accounts that reach us from Great Britain. The harvest there will be considerably below the average, and the distressed farmer cannot hope that high prices will to some extent make up for decreased returns. The supply of food from abroad will be abundant and there is no reason to believe that the prices will be better than they were last year. The prospect for the British agriculturist is therefore very dark indeed. Short crops and low prices are what they must look for, and as many of them are already in difficulties it is no wonder that despondency prevails in the agricultural districts, and that even the Times is beginning to doubt the efficacy of free trade to bring prosperity as far as the British farmers are concerned.

A BROKEN BANK.

It has been the boast of Canadians that during the period of panic when banks in the United States were tumbling by the score only one bank in Canada went down, and that bank had been in difficulties and shaky before the depression commenced. But now, when the depression has lifted and good times are coming again, a Canadian bank in which a very considerable proportion of the Canadian people had the utmost confidence has gone down. The failure of La Banque du Peuple does not show that the banking system of Canada is weak in any respect; it merely proves that no banking system, no matter how sound it may be or how well suited to the circumstances of a country, is proof against bad management. As long as La Banque du Peuple was well managed, on prudent and conservative principles, it did well, made money for the stockholders, and won and kept the confidence of the people. But when its management became reckless it went from bad to worse until the crash came and the French-Canadian people were inexpressibly shocked. Still not one of the holders of its notes lost a dollar. This is how the Monetary Times of Toronto accounts for the breaking of the old and trusted French-Canadian bank:

The fact is that the style of management of the bank, which for nearly fifty years was eminently conservative, has been entirely reversed during the last five or six years. An aggressive, pushing, and (what is called) enterprising style of management has been the rule of recent years, with the result that the business of the bank immensely augmented in volume; and with augmentation in business came so large an increase of profits that a "Real" of half the capital has been built up, much to the gratification of the stockholders and friends of the bank. But there is a French proverb that tells us, "tout ce qui brille n'est pas d'or," which, as we have it in English, runs, "All that glitters is not gold." This proverb is proving to be, unfortunately, only too applicable to the present case.

The immense increase in business was largely owing to the extreme ease with which money could be obtained from the bank on indifferent security, or no security at all, and to the persistent offering of higher interest on deposits than the larger banks of the country were willing to pay. By the latter course the deposits of the bank were increased to more than double what they were seven years ago; while the natural result of the former, combined with the pressure to employ these largely augmented resources, was to fill up the books of the bank with a large amount of undesirable business.

A NEW POLICY.

It is evident that the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain has accepted the office of Secretary of State for the Colonies for the purpose of strengthening the relations between the Mother Country and her dependencies. In a letter to one of his supporters, evidently written with the view of making his intentions and aspirations with regard to colonial relations known to the world, he says that he accepted his present post "first of all because it can be done to bring the autonomous colonies and the Mother Country closer, and secondly to develop the resources of the Crown colonies, especially to increase the trade with Great Britain. All his efforts, he adds, will be devoted to these ends." Mr. Chamberlain is not only a man of great ability; he is also a practical man and a man of action. When a statesman of this class tells the world that he proposes to do certain things, it is only reasonable to conclude that he sees a way by which he can accomplish the ends he has in view. Such a man never talks at random or merely for the purpose of bearing himself talk.

It is difficult for most persons to see what the Secretary for the Colonies can do to bring the autonomous colonies closer to the Mother Country. The task is difficult principally because the colonies are autonomous. A self-governing people are not disposed to listen submissively to the dictation of even a member of the Imperial Government. They believe that they know what is good for their country and what their country really requires quite as well as any Imperial minister. Mr. Chamberlain no doubt knows very well that the colonies are self-reliant and that their leading men are disposed to resent unnecessary Imperial interference with their domestic affairs. He must have therefore in his mind some plan by which he can show the colonies that it is for their immediate interest that the bond which unites

them with Great Britain should be both strengthened and tightened. In no way can this be done so well as by improving the commercial relations between them and the Mother Country. Therefore we are not surprised that there are some who believe that Mr. Chamberlain has devised a scheme of preferential trade which will be acceptable alike to Great Britain and her colonies. The Montreal Star's cablegram says with reference to the passage we have quoted above: "This may be taken to mean that the Right Honorable Mr. Chamberlain is an earnest friend of Imperial support to the fast Atlantic steamship service and to the Pacific Cable scheme. Some, however, go so far as to say that it means much more, foreshadowing a scheme of inter-Imperial tariff preferences as outlined by the Ottawa Inter-Colonial Conference."

