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God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.
—Browning.

London, Friday, May 21, 1897.

Fast Steamship Line Between Canada and Britain.

The gratifying intelligence comes from Ottawa today that the arrangements for the placing on the Atlantic of a new line of fast steamships, to run between Canada and Great Britain, has been completed.

Great Britain, Hon. Mr. Chamberlain has cabled to the Canadian Government, agrees to the bargain entered into between Messrs. Peterson, Tait & Co., of Newcastle, for the establishment of the new line. The British Government has resolved to give \$250,000 a year subsidy to the new line.

This enterprise, procured on terms much more satisfactory to the Dominion than were offered to the late Government, will afford material aid to the commerce between Canada and the motherland, upon the development of which so much of the prosperity of this country depends.

The contractors for the new service will now proceed to construct the fleet, which will be put on the route at the earliest possible moment.

What we need is an educational qualification for our deputy returning officers.—Montreal Star.

What is really needed is a law that will effectively punish, by fine or imprisonment, or both, deputy returning officers who accept office, and then, by their acts, upset the verdict of the electors. Some of those men are altogether too well educated—in trickery.

In Bad Odor.

A resolution by Mr. Lowther, the English advocate of "protection," was before the British House of Commons yesterday, but it received so little sympathy from the assembled wisdom that it was speedily withdrawn. Sir Michael Hicks-Besant, Chancellor of the Exchequer, opposed it from the Conservative benches. Sir William Vernon Harcourt, leader of the Liberal party, and Mr. Dillon, leader of the Irish Home Rulers, also opposed the principle.

It is apparent that if there ever is to be a "protectionist" party in Great Britain, to advocate the policy propounded by the Canadian Opposition as the only proper one for the motherland, the members must be imported. They are not to be found in the British House of Commons—always excepting James Lowther.

The Bank Note Contract.

The new bank note contract was the subject of discussion in the Dominion Parliament last night. Sir Charles Tupper and Mr. Foster, ex-Finance Minister, took occasion to lament that the Montreal firm which has done the work for years, practically at its own rates, was not again selected.

It is difficult to see what object the Opposition have to serve in kicking about the new contract. By it the taxpayers are enabled to save \$153,232 in the five years during which the contract will run. That may be a small item in the eyes of the Opposition leaders; but the general public will not so regard it. It has been represented that the work would be done in the United States because United States capitalists have an interest in the company. But the contract calls for the work to be done in Canada, and a \$80,000 building, erected by Canadian mechanics working night and day, has been put up at Ottawa in which to engrave and print the notes. The Government would have been derelict in its duty and censurable if it had not chosen the lowest tenderer. The late contractor was badly advised when he imagined that possession of a monopoly meant that he could make his own terms, and in the event of falling that he could offer to do the work at the same figure as other tenderers and secure the job. To accede to that view, as championed by the Opposition, would reduce the tender system to a farce,

United States Takes a Hand in Cuba.

The Senate of the United States has taken a very important step by the passage of a resolution declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba, and proclaiming that strict neutrality shall be maintained by the neighboring republics between the combatants.

This action, if endorsed by President McKinley, will place the insurgents of Cuba on exactly the same plane, in point of treatment by the United States, as Spain.

The effect of this recognition of the Cuban patriots would mean much to them. Hitherto, under international law, the Cubans have been regarded by the United States authorities as rebels, and have been treated as such. War material bought by them in the United States for use in Cuba was confiscated, and those in charge of it sent to jail. With their recognition as belligerents, however, the Cubans could buy all the munitions of war that they chose without let or hindrance by the United States marshals.

Under the American system, the President has the final say in this matter, and there is speculation as to how he will act in view of the almost unanimous decision of the Senate.

The action now taken will afford renewed hope to the Cuban patriots. It will cause the reverse of pleasure to the Spaniards, who may be relied on to express the strongest indignation. But whether anything further than a war of words will ensue remains to be seen. Meanwhile this development in the Spanish-Cuban struggle is the most important reported for many a day.

A few days ago an Ottawa correspondent sent out the word that Mr. M. C. Cameron, M.P., was likely to be appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba. The Godefrich Signal says there is no foundation for the report, but no one can deny that the able M.P. for West Huron would make an admirable Governor.

A British Expert's View.

