

# The Advertiser

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JOHN CAMERON,  
Pres't and Managing Director.

God's in His heaven.

All's right with the world.

—Browning.

London, Tuesday, June 18.

INNOCENT MEN PUNISHED.

Innocent men have been hanged. Men have been sent to jail for crimes which they never committed. Innocent men have been almost at the foot of the scaffold, convicted on circumstantial evidence, when the real culprit has been discovered, and they have been set free.

But the other day two brothers named Habrons were convicted at Manchester, England, of murdering a policeman, and condemned to death. Doubts of their guilt having arisen, they were reprieved. Before the expiration of their reprieve, another man was arrested for the crime and confessed that he committed it. As a result, the Habrons have been released, and in compensation for the blunder by the law courts, they have each received \$5,000 from the British treasury.

Ten months ago William Ackerson, a New York fish dealer, swore positively to the identity of two young men—Patrick Shannon and John Henry—as being robbers of his establishment. They swore as positively that they were in Philadelphia at the time of the burglary, but as they had no direct means of proving an alibi, they were sent to the penitentiary for a year. As their term was nearing completion, there came the information that two other men, who had been arrested on suspicion because of remarks which they had made, had confessed the crime, and had been as "positively identified" by Mr. Ackerson, whose act, in view of their confession, was in this case useless. His only excuse is that "it is a case of mistaken identity," but it is probable that an action for damages for false arrest will be taken against both him and the State. A similar case is that of the man who was convicted in Brooklyn of a burglary which he did not commit, who served two years in Sing Sing, and who is now suing the State for damages. No monetary solatium can fully atone to sensitive men for treatment such as is here set forth. Yet we suppose that until courts become infallible, these failures of justice are liable to occur in any country.

It may be asked why, in view of these illustrations of how innocent men have been made to suffer, no heed was paid by the authorities to the eleventh hour statement of young Welter, the associate of Hendershott in the Elgin county murder. Welter explained to his spiritual adviser that neither he nor Hendershott committed the deed; he blamed a third party. But Welter waited till almost his last minute before he made this statement—he waited until all hope of a commutation of sentence was passed—and he then supplied this explanation. The authorities, therefore, refused to place any reliance upon it. If it were well founded, they argue, Welter would not have waited until now to make it. In this respect, the "confession" cannot be ranked in the same category of defensive evidence as a sworn statement made by a prisoner at the time of his trial.

TECUMSEH.

Mr. Casey has done well in these times of monument building to call the attention of Parliament to the neglect of raising a memorial stone to that brave warrior and ally, Tecumseh, who laid down his life in the defense of Canada at Moraviantown more than 30 years ago. But Mr. Casey represents a gerrymandered constituency, and he has not yet learned the geography of it. It is true that Moraviantown is in West Elgin for Dominion election purposes, but the battle in which Tecumseh fell was not fought in that town, nor yet in the township which contains it. Orford is on the south side of the Thames, and it is one of the banner Liberal townships of the Province. But the battle was fought on the north side of the river, in the constituency of Hon. David Mills. The old Watts farm, on the Longwoods road, is supposed to occupy the site of it; and the field of black loam by the roadside is believed to have been the black-ash swamp from which Tecumseh and his warriors made their attack upon the flank of the enemy. Higher up the river the traveler on the Longwoods road will notice many small pits by the way, where it is said men still continue to search for buried treasure, left behind by the fleeing Proctor.

ON TRIAL ALL ALONG THE LINE.

The system of appointing pastors of congregations is on trial in most of the denominations. In the Anglican Synod of Toronto, a lay delegate last week proposed that in future appointments to rectories, parishes and missions large at the end of five years. We are told

that this proposition, looking to the establishment of an itineracy led to an animated discussion, and that finally an amendment was adopted appointing a committee to consider the legal rights of the clergy and the transference of the clergy, to report next year. This incident reminds us of the statement made by a leading Presbyterian clergyman some time ago, when discussing the vacant congregation and unsettled preacher question, so far as it affected his Church. He said that an itineracy would make little change for many congregations, inasmuch as a very large number of them change pastors once every few years anyway. But as we have been hearing recently even the supporters of the itineracy have their grave difficulties. The problem is yet unsolved.

POINTS.

Mr. Dickey, Minister of Militia, refused to tell Parliament who the individuals were who asked to have the date of the London militia camp changed. Why No representative body in this city asked for it, and the members of the rural corps say they are caused great inconvenience by the change.

