

## London Advertiser.

(ESTABLISHED BY JOHN CAMERON IN 1828.)

Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

London, Friday, Jan. 19.

### Compare the Two.

The campaign in East Middlesex is now in full swing. We ask the electors to examine the public utterances on each side and form their judgment accordingly. Take Mr. Robson's opening meeting last night, and what do we find? Merely a thrashing of old straw; the same denunciation of anything and everything the Government has done. The surplus, the management of public institutions, the colonization roads, the agricultural college, the payment of officials—these faded old themes, which have done service for a generation, are vamped up again. Our friends of the Opposition offer nothing new or nothing original, or constructive. They go on tramping among the ashes of a dead past, but those who speak for the Government look to the future, and have a definite policy to offer, a policy of progress and development, which is being actually fulfilled. Dr. McWilliam represents a policy of action and achievement; Mr. Robson, a policy of negation. A perusal of the speeches during the campaign will convince any elector of that.

### One in Seven.

Yesterday's nominations were held to fill seven vacancies in the Canadian House of Commons.

In Berthierville, Mr. Archambault, Liberal, was elected by acclamation.

In Labelle, M. Bourassa, Liberal, was elected by acclamation.

In West Ontario, Mr. Gould, Liberal, was elected by acclamation.

In Vercheres and Chambly, Mr. Geoffrion, Liberal, was elected by acclamation.

In Winnipeg a Liberal candidate and a labor candidate have the field to themselves.

In Lotbiniere two Liberals will contest the seat.

In Sherbrooke, a Liberal and a Conservative have been nominated.

In only one of these seven constituencies does an Opposition candidate enter the field. No comment is necessary.

### A Splendid Exhibit.

The Province of Ontario can show a gratifying balance sheet for the last financial year.

The receipts were \$3,810,000, and the expenditures \$3,700,000, leaving a net balance of \$110,000.

Included in the expenditures is \$126,000 towards railway subsidy fund; \$103,000 towards annuities, and \$6,000 towards drainage disbursements, making a total of \$235,000. As these amounts were paid out of the ordinary receipts of the Province, and should properly be called capital expenditure, the actual surplus of revenue over ordinary expenditure of \$345,000.

The actual financial standing of the Province on Jan. 13, 1900, was as follows:

On special deposit bearing interest.....	\$440,000
On current account.....	104,000
Semi-annual subsidy from the Dominion.....	720,000
Receipts from crown lands and timber sales.....	355,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,619,000</b>

Ontario thus begins the year with this handsome balance, of which \$800,000 has been saved during the past two years. The financial policy of the Government has been both progressive and economical. There is no other Province of the Dominion that can make such a splendid exhibit.

### Watch the gang!

A Middlesex Premier for Middlesex.

This is the growing time for Ontario's bank account.

Buller says there must be no turning back, but he ought to know that turning movements often win the battle.

The Western Ontario dairymen have been discussing the transportation problem. Associations like these can do much to arouse and inform public opinion on this all-important matter.

Mr. Edmund Meredith declared last night that Mr. Whitney had not a cent at his back. That shows rank ingratitude to Mr. Smith, of South Ontario, and other good friends. Their services ought at least to be recognized.

Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener have been elected directors of the West York (Ont.) Agricultural Society. Why shut out Buller, White, Baden-Powell, French, Gatacre, Clery and Methuen? These officers will feel the discrimination keenly.

The annual report of the Toronto Street Railway Company conveys some idea of the average value of street railway franchises. The gross earnings last year were \$1,333,542.44. After paying \$114,426.66 to the city, the net profits were \$404,738.80. No wonder Toronto runs the day that it parted with the franchise. It is not alone in its experience.

The Advertiser raised a hue and cry against the then leader of the Opposition, Mr. W. R. Meredith, on the very ground that he was an "outsider," a "non-resident."—London Free Press.

No such thing. We objected to Mr. Meredith's candidature because he was the city advocate of Toronto. As the paid advocate of another constituency he was tied to its interests and was not in a position to serve London fully and freely. Toronto was necessarily his first care; London only his second.

