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Closing Scenes of the War.

Events in South Africa succeeded each other with such mobility that to comment upon them is like commenting on the movements of a kaleidoscope. The occupation of Johannesburg by the British troops—and the formal proclamation of the annexation of the Orange Free State—leave one or two things only to be done to practically wind up the war. Pretoria will next be taken, and the Transvaal Republic will next become a part of the British Empire. There have been loud vaunts by the Boers as to their intentions of making a prolonged defense of Pretoria. We doubt it. The war is near its close. Not many years will elapse until the Canadian Confederation and the Australian Confederation will be followed by a Confederation of South African Provinces.

An Independent Testimony.

The able New York telegraphic correspondent of the London Times, recently on a visit to the Dominion, wired his paper as follows, under date of May 13:

"I have been in Ottawa since Monday. While there I met many Canadians entitled by position to speak for Canada. So impressive is their language and their attitude toward the crown and the mother country that, needless as it is, I should like to testify to the prevailing spirit. The loyal devotion which the Canadian troops in South Africa are proving by their valiant and skilled soldiery, the Canadian people at home express in no uncertain tones. If there be Boer sympathizers among the French-Canadians, as is alleged, I met none, though I met many eminent French Catholics. Sir Charles Tupper, whom I did not see, is accused of making himself the mouthpiece of whatever discontent exists, but Sir Charles Tupper is regarded as a politician with next year's election in view, and playing, therefore, sometimes to the local political gallery with local objects in view. Quebec, where, if anywhere, dissent might be expected, is thought to be as faithful as ever to Liberalism and to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, her own leader, who is also leader in that policy which has brought Canada closer to England and England closer to Canada. It is not thought that the prime minister's hold on the people of the Dominion has been shaken. Most judicious observers appear to believe that he will retain his power, and believe that it is for the interest of Canada and of the empire generally that he should do so. That the imperial interests entrusted to the governor-general were never safer than now I found to be the general conviction."

Advisory or Mandatory?

By a narrow majority the United States Methodist General Conference decided to leave the prohibitions against card-playing, dancing and theater-going where they were. The sharp discussion was not as to whether nearly one-half of the conference believed in these things as desirable amusements; but whether the church should advise or command with respect to them. There are, and always have been, two ways of dealing with these subjects—one way, to say, you may do that. The other theory is that it is better to appeal strongly to right general principles, throwing responsibility for specific decision and actions on the individual. The latter is the view that nearly prevailed at the United States Methodist General Conference, and which probably will be adopted at the next quadrennial gathering.

Mr. Asquith on Canada.

Mr. Asquith, M. P., one of the ablest of rising Liberal statesmen in Great Britain, in a recent address, made the following interesting remarks:

"Liberals were as keenly alive as their opponents to the splendors and responsibilities of empire. One of the most important of its many-sided problems was being brought out under our notice at the present moment, and as it was somewhat of a test case he did not apologize for referring to it in a little in detail. He alluded to the bill for constituting a commonwealth for Australia. That bill, sent to us by our fellow-citizens and fellow-subjects in Australia, represented the final outcome of a controversy which had lasted more than 20 years. We had in this proposal such an example as certainly not more than once (he referred to the case of Canada) had been presented to us in our history of maintaining and stimulating that which was, after all, the secret of our imperial strength—the combination of the sentiment of local patriotism with the sentiment of imperial unity. (Cheers.) Look at Canada now, fighting in the forefront of our battles. The secret by which the change had been brought about had been not suppression, not coercion, not what used to be called strong government; it had been by the recognition upon the freest and the amplest scale of the right of Canada as a whole and of its separate constituent parts to govern themselves after their own fashion, by their own citizens, on their own soil, in accordance with their own view of their own interests. (Cheers.) That was the way in which empire that were worth the name had been built up. There were two lamentable exceptions in what happened rather more than a hundred years ago to the adjacent British colony, now the United States of America, and in the case of Ireland. It would be affection to ignore that the one spot over the whole empire in which in the present war there had been real genuine sympathy for the enemies of the Queen was Ireland. The historic cause could be summed up in the same way. In Ireland the people had never been allowed, in matters of purely domestic concern, to fol-