A French count, to raise funds, will institute a matrimonial lottery, of which he is the prize. This scheme is a fraud on the face of it, as it is evident that even the woman who does get him will draw a blank.

The Hamilton Herald says the Conservative party has gone to pot. There are certain contractors who have been making a pot out of the party for a long time.

It should set many people seriously thinking to find the British commission on the traffic in opium asserting that the evidence given before it as to the social evils arising from the opium habit shows that, as a source of social disorder, organic disease, insanity and suicide, opium is not to be compared with alcohol.

The Montreal Witness, referring to the latest phase of the Manitoba school question, says: "It is clear that in the present temper of the Manitoba people any hasty action would cause trouble, and that time must be allowed for consideration before changes are made. If the Roman Catholics of the Province carry on an agitation within the Province for modifications of the present system we have no doubt they will obtain them with the consent and goodwill of the majority, but the features of the present system which insure efficiency will have been maintained, and provisions to that end carefully constructed."

Dr. Henry Van Dyke, in a letter to the Outlook from Scotland, says Scotchmen "are all born Liberals. When a Scotchman says he is a Conservative, it only means that he is a Liberal with hesitations."

From Ottawa is telegraphed the information, "on the best authority," that no successor has been appointed to Major-General Herbert as commander of the Canadian militia. We are told that he will retain the position, though resident in England, till the expiry of his full term in November next. Why the Canadian taxpayers should continue to pay a large salary to a commander who no longer commands, is one of the many conundrums that has not been solved at Ottawa.

The State of New Hampshire was the first to establish a free public library. That was in 1833. Now the State Legislature has passed a law enacting that every town shall raise a certain amount to be devoted to free library purposes. This is a landmark of progress.

The Canadian duty on eggs has been reduced from 5 cents a dozen to 3 cents. Very few eggs are ever brought into this country, but Canada exports millions of dozens every year.

An electrical plow has been invented which turns up an acre of ground in an hour. Bye and bye the farmer will sow and reap his land by simply pressing a button.

A Rochester paper says Canada's new immigration policy should be directed towards recalling a few million Canadians in the United States. A wise policy would have kept them here.

The Y. M. C. A. of Cambridge, Mass., raised \$30,000 for the erection of a new building at a banquet one evening last week. Perhaps it is a banquet that the London Y. M. C. A. needs.

What the farmers want now is less "protection" and more rain.

The Soo Canal contracts show that the stereotyped words, "the lowest tender not necessarily accepted," have some meaning with the Dominion Government.

## House and Lobby

Another Pauper Railway Bonused by the Government at the People's Expense—Mr. Flint's Forcible Plea for Prohibition Aily Seconded by Mr. Craig and Others—Two Divisions on the Question—Important Announcement by Minister Foster.

(Specially telegraphed by Ottawa, Ont., June 17.—The early part of today's sitting of the House of Commons was extremely dull for the majority, and the air was hot. Among the questions on the paper was one concerning the Tobique Valley Railway, which runs from Perth to Plaster Rock, a distance of 25 miles, under a Provincial charter, but received \$125,000 from the Federal chest. In reply to Mr. Mulock the Minister of Railways and Canals stated that the road had not yet been regularly opened, but the first train was run in November, 1893. There was an agreement to lease the road to the C. P. R. under certain conditions which have not been fulfilled, and the C. P. R. have never taken possession. For convenience or under special circumstances the C. P. R. have sometimes run cars. The gross receipts were \$2,200 in 1894. So far this year there have been practically none. This is the road said to have been bonused solely in the interest of a prominent member of the Dominion Government party.

Mr. Flint, in moving "That in the opinion of this House the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors in Canada, except for sacramental, scientific, manufacturing and medicinal purposes, should be prohibited by law," quoted from a speech made by the late Sir John Thompson at Owen Sound, that if prohibition could be enforced and adopted in this country, he was in sympathy with the movement. On general principles he viewed the movement to be in the right direction. He quoted other opinions to show that the liquor traffic had done more to retard progress and sow the seeds of disorder and discontent than any other single evil. As to the alleged difficulty of raising a revenue and the question of compensation, Mr. Flint quoted from Sir A. T. Galt's financial statement and from speeches by Sir L. Tilley and Hon. G. E. Foster, all of whom expressed the opinion that the loss to the revenue would be temporary and that the amount saved to the people would contribute to swell the revenue in other directions, and that there would be no difficulty in raising the sum which appears in the first instance to be a loss to the revenue. The opinion of Chief Justice Meredith favorable to prohibition, provided the people expressed themselves in sympathy with the movement, was quoted as an authority. Mr. Flint quoted figures to show that the great increase in wealth in the United States was due to the saving and industrial character of its population, encouraged and stimulated largely by the enforcement of prohibitory measures which have prevented waste and loss represented there by probably \$140,000,000 annually and in Canada by about \$30,000,000.