A most important confirmation of the validity of the action taken by the Dominion Government in granting preferential trade to Great Britain is cabled today. Sir Charles Kennedy, who was until recently head of the commercial department of the British Foreign Office, and who is regarded as an expert in all questions of international trade, has confirmed the view that Canada's action is all right, and that there will be no trouble in working it out.

Two-fifths of the British national expenditure goes to keep up the army in time of peace. What would be the ratio if the empire were to drift into a long war?

Lying on Their Arms.

The Turco-Grecian situation, as it now stands, is that an armistice for seventeen days has been arranged between the two belligerents. The predominant influence in establishing this temporary cessation of hostilities was the Czar of Russia. It will take some time to prove whether Turkey and Greece can come to terms satisfactory to both and to the great powers, who are conceded by the sultan to have the right to mediate. The difficulty with the Turkish ruler will undoubtedly now be that the temporary rehabilitation of his country as a fighting power may have swelled his ideas of his importance to a sufficient extent to make him demand onerous concessions from the vanquished foe.

It may be that the trouble will not be finally got rid of except by the reopening of the whole eastern question, to prevent which at the present moment all the powers of Europe are bending their energies. Scarcely a country is unaffected, as a writer in the June Atlantic aptly points out. Russia is concerned because it affects her route to the sea, and what is more, her relations to Great Britain in Asia. Austria is concerned because it affects her prospects among the Balkan states on the southeast. France is concerned because it affects her commercial ambitions in the Orient, her claims in Africa, her route to the east, and the interests of her great ally, Germany, though Bismarck has said the eastern question is not worth the bones of a single Pomeranian grenadier, is yet actively concerned because of her relations to Russia and France. Great Britain is concerned because of Russia and her life-and-death interest, as the maintainer of a world-empire, in the Suez Canal. All her colonial interests in Southern Asia and in Africa are involved. International politics all over the world, whatever the apparent issue and habitat, are resolvable into some form of the eastern question, and stand in some sensitive connection with this great political storm-center of the world, the Egean and the Bosphorus. America is well isolated and self-absorbed, but the trade and commerce of this continent would be vitally affected by a prolonged disturbance in Europe. Such a disturbance may come soon, for the eastern question cannot be regarded as settled till it is rightly settled, and it cannot be rightly settled while the Christian population of Turkey is under the misrule of the sultan.

The Kincardine Review (Conservative) earnestly beseeches Mr. Whitney, the Opposition leader, to cut loose from his alliance with Sir Charles Tupper, so ostentatiously heralded. The candid remark of our contemporary is that the old chap is "too unpopular to be of any service to you (Mr. Whitney) or to us" (the Conservative party), and therefore ought to be boycotted by the Provincial Opposition leader. But Mr. Whitney has already pinned himself to the coat-tails of Sir Charles Tupper, and has taken his orders from him.

Germany and Britain.

Certain Canadian newspapers, which regard a "protective" policy as the one thing necessary to enable employers to pay high wages, call attention at the same time to the miserable wages paid to German workmen. Well, Germany has a protective tariff, while Great Britain, her next door neighbor, has not. Yet Britain pays higher wages for a much shorter week's work than Germany.

Here is a sample extract from the latest Scotch novel:

"Wangle's richt stochery."
"Ay, he'll never gie ye a bit o' naething."
"All wangle him again. A'll seen be gettin' a penny fae my father."
"A'm gettin' a penny on Setturday."
"Fa' fae?"
"Fae oor Georgie."
"Ha! Ha!"
"O, b' at at!"
"Fa' for daein'?"
"Never ye ound fat for daein'."
"O, A kent ye wangle gettin'!"
"B'it A am sot gettin'! Surely A ken better kin ye."
"It's at leas, it's at leas, it's at leas. Faud yer tongue!"
"No, A'll nae haud my tongue. Fat d'ye say?"
"Fa's gyan owre tae the smiddy?"
"Me." "An' me." "An' me."

William J. Shearer, superintendent of schools at Elizabeth, N. J., has evolved a system for grading students in the public schools which allows, more than any other ever has, for the individuality of the student. The success of his system has attracted to it the attention of all thoughtful educators, and he has written in the June Atlantic the most interesting and instructive description of it under the title "The Lock-step in the Public School." In the usual grading system, and points out effective remedies.

REAL WAR CORRESPONDENT.

