

STRIKING PERSONALITY OF THE FOREST CITY PIONEER TEACHER

The following paper on Robert Wilson, the pioneer teacher of London, was read recently before the London Historical Society:

It is somewhat singular that the three men of most importance in the pioneer educational work of London bore the same name, though they were unrelated, and of different nationalities. They were John Wilson, barrister, a Scotchman, the first London Superintendent of Education; Nicholas Wilson, an Irishman, one of the first teachers appointed, and a member of the staff for more than half a century; and Robert Wilson, an Englishman, and the first teacher in London who had a professional training in a Normal School. John Wilson's name as a lawyer, a member of Parliament and a judge, is written in Canada's history; Nicholas Wilson's name is endeared to two generations of Londoners; Robert Wilson's name is forgotten by all but a few of the older residents of the city. Let me recall for you the personality of one whose career of usefulness was cut short by an untimely death.

Robert Wilson was born in Hull, England, and came to Canada with his parents in 1830, when he was but a little more than thirteen. His father, Christopher Wilson, had followed a business somewhat on the line of a commission merchant, selling principally for the farmers in his neighborhood. His association with agriculture was probably turned into his attention to the idea of a settler's life in the colonies, and he emigrated to this country with a family of six children and his wife. He came from Hull, and settled on the 12th concession of London Township, near the Lobo town line, about two miles south of the present village of Denfield, and leaving part of his family in Toronto, came with Robert and three other boys to Lobo.

One can hardly imagine the feelings of a family of settlers like these as they surveyed the site of their new home. Before them lay a broken stretch of forest—the road by which they reached their destination only an embryo extension of the concession line from the better settled district. No timber, no water, no strike of the ear except such as nature might provide—the murmur, ring, and hum of the forest leaves, the singing of woodland birds, and the chirping of the field crickets looked with inquisitive eyes on the strange visitors; while "the wolf's long howl" or snarling bark from the dense thicket added a gruesome melody. But the hardships and the time to admire the beauty of nature, or grow nervous over unaccustomed sounds. They must set to work and build a home.

And a primitive home it had to be—a typical settler's log cabin. There was no material but what the woods supplied; and no tools but those the settlers brought with them. The best bricks, the best lumber, the best nails, the best iron, the best everything, were not for them. The house was built of logs undressed, laid one above the other, pinned by wooden stakes at the angles, and chinked with mud.

The rafters and beams were of the larger limbs. The roof was of the clapboard variety—logs of oak, sawn into three feet lengths, and then split into slabs as thin as the grain of the wood. The rafters, these placed in position were tied down with strands of basswood bark. The floor was of loss split and laid with the convex side down. Windows and doors there were none; the spaces for those "useful" apertures being covered when necessary by temporary curtains held in place in stormy weather by branches of trees. There was no time to put a chimney, and no bricks to make it with. But a hole was cut in the roof at the spot where the fireplace should be, and on the ground beneath the hole, a small stove was placed. Doubtless, many a time Robert sat here with his brothers on the floor, with his feet hanging down, toasting his shins at the blaze, and watching the smoke curl in the roof where the chimney was to be. Of course, this was only the beginning. As fast as circumstances would permit, and materials could be obtained, improvements were added. Doors and windows found their proper place; the chimney reared itself through the roof; the hearth was laid with its hot brick and hangers; the single room was partitioned off into apartments and comfort succeeded to the hardships of the earlier days.

Much Hard Work. These conditions that young Wilson commenced his life in Canada. The days were spent in hard work, clearing the land, planting in the little harvest, gathering the log cabin, and adding to the primitive and unique furniture. Father and mother, and the children, had to be of all trades and try their hands at everything for which today we have a name. For Robert, the work was no to the merchant and mechanic. There was no time for school and no schools to attend. But whenever a spare moment could be snatched, Robert utilized it, for he was a natural student. He had received a rudimentary education before he left England and he was not content that everyone could be borrowed or bought. He valued himself of the opportunity. And the results of his work showed that after all, he was not absolutely ignorant. It is the student himself more than his accessories that really counts.

A hard life this may seem to us and yet it had its pleasures and rewards. For Robert there was always nature to be studied, and books to be read. Social life became more available. The township included within its population a number of men, enough to be reached by walking. Visits and social intercourse developed. Robert had taught himself to play on the flute and the violin and was a welcome guest wherever he went. The young people often gathered for an evening at the Wilson home, where music and games and dancing gave relief from the daily toil.