Mr. Craig seconded the motion in a moderate and sensible speech. He deprecated the use of intemperate language in discussing this question. The object of the resolution was to restrain what members of this House were in favor of prohibition, and for this purpose it was a fair resolution. The temperance people did not expect if the resolution was adopted that it would be introduced this session. The new law might be made to take effect in one, two, three or four years, in order to enable the country to settle down to the new order of things. Mr. Craig proceeded to deal with the various objections urged against a prohibitory law, which he enumerated and replied to as he went along. The objections dealt with included that the time was not ripe, that enforcement was impossible, that the Scott Act was not enforced, and the loss of revenue. He then turned to the undoubted benefits which would flow from a prohibitory liquor law. There would be a saving of \$35,000,000 now spent annually in intoxicating liquors. It would decrease crime, 60 per cent of which was said to be due to this traffic. It would decrease the number of accidents and minimize the number of paupers. It would protect women and boys and weak men. The open saloon was a continual temptation to the thousands of women in Canada who had no other means of support. This legislation, liquor was the greatest enemy to religion and morality. They wanted their boys to grow up without forming this habit. He did not blame any one for fanaticism on this subject, for it was a question of great moment. He hoped to see the day when a prohibitory law would be passed by both parties in politics, and then it would be enforced.

Mr. Christie, of Argenteuil, made an earnest appeal for the passage of this resolution. He believed the time had come for it. The excuse of late years for delay—the Royal Commission—did not now exist, and in his opinion the happiness and well-being of the Dominion required legislation of this character.

Sir James Grant, M.D., dwelt on the deleterious effect of alcoholic beverages on the system, and said the public were coming more and more to this view. He would continue to show them the evil effects of alcohol. He opposed coercive legislation. Education would accomplish more than legislation. They should make it unpopular to drink. At the present time he was not prepared to vote for prohibition.

Mr. Gullitt admitted the evils of the traffic, but doubted their ability to enforce such a law. He believed that the Provincial legislatures should have the power of passing such a law, and they would then be in a position to enforce it. He would defer consideration of this matter until they had passed judgment of the Imperial Privy Council on the jurisdiction of the Provincial legislatures, and he moved an amendment to that effect. No one would second it for some moments, and finally Mr. Belley (Conservative) seconded it.

Mr. George Taylor said they had spent a good deal of money on the Royal Commission, whose report he, for one, had not seen, and he would therefore move "That this House, while reaffirming the position taken in 1894 and 1897 upon the question of prohibition, is of opinion that it is inadvisable at the present time, until the results of the commission which had recently reported

our own Representative.)

ed have been made available for consideration, and until the appeals now before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, involving the jurisdiction of the Provincial legislatures and the Dominion Parliament in the matter, have been decided, to further legislate with respect to the importation, sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors."

On a division this amendment to the amendment was defeated by 51 yeas to 70 nays.  
Yeas—Amyot, Bain (Soulanges), Bechard, Bergeron, Bowman, Cameron, Cargill, Carling (Sir John), Chesley, Corbould, Costigan, Curran, Daly, Davis, Dennison, Dupont, Earle, Fairbairn, Ferguson (Leeds and Grenville), Gillies, Girouard (Two Mountains), Grandbois, Grant (Sir James), Haslam, Hazen, Henderson, Hutchins, Ingram, Jeannotte, Lachapelle, Langevin (Sir Hector), Leclair, Lippe, MacDonald (Algonquin), MacDonald (Pictou), McKay, McLennan, Madill, Mara, Marshall, Masson, Miller, Montague, Northrup, Oulmet, Patterson (Colchester), Prior, Robillard, Taylor, Tupper (Sir Charles H.), White (Sheburne)—51.  
Nays—Adams, Allan, Bain (Wentworth), Beith, Bellefleur, Bernier, Blanchard, Borden, Boston, Bourassa, Bowers, Boyd, Brown, Bruneau, Caron (Sir Adolphe), Cartwright (Sir Richard), Casey, Christie, Coatsworth, Colter, Craig, Davies, Davin, Dawson, Dickey, Dyer, Edgar, Edwards, Featherstone, Flint, Forbes, Foster, Gillmor, Grieve, Guay, Gullet, Harwood, Hodgins, Innes, Langelier, Laurier, MacDonald (Huron), MacDonald (Kings), McAllister, McInerney, McMillan, Mills (Annapolis), Mills (Bothwell), Mulock, Patterson (Brant), Perry, Priddham, Rhinfrat, Roome, Ross (Lisgar), Sanborn, Scriver, Semple, Somerville, Stevenson, Sutherland, Tarte, Tisdale, Vallancourt, Wallace, Weldon, Wilmet, Wilson, Yeo—70.

