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Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

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Lessons From British Military Casualties.

As a result of one day's army maneuvers at Aldershot, England, recently, four persons were killed and 100 disabled by sunstroke or exhaustion. The day was one of extreme heat, the men were called out at 5 a.m., and given but half an hour in which to take breakfast and prepare for drill. Before the day was done, wagonloads of men in a state of absolute collapse were taken to the hospital. It was a natural conclusion for the coroner's jury to hold that a substantial meal ought to be served to the men before beginning a hard morning's drill. One jurymen remarked, sarcastically, no doubt, that the broad-rimmed hat worn by colonial troops was far too sensible a headgear for the War Office to adopt. This stricture was warranted by the evidence that many of the men were only forage caps, and were thus unprotected from the stifling rays of the sun.

The experience has caused much comment in England, and has given rise to much comment in the press. The whole management of the military forces of Great Britain, indeed, is being hauled over these days, as is evident by such arrangements of the War Office as we find in the National Review for June. Dealing with the bungling that characterized the inception and early management of the war in South Africa, the writer of the article on "Britannia and the Colonist" says:

"The iron shroud and reeking tube of the period were good enough for the Cabinet Committee of Defense, while such ruthless economies were effected by the mandarins of the treasury in the expenditure on secret service that Lord Salisbury could not afford sentinels. Competent men, indeed, and spoke the words. They detected the signs of the coming storm. Warnings were ignored. English might, majesty and power were so assured that efficiency ceased to be looked on as the one qualification for public employment, especially in the army, where polo was more highly considered than scouting, private means than military aptitude, while 'hunting leave' was more readily granted than permission to study military matters abroad. When war broke out, one officer—since censured—received a command, as he himself said, because he had £16,000 a year. Two of the most experienced of our African generals were unemployed. The officer sent to represent the navy on the staff of the commander-in-chief had less actual sea-service than anyone in his rank. For the overwhelmingly important duties appertaining to the deputy judge advocate general in South Africa an inexperienced barrister of three years' standing was chosen by the English judge responsible for the appointment. Only the departments that conferred no social status on their employees did really well. The war was muddled, the system blamed, but British luck and capital did fair to triumph."

Then again:

"Incapacity, even sheer stupidity, were suffered to wield power, while the plain men, who knew what was wanted—the colonials—were met with the same cold and supercilious stare of responsible officials, which bred colonial disaffection 140 years ago."

This severe criticism of the inefficiency of the War Office service is having one good effect—it has aroused the authorities to take means for applying remedies, at all hazards, wherever necessary, and no doubt the later-day complaints of the last two weeks will secure a remedy for the undoubted carelessness or worse that led to so many casualties.

This severe criticism has been made of the British War Office, who are constantly engaged in war or preparing for it. If they could have been applied to the Militia Department of Canada, where our normal condition is that of peace, it might have been excused. But no such sweeping charges can be made against our military authorities, whether permanent or otherwise, and instead of that we have had the warmest appreciation from the imperial authorities, as well as from our citizens generally, of the efficient manner in which the force of close on 4,000 Canadians was equipped and sent to the aid of the Empire. Only extreme partisans, bound to find fault in any case, grumble.

A Great Event.

A great event has recently taken place in Scotland, which has not received much attention from the Canadian press. We refer to the union between two great branches of the Presbyterian Church in Scotland, the United Presbyterian and the Free Church. The movement, which failed once before, has been going on for some time, but the final debate was held on Friday, June 1, of the present year; in the end 592 voted for union and only 29 against. The debate is said to have been of a very high order, thoroughly permeated with the true spirit of Christianity. The British Weekly thus sums up the situation:

"No higher eulogy on the Free Church discussion can be passed than to say that it fitly matched that in the United Presbyterian Synod. Both churches, without doubt, sacrificed a great deal in entering the union. Both were happy and prosperous in the life and work; both cherished a legitimate pride in their history; both loved with a true affection their ways and their traditions; both were fully aware that in entering into union they would have to make concessions which would cost much, to face a very real hostility, to incur dangers that might well be dreaded; both, as we believe, entered into this union in simple obedience to the overwhelming conviction that they were doing the will of Christ, that they could not without disobedience remain apart."

This is a strong testimony, and we have no reason to doubt its truth. We

feel sure that though the union may involve some losses, the total result will be great gain. One more union in Scotland will practically unite all the Presbyterians of that country into one body, as is the case in Canada.