A Handsome Lad. So he grew to manhood. Tall and slim, six feet in height, agile and alert in body and limb, with smooth face and rosy complexion,

brown hair, and bright brown eyes, with a hearty, pleasant voice and a cheerful smile. When, during the rebellion, he enlisted in the London militia, and as one of the London cavalry troop, he mounted his horse and rode forth in defense of queen and country, there were few more handsome lads among the yeoman soldiery of Upper Canada. He was a soldier, but he was not a soldier in itself, for there was no fighting to be done. But it was of decided service to him, in that it largely extended his circle of acquaintance, and brought him into contact with some men of great benefit, and who gave him material assistance in extending the circle of his studies, and developing his own mental faculties. To none, perhaps, was he more indebted than to Mr. John Wilson, who became his guide and friend. Himself a country school teacher in his younger days, he could appreciate a young man's efforts at self-improvement, and sympathize with him in his ambitions. He seems to have been very much attracted by his young namesake, who, in return, gave him love and loyalty that lasted through life.

As he developed, Robert Wilson became satisfied that there was something else before him than a farmer's life. And as he realized that, he turned to teaching. In trying to teach others he could teach himself, and commenced a little school in his own neighborhood. For this work, which was as well paid as the average teacher, there was then no regular training for persons entering that profession in Canada, and no particular qualifications demanded. Anybody could do it, and a school was not so disposed to accept a school and its children and pay the fees, and his purpose was accomplished. While there were a few educated teachers, many took up the work because they had no other means of support. Discharged soldiers, crippled mechanics, old women without any means of support, and young people anxious to make a little money, tried their unfamiliar hand at the pedagogical art. Wilson had better qualifications than most of these, for he had already learned more than the average backwoods settler, and more than many of the young and growing villages. His success was apparent from the first, and he shortly after made a more ambitious movement to a better settled section on the 7th concession.

Branches Out. But even this soon proved too limited a field, and about 1842 or 1843 (I cannot find the precise date) he moved into the flourishing village of Dundas, where he opened his school first in a building on Ridout street, north of Dundas, but subsequently moved it to more commodious quarters in the new Mechanics' Institute building on the Court House Square. Here he taught for several years with marked success. He was well suited for the work. Apart altogether from his educational qualifications, he knew how to handle young people. Courteous and agreeable in his manner, kind and sociable in his disposition, he soon acquired the confidence and esteem of his pupils. He tried to make his lessons pleasant, and to interest them in their work. He did not confine himself to the then common practice of trying to drill a few mechanics into them, but he endeavored to help them to broaden their conceptions, and make them think for themselves. At the same time he was a firm disciplinarian, only the rod and the glove concealed under the velvet glove.

It was about this time that he began to extend his activities outside the schoolroom. His school being held in the Mechanics' Institute building, he was not content with that organization, more especially as it was itself for educational purposes; and all the more because he saw that he could make a useful contribution to the professional help for himself in his professional work, while he was helping a laudable undertaking.

Mechanics' Institutes had been inaugurated in England about 1823, Dr. Birkbeck. The movement spread rapidly over England, and was soon introduced into the colonies. Its object was the associating of artisans for their mutual improvement. This was effected by studying the elementary principles as well as the methods of their trades, and at the same time enlarging their acquaintance with matters outside their own occupation. They had lectures not only by skilled mechanics on their own work, but on general subjects by professional men. They had their working rooms, their reading rooms, and their libraries. The movement was considered the commencement of the public library as an educational institution.

In Canada there were institutes in Toronto and Kingston, as is evidenced by the appearance in the public accounts of grants to them in 1835. A third seems to have followed in Hamilton in 1838. And the next appears to have been in London, where it was permanently organized on the 1st of January, 1841. Apparently it must have existed in some form even before this date, for at an early meeting in the year the minutes refer to the existence of some books from the old Mechanics' Institute. Of this primitive institute, however, I have not been able to obtain any further record.

The list of the first officers embraces the names of some who were at the time leading citizens, but became still more prominent in after years. They were nearly all workmen, or what might be termed merchants and others, though a few were professional men. Ed. Matthews, builder, and S. Morrill, tinner, were the vice-presidents; J. Farley, a merchant, was one of the secretaries; Robert Fennell, a harness maker, whose shop was for many years a prominent feature of York street, west of Ridout, was treasurer. Others who attached themselves to the young association were men like Elijah Leonard and Wm. McBride, whose names are still remembered by those who knew London as late as two score years ago.