Mr. Gullitt's resolution read as follows: "That whereas there is now before the judicial committee an appeal against a decision of the Supreme Court of Canada on the jurisdiction of the Provincial legislatures to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, and whereas consideration of this question be deferred until this appeal shall have been decided and the report of the judicial committee thereon received.

On a division this amendment carried by 65 yeas to 57 nays, a majority of 11 only.  
Yeas—Amyot, Bain (Soulanges), Bechard, Bellefleur, Bennett, Bergeron, Bernier, Bernier, Bowman, Bruneau, Cameron, Cargill, Carling (Sir John), Caron (Sir Adolphe), Casey, Chesley, Corbould, Costigan, Currie, Daly, Davies, Davis, Denison, Dupont, Earle, Fairbairn, Ferguson (Leeds and Grenville), Gillies, Girouard (Two Mountains), Grandbois, Grant (Sir James), Guay, Gullet, Harwood, Haslam, Hazen, Hutchinson, Jeannotte, Lachapelle, Langelier, Langevin (Sir Hector), Laurier, Leclair, Lippe, MacDonald (Algonquin), MacDonald (Pictou), McKay, McLennan, Madill, Mara, Marshall, Masson, Miller, Mills (Bothwell), Montague, Northrup, Oulmet, Patterson (Colchester), Prior, Reid, Rhinfrat, Robillard, Ross (Lisgar), Tarte, Tisdale, Tupper (Sir Charles H.), Vallancourt, White (Sheburne)—65.

Nays—Adams, Allan, Bain (Wentworth), Beith, Blanchard, Borden, Boston, Bourassa, Bowers, Boyd, Brown, Cartwright (Sir Richard), Christie, Coatsworth, Colter, Craig, Davin, Dawson, Dickey, Dyer, Edgar, Edwards, Featherstone, Flint, Forbes, Foster, Gillmore, Grieve, Henderson, Lippe, MacDonald (Huron), MacDonald (Kings), McAllister, MacDonald (Victoria), McInerney, McMillan, Mills (Annapolis), Mulock, Patterson (Brant), Perry, Priddham, Roome, Sanborn, Scriver, Semple, Somerville, Stevenson, Sutherland, Taylor, Wallace, Weldon, Wilmet, Wilson, Yeo—57.

The main motion, as amended—in other words, with all the words after "that" struck out—was then carried on the same vote. The House then adjourned.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

The most important announcement of the session has been made privately to the Opposition by Mr. Foster, to the effect that nothing further would be brought down this session. In other words, the Government do not intend to propose any remedial school legislation and do not intend to ratify their own order-in-council engaging to loan \$2,500,000 to the Hudson Bay Railway. This announcement ought to mean prorogation by July 10.

NOTES.

Mr. Mulock will inquire of the Government on Wednesday whether the officer commanding the militia in Canada was consulted in regard to the appointment of Mr. Sutton to the Royal Canadian dragoons. If so, did such officer recommend Mr. Sutton for such appointment or express any opinion either in favor of or against Mr. Sutton being appointed. If so, what is the nature of such opinion?

Mr. Gilles of Richmond, will inquire on Wednesday, "Have the commissioners of the joint conventions of the Governments of Canada and the United States completed their investigation into the subjects submitted to them to report upon? If so, does their report suggest that an arrangement be entered into between both Governments preventing purse selling, sealing and trawling beyond the three-mile limit upon the Atlantic coast. If the work of the commissioners is not yet concluded, when is their report expected by the Government?"

GALA DAY IN NEW YORK.

Formal Opening of the Harlem Ship Canal, uniting the Hudson and East Rivers.

New York, June 17.—Amid the booming of cannon from two of Uncle Sam's warships, the screeching of whistles from river craft, and the cheers of thousands of spectators, a flotilla of nearly 200 vessels entered the Harlem ship canal, and a new waterway was thrown open to commerce at noon today. It was a great day for Upper New York. The joining of the waters of Hudson and East rivers was celebrated as no similar events have been celebrated since the Erie canal was opened in 1825.

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