

London Advertiser.

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Managing Director John Cameron

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An Incendiary Contemporary.

In view of the momentarily excited feeling alike in Great Britain and in France over the Fashoda incident, it surely behooves public men and responsible journalists to do nothing, whether in Great Britain, in France or in Canada, to fan racial or religious feelings into flame. Yet that is what the London Free Press deliberately endeavors to do in an editorial in today's issue. It does so under cover of a defense of an incendiary harangue delivered in South Ontario against Hon. John Dryden by Mr. Carscallen, M.P.P., in which the electors were urged to vote against Mr. Hardy's Minister of Agriculture, because, as alleged, Mr. Tarte had sailed down the St. Lawrence on an inspecting tour, with the tricolor flying.

Mr. Carscallen's motive was obvious; namely, by use of the demagogue's art to injure Mr. Dryden's candidature, even though a temporary and provincial advantage could be obtained only by setting the match to the handy combustibles of racial and religious prejudice. Mr. Carscallen would evidently prove an opportunist of a dangerous type, were his ability on a par with his recklessness. He has been everything by turns, and nothing long.

The London Free Press goes beyond Mr. Carscallen. It will not tolerate Sir Wilfrid Laurier's manly, sentimental attachment to the land of his forefathers, though it reluctantly admits that the second most conspicuous figure in the Queen's Jubilee may perhaps be personally loyal to the British Empire. Our demagogue contemporary then proceeds solemnly to inquire of "our people," "whether they are being hoodwinked by the talk of racial unity," etc.

Our contemporary is great on holding Mr. Tarte responsible for everything that appears in La Patrie, of Montreal. Why, then, in that case, does it not quote La Patrie's powerful plea of a few days ago, against friction and ill-feeling between Great Britain and France, and strongly advocating an alliance between the two great nations? Our contemporary does not do so, because that would have been to throw water on its own inflammatory torch.

The course of the London Free Press in this matter, at a time when wisdom points out that passion needs to be allayed rather than excited, is the course of an opportunist incendiary, and should be reprobated by men of good-will and statesmanlike breadth everywhere, whether English-speakers or French-speakers, whether Protestants or Roman Catholics.

The Street Railway Trouble.

The people of London hope that the differences between the London Street Railway Company and their employees will be speedily and satisfactorily adjusted.

It seems to be a case where a conciliatory attitude on both sides and a frank exchange of views will conduce to this end.

If the company and their employees find, after full discussion, that a reasonable compromise cannot be effected by that means, they should have recourse to arbitration and bind themselves to accept the verdict. Arbitration is the modern enlightened method of dealing with labor disputes.

We believe public sentiment in the city will uphold this view.

Harold Frederic.

The circumstances of the death of Harold Frederic, the journalist and novel-writer, were rather peculiar. He seemed to have received "Christian Science treatment," and some members of his family are reported to have said that "he did not believe in doctors." He was a brilliant writer, but not one likely to have permanent influence. In our opinion, some of his best work is to be found in a volume of short stories, entitled, "In the Sixties." The picture of the sturdy old "copperhead" is splendidly done. The volume from his pen, which attracted most attention was the one published in England under the title of "illumination," a very appropriate title, certainly, but it seems to have been considered not striking enough for this side of the Atlantic, as the same book was published in America with the more sensational name, "The Damnation of Theron Ware." It was no doubt a clever book, but cynical in its tone, and not altogether wholesome in its influence. The kind of doctors and parsons found in it are not the kind "to believe in," since they evidently do not believe in themselves, or in any great truth. The little knowledge which is proverbially dangerous, upset Theron Ware, as it was an "illumination" of a very superficial kind; and while the word damnation is not to be lightly used, we concede that in some form it represents the fate of men who have no more will-power than Mr. Frederic's Methodist parson. We are not in a position to speak fully of the circumstances attending Mr. Frederic's death; but it seems strange that a man who could so brilliantly describe what he evidently regarded as "the seamy side" of American Methodism, should on his deathbed have yielded to such strange religious practices.

The Municipal Reform Movement.