We are glad to note that there is not only talk about church union, but practical steps in that direction. There have been in the past plenty of schisms and splitting up on small points, but it is well that there should be a good healthy movement in the opposite direction.

Prophecy Not Their Forte.

It is best not to pay much attention to the wailing of the disappointed Opposition chiefs. We have Mr. Foster once more professing to feel very bad for the future of Canada unless he and his associates are placed in office, and he is prognosticating all sorts of evils for the Dominion if the electors fail to take him at his word. But prior to the general elections of 1896, and even as late as 1897 Mr. Foster was in the forefront line, and we all know how dismal a failure he made of it. Take his prophecy with regard to the woolen mills. As a consequence of the establishment of preferential trade with the Motherland, Mr. Foster in 1897 alleged that the woolen factories would be ruined and the operatives rendered penniless.

What a dreadful future the ex-Financial Minister saw for the woolen millmen.

But in 1899 these woolen mills manufactured 7,105,619 pounds more wool than in 1896, and there has been no shut-down; indeed, many have had to work overtime to keep up with the demands of their customers.

Mr. Foster is no more entitled to be accepted as a prophet than is his leader, Sir Charles Tupper, who before the recent Nova Scotia elections asserted that he was cocksure the Conservatives would sweep the province, where less than half a dozen of them were returned in a house of 40.

The Cost of Empire.

The bulletin the other day announced at the same time losses of Britishers in West Africa, South Africa, and China, and as we read the same sad story from different places it makes us think of the cost of empire and the price that has to be paid for civilization.

To keep open avenues of trade, to help in maintaining order as well as to defend the honor of the flag, British blood is being continually shed. As a rule it is not wantonly wasted, and when shed is shed in a good cause, but that does not alter the fact that much loss and pain is involved for many who are little able to bear.

The man who has lost faith in the purpose and progress of human life says that it is all a horrid mistake; that the poor are constantly being sacrificed for the sake of scheming politicians or wealthy traders, and those who sow the suffering do not reap the gain.

There is, of course, some truth in this cynical statement, for life is, after all, made up of strangely mingled elements. But we believe that there is still more truth in the nobler form of statement, that the truth, that we are members one of another, is becoming to be more fully realized. The unknown desert places of the world are becoming fewer. Those who are on lower planes of civilization cry, "Let us alone," and it seems as if it would be less trouble to comply with that request; but it cannot be, as there are so many forces bringing the different parts of the world nearer together.

Men may laugh at the phrase "manifest destiny" on the lips of a politician, but there is a great deal of true meaning in it. The English-speaking world has had many of its forward movements thrust upon it and has found no way of escape, though such way has been sought with painful diligence. The point now, however, is that those who rule have to suffer and the suffering falls often upon the poor, who have no consolation except the thought that they have served their country. When we feel what a precious price is paid for empire we should be more eager to see that the rule is pure and just.

Sir Charles Tupper's parting shot at Montreal was a statement that he expected to win the next Dominion election because "all the best people were Conservatives." Dear, dear, how very shocking must this intelligence be to the majority of the Canadian people. Once a young man in this community gave a similar excuse for his belonging to Sir Charles Tupper's party, but when he essayed to get a seat in Parliament on a platform of "we are the best people" the sturdy electors snatched him under and elected the Liberal candidate by a majority of two to one. The Opposition leader's "best people" fable will be found to be equally ineffective in the ensuing contest.

THREE BATHERS DROWNED

Death of Hon. A. R. Dickey, Ex-Minister of Justice—A Quebec Priest and a Windsor Boy Lose Their Lives

Detroit, July 4.—Fred Adams, the 17-year-old son of W. H. Adams, of Windsor, was drowned at Bois Blanc Island Monday. He had been playing baseball, and, becoming overheated, at the suggestion of his companions, went in swimming. He was suddenly seized with cramps, but his friends, knowing him to be a good swimmer, thought his calls for help were intended as a joke, and failed to assist him. The family were just preparing to leave for Chatham for the summer when the sad news was broken to them.

Montreal, July 4.—Brother Joseph, of the Brotherhood of Christian Instruction of Laprairie, was drowned in the St. Lawrence Monday near Causagawa while bathing.

Halifax, N. S., July 4.—Hon. A. R.