low the bent of their own natural genius. That was the root and source of this scandal, and black spot upon our imperialism. The moral was surely this, that the means to make the empire strong and great was to make local autonomy in all matters legislative and administrative as large and as free as was consistent with imperial unity. He claimed that to be a Liberal principle, and to the extent, and only to the extent, to which it had been applied in the government of an empire was that empire really strong and united." (Cheers.)

The Rift Within the Lute.

The Toronto Mail and Empire calls W. F. Maclean, M.P., of the Toronto World, "the man with the knife," and goes for him in very lively editorial style in yesterday's issue. After a satirical sketch of Mr. Maclean's career, the Mail and Empire winds up as follows: "Mr. Maclean is, of course, at liberty to fight the Conservative party. But he ought to do it as an open enemy and not as a pretended friend. It is absurd to tolerate a system of assassination in detail. If Conservatives permit this thinly disguised enemy to knife them one by one, and to provide apparently from within their ranks slanderous and mendacious pabulum for the use of their opponents, they will contribute to their own discomfiture, which will be a distinct loss to the country."

Only a few days ago the World dealt out equally hot stuff to the Mail and Empire. Then each newspaper has a group of sympathizers and opposers among Conservative M.P.s. So far as we can judge, the Dominion Opposition are as hopelessly divided today as they were on the famous occasion of the mutiny against Sir Mackenzie Bowell as leader of the Government.

The Sanctity of the Ballot.

We must have, at an early date, immediately, a tribunal composed of the best judges of the land, so as to have the fullest, the most complete, the most searching inquiry into all that we know, into all that has come to the attention of the House, of the press, and of the courts, and into what also has not yet come to the attention of the public, to ferret out that system, expose it, and to eradicate it forever from this land of ours. I said last year, and I have no reason to repent my words, that the sanctity of the ballot must be maintained at all hazards, and that the will of the people is to be expressed by the ballot as the people have it in their own minds. I do not want, for one, to succeed by any other method than this. If the time comes when this Government has not the support of the electorate given by reason of what is in the heart and mind of the electorate, I do not want to remain in the Government of this country. We have not changed our view that we should have the sanctity of the ballot preserved, as I said last year, at all costs and at all hazards.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Lord Salisbury's declaration, that "everything depends on the general," has its application to politics. Sir Wilfrid Laurier is the Lord Roberts of Dominion politics. Sir Charles Tupper has not much more chance at Ottawa than Paul Kruger has in the Transvaal.

It's a good thing to have an extensive vocabulary, but it is not good to use it all in one advertisement.

Ontario's Premier

Delivers an Eloquent Address Before the Canadian Club of New York—Canada's Growth and Greatness—Her Loyalty to Britain—The Question of Closer Relationship—Manila and Mafeking.

The fourth annual dinner of the Canadian Club of New York at Sherry's, on the evening of May 24, was one of the most enthusiastic and successful that has ever been given by that organization. There were over 200 guests present, and the celebration and good cheer continued until long into the morning. In all the speeches the war and the part taken by the Canadian troops were mentioned most often, and each time were greeted with prolonged cheering. The Americans present were impressed with the feeling displayed at every mention of the Queen's name. "Hobs" and Baden-Powell came next in point of popularity and cheering after the Queen and the Canadian troops. The address of Premier Ross of Ontario was the feature of the evening. Thos. H. Martindale, president of the society (formerly of London, Ont.), presided. At the guests' table were: Percy Sanderson, consul-general; Hon. George W. Ross, premier of Ontario; Rev. Robert S. Macdougall (a brother-in-law of Mr. David McKelvie of this city); Rev. L. T. Chamberlain, Messrs. Seth Low, Franklin Edlin, Paul Dana, Hiram Steele, Robert H. Turle, of the St. George's Society and British Schools and University Club; Howland Davis, of the New England Society; William Temple Emett, of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick; George Austin Morrison, Jun., of St. Andrew's Society; Dr. James C. David's Society; Dr. William M. Polk, of the Southern Society; M. I. Southard, of the Ohio Society; Robert C. Ogden, of the Pennsylvania Society; and H. M. Vineberg, of the Graduate Society of McGill University.