Chattanooga Times.
What is wanted in the real war correspondent is the nose for real news and the courage and industry that never tire nor quail when in pursuit of news. At the battle of Plevna Forbes crept up right to the Russian lines on an elevation that commanded both armies. There he lay for hours, using one eye to take in the fighting and one on his note book. And as night was falling and the roar of the guns was dying away his description of the battle was being edited for the London press.

WORTH REMEMBERING.

Ram's Horn.
The way to get a better position is to more than fill your present one.

CARRIED THE AIR AWAY.

"You have a very fine climate here," said the visitor to a resident. "Such a bracing air!"
"Yes," replied the resident, gloomily, "but then there bicyclists come along and pump the air into their pneumatic tires and carry it off."

DINING WITH THE PRINCE.

Scottish Nights.
Two Irishmen were working together one day, when one remarked to the other, who appeared very glum:
"Arrah, Mike, what's the matter with you this morning?"
"Well, Pat," replied the other, "I was dreaming that I dined with H. R. H. the Prince of Wales last night and after dinner was over he asked me if I would have a taste of Irish."

MEDICAL MEN.

Chicago Times-Herald.
A correspondent wants to know the best remedy for nightmare. Insomnia is said to be good for that sort of thing.

They Do Good Work.

The following letter tells what people think about Laxa Liver Pills:
Dear Sirs,—I gladly testify to the virtues of Laxa Liver Pills. I used to be troubled with severe headaches and constipation for a long time, and took these pills hoping for a cure, and my hopes were rapidly fulfilled. I have found them a never failing remedy and heartily recommend them. (Signed) MISS S. LAWSON, Montreal, N. B.

At a meeting of the directors of the Tilbury Oil and Gas Company, the contract for putting down a test well was given to Mr. Thompson, Lexington. Contract price, 75 cents per foot.

The Methodists.

District Meetings at Chatham, Parkhill and Ingersoll.

Examination of Probationers—Election of Representatives to Conference, and Other Business.

Chatham, May 21.—The Chatham district of the Methodist conference was in session at the Park Street Church on Wednesday. Tuesday afternoon's session was occupied by the examination of the probationers, at the conclusion of which it was recommended: That W. R. Vance be ordained; that A. W. Dever and A. E. Lloyd be granted second year standing; that S. L. Toll be granted first year standing. Wednesday morning's session was opened by a discussion relative to the state of the general work, and favorable progress in spiritual standing was disclosed. Rev. C. P. Wells was appointed secretary of the annual district association, with Revs. W. B. Creighton and A. W. Dever.

Rev. H. W. McTavish, of Dresden, was appointed to the stationing committee; Rev. Mr. Hussar, of Louisville, and Mr. Shillington were appointed to the Sunday school committee; Rev. Mr. Muxworthy, of Chatham, and Mr. Humphrey, of the Epworth League committee, and Rev. E. N. Baker and Mr. Barfoot to the sustentation committee.

Parkhill, May 21.—The Exeter district of the Methodist Church held their annual meeting in the Parkhill Methodist Church on Tuesday and Wednesday. The first session was taken up with ministerial character. When the order of the day was reached, two young men on probation, J. W. Ashton and C. Kane, were examined in the doctrine of the Methodist Church and the books they read during the year. Rev. Mr. Mills, of Parkhill, applied for superannuation on the ground of poor health. After listening to the statement, the Rev. J. Hart moved, seconded by Rev. J. C. Nethercott, that the district meeting recommend the conference to grant the same. Several of the brethren spoke of his excellency of character, devotion to duty and ability as a preacher and his successful life in the ministry. A committee was nominated by the chairman to draft a resolution with reference to these excellencies and record the same on the district book.

Ingersoll, May 21.—The afternoon session of the Ingersoll district of the Methodist Church was opened by meeting of the laymen, who appointed their representatives to the conference, after which the remainder of the circuit reports were read. The next order of business was the election of the various representatives to the conference at Brantford. They are as follows: Stationing committee, Rev. J. C. Pickering, Woodstock; Sabbath school committee, Rev. H. A. Cook, Oxford; center, and Mr. Joseph Gibson, Ingersoll; Epworth League committee, Mr. J. S. Sippell, Woodstock, and Mr. H. J. Dickert, Woodstock; sustentation committee, Rev. G. Richardson, Ingersoll, and Mr. George Adams, of Woodstock; missionary committee, Mr. Brown, Woodstock. The matter of rearranging some of the circuits in the district provoked quite a lot of discussion on the part of the members. It was finally decided to enlarge the circuits of Cathcart and Princeton to two-man circuits, by adding to them stations from the circuits that have become extinct.