It would not be at all surprising if this were the case. There are many thinking men in Great Britain who have come to the conclusion that free trade has its limitations, and that Great Britain has already gone beyond them. It is well known that the Colonies are, from an Imperial point of view, in sentiment all that can be desired. They are loyal to the Mother Country and are proud of their connection with her. Nevertheless many colonists cannot see what they are to gain, how they are to be benefited by being more closely united to Great Britain than they are at present. If the conditions were such that these persons were convinced that it was to their interest that the colonies should be more closely united to Great Britain than all opposition to imperial federation would immediately disappear. Indifference and opposition would in a wonderfully short time be transformed into an ardent zeal for union. Trade preferences would soon bring about this change; and we believe, the theories of free trade to the contrary notwithstanding, the preferential system would be found as beneficial to the Mother Country as it would be to the colonies. The influences of affection and interest being united each colony would feel that it was a member of a great family. The national spirit would pervade the whole Empire and add immensely to its strength and its prestige.

THE BEST PAYMENT.

The Pioneer-Press of St. Paul bears strong testimony to the superiority of asphalt over wood as a material for paving the streets of a city. The wooden blocks in that city were laid upon a plank foundation, consequently the foundation decayed before the blocks were worn out, and the pavement became uneven and was broken in many places. The Pioneer-Press is so disgusted with the wooden pavement that it looks upon it as a survival of bygone barbarism. Here is what it says about the asphalt pavements:

Seeing is believing. The asphalt pavements laid in this city on Summit, Dayton, Portland, Holly and other residence streets eight or nine years ago have practically settled the pavement question for this city. At the time they were put down the property owners on Laurel and Ashland avenues concluded that cedar or pine block on plank was good enough for them. To-day their wooden pavements are all going to pieces with the rottenness that pits and furrows them, while the asphalt on neighboring streets is as good as new. They will have to renew their pavements. So that in the end they will have paid dearly for the small saving they made eight or nine years ago in laying a cheap pavement. The asphalt pavements laid on Seventh street and in process of being laid or about to be laid on Sixth, Fifth, Fourth, St. Peter and Wabasha streets are all going to the rescue of the business district of the city. So far as the work has progressed it gives such complete satisfaction that the opinion seems to be nearly or quite universal that asphalt is superior to any other kind of pavement for ordinary business streets. It is safe to say that except in the wholesale trade on heavy grades asphalt will be preferred to any other material by the property owners. Of course wooden block pavements are greatly improved by being laid on an indestructible foundation of cement. But after seeing the new cedar block pavement on Third street after a year's wear, where the iron girds of the horses' shoes are gradually working the blocks into cones, and comparing it with the bright, smooth, clean asphalt of Sixth and Seventh, the property owners on other streets are not likely to hesitate long in the choice of material for paving. Seeing is believing, and every new street laid with asphalt is a cumulative argument for paving the next one in the same way.

A QUEER FEAST.

Young Wanamaker, son of the ex-Postmaster General of the United States, entertained some of his French friends in a way that we presume is unique. Here is the San Francisco Call's description of the banquet:

The dinner is a nine days' wonder in Paris, and is not without interest here, for John Wanamaker has been mentioned for the Presidency of the Nation, and it is worth our while to consider what kind of ideas he has inculcated in the mind of his son and heir. Twenty-two guests were invited to the dinner, and probably from a fear that some of them might come in a cab, a street car or even on foot, if left to themselves, the finest Rodman engaged twenty-two of the finest equipages in Paris to call for them. The decorations of the dining room, we are told, were sumptuously beautiful, and the air was cooled by luminous fountains sputtering a spray radiant as many colored jewels over crystalline masses of ice. The dishes were prepared regardless of cost, of appetite and of human capacity to eat. Each guest was served with a whole leg of mutton, a whole salmon, a truffled fowl, a basket of peaches and a double mug of champagne, besides several bottles of other wines of the highest and fabulous cost. At the close of the dinner a silken grabbag was passed around and each guest drew from it a souvenir, such as an emerald pin, ruby links, pearl studs or a golden cigarette-holder gemmed with diamonds. Taken altogether the feast was a remarkable example of the grossest form of "going the whole hog." It was an attempt to dazzle Paris by a display of wealth and lavishness, but the result was simply to disgust Americans. The futility of the thing is evident from the fact that some of the guests

were members of the Rothschild family, who could buy out the Wanamakers any day, but who would never think of showing their greatness by trying to eat a leg of mutton, a salmon, a chicken and a basket of peaches, and washing the mixture down with a gallon of champagne.