PREMIER ROSS' SPEECH.

After some references to the pleasure it gave him to know that Canadians in honoring her majesty's birthday were paying one of the greatest possible tributes to their own land and to the flag under which they were born, Mr. Ross rapidly sketched the progress made by Canada in the last 20 years, both as regards material wealth and national spirit. The premier referred to the subject of "American expansion," which he preferred to call a higher grade of national education, which must ultimately broaden political issues and develop in the nation's public men the best qualities of statesmanship.

Mr. Ross then went on to speak of Canada's loyalty to Britain. There is still another phase of Canadian sentiment which has become somewhat conspicuous within the last year or two. I refer to the warm feelings entertained towards us by the mother country. Canada is a British colony today, not because the mother country was anxious she should be so, but because Canadians would not be anything else. Many British statesmen, notably Lord Palmerston, Lord Grey, John Bright and Lord Beaconsfield, regarded the Canadian colonies as a menace to the peace of the empire, and even Gladstone intimated that if we ever wanted to separate our connection with the empire we would be allowed to do so without any effort to restrain us.

It was not until some years after the confederation of the provinces in 1867 that the British Government took any real interest in Canadian affairs. Under Lord Dufferin's administration, the statesmen of Great Britain first began to realize the possibilities of the Canadian possessions, and year by year from that time the relations of Canada to the empire became more and more the object of imperial solicitude. To say that we reciprocate the interest of the mother country in our welfare is to express mildly the feeling of Canadians. So when at the time of the jubilee three years ago the declaration was openly made by the press and statesmen of Great Britain that the colonies were then and thereforward to be regarded as an integral part of the empire, Canada was thrilled from end to end with a new national spirit. What if we were only five millions of people, if our domain was still covered with vast forests and our prairies still unsettled? What if we had neither the traditions nor the historical perspective of the old land? Nevertheless her literature, her military genius, her name and her powers were ours because of the new conditions under which we were placed. And so from a citizenship comparatively obscure and unknown, we at once sprang into the larger citizenship of a world-wide empire. From being ap-

ponents of that imperial drama of the nations, in which Great Britain has been the chief actor for a thousand years, we became actors with her, and today are playing in South Africa the part of imperialism, humbly and unostentatiously. I trust, but with a full knowledge and appreciation of its effect upon the future of the empire.

CLOSER RELATIONS.

Under these conditions the question naturally arises, shall this imperialism into which, sentimentally at least, the colonies are admitted, lead to closer relations with the mother country, politically and commercially? Politically, Canada possesses practically all the privileges of self-government. Although, theoretically, our legislation is subject to the veto of the crown, that veto has no terrors for us, and has not been exercised, except on very rare instances, and when exercised left no political sting and produced no public inconvenience. We have, therefore, no object in seeking any closer political alliance with the mother country.

In some quarters it is held that we should be represented in the British House of Commons, and in this way could make our particular wants felt at the very heart of the empire. To my mind such representation would be a positive disadvantage. If the British empire were federated and the colonies represented in a great central parliament, according to population, the Canadian representation would not exceed a dozen or more. What chance would we have in such a parliament for the careful discussion of a matter that might be of primary importance to us? In fact, we know nothing of our local conditions or whose interests might in some respects be adverse to ours? Moreover, I would hesitate, as a Canadian, to authorize a dozen men, no matter what their standing might be, to speak for the whole people of Canada. As matters now stand, every question of any moment affecting us is considered by a senate of 81 members and a house of commons of 213 members, with an ultimate appeal to the electorate of the whole empire, and, even broad-based as that opinion is, we sometimes think that legislation is not always too well considered. "In this multitude of counsel there is wisdom" is an old saying. It certainly would be the highest wisdom on our part to reduce our counselors to the limited number that could possibly hold a seat in the British House of Commons in a political federation of the empire.