### Got Cold Comfort.

The Secretary of the United States Treasury, Mr. Gage, has turned a cold shoulder to the Michigan lumbermen, who appealed to him to retaliate on Canada, because of the Ontario timber act. The Dingley act provides that if a foreign country (plainly meaning Canada) imposes an export duty on sawlogs, the Washington Administration may impose an additional equivalent duty on lumber imported from that country. Ontario, however, did not put an export duty on sawlogs, but prohibited the export altogether. This step was not contemplated in the Dingley bill, and Secretary Gage accordingly holds that the Cabinet has no power to adopt reprisals against Canada unless authorized by Congress. In an interview Mr. Gage makes it plain that he wholly disapproves of the agitation of the Michigan lumber ring, which, for its own petty advantage, and to gratify its spite, would imperil the mutual amity and the commercial relations of the two countries. Mr. Gage points out that Canada is a desirable customer, buying more from the United States than the United States buys from it, so that the Dominion would have less to lose by a tariff war than the republic.

Mr. Gage's remarks make it certain that the influence of President McKinley and his Cabinet will be thrown against any attempt to make Congress the tool of the Michigan clique. If these latter have been hit hard by the Ontario act, they have invited the blow. They worked to shut Ontario lumber out of the United States, by means of the \$2 duty. The result of that duty is the Ontario timber act, which inhibits the Michigan magnates from ravaging our forests to feed the sawmills of Saginaw and Bay City, while they tax the products of Ontario sawmills entering the United States. The selfishness of these men has brought its own retribution, and they will probably get little sympathy even in their own country.

### "Majuba Hill."

We have heard much about "Majuba Hill" since the present war began, and although there are now so many hills in South Africa with tragic associations, that particular hill is likely to retain a kind of pre-eminence and to be a point around which much heated discussion will circle. In England it is felt that the present is not the time when the history of British policy in South Africa can be calmly reviewed, or the relations of Britons and Boers dispassionately treated; yet, even amid the excitement of war operations, there are many able men who maintain that Majuba Hill has been unwisely magnified, and Mr. Gladstone unfairly treated. Still, it is probable that the great body of opinion is against Mr. Gladstone and his policy. Some take the view that Gladstone in foreign affairs was a mean-spirited man, who betrayed his country; others more leniently say that he at that time, under the impulse of Christian feeling, attempted to apply magnanimity to an inferior people, and through their boorish ignorance it failed, and, indeed, in any case such sentiments ought to have little place in the great field of international politics. These are the prevailing views, and even those who believe that Gladstone was right have to admit that he was not successful, even if they refuse to make success the measure of right.

It is easy to criticize and denounce a great statesman, who has passed from the sphere of action, and the time has not yet come for his vindication. Of one thing, however, we are assured; that is, that after British and Boers have spent some months in slaughtering each other, and South Africa has been turned into one great battlefield, the final settlement can only be through a spirit similar to that which Mr. Gladstone displayed; as Mr. Bryce, no mean authority, has pointed out, lasting peace and prosperity can only come to that troubled region by "conciliation, not coercion." "Unhappily," said Mr. Bryce, in a recent speech, "the prospect was thrown back by the war, which they deplored for many reasons, and more particularly when they heard of terrible sacrifice of life among the most gallant soldiers of the country." (Hear, hear.) There was also the terrible misfortune that the result of the war would intensify the feeling of race antagonism. (No, no.) Those who knew South Africa like Mr. Selous were strongly of that opinion. Dark as the prospect was, he did not want to abandon hope. They must continue to do the best they could, and aim at a larger British emigration, so as to strengthen the British element. (Cheers.) It was perfectly clear that if we were to succeed, we must do so, not by coercion, but by conciliation of the various races of South Africa.

