

The Quebec Crisis

Mercier's Impassioned Appeal to the People.

The Tyrants of Ottawa Versus the Voters of Quebec.

The Nationalist Leader Opposes the Campaign in Montreal—Stirring Times in Prospect.

THE QUEBEC CRISIS. The Montreal Witness, which is no friend of Mr. Mercier, says editorially: "Such an extreme act as that of dissolving a Government which is possessed of the confidence of a large majority of the representatives of the people, is one which the most constitutional British sovereign that ever sat upon the throne has, during a long reign, had no recourse to, nor have any of her direct representatives, the Governors or the Governor-Generals of the colonies, possessed of a responsible government, been compelled to resort to it."

THE QUEBEC CRISIS. Mr. Mercier's speech at Montreal was important and significant, because he sounded the key-note upon which he intends to fight the ensuing campaign in Quebec. "This is a fight," he said, "between the tyrants of Ottawa and the inhabitants of the Province of Quebec." That is to be the battle cry, and judging from the applause that greeted his enunciation, it will prove the most effective one that Mr. Mercier can employ. Quebec against Ottawa will be the rallying cry of the Nationalist forces. "God is my witness," says Mr. Mercier, "that my attitude towards them, that I have done everything in my power to prevent this crisis and to keep the Province of Quebec from this disgraceful struggle." He then submitted to his humiliation, he continued, because he desired to show that it was not for him, but for the people of Quebec, to resent the insult that had been offered him. The fight was between the tyrants of Ottawa and the inhabitants of the Province of Quebec. (Great applause.) Mr. Angers, he said, had during four years been seeking a pretext to overthrow him. He had subjected him to humiliation after humiliation, but he had not succeeded in his object, and when he (Mr. Mercier) had gone before the people at the last election, despite the humiliations and fanatical opposition of his opponents, he had been turned by the people by a majority increased to 25. (A Voice: You will have 35 next time.) Not being successful in the elections his opponents had resorted to hypocrisy to put on the mask, but he had torn it from their faces. (Great applause.)

Mr. Mercier went on to say: "He (Angers) took as a pretext, the dismissal of the Ministry, a pretended report of the Royal Commission. But where was that report? There was none. Two of the judges, profiting by the illness of the president of the commission, had gone to the professional etiquette, had gone to Spencerwood, and there a pretended report had been hatched at the dictation of the Lieutenant-Governor, and served as the pretext for the Ministry's dismissal. (Loud applause.) "But," continued Mr. Mercier, "judging from public sentiment, from the telegrams and letters I have received from all parts of the Province, and from this magnificent demonstration, my return to Parliament before long will be a matter of course. (Loud applause.) "When I shall arrive at Quebec I shall say to the tyrants of Ottawa: 'I am a man of the people; the master is the people; the Lieutenant-Governor is the servant, and the master, whose representative I am, is stronger than the servant.' (Thunderous applause.)

Mr. Mercier continuing said: "I shall speak to the people for redress. My father was a peasant farmer, who devoted his modest substance to the education of his children, which was evidently intended as a warning to the Legislature, and then to do the elections as long as possible in the hope that he would become discouraged, had never been discouraged in the face of obstacles, and he would fight this fight to the bitter end. He had received any personal advantage from the Armstrong-Facard transaction or that the Ministry was responsible for Pacaud's doing. In discussing the motive for the last move was the determination of the Ottawa Government to be avenged for the election campaign. When he had succeeded in turning a Conservative majority in Quebec into a majority for Mr. Laurier, the Minister had then gone forth from Ottawa, that he must be destroyed, and the proof of this was that the first move against him was made by the Legislature of Quebec, the responsible Senate at Ottawa. Mr. Angers was simply carrying out his part in the conspiracy. Mr. Mercier, in conclusion, appealing to the people, said that he had been gained by their fathers on this personality was nothing. Men would be only be regained after a terrible struggle. "I do not ask you," he continued, "to return me to power because I am a man of the people, but I wish you to return me in order that I may hurl from

power him who dismissed me. When I people I shall be ready to relinquish my place to another. Mr. Mercier closed amidst prolonged cheering, and at once left the hall and returned home. Speeches were also made by Messrs. Robidoux, Tarte, Beaunollet and others, and the Lieutenant-Governor was strongly denounced. The great crowd dispersed shouting "A bas Angers." There was no disturbance.