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name. The first meetings were held in what they called the Seminary, or Government school building, then presided over by the Rev. B. Bayley. Then they had their meetings in the Methodist Episcopal Church, further north on Ridout street.

But with their growth they became ambitious, and decided on having a home of their own. They secured a site from the County Council on the Court House Square, midway between the Seminary and the military magazine. Subscriptions and donations were gathered in to the extent of something over \$1,200, and before long they had their building ready for occupation. It was not completed, however, until a few years later. It was of a somewhat Grecian style of architecture, constructed of wood, with a roof forming an acute angle with the sides of the building and a pediment over the entrance. The building was a two-story structure, in a modern style, on Talbot street, just north of Dundas, where it fills the useful but not ornamental portion of a block.

Wilson was not one of the original members of the Institute, but he joined it soon after its formation, and he was at times the office of secretary.

Goes to Normal. His success as a teacher ought to have been satisfactory, but he desired to improve himself further. The first training school for teachers was opened in 1847—the Normal School of Toronto. He was the first man from London to obtain a normal school training. Mr. Nicholas Wilson following him a year later.

In 1848, the amended school act came into force, and a number of teachers were appointed at a salary of £50 a year and fees, the school was opened in 1849, and Mr. Nicholas Wilson was one of the first appointments. But these men had not been trained professionally.

It was about this time that he began to extend his activities outside the schoolroom. His school being held in the Mechanics' Institute building, he was not content with that organization, more especially as it was itself for educational purposes; and all the more because he saw that he could make a useful contribution to the professional help for himself in his professional work, while he was helping a laudable undertaking.

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and in its desire to secure the best talent available, the board wrote to Robert Wilson, offering him six shillings and three pence, to ten shillings for each pupil. The offer was accepted, and he entered the Normal School in 1849. It was successful may be gathered from the fact that the superintendent of education in his report for the following year made special reference to the superiority of Robert Wilson's school, and the excellent results obtained by the only teacher who taught on the new normal system.

The need for enlarged school accommodation for the growing town soon became apparent. The late A. S. Abbott, then the collector of taxes, in the course of his house-to-house visitation, he was attracted by a vacant block, bounded by Waterloo and Osborne, King and York streets. It was a little one-sided, but the town was growing in that direction. So he brought the matter to the attention of the local authorities who approved the idea; and Mr. John Wilson, superintendent of education, had secured a grant of land. And here the board undertook the erection of a new school building on the site of the old one.

In the preliminary work of providing for the new school, Robert Wilson was in connection with the plans for the building. It was opened in 1850. Not unaccountably, he expected the appointment of headmaster. Instead of that he was given the place of assistant, with a salary of £200. He was always disappointed, and always attributed the action of the board to political prejudice. He was not long from the time for us to be sure if there were any grounds for this belief. But we know that such was not the case. In 1850 and 1851, political feeling was very bitter in a certain class of London people. He that it was the feeling was very bitter in a certain class of London people. He that it was the feeling was very bitter in a certain class of London people.

Enters Mercantile Life. Whether or not he intended resuming a profession later, I do not know. But there was no opportunity in London at the time. So he went into the mercantile life, starting as a general store on Dundas street, opposite the market. And this he advertised as a "general store and liquor." In fact, it was the prevailing beverage. Many of the citizens, sympathetic and supportive, were found at every street corner, as well as along the block. The country roads had been in a few days ago, his honor were sufficiently marked to attract the attention of the police. He was not long from the time for us to be sure if there were any grounds for this belief. But we know that such was not the case. In 1850 and 1851, political feeling was very bitter in a certain class of London people. He that it was the feeling was very bitter in a certain class of London people.

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his colleagues two men well known in London, and who became still more prominent subsequently—Mr. John Carling and Mr. Wm. Barker.

His active career, however, was soon to be cut short by typhoid fever, and passed away at the end of the month. On the 1st of May his friends and fellow-citizens met at his house and viewed his face for the last time; and then the funeral cortege moved on to London Township, and in the family plot in St. George's churchyard, on the 13th concession, they laid him away to rest.

Mr. Wilson was twice married. It was during his brief military career that he met the lady who became his first wife, Miss Ann Coyne, of a well-known Elgin County family. She only lived about a year, and died, leaving a baby girl, who soon followed her. His second wife was Miss Charlotte Cudmore, of Woodstock, who survived him many years. There were also three children, two boys and a girl. I understand the boys are still living in the United States.