Dickey, ex-minister of justice in the Dominion Government, was drowned at Northport yesterday. The body was found in the evening in two feet of water at Amherst Shore, 20 miles from Amherst. Mr. Dickey visited friends at Amherst Shore in the morning, and after dinner started for a walk along the shore, intending to return at 3 p.m. Not returning friends became anxious, and started out to search for him, and his body was found as above. He had apparently gone in to bathe, and was taken with cramps. His clothes were found on the bank about a hundred yards away.

Hon. Arthur Rupert Dickey was the second son of Hon. R. B. Dickey, senator for Cumberland. He was born at Amherst in 1854, and was called to the bar of Nova Scotia in 1878. He was returned to the House of Commons for Cumberland on the resignation of Sir Charles Tupper in July, 1888. He continued to hold that constituency in the Conservative interest up to the general election of 1896, when he was defeated by Mr. H. J. Logan. Mr. Dickey was vice-president of the Dominion Prohibition Alliance. He became secretary of state under Sir Mackenzie Bowell on Dec. 21, 1894; was transferred to the department of militia and defense on March 28, 1895, and to the department of justice on Jan. 5, 1896, continuing as head of the latter in parliament under Sir Charles Tupper until 1896, since which time he had not taken an active part in politics, but at a convention of his party, held in Amherst some months ago, he was nominated to contest the county of Cumberland at the next general elections. He was respected and esteemed by men of all parties.

Oom Paul

Will Make Peace Only on Two Conditions,

Completely Independence and Annulment for Colonial Boers.

The Strathcona Under Fire—Trooper Killed—Royal Canadians Repulsed a Boer Attack.

London, Wednesday, July 4—A.m.—Nothing decisive has yet been heard from the column seeking to them in Gen. Dewet. All of Lord Roberts' field transport is engaged, apparently, in supplying these columns. Operations elsewhere are necessarily relaxed. One thousand Boers are hanging on Gen. Clery's flank in his advance to Greylingstad.

A Pretoria dispatch says: Lord Roberts, in order to check the operations of spies, requires that every male over 16 years of age shall be registered, and shall carry a permit.

OOM PAUL'S TERMS.

President Kruger, replying to a correspondent at Machadodorp, who inquired if there was any truth in the report that he had opened peace negotiations, wrote: "The president and people of the South African Republic most earnestly desire peace, but only upon two conditions—the complete independence of the republic and amnesty for the colonial Boers who fought with us. If these conditions be not granted we will fight to the bitter end."

A COMMANDO CAPTURED.

It is reported from Zeerust that Gen. Shynman, the besieger of Mafeking, and Commandant Botha and the whole Marico commando, have been captured near Lichtenburg.

STRATHCONA UNDER FIRE.

Strathcona's Horse on July 1 received its baptism of fire, in which one trooper was killed. Capt. Cooper is reported as missing.

Pretoria, June 30.—(Delayed in transmission)—The Royal Canadian Regiment, which is now stationed at Springs, was attacked on Thursday morning by a large force of the enemy, who tried to take a position commanding the coal mines. After a sharp engagement the enemy was forced to retire under heavy fire from the Canadians, who had two guns. The enemy numbered over 1,000 while the Canadians were only about 400. A great many of the enemy were killed, but there were no casualties among the Canadians. The latter behaved splendidly, and were congratulated by Lord Roberts for their gallant defense of a difficult position.

DEATH FROM DISEASE.

London, July 3.—The war office issues a list of 26 deaths from disease in South Africa, including Corp. R. Irvine, of the Canadian Infantry at Bloemfontein.

Corp. J. M. Gaskin, of the Canadian Artillery, is dangerously ill at Kimberley.

[Corp. R. Irvine was a member of B Company, first contingent. He joined as a private, but was later promoted to the rank of corporal. He was formerly a member of the 19th St. Catharines Battalion.]

INVALIDED HOME.

The following Canadians, invalided home on the troopship Montfort, are now at Woolwich Hospital: Pte. Jas. Stewart Walker, of G Company, R. C. R. I. (late of the 82nd Queen's county

Cuticura SOAP

For Sanative Uses.

Its remarkable emollient, cleansing, and purifying properties, derived from CUTICURA, the great skin cure, warrant the use of CUTICURA SOAP, in the form of baths for annoying irritations, inflammation, sores, and chafing, for too free or offensive perspiration, and also in the form of a severe and reliable treatment for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, and especially to mothers. The use of CUTICURA Ointment with CUTICURA SOAP will suggest itself in the severest cases.

Sold by all Colonial Chemists, Portia Dave & Co., 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 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