The Hamilton Herald thus comments on Ald. Graham's municipal reform motion:

"This plan is a decided improvement on the ward system; but we don't like it so well as the plan of electing a fixed number of aldermen. What would be the basis of representation—the decennial Dominion census, or the annual census of the assessors? There would always be a doubt about the correctness of the representation, and probably a good deal of wrangling over it. There would be danger of having the census figures cooked so as to increase the number of aldermen. The system would also make the good plan of two or three years harder to work."

"But this is a minor consideration. The important feature of this proposal is that it abolishes the ward system and substitutes a system under which each alderman will represent the whole city."

"Will London show itself to be more progressive than Hamilton in the path of municipal reform?"

The Herald is correct in saying that the main consideration is the abolition of the ward system. When that is achieved, other reforms will be more workable. We certainly think the two-year term desirable, but to attempt too much at once might perplex some people whose minds can better grasp a single idea than half a dozen. Improvement in the personnel of the city council is the present aim.

The Ottawa Free Press makes a good point when it says the Legislature should grant wider permissive powers to the cities in respect of their administrative forms. The mere fact of having to solicit legislative sanction for such a change as is proposed here, is an obstacle in the path of reform. A municipality may safely be left to its own wisdom in such purely local matters, though Legislative checks and safeguards are necessary in financial transactions. The London city council, in co-operation with Hamilton, Kingston and other places, should urge this privilege, and obtain permission to make reforms from time to time, without waiting for the formal assent of the Legislature. Experience will be continually suggesting changes.

If the aldermen are to be elected by the general vote of the people, the school trustees should be elected in the same way. Ward-grabbing is practiced in the school board, as well as in the council.

M. Louis De Rougemont.

Who is he? He is the modern Robinson Crusoe, who has lived among savages, and has come back to the civilized world to tell us all about it.

He recently lectured in St. James' Hall, London, England, to an assembly so large and brilliant that it produced the remark, "If it's a swindle, it's a big thing." The opinion was freely expressed that he was probably a fraud. Others again thought that perhaps he wasn't. Did he not create a sensation by exposing his "sun-tanned, weather-colored arms"? "No questions were permitted," says the British Weekly, "and such laughter or applause as there was came chiefly in response to references to the benefit the hostile criticism had brought to his publishers." His apology for possible exaggeration was: "When you are young you see things big, especially when you are frightened of them." His strange stories are being scattered throughout the world, but many sensible people think that it is indeed a big swindle. If people are to be swindled, it must be done on a large scale.

The Socialist and the Anarchist.

These two types of modern political activity are often confounded; but as a matter of fact, they represent two opposite tendencies. The socialist, who would usher in his reign of equality by a violent revolution, may easily be mistaken for the anarchist, who would gladly blow all governments to pieces. Socialism is one extreme; it would have everything done by government production and transportation, buying and selling, and would even regulate, by public authority, the amusements as well as the education of the people; while anarchism of the milder type is the extreme of individualism, which rests upon the belief that man would easily reach a more perfect form of life if he was not so much governed. One looks for salvation to a widening of the area of social control; the other, from a larger freedom of the individual life.

Neither of these comes within the range of practical politics. They are the beliefs of enthusiastic theorists. Political problems are much too complex to be finally settled by the application of one simple idea. Circumstances are always changing, and there is constant call for readjustment, so that the practical statesman must be "an opportunist with a conscience." It is, of course, much more difficult to be this in an honorable way than it is to be a consistent agitator or a logical theorist. Much legislation of modern times has had a socialist tendency, but it is not likely that the ideal of socialism will ever be realized; while anarchism pure and simple could only be carried out by reducing the population of the world to a small number, and scattering that few through the woods and vales, going back to "the state of nature," whose praises a certain class of poets have sung so fervently. These different views have always been held by speculators in political science, but these problems only become acute where governments are tyrannical and the conditions of life hard. When we study the conditions of some European countries, we are not surprised that

misery and discontent fill the ranks of socialists and anarchists with fierce recruits. Of course, order must be maintained, and every government will naturally seek to defend its own life, but brute force can never be a remedy, which must come through juster laws, more kindly customs, and more intelligent teaching.