In religion he was an Anglican. In politics he was originally a Conservative, like most of Mr. Talbot's band of settlers in London Township. I use the word "settlers" because the second wife of Mr. Wilson was the daughter of a settler. He was a member of the old political "Family Compact" party. In later years his views seem to have changed. He never heard any explanation of the change, but I can readily imagine how it might have occurred. Mr. John Wilson was the Conservative member of Parliament for London, but he was greatly disgusted with the Tories who burned down the Parliament buildings in Montreal during the stormy period of Lord Elgin's rule. And he was especially displeased with the conduct of many of the party leaders in condoning the disloyalty and turbulence of the Montreal mob. He did not hesitate to give expression to his feelings, with the result that his own town he evolved a very bitter and antagonistic among many who had been his supporters. He was a most intimate and loyal friend; and I can readily understand that he followed his leader in his political views. And it is quite possible that in doing this he brought about the opposition which prevented his appointment to the principality of the Union School.

I have endeavored to give you some idea of Robert Wilson's appearance and character. Of his attainments I seem difficult to speak in terms of moderation. When his opportunities are considered, with his domestic training except his few months at the Normal School, but by his own untiring diligence and perseverance, he was a man of considerable attainments. He was a fair and accomplished musician, an artist of no mean ability, a poet whose verses, I am told, compare not unfavorably with the work of much better known men. That such a life as his promised to be should have been cut short so early by his death, before he had reached the age of two score, was a loss to the community in which he lived, and of which he was an ornament.

Let me be thought to have drawn on my imagination. I will close with a few lines from a letter written by one who knew him well, and whose qualifications for the statement of a judicial opinion for the members of a historical society. In a letter received from him a few days ago, his honor Judge D. J. Hughes, of St. Thomas, writes:

"I knew and well remember Robert Wilson, as a teacher in the public school in London, an acquaintance that commenced with his service as a volunteer in the rebellion in 1837. He was a pleasant, open-hearted Yorkshire man, a typical English schoolmaster, well-trained and possessed of a kindly, straightforward way which would have well received the polish of a higher education if he had it. He was a man of talents which only needed cultivation to make them conspicuous, and his industry was evidenced by original verse that I have often enjoyed reading. But like many another aspirant for fame, he was covered by want of a just appreciation of capable people of whom at that time there were few."

VALUE OF GOOD CIGAR. "The value of a good cigar is best understood when the last you possess, and there is no chance of getting another. At Koeniggratz I had only one cigar left in my pocket, and I did not feel during the whole of the battle, as a miser does his treasure. I did not feel justified in using it."

TRUE PUBLIC OPINION. "True public opinion is that which is the outcome of certain political, religious, and social convictions, of a very simple kind, deep down in the national life; and to recognize and give effect to this is the task of the true statesman."

ORATORS AND SMALL FEET. "It is just the same with these oratorical gentlemen as with small ladies who have small feet. Not content with this, they wear shoes that pinch them, and are for ever pushing out their feet in order that they may be seen and admired. In the same way, when anyone has the misfortune to be eloquent, his tendency is to wear shoes that are too large, and to push out his feet in order that he may be seen and admired."

AN HOUR WITH NAPOLEON. "After sitting for nearly an hour opposite Napoleon in the little room of the cottage near Sedan, I felt precisely as I had done when I could not say a single word, and of whom no one would relieve me. I admit that in its time it has done great things. The Latin race is now at an end. It is now fated to dwindle, and possibly even to disappear altogether—as a whole at least. This is a process which far-sighted statesmen in Latin (Romanic) countries should expedite, instead of exhausting themselves in fruitless endeavors to thwart the decrees of destiny."

SMOKE WHEN DISCUSSING. "When you enter on a discussion which may lead to vehement remarks you should smoke. When one smokes, the clear light of reason between the fingers; one must handle it, not allow it to fall; and in violent movements of the body are avoided or weakened. With regard to the mental condition, it does not deprive us of our intellectual capacity, but it produces a state of kindly repose."

I WANT NO COLONIES. "I want no colonies. They are good for nothing but supplying stations. For us in Germany the colonial business would be just like the silken sables in the noble families of Poland, who have no shirts to their backs."