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- BLouses—Ladies Colored Blouses, with white collar and cuffs, worth 90c, Saturday Night 75c
- WAISTS—Ladies' Colored Shirt Waists, detachable collar and cuffs, worth \$1, Saturday Night 65c
- VESTS—Ladies' Ribbed Vests, full fashioned, half sleeve, worth 12c, Saturday Night 11c
- SKIRTS—White Cambric Skirts, wide, embroidery frill, worth \$1, Saturday Night 78c
- PARASOLS—Black Gloria Parasols, large size, fancy handles, worth \$1.35, Saturday Night \$1.15
- CORSETS—Dresden Broche Corsets, long waist, perfect fitting, worth 75c, Saturday Night 50c
- CORSETS—P. N. Corsets, large size, No. 44, worth \$1, Saturday Night 69c
- HOSE—Children's Fine Ribbed Cashmere Hose, spliced heels and toes, worth 35c, Saturday Night 25c
- HOSE—Ladies' Plain and Cashmere hose, spliced heels, toes and soles, seamless, worth 35c, Saturday Night 27c
- HOSE—Children's Ribbed Cashmere Hose, double heels, toes and knees, worth 14c, Saturday Night 10c
- HOSE—Ladies' and Children's Black Cotton Hose, Saturday Night 5c
- GLOVES—Ladies' Colored Silk Gloves, double finger tips, worth 35c, Saturday Night 27c
- GLOVES—Ladies' Black Lacing Kid Gloves, worth 75c, Saturday Night 69c
- BAGS—Ladies' Shopping Bags, worth 25c, Saturday Night 18c
- NIGHTSHIRTS—Men's White Cotton Nightshirts, worth 75c, Saturday Night 50c
- SHIRTS—Men's Cambric Shirts, worth 75c, Saturday Night 45c
- SHIRTS—Men's Black Sateen Shirts, worth \$1, Saturday Night 75c
- SOCKS—Men's Black Cotton Socks, worth 15c, Saturday Night 3 for 25c
- SOCKS—Men's Seamless Cotton Socks, ribbed tops worth 10c, Saturday Night 5 for 25c
- BRACES—Men's Silk-Trimmed Braces, worth 20c, Saturday Night 10c

ON FIRST FLOOR.

- OVERCOATS—Men's Blue and Fawn Silk-Lined Overcoats, worth \$10, Saturday Night \$7.50
- SUITS—Men's Colored Worsted Suits, brown and gray, worth \$10, Saturday Night \$7.50
- SUITS—Men's Scotch effects in All-Wool Tweed Suits, worth \$8.75, Saturday Night \$5.50
- PANTS—Men's Good All-Wool Tweed Pants, worth \$2.50, Saturday Night \$1.69
- SUITS TO ORDER—Men's Blue and Black Bissel Serge Suits, to order, worth \$17.50, Saturday Night \$14.90
- SUITS TO ORDER—Men's All-Wool Tweed Suits, all shades, to order, worth \$17, Saturday Night \$14.25
- SUITS—Boys' Cream Blouse Kilt Suits, worth \$2, Saturday Night \$1.50
- SUITS—Boys' Galatea Stripe Pant Suits, worth \$1.50, Saturday Night \$1
- SUITS—Boys' White Duck Pant Suits, worth \$1, Saturday Night 75c
- BLouses—Boys' White Duck Blouses, worth 70c, Saturday Night 47c
- DRESSES—Children's Muslin Dresses, worth \$1 to \$1.50, Saturday Night 50c
- DRESSES—Children's Muslin Dresses, sizes 3 to 10 years, worth \$1.50 to \$2.50, Saturday Night \$1
- CAPEs—One Lot Cape, regular price \$1 to \$3.25, Saturday Night 45c
- CAPEs—One Lot Cape, worth \$1.75 to \$3.75, Saturday Night 95c
- WRAPPERS—Ladies' Wrappers, light colors, all sizes, worth \$5c to \$1.75, Saturday Night 49c
- UNDERSKIRTS in Tweed Stripes, worth \$2, Saturday Night 45c
- WATERPROOFS in Fancy Checks, worth \$4.75, Saturday Night \$1.98

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