

## Baseball Artists at Play

Snapshots of the Montreal Team Practising on the Diamond

Charleson thinks that the centralist considers that the Empire is held together by bonds of self-interest, such as tariff preferences would furnish. That may be the view of tariff reformers of the school of Mr. Chamberlain, but it certainly is not that of the Liberal party of Great Britain.

Regarding this matter it may be said that the home view is that the Empire is held together by sentiment, trading and the feeling of prestige, a desire to see as much red on the map as possible, thus exhibiting to the outside world the extent and magnitude of the British Empire. On the part of Canada it is one also of sentiment, and, moreover, of self-interest. It is, I think, a matter much more of self-interest to Canada that it should remain a part of the British Empire than vice-versa, as Canada hitherto at least has had almost everything done for it without much or any adequate return. Again, so far as Great Britain is concerned, it may be said to have the feeling that it has done its duty towards the North American continent. It made this part of the world Anglo-Saxon, and that is no slight thing to have achieved, and may well rest content, leaving it in the hands of its own race to perpetuate what has been accomplished—Anglo Saxon, it mainly now is, and as President Cleveland said it must remain so. Again, it is a matter of very great self-interest to all patriotic Canadians that they should remain in the Empire, as outside of it they would be very much in danger of losing their nationality, and become, to use the now almost hackneyed expression, a mere adjunct of the United States.

Another comparison that Mr. Charleson has made is one that I do not think at all apposite, and that is South Africa. The Boers, it is said, have become loyal because they have been allowed to develop in their own way, and General Botha says that South African interests are the first consideration. Between Canada and South Africa, however, surely Mr. Charleson must see there is no parallel. South Africa lies on the way to India, and must belong to or be dominated by Great Britain. It is not many years since she expended some two hundred million pounds sterling and sacrificed many valuable lives, to conquer that country, and most certainly all that was not done for naught. South Africa will be allowed to develop itself as it pleases up to a certain point, but not beyond that point, as, like India, it is really in the last resort held by the sword. As to Canada, there is nothing of this kind, as if she desired to leave the Empire tomorrow, there would not be a single gun fired to prevent it, and Great Britain would still remain that great power it was before Canada was much thought of.

Mr. Charleson says that the writer is much shocked to learn that any one wishes Canada to choose whether or not to take part in the wars in which Britain engages. The word is rather strong; I am not so much shocked as amazed. It is said that the British Government fully acquiesced in the claim made in 1909 that each part of the Empire should assist in its defence should they so desire.

There seems, however, to be a misunderstanding on the part of Canada in particular on this point, and it is this; Great Britain has never as yet asked any of the colonies to take part in a common defence, but what it has not requested out of deference to their feelings and from that non-interference with domestic politics which has always characterized her policy, it certainly expects. Great Britain assuredly anticipates and desires that the component parts of the Empire should bear their proportionate share of the burden, although it has not expressly said so. It is a delicate position, and must be left to the good sense of the various Dominions. New Zealand has realized this desire with the greatest emphasis of all, supported by little Malay and South Africa, Australia more locally.

As to Canada the position taken by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that it may or may not participate in a great war, is one that cannot be seriously discussed. In any little war that Great Britain may be engaged in, such as the chastisement of some frontier tribe, no help is needed, but in a European conflagration, endangering the safety of the Empire, Canada must make up its mind once for all, either to assist, or to dissolve partnership. To act otherwise would be humiliating to Canada, and farcical to Great Britain; at the very least it would be an anomalous position, and could not endure indefinitely. And now, as to the particular point at issue, an immediate naval contribution. I do not at all see what any Canadian has to complain about, and why the Liberal party in particular should have so disported itself in Parliament. It is agreed that autonomists and centralists are alike loyal to the Empire. This is well, from a moral point of view alone, and from that point of view, as it has been well said, it is worth more than the proposed ships themselves, and yet the reiterated cry of the Liberal party is that there is no emergency, but since when, I ask in astonishment, is Duty not emergent? All admit the duty, then why not discharge it as speedily as possible. A contribution is not a tribute, but a free-will offering, given on certain conditions, and these conditions that the proposed contribution shall form part of a Canadian navy still to be, but sure to come. And, above all, let the Canadian people understand that Great Britain has not the slightest intention or desire to interfere with the autonomic development of Canada, either as to tariffs or anything else. She has her own domestic problems, but she does desire and expects that Canada will take its proper share in the maintenance of that Empire which means so much for the welfare of the world at large, and that it should be done now and not in an indefinite future.

DOUGLAS ROSS.

Montreal, May 26th.



Frank Betcher, on Second Base, is Just Too Late to Tag Batten, Who Has Got His Foot on the Sack and, Incidentally, Has Raised a Fine Cloud of Dust.



"Mike" Murphy, the Reserve Catcher, Sliding to First. George Batten Defending the Sack.



Batten, Defending the First Base, and Betcher, on the Ground.



Hon. Mr. Roche (seated), Minister of the Interior, Who Has Gone Abroad For His Health, Was Tendered a Luncheon by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Standing Third from Left). On Mr. Roche's Right is Miss May Roche.



Canadian Boy Scouts Will be Interested in This Picture of Lord Beresford, the Chief Sea Scout, Who Took Part in the Dedication of Two Boats Provided for the Sea Scouts at Hampstead.