QUEBEC, Dec. 21.—A meeting took place at the Jacques Cartier Hall Saturday night, when Messrs. Mercier, Sheehy, Garneau, Pelletier and Tarte delivered speeches. The Press gives the following forecast of the new Cabinet: Mr. De Boncheville, Premier and Minister of Agriculture; L. O. Taillon, President of the Council; G. A. Nantel, Commissioner of Crown Lands; J. S. Hall, Treasurer; T. Chas. Casgrain, Attorney-General; L. N. Duplessis or P. Leblanc, Commissioner of Public Works; Hon. Mr. Masson, Minister without portfolio.

STILL SNEEZING. Frances E. Willard Has the Grip—Other Victims to the Epidemic. CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—President Frances E. Willard, of the National W. C. T. U., is confined to her home by the grip. Miss Willard has been suffering from the malady for some time, but has struggled against it. The excitement caused by the death of her assistant, Miss Julia Ames, of Watford, moderator, and Miss Willard's participation in the funeral brought on a more severe attack, and on her return from the obsequies at Watford she was forced to take to her bed.

UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA, including the eminent surgeon, Billroth, have been stricken with influenza.

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THE PRESBYTERY OF SARNIA. The Presbytery of Sarnia held its regular meeting at Sarnia on Dec. 15. In terms of a request from the congregation, the Presbytery agreed to change the designation from Log Church, Brooke, to Chalmers Church, Brooke.

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THE PRESBYTERY OF SARNIA. The Presbytery of Sarnia held its regular meeting at Sarnia on Dec. 15. The Presbytery appointed Rev. Messrs. McLennan and Hector Clerk to convey the congratulations of the Presbytery to the W. F. M. S., and deliver addresses on the subject of Foreign Missions. The Presbytery then adjourned until the third Tuesday in March in Sarnia.

"JOHNNY, GET YOUR GUN."

UNION SAYS PREPARING TO SCOURGE SATTIS. New York, Dec. 19.—The Herald's Washington dispatch says: Preparations for war still continue in the navy department. Steps have now been taken to secure the most available vessels in the merchant marine for public service in the Pacific waters. Arrangements have been made in New York and San Francisco to charter if necessary from 20 to 40 vessels to be used as transports and colliers.

UNION SAYS PREPARING TO SCOURGE SATTIS. A successful trial of the Howell torpedo took place at Newport, R. I., on Friday. Commander Folger said to the contractors: "Go ahead and give us fifteen torpedoes as soon as possible."

UNION SAYS PREPARING TO SCOURGE SATTIS. According to naval authorities, says a Washington telegram, the weakest point now is a lack of torpedoes, and orders have been issued to furnish them. The navy department have reported that they are bending every energy to furnish the torpedoes as rapidly as the contracts call for them.

UNION SAYS PREPARING TO SCOURGE SATTIS. Activity is also displayed in the War Department. Infantry regiments have taken place between army and navy officials as to the co-operation of the two forces in the event of trouble. It has been represented that the army would be able to furnish in short notice 15,000 men for transportation, either from San Francisco or Galveston. In spite, however, of the extreme measures taken by the Army and Navy departments, the belief that there will be war with Chile grows less and less. If the reply of President Montt is not thoroughly satisfactory, no one here doubts that President Harrison will give Chile an ultimatum, which, in short, will be: "Apologize, or I'll ask Congress to declare war." Just about what is most probable is that Chile will apologize, and that will end the matter.

DOMINION LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION. Toronto, Dec. 19.—The Dominion Live Stock Association held its annual meeting here yesterday. The association passed the following resolution: "That a committee be appointed to wait on the Railway Committee of the House of Commons at Ottawa to demand legislation similar to the interstate law of the United States, regarding the shipment of cattle to the seaboard. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, C. F. Frankland; secretary, P. C. Coughlin; treasurer, H. Gilchrist; Montreal; treasurer, A. J. Thompson, executive committee, Messrs. James Aikens, W. Hearn, W. Craig, J. Featherston, John Crow, R. Stroud, C. Coughlin, W. J. McClelland, A. Rawlings and John Duncan.