GERMANS' HEAVY DAYS' WORK. "At the present time 50 per cent of our male population spend their evenings in pot-houses, where they sit swilling beer and smoking cigars and pipes, and abusing the Government, after which they go home with a proud feeling of having done a heavy day's work."

tries not only for the raw materials of manufacture, but for the finished goods, their own country can no longer produce in sufficient quantity. In Great Britain we are retrogressively dependent on the overseas agricultural wealth which our manufacture, especially changed, and in the opening up of what is now a closed market, with regard to the world of its lost granaries."

What Has Been Done. What has been done to restore prosperity to Mesopotamia, only the chronicle of the world's work under the extensive irrigation works undertaken by the Young Turk Government for the improvement of Mesopotamia. Their construction was entrusted in February, 1911, to Sir John Jackson, Ltd. In spite of local difficulties and the Balkan wars, the work has been successfully pushed forward.

The barrage consists of masonry piers with thirty-six openings fitted with sluices to hold the water to the desired level. There is also a navigation lock for barge traffic. Below the main barrage is a subsidiary one, constructed with a lock of the same size. The water level can be raised 16½ feet, enabling an extensive area of rich land to be irrigated.

"Up stream the ancient Tigris channel leading to Hilla and Babylon has been cleared of a distance of fifty miles. This allows the utilization of the water of this area also."

TABLE TALK OF BISMARCK SHOWS GREAT STATESMAN A KEEN OBSERVER OF LIFE

What the German Giant of "Blood and Iron" Said About Men, Women and Nations.

[From Public Opinion.]

Many people will be very much surprised at the many acute things which Bismarck, the great German statesman, said about men, women and nations. It is a stimulating task to turn over the pages of the newly-published Bismarck Calendar, which gives a quotation from his works or speeches for every day of the year. The selection has been well done by Mr. J. M. Kennedy, and the book only costs 6d (published by Frank Palmer). There are 28 books now published uniform with this, and giving extracts from various authors and men of affairs.

Here we make a brief selection of some of Bismarck's most notable Table Talk: **SELDOM HAPPY.** "I have seldom been a happy man. If I reckon up the rare minutes of real happiness in my life I do not believe they would make more than 24 hours in all. In my political life I never had time to have the feeling of happiness."

LOSS OF TIME IN DRESSING. "Formerly I worked sixteen hours a day, but now I can only manage my ten or twelve. In the army I have worked my way up to the rank of major; but the loss of time in changing my civilian attire every time I am called to the King amounts to an hour a day, and my majesty was graciously pleased to allow me to go to him in my night dress. Thirty hours' unnecessary loss of time per month; just see what that makes in a whole year!"

WAR IS WAR. "War is always war—with its wasted lands, its lamentation of widows and orphans; all of which is so terrible that I, for my part, will only resort to it in the most extreme cases of necessity."

I HAVE SETTLED WITH MY MAKER. "Had I not been for me, there would have been three great wars; the lives of eighty thousand men would have been sacrificed; and many parents, brothers, sisters, and widows would not now be mourners. That, however, I have settled with my Maker."

IF I WERE NOT A CHRISTIAN. "I don't understand how anyone can live without believing in God and a future life. If I were not a Christian, I would not consent for a moment to remain at my post."

FAITH IN GOD. "I cannot conceive how men can live together in an orderly manner—how one can do his duty and trade as that of a ripper out faith in a revealed religion; in God, Who wills what is right; in the Epistle Judge and in the future."

READING THE BIBLE IN BED. "I read the 12th Chapter of the Epistle to the Romans; not indeed on the balcony by moonlight, but in my bed as the wind and rain beat at the window. It is a chapter from which one can easily learn how wicked and lacking in faith one actually is. I could have devoured my enemies over and over again when I was hungry; but to bless them—that would be something very different and exceptional, if I could only do it."

A PARLIAMENTARY HELOT. "I never thought that of a parliamentary minister. As envoy, or as a minister of a foreign power, I should be obliged to carry on such an unworthy trade as that of a helot. I should be obliged to carry on such an unworthy trade as that of a helot. I should be obliged to carry on such an unworthy trade as that of a helot."

YOUR WIFE THE PURSE. "If any of you are married, let me give you this piece of good advice: Leave the purse also to your wife, and take nothing out of it which she does not give you for politics; and I have always wife in charge of the purse, and I have always wife in charge of the purse, and I have always wife in charge of the purse."