Italy, according to the latest reports, is not only the land where the government is almost bankrupt, and where the poor laborer works under the most miserable conditions. When we remember how many noble patriots have suffered and died for the land of sunny skies and great historical associations, there is something tragic in its present sad condition. But there, as elsewhere, salvation must come from within. To drive out the Austrian was not easy, but to drive out the devil of sloth, greed, and petty grinding tyranny, is infinitely harder.

It is a fortunate thing for France that there is no Boulanger in the land.

The Brisson Cabinet suffered defeat in the cause of justice. Nothing became its career like the leaving of it.

Lord Salisbury, M. Delcasse and Premier Hardy, with their blue books and their yellow books galore, are the most rapid historians of the day.

President McKinley told a western audience that "trade follows the flag." It has been Great Britain's experience that trade usually precedes the flag.

The schools of Toulon have been converted into barracks. This is a grim reflection on militarism—places devoted to cultivating brains turned over to those who may be called upon to blow brains out.

Mr. J. S. Larke, Canadian commissioner in Australia, reports a large increase in trade between Canada and New South Wales. New South Wales is the free trade colony of Australia. It is a lucky thing for Canada that protection is not universal.

The Jews are unjustly blamed for the plague outbreak in Vienna by the miserable anti-Semitic tribe. It is the same devilish spirit that persecuted Zola and disgraces the name of Christianity in all the great powers of Europe, excepting Britain.

Mr. F. W. Herring's letters from Dawson City, published in Monday's Advertiser, were full of news and very interesting. Although Mr. Herring has been in Dawson all summer, and goes into minute details of his experience, he says not one word of the "Yukon scandal." It is probable that, being on the spot, he has not the facility for acquiring information which Conservative newspapers in Ontario possess.

The Toronto World (Con.) objects to the emigration of a few Russians to Canada, and asks where the surplus population of the British Isles is going. In reply we simply quote another Conservative paper, the Woodstock Times, as follows: "Statistics of emigration from the chief ports of Great Britain show that Canada is beginning to take a foremost place as a field of immigration. The most marked feature of British returns is the decline of the popularity of the United States as a place for immigration, and the increasing popularity of British North America."

Sewage farms have been tried in London and Berlin, but their success as a solution of the problem is still disputed.—Ottawa Citizen.

For the information of the Citizen we may say that the sewage farm system has been tried at the London Asylum for the Insane for the past ten years and has proved an unqualified success. Eminent engineers recommended the same method for the disposal of the sewage of this city, but the aldermen were offered a different system, and not being able to determine on either, postponed action until next year.

It is 6,250 miles from Cairo to the Cape, and the British purpose making the whole journey possible by rail and steamboat. The River Nile and the lakes afford a navigable stretch of 4,050 miles. The remaining 2,200 miles must be covered by rail. Of this, 1,200 miles has already been built, from the Cape to Bulawayo. Cecil Rhodes is determined to continue it at once to Lake Tanganyika, which will require 750 miles more. The only remaining gaps are from Lake Tanganyika to Victoria Nyanza, 250 miles, and from Victoria Nyanza to Albert Nyanza, 200 miles.

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

Should Do Better in Future.

[Washington Star.] It is to be hoped that the world's fair will be more successful than some of the other large enterprises which Paris has recently undertaken to handle.

Something Else Raised.

[Chicago Times-Herald.] The Philadelphia American says: "France claims that nothing but sour grapes can be raised at Fashoda, anyway." How about the British flag?

May Turn the Tables.

[Hamilton Times.] China is going into cotton and woolen manufacturing, and mills with all the latest improvements are being started. One of these fine days China may try a little of our western tariff civilization on us.

Guelph's Aldermanic Blockheads.

[Guelph Herald.] Ald. Graham, of London, has given notice of a bylaw to provide for the

election of aldermen at large. Some time in the next century Guelph may elect a board of aldermen who will be disposed to admit that the proposed reform is worthy of consideration by the people.

Two Good Examples.