When we are smarting under the sense of terrible reverses, we are perhaps not prepared to listen to this calm treatment of the whole subject, but it is the glory of Britain that she has men with the courage and intelligence to speak such words. But now to go back to Majuba Hill. Our present purpose is simply to maintain that the history of Dutch and British in South Africa cannot be satisfactorily and exhaustively discussed from the standpoint of that one hill, and that even with regard to that one point it is not fair to fasten all the responsibility on to the name of Gladstone. There were two other important factors, the cabinet and the country. First, as to the cabinet, the Duke of Devonshire a few days ago said: "The other two surviving members of the administration, Lord Kimberley and Mr. Chamberlain, have made their statement as to the cause which produced that policy." It has been pointed out that there are other "surviving members;" however, that is unimportant for our present discussion. Here we have an important member of the Government taking his share of responsibility and associating

with himself another prominent member, Mr. Chamberlain, who, by the irony of fate, has become the idol of the jingoes. Mr. Gladstone may have been in some respects autocratic, but it was simply impossible for him on an important matter of foreign policy to coerce men of such intellectual ability and strength of character. So far then we may go. Whether the policy was good or bad, the cabinet shared responsibility with the Prime Minister. This is another good feature of British political life, that the administration is not even in the time of the greatest man a mere one-man ministry. Now, we are in a position to note that the Duke of Devonshire lays a certain share of the responsibility upon the people. This, too, is all right, if it is not overdone; as in a democracy, statesmen, although not simple delegates, are the representatives of the people. This, then, is his statement: "I believe the motive which actuated most of the members of that cabinet, and certainly which so far as I can remember had the principal influence on my own mind, was that in a further prosecution of the war against the Transvaal Republic we should not have had the opinion of the great majority of the British people at our backs. You must remember that this policy immediately succeeded the defeat of the government of Lord Beaconsfield, chiefly upon the question of the foreign and colonial policy. You must recollect the large majority of the supporters of the Government then in power had condemned the colonial policy, had condemned the measures we had taken up to that time. I believe we were convinced, and rightly convinced, that if we were to attempt further to prosecute that war, it would not be with a united people at our backs, but with a people, a very large proportion of which doubted the policy, the justice, or even the righteousness of such a course." He then goes on to confess that the policy was an error, but an error which gave the Boers a chance, "an opportunity of proving that they were capable of justly governing either the native races of South Africa or a civilized community, and they have egregiously and conspicuously failed."

Two other points we must briefly mention; first, the whole position of the Transvaal, through circumstances that are well known, changed so wonderfully in a short time that it is not fair to judge either the statesmen or the people of nineteen years ago by the measurement of today; second, the matter has to be set in its relation to the general political life of Great Britain. Gladstone's great work was the enfranchisement of the people and the broadening of religious and civil liberty. It was the conviction of the Liberal party that "the spirited foreign policy" was often used by the Conservatives to turn attention from the internal affairs of the country; hence their vigorous opposition to it. All these things have to be considered by every thoughtful politician, and will be carefully weighed by the future impartial historian. The situation is complex, and while there is no doubt about the fact that the immediate duty is to drive out the invader and vindicate the honor of the empire, there are a great many points which will be long demand careful discussion. We shall have other opportunities of dealing with various aspects of this sad business. In the meantime, it is enough to have pointed out that those who try to make the name Majuba Hill to mean merely a stigma upon the name of Gladstone, a memory merely of his feebleness and folly, are not taking a broad, thoughtful view of the question. The Boers would have done well to have made less of their paucity victory, and if Gladstone's magnanimity failed through their ignorance and prejudice, we have not lost faith in magnanimity, for that would be to lose faith in all that is highest in human life, and in the intercourse of nations. It is a physical impossibility for Britain to set up a military despotism in South Africa, and that is not the British ideal. The final settlement, we say again, can only come through a union of firmness and magnanimity, or by seeking to carry out the motto of all true Liberals, "not coercion, but conciliation." The policy which has succeeded in Canada will eventually succeed in Africa. The Boers staked everything on the race cry, but Britain stands for justice for all races.