THE GREAT BENEFIT. Which people in run-down state of health derive from Hood's Sarsaparilla conclusively proves that this medicine "makes the weak strong." It does not act like a stimulant, imparting fictitious strength, but Hood's Sarsaparilla builds up in a perfectly natural way all the weakened parts, purifies the blood and assists to healthy action these important organs, the kidneys and liver.

LATEST NEWS BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

War Figured Out as a Consequence of the Quarrel of France with Bulgaria.

The British Royal Wedding Fixed for Feb. 10 of Next Year.

Legged Collapse of General Booth's Scheme—Fearful Conflict Between a Mob and Military—Bombs Discovered in a Police Station—An English M.P. Arrested—Sardow, the Strong Man, Reveals Himself to Lady Art Students—Rudyard Kipling Ill.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—European statesmen and politicians are to-day chiefly concerned with the question whether France means to pursue the quarrel with Bulgaria. It is assumed that Mr. Ribot has not acted without previous consultation with his good friends in St. Petersburg, and that his action may be preliminary to the reopening of the whole Eastern question, wherein lie grave dangers. But the best informed people believe that the time is opportune neither for France nor for Russia to set the Balkans in a blaze, and that the action of the French foreign office will be confined to protests at Constantinople. Little Bulgaria will not yield an inch. She has managed to grow and prosper in spite of the open hostility of the mighty Czar, and having withstood Russia she feels that she can safely defy France in a matter in which she is in the right.

A humorous feature of what appears to be a tempest in a teacup is that it is doubtful whether M. Chadoirne, the offending correspondent of the French newspapers who had been expelled from Bulgaria, is entitled to call himself a Frenchman. One of his parents was not French, and there is no doubt that he was born in Constantinople. He is not at all an interesting person, and a journalist he is beneath contempt. In Paris he would not earn his maternal café on his own, and he is not until he took to furnishing lying paragraphs about Bulgaria to the foreign press he found it very difficult to make both ends meet in Sofia. He was for some years a mercantile clerk in Constantinople, whence he proceeded to Sofia and opened a restaurant. That business did not pay, and somehow Chadoirne obtained employment as copying clerk in one of the Government departments. He blossomed into a "journalist" within the present year, and was able to afford champagne rather than vin ordinaire with his dinner. The Bulgarians, who of course are prejudiced against M. Chadoirne, say that his newspaper writing produced more troubles than France, the bearing of which remark, as Captain Cuttle would say, lies in its application.

THE SCOTCH SOLD LIBERALS. The Tories have made a great fuss this week over Mr. Chamberlain's visit to Edinburgh. The party managers considered the visit necessary, because alarming reports had reached headquarters in London of the disorganization and diminution of the Liberal Unionist party in Scotland. The reports were well founded, despite the Tory make-believe to the contrary. Half the people these-called Liberal Unionist meetings were Tories, and Chamberlain's speeches denoted depression. The general bentonism is played out in Scotland, and the speech delivered in London yesterday by Col. Sanderson, leader of the Ulster party, shows that those in authority quite realize what is in store for them. He had always thought, said the gallant colonel, that on the question of home rule they would have help in Scotland from a community of race and religion. The very reverse was the fact. In the insane devotion to one man the Scotch had made Mr. Gladstone their Pope, infallible in word and act, and so they believed every word he said and disbelieved all the loyalists. The Ulster address had meant that they were bending every energy to furnish the torpedoes as rapidly as the contracts call for them.