A SUGGESTION.

There was complaint in St. Paul lately about the impurity of the water supplied to the citizens. It had a bad taste, a disagreeable smell, and appeared to be full of impurities. It was a mystery to the authorities how the water came to be in that condition. The supply, they knew, at the fountain head was pure, and they could not understand how it became impure when it reached the taps. It was found on examination that there was a fungous growth of vegetable matter in the pipes. The pipes were thoroughly flushed and cleansed by forcing hot steam through them. After this had been done the water became sweet, and the impurities disappeared.

A MISTAKEN VIEW.

"Teach your children," wrote poor Rowbotham to his friend when on the point of giving up in despair the struggle for existence, "that wealth is the greatest good, for it buys everything." Is what the unfortunate man in the bitterness of his heart and from the depth of despair, wrote, true? Many, no doubt, believe that it is. They believe that the first and the most important lesson that we should teach our children is to get money. They believe that wealth is the greatest good and that poverty is the greatest evil. This is the gospel of mammon epitomized, but is it the gospel of Christ or is it the gospel of common sense? Can wealth buy everything? Can it even buy the things which men and women of all ranks and conditions deem most precious in this world? Can it buy a sound constitution? Is there a market price for health? What are the quotations for sound lungs and for digestive organs in good working condition? Are nervous systems that can stand wear and tear to be had in any market or for any price? To be bought for ourselves and our children is not to be bought with a price in dollars and cents. And health of mind and health of body is the greatest blessing that man, woman or child can possess. Here we find at the outset that Rowbotham's philosophy and the philosophy of millions of others is not sound. Can peace of mind, another great blessing, be purchased with money? Those who are struggling to get rich do not possess quiet minds. Their lives are full of cares and anxieties and worries of many kinds, and they often feel the pangs and humiliations of disappointment. Are those who have attained wealth better off in this respect? Does their money buy for them the peace which passeth all understanding, and are they, on the whole, more contented and happy than their poorer neighbors? They do not say so. How often have millionaires—men who could buy every comfort and every luxury that is to be purchased with money—been heard to say that the happiest time of their lives was when they had not one dollar to rub against another; when they in their younger days were working hard for their small pay? Did those men deceive themselves or were they telling the simple truth? We believe that they were honestly stating their experiences. When they were young they possessed a power of enjoyment that money could not buy and that the riches they had accumulated did not help them to retain it. It passed away with their youth, which also left them in spite of all that money could do to keep it a little longer. Here again we find there are many things, and those of inestimable value to men and women, that wealth cannot buy. Burns said some very good things on this subject as he did on many others. His poem, The Two Dogs, teaches a lesson on the vanity of riches and the compensations of poverty that it would be well that many of us in these days would take to heart. Caesar, the dog who had seen a good deal of high life, says in his companion, the shepherd's collie, who seemed to envy the condition of the rich and fashionable:

Lord, man, were ye but whyles where am I. The gentles ye wad ne'er envy'm. It's true they seein' starve nor sweat, Through widders' could ye stum' their heat; They're nae sair wark to craze their banes, And till all aye w' grips and granes; But human bodies are sic fools, For a' their colleges and schools, That when nae real ill perplex them, They mak' enow themselves to vex them; And aye the less they ha'e to trust them, In like proportion less will hurt them.