[Toronto Star.] Lord Aberdeen has been an excellent governor-general, and his last act leaves an example for Canadian public men to follow. Lord Minto promises to be an excellent governor-general also, and his first act of his term is a similar example. Both these distinguished men will travel by Canadian steamships. Lord Aberdeen leaves Quebec by the Labrador, Lord Minto arrived in Quebec by a Canadian steamer.

St. Thomas' Great Growth.

[Chatham Planet.] St. Thomas gained 135 in population last year. It now has 11,156 inhabitants. At that rate of progress, in just 225 years it will be as large as its nearest neighbor, London, is at present.

A Rebuke to the Men.

[Victoria Colonist.] The Toronto Globe expresses the belief that "British Columbia will produce men to match her mountains." We are not quite sure how this is going to be about the men. Much will depend upon the way the boys conduct themselves. Cigarette smoking and late hours in questionable company will prevent the development of a high type of youth. But when it comes to young girls, we are prepared to match the best of British Columbia against the world. If you doubt it, take a walk through the streets of Victoria and Vancouver and notice the young girls that are growing up, those that have had all the best of their development in this climate, and you will not lack for proof. There are no finer specimens of girlhood anywhere to be found. The boys will have to take better care of themselves than many of them are doing or they will be outclassed.

Another View of Kipling's.

[Philadelphia Inquirer.] Rudyard Kipling has driven the last nail into the coffin which will bury the Czar's proposal for universal disarmament. He has written a poem called "The Truce of the Bear," which with the vividness of a lightning flash has formulated into concrete fact the vague distrust of the proposal that was in the minds of many, if not all. For political effect this new poem is stronger than even his "Recessional." It is so fearless and frank that one is glad that the quasi-official status which has hitherto prevented the publication of such a masterpiece.

Good People for Canada.

[Toronto Telegram.] Conservative papers are now serving either their party or their country when they make the incoming of these so-called "spirit wretches" from Russia the excuse for an attack on the Minister of the Interior. Sobriety and industry separated these people from the besotted, slavish subjects of the Czar. They were intelligent farmers, good neighbors, and followed their Lord so closely that they would not join either the state church or the standing army. The persecution which tortured their bodies has not spared the purses of these Russian spirit wretches. They are poor, but the poverty which comes from following the highest Christian ideals ought to be no barrier to citizenship in Canada. The pity is that there are not millions, instead of hundreds of Russian believers to receive the trifling aid which Hon. Clifford Sifton is sending to these downtrodden people.

LIGHT AND SHADE.

Room for Doubt.

She—I am surprised that Clara should suffer a man to kiss her. He—Perhaps she doesn't call it suffering.—New York Times.

Sent the Stuff.

"How did the old charity dodge work last term?" was asked of the university student who is packing up his traps with a view of another go at the classics. "Did it add much to your allowance?" "Fizzled clear out. I wrote the governor that I wanted some money to help a poor family that was in an almost starving condition. Inside of 48 hours he sent me a barrel of flour and two hams."—Detroit Free Press.

In the Gloom.

I sit alone when the twilight falls, And hear a dreary sound, Like some imprisoned soul that beats In vain to break its bound. The supposition that he or she is the party noticed or wanted. The personal party joins up as a very large quantity in the view of most. It is indeed a sad revelation when a man finds that the world does not want or even need him very badly after all.

In the Gloom.

I sit alone when the twilight falls, And hear a dreary sound, Like some imprisoned soul that beats In vain to break its bound. A restless knocking—then a space of silence—then again The patient, dreary rattle-tat That sounds so sad, so vain.

Off in the twilight hour, as now, I hear my spirit whispers me, "They're chopping hash next door." —Judge.

The Real Thing.

The spread of "realism" is marked by the case of a man, recorded in a New York newspaper, who "walked in his sleep, because he dreamed that he had no car-fare."

THE OLDEST BANK.