ANOTHER DISADVANTAGE.

There would be another disadvantage. In any appeal that we now make to the imperial government with regard to any question of supreme importance the voice of the whole people is heard. With a small representation at Westminster the appeal would be immeasurably weakened and consequently far less effective. There would also be the danger that our representatives, who would necessarily spend six months abroad each year in attendance at the imperial capital, would lose that sympathetic touch with the public opinion of the country they represented which is essential to the usefulness of a representative of the people.

THE BURDEN OF DEFENSE.

But it might be asked, should we not, inasmuch as we share in the protection of the empire, also share in the burdens of its defense? I say certainly, if it were necessary. In one sense, however, we are daily contributing to the security of the empire by filling up Canadian territory with a foreign population, which will in due time become assimilated and consequently British. Every dollar we add to the wealth of Canada is so much capital invested for the protection of the empire when it is wanted. Every man enrolled in our militia and every boy trained in our military schools are contributions to the defense of the empire. But to pay an annual tax to be spent by the war office at London, as some have suggested, is a mode of contributing to the defense of the empire with no thoughtful person would advise or recommend. A rule as old as Magna Charta is, that those who pay their money must determine how it should be spent. To contribute to the defense of the empire without a voice in the government of the empire would be incompatible with the usages of colonial as well as imperial govern-

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White Pique Skirts, \$2.25.

Ladies' White Pique Skirts, good quality, 3 bias
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Ladies' White Pique Skirts, with 2 rows Ham-
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ming down both back and front, special...\$3.00

Ladies' White Waists, with fronts of tucking or
all-over embroidery, new sleeve and collar,
very fine, special.....\$3.50

Ladies' White Lawn Waists at Half Price

Special line Ladies' Waists, fronts trimmed with embroidery, in pink, blue and mauve, very dressy; regular price \$2.50, special to clear, \$1.25.

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ments. You Americans taught us in 1776 that taxation without representation was impracticable and unjust. Do not understand me as saying that we should not defend the empire or fight her battles. The three contingents which we sent to South Africa and for whose maintenance we are prepared to pay, show the loyalty and devotion of Canadians to the empire. That mode of contributing to its defense is justifiable, and the spirit in which it was made is to Great Britain more valuable than millions of money wrested from the taxpayers. And should Britain want as many more, or ten times as many more men as we have sent, I have no doubt they would be placed cheerfully at her disposal.

OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

There is still the other question of the commercial relations between the colonies and the mother country which have grown out of that imperial spirit which I am now discussing. You are doubtless aware that three years ago it was provided that all goods from Great Britain should be admitted through our customs at a rate 25 per cent below similar goods from other countries. This year a further reduction was made, and now a preference of 33½ per cent is allowed to British goods. This action of the Canadian parliament was very favorably received in Great Britain. Of course we get the benefit ourselves in the way of cheaper goods, although the treasury is the loser to the extent of about a couple of millions of dollars. Now it is eagerly asked, shall we stop here? There are two propositions under consideration: (1) Should the empire and all the colonies enter into a Zollverein and establish free trade among themselves. (Continued on page 1.)

TWIN TERRORS.



The twin terrors of this season of the year are Pneumonia and Bronchitis. They hurry off hundreds of people into untimely graves.

On the first indication of a cough or cold don't wait for serious developments. Start taking Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup before the damage done the lungs is beyond repair.

Mrs. Norman Thompson, Poplar Grove, P. E. I., says: "I had a severe cough, and pain and soreness in my chest. The cough was a hacking one and seemed to tear my lungs. Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup promptly relieved the cough and removed every trace of the soreness."



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It is made of specially grown specially spun and specially woven wool.

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