That description of Gen. Wauchope's funeral by the war correspondent of the London (England) Daily News is a prose epic and ranks with the best work of that famous reporter, G. W. Stevens. Unfortunately, Stevens, who represents the London Daily Mail, is cooped up in Ladysmith, and has been unable to get a letter through for weeks. However, we may expect something brilliant from him soon. The war isn't over yet by any means.

### What Others Say.

#### Too Attentive.

[Kinross Review.] Gen. Joubert may not be maritally inclined although he is trying to rush Ladysmith.

#### A Credit to Canada.

[Kingston Times.] Whatever Premier Ross may be able to do in the way of managing the Provincial Liberals, he is certainly able to do credit to Canada when he makes a speech abroad.

#### Some Delusion About War.

[An Old Confederate in Portland Oregonian.] The British dispatches about great loss of Boers under artillery fire, bayonet charges, etc., are all rot. Swords, bayonets and lances are as obsolete as bows and arrows, and artillery fire is the most harmless thing in the world.

#### Another Illusion Broken.

[Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage.] The old adage: Early to bed and early to rise Makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise—

is not only illogical and unwise, but has been the source of many of the ills to which flesh is heir. A man should go to bed when he is sleepy and not before. He should get up when he is obliged to and not before. No specified time can be set for anyone. Circumstances must govern cases. When a person wakes up for good and can no longer sleep is the natural time to get up. If he wakes up and

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# STOCKTAKING SNAPS FOR SATURDAY.

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when directed at men under cover. We blazed away at Gettysburg with 200 guns, and I don't believe we hit ten men in the Federal trenches, and as for bayonets, there were very few, if any, in the Confederate army during the last years of the war, and I never saw a man stuck by one or a man who had been, and I was four years with the army of Northern Virginia.

#### Chatham's Profanity.

[Chatham Planet.] Somebody should organize a language reform association. Chatham's filthiest streets are clean beside the mouths of altogether a too large percentage of the male population of the city. As for boys, parents have little idea of the manner in which their young hopefuls can speak profanity behind their backs.

#### Canadian Farmers' Profits.

[Toronto Star.] The removal of the United States quarantine on Canadian cattle has been a good thing for both countries. In four and one-half years of quarantine, Canada only sent across the line \$32,000 worth of cattle, while in the two and one-half years since quarantine was removed, over \$3,000,000 worth of cattle have been exported to the United States.

#### How War Breeds War.

[Toronto Star.] Feeling runs high on the Boer war in the country villages. In a small town in the eastern part of Ontario, one day last week, the landlord of a hotel declared that he "hoped that before the war was over the British would be up to their knees in blood." Whereupon the village lawyer sprang upon him, trounced him and threw him out of his own hotel. We understand that it was ascertained later on that he meant Boer blood, and his apology was accepted.

#### A Jest With a Moral.

[Canadian Grocer.] A Toronto lady writes to say that before Christmas she sent two barrels of Canadian apples to friends in England. She was much amused on arrival of the last English mail, to receive the following acknowledgment, which, jest though it be, contains a moral worthy the attention of shippers of fruit:

And so the honest farmer packs His apples up for town; This is the top row in his sacks, O O O O O O O O O And these are lower down O O O O O O O O O

Several women entered the car together. "Get up," said the fat man to the thin man, "and give a lady your seat."

"Get up yourself," retorted the thin man, "and give two ladies your seat."—Chicago Post.

Jimson—Lend me five dollars, old fellow? Simson—I haven't got it. Just had to borrow ten, myself.

A DINNER PILL—Many persons suffer excruciating agony after partaking of a hearty dinner. The food partaken of is like a ball of lead upon the stomach, and instead of being a healing nutriment, it becomes a poison to the system. Dr. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are wonderful correctives of such troubles. They correct acidity, open the secretions, and convey the food partaken of into healthy nutriment. They are just the medicine to take if troubled with indigestion.

The old black diagonal now shines unseen under the charitable ulster.

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