The oldest bank notes are the "flying money," or "convenient money," first used in China, 2837 B. C. Originally these notes were used by the treasury, but experience dictated a change to the banks under government inspection and control. A writer in a provincial paper says that the early Chinese "greenbacks" were the early Chinese bank notes, bearing the name of the bank, date of issue, the number of the note, the signature of the official using it, indications of its value in figures, in words and in the pictorial representation in amount to its face value, and a notice of the pains and penalties for counterfeiting. Over and above all was a laconic ex-

hortation of industry and thrift: "Produce all you can; spend with economy." These notes were printed in blue ink on paper made from the fiber of the mulberry tree. One issued in 1339 B. C. is still preserved at St. Petersburg.

BEWARE OF THE CZAR!

His Peace Proclamation Not a Humanitarian Document.

Rabbi Maslansky Says It Is Policy, Pure and Simple.

[Detroit Free Press, Oct. 23.]

Rev. H. Maslansky, the Jewish rabbi who speaks in Detroit today for the first time, expresses some very positive views concerning political conditions in the old world. When asked by a representative what he thought of the recent peace proclamation of the Czar of Russia, he expressed himself as follows: "The czar has been reading the handwriting on the wall. The budgets of all European countries are stubborn propositions, and it takes about all the money that can be raised by the governments of these countries to meet their expenses. Russia's war fund is much larger than that of any other European nation, and it is not strange that the czar should desire to find some way to lighten a burden that has already nearly bankrupted the nation. The Russian Government is very anxious to develop the resources of the empire, but it takes money to build railroads and make other needed improvements, and the cash for this purpose is not forthcoming under the present system."

He then turned to read of the expressions of some of our writers and preachers here in America concerning the wonderful humanity and magnanimity of the 'Czar of All the Russias,' in his so-called peace proclamation. Do not think for one moment that the name of the young czar deserves to be placed in the list of great humanitarians. His action in this matter reminds me of an old Russian fable of a lion that was the terror of all the other animals in the region over which he reigned during the early years of his life. All of the animals were in mortal fear of him, and would go any distance, out of their way, to avoid meeting him. But when old age brought with it decrepitude and failing powers, the old lion saw that he must change his policy, as the great bluff that he had been putting up would not go any longer. The wise old fellow immediately began to talk about peace and brotherly love. He called the animals together in great numbers, and made eloquent appeals to them, urging that they should hereafter dwell together in peace, thinking more of each other's interests than of their own. The animals listened with profound surprise and awe, and vied with each other in extolling the virtues and kindheartedness of this almost helpless but remarkably "smooth" king of beasts. The Russian bear is today in exactly the same position as the lion in the fable, and his peace talk is nothing but policy, pure and simple.

"In your opinion, how does the French republic compare with that of America?" the rabbi was asked. "There is positively no comparison between France as a nation and this country. The Frenchman of today is a slave to the most arbitrary military despotism in the world. France is 100 years behind the times in everything that makes for civilization and human progress, and I firmly believe that her days, as a so-called republic, are numbered. You Americans know very little about what it means to be a citizen of a country that supports a great standing army, and permits the army to trample upon individual rights with impunity. Your papers have been making a great stir about the evils that have come to light in the management of your army in the recent war, but all of the trouble that you have had in prosecuting a victorious war is but a drop in the bucket when compared with the evils and maladministration that occurs in one year in times of peace in France."

"If the time should come when America will need to maintain a much larger standing army than she now has, do you think that the same great evils which are now the bane of European military institutions would eventually creep into our army, and make it a menace to individual freedom that you urge the armies of all monarchical governments now are?" "I have no fears for the future of the United States army," was the reply. "Without doubt there has been some mismanagement in connection with the conduct of the army during the recent war, but it will never occur again in this country. The lesson has been an important one, and the sequel shows that it has been well-learned. The American people have never been quite so earnest in regard to army equipment and discipline, but in the future, if I mistake not, there will be no lack of interest, and the past history of this country goes to show that the American people generally get what they want when they go after it. The success of the American navy shows what can be accomplished in this country in a military way when once the system of organization and discipline is reduced to an exact science. I expect to see the American army become just as efficient as the navy now is, within the next five years."

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Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are sold in boxes of 3 for \$1.25, at all druggists. T. MILBURN & CO., Toronto, Ont.

Miss Mary E. Hicks, South Bay, Ont., says that she had suffered from her heart headache, from which she had suffered for more than a year.

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