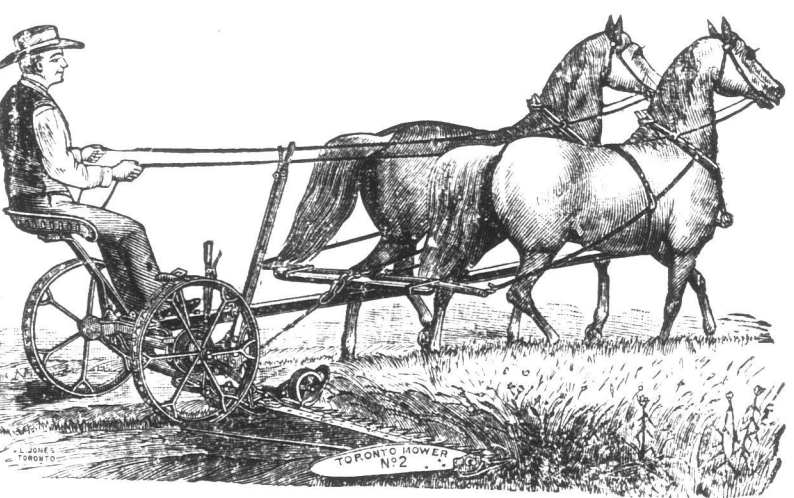
A country fellow at the plough, His acre till'd, he's right enough; A country girl at her wheel, Her dizzies done, she's unco weel; But gentlemen and ladies wark, W' evendown want o' wark are curst. They loiter, lounge, lank, and lazy; Though dell ha'e ails them, yet enow; Their days inidol, dull, and tasteless; And e'en on their sports, their balls and races, Their gallops through public places, There's sic parade, sic pomp and art, The joy can scarcely reach the heart.

Of the poor among whom he has passed his days, the Collie Luth says: And when they meet w' sair distressers, Like Jos' o' health or wair o' masters, He mak' wad think, a woe touch lauger, And they maun starve o' could and hunger; But how it comes I never ken'd ye, For a' their wonderfu' contentment; And buttrily chiel, and clever hizzies, Are bred in sic a way as this.

Scotland's poet had the true philosophy. He knew that wealth could not buy everything, but that happiness and misery, pleasure and pain, are all pretty evenly divided among the sons and daughters of men irrespective of their condition in life or the extent of their possessions. If we say that money cannot buy love, the great sweetener of human existence, many will smile cynically and others will laugh outright. But it is true nevertheless that love, genuine love, cannot be purchased with money. What has the Infant to give for the love that is lavished upon it? It will have to be acknowledged that a

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HIGHEST MARKET PRICES AND FOR SPOT CASH. Consignments and Correspondence Solicited; Bags and Price Lists on Application. mother's love is unpurchased and unpurchasable. What about a lover's love, can it not be bought, says the cynic. Not the genuine article. Counterfeits in great numbers are in the market, and so are substitutes which may do well enough when they are not tried severely, but true love is priceless. This is a very old-fashioned doctrine, we admit, but it will be a bad day for the human race when love can be appraised and its value expressed in pounds, shillings and pence. Even Rowbotham, miserable as he was, found that, although he had less than nothing to give in return, love did not fail him. If Rowbotham's mind had been in a healthy condition he would not have written that wealth buys everything, and he would not have killed himself. LOW PRESSURE. In San Francisco the water pressure, as it is in this city, is very low. This is an evil which is not likely to be remedied, and no one knows how soon the citizens may suffer great loss for want of sufficient water pressure. It is not pleasant to think of the destruction of property that would ensue if a fire was started in some parts of this city under conditions favorable to the rapid spread of the conflagration. In San Francisco it is proposed to use the salt water of the harbor for extinguishing fires and water-

THE FRENC A I Thank P LONI the Tin causing The Tin dence i ported oes of Seve Rome timenta The operati It is ment is to the e per cen There rumore operati of the f time an one th lead to and wo Eouado The the ap New Y ported J the ex cliver on antee to The A toral let prayer f threaste Hon. sador, d mar soh Afterwa which th with ad poration the heal Mr. Ba office of dignity e ty. Th self-oonf and it to govern t Mr. Cleve At a nople a Armenia empire, v The op prohibi mittee of the powe tion belo authorit until Tu argument half of the touchi factore as also rais the Powe £1,500 to ere, casib on the g section the Powe he was m dally to se America. announced such divor Eakin pe The Ode Newsom Minister S tion, with of invest date for cluding S A telegr states th of the late Liberal p Roumania and fatal Joseph dead. The m brewery i score and fire was fi a million and two fi The town on the southwest Sixty men ere autom that they narrow esced in in time while th warn hi There is a pit's mou families of cred, writt sorte of m Many risoned rizing supe than the thus sho were re in a mos were reu labor. Oo rubes th ing, and cully th could with carrying much exba we hims so that he make any was finally and proce A disp say: "I M. Stamb vants are as to the c nosed sch Lowdon ish govern regardi garded as basies it v nothing m posed sch British M Budham. The p at Rome v Rev. Dr. Marey of by the Pop King Ch rence of es