RUSSIAN NEED GERMANS. "The Russian will never be able to dispense with the German. The Russian is a very amiable fellow, but in my opinion, he is not a man of the future. The Russian is a very amiable fellow, but in my opinion, he is not a man of the future. The Russian is a very amiable fellow, but in my opinion, he is not a man of the future."

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AN HOUR WITH NAPOLEON. "After sitting for nearly an hour opposite Napoleon in the little room of the cottage near Sedan, I felt precisely as I had done when I could not say a single word, and of whom no one would relieve me. I admit that in its time it has done great things. The Latin race is now at an end. It is now fated to dwindle, and possibly even to disappear altogether—as a whole at least. This is a process which far-sighted statesmen in Latin (Romanic) countries should expedite, instead of exhausting themselves in fruitless endeavors to thwart the decrees of destiny."

SMOKE WHEN DISCUSSING. "When you enter on a discussion which may lead to vehement remarks you should smoke. When one smokes, the clear light of reason between the fingers; one must handle it, not allow it to fall; and in violent movements of the body are avoided or weakened. With regard to the mental condition, it does not deprive us of our intellectual capacity, but it produces a state of kindly repose."

I WANT NO COLONIES. "I want no colonies. They are good for nothing but supplying stations. For us in Germany the colonial business would be just like the silken sables in the noble families of Poland, who have no shirts to their backs."

GERMANS' HEAVY DAYS' WORK. "At the present time 50 per cent of our male population spend their evenings in pot-houses, where they sit swilling beer and smoking cigars and pipes, and abusing the Government, after which they go home with a proud feeling of having done a heavy day's work."

tries not only for the raw materials of manufacture, but for the finished goods, their own country can no longer produce in sufficient quantity. In Great Britain we are retrogressively dependent on the overseas agricultural wealth which our manufacture, especially changed, and in the opening up of what is now a closed market, with regard to the world of its lost granaries."

What Has Been Done. What has been done to restore prosperity to Mesopotamia, only the chronicle of the world's work under the extensive irrigation works undertaken by the Young Turk Government for the improvement of Mesopotamia. Their construction was entrusted in February, 1911, to Sir John Jackson, Ltd. In spite of local difficulties and the Balkan wars, the work has been successfully pushed forward.

The barrage consists of masonry piers with thirty-six openings fitted with sluices to hold the water to the desired level. There is also a navigation lock for barge traffic. Below the main barrage is a subsidiary one, constructed with a lock of the same size. The water level can be raised 16½ feet, enabling an extensive area of rich land to be irrigated.

"Up stream the ancient Tigris channel leading to Hilla and Babylon has been cleared of a distance of fifty miles. This allows the utilization of the water of this area also."

WOMAN TO BE IN N. Y. MAYOR'S CABINET.

Dr. Katherine Davis, superintendent of the Bedford (N. Y.) Reformatory for Girls, who has been slated for the Commission of Correction in the Cabinet of Mayor Mitchell of New York.

THE NEW BLESSEDNESS OF MESOPOTAMIA

HOW BRITISH ENGINEERS ARE HARNESSING ANEW THE ANCIENT WATERS OF A CRADLE OF THE RACE—SIR WILLIAM WILCOCK'S SCHEME FOR RE-IRRIGATING THE EUPHRATES VALLEY

"It is a curious fact that the two districts which may be called the cradles of the civilized human race—the valleys of the Euphrates and the Nile—were and are dependent on artificial irrigation for the support of any considerable population," says the Glasgow Herald.

The success of the British in adding to the prosperity of Egypt by conserving the waters of the Nile is known to everyone, but the similar work which has been quietly going on in the Euphrates valley for the past three years is as yet almost unknown to the world.

First Section Completed. "During this period the first section of the Mesopotamian irrigation works has been completed, a rapid result largely due to the assistance of the Turkish Government. It was the thought of the Turk in connection with progress it has generally been in the commiserating terms which Sir David Baird's mother used of the Indian to whom the fiery Hindu had been bound—'God All's power fall that's chained to our David.' But if the Turkish Government has in this matter contradicted all historic precedents we are justified in claiming a great part of the credit for Sir William Wilcock—the British expert so well known in connection with the Nile—who has advised the Turkish ministry a public works since 1908, and is the true author and begetter of a scheme which is destined to give literal significance to the 'blessedness' of Mesopotamia."

Turkish Tardy Reparation. "Sir William Wilcock has much to do with the irrigation works that have so