THE ROYAL WEDDING. The wedding of the Duke of Clarence and Princess Victoria of Teck will take place on Feb. 10, the 52nd anniversary of the death of the Queen. This date was fixed upon at the Queen's special request. The British Silk Society, of which the Duchess of Teck is president, has begun the manufacture of the wedding dress. It is to be of the softest white damask, brocade in a design of the lilies of the valley, with roses, shamrocks and thistles entwined in the border, thus combining symbols of the three countries of the kingdom. The train shows silver lilies, and other designs on a silk ground. Ordinarily it would take at least three months to complete the dress, but the looms have been ordered to be ready for the day in order to insure the readiness for the day of the wedding. The gift of the Duchess will be a bridal veil of the finest Honiton lace, the design being the same as that of the dress. The Queen's betrothal sovereign gift is a bracelet with two hearts of moonstone set in diamonds and rubies. The number of betrothal gifts already mounts into the hundreds.

SANGUINARY CONFLICT. A dispatch from Pernambuco states that a popular uprising occurred in that city Saturday against the Governor of the Province. The streets quickly filled with throngs of riotous people, and it was found necessary to call out the troops to quell the disorder. The officers in command of the soldiers, seeing that no other means would avail, gave the order to fire upon the mob, and sharp fighting followed. It is reported that 60 persons were killed or wounded during the conflict between populace and soldiers. The dispatch also states that the Governor of the Province, seeing that the disorder would

continue so long as he remained in office, resigned his position, and quiet was almost immediately restored. After the restoration of order the members of the Junta were cheered by the people as they passed along the streets.

A "BOOM" BURSTING. The warnings uttered by far-seeing people against the rush on the Booth boom in "Darkest England" last year has been confirmed to the hilt. The report of the first year's operations shows that the practical results of this scheme has been that Mr. Booth has spent £200,000, and asks for more. The collection of £100,000 last Christmas was the cause of some distress, as it diverted that much money from the orthodox channels in which it was in the habit of flowing, doing good where most needed. There seems to be no alacrity on the part of the charitable disposed to back the Salvation scheme to any great extent this year.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN TROUBLES. A dispatch from Rio Janeiro announces that the National Congress, which was dissolved by Da Fonseca, when he declared himself Dictator of Brazil, has reassembled, in pursuance of the call issued by President Peixoto. In his message to Congress, President Peixoto states that the Brazilian people, during the events of Nov. 23, the date of Da Fonseca's resignation and President Peixoto's accession to the presidency, showed their strength and their jealousy regard for the national liberties, which were threatened by Da Fonseca. It is the duty of Congress, the President declares, to deal with the existing commercial crisis by a reorganization of the banking system. For the current financial year the deficit will be slight.

UNITED STATES VS. CHILI. Advice from Chili are awaited with great anxiety by people having interests there. Work on the Captain Prat, the formidable armor-clad built in France for the Chilean Government, it being hurried to completion, and that vessel will be ready for sea at an earlier date than originally intended. There is a rumor that the Chileans are negotiating for ironclads already constructed, and for one vessel probably intended for use as a cruiser. The Chileans continue to express themselves as contented with the status quo, and are not inclined to support the Russian-Turkish war. The United States, and they intimate that they can depend upon indirect support from Europe.

THE CHINESE REBELLION. Advice from Shanghai state that another rebel chief named Chubek has been captured in Manchuria. He had joined the rebellion in the hope of plunder. The rebel army, however, has not been completely broken, and everywhere the severed heads of captured rebels may be seen stuck on poles. At Jehol every gate of the city has several heads thus exposed. Chubek was sentenced to be hung, and that he has been beheaded by this time been carried out.

A DISABLED STEAMSHIP. The Norwegian bark Glimt, which arrived at Queenstown yesterday from Brunswick, Ga., reports that on Dec. 17, while in latitude 50, longitude 18 west, she passed the disabled steamer Kansas returning to Liverpool under sail. The steamer declared assistance.

PERHAPS HE IS SAFE! The news has just been received that there are 60 European prisoners at present in the Sudan has sent a thrill of hope throughout journalistic and other circles that Edmund O'Donovan, the famous traveler, soldier and war correspondent, is alive. He served in the Franco-German war in the French side, and later joined the Republican army in the Carlist war. Then he became a war correspondent, setting in this capacity during the Russo-Turkish war. Subsequently he drifted through Europe, and then he went to Africa and knocked about generally. Finally he went to the Sudan, where he was selected a chief, and then he returned to England and went out with Hicks Pasha for the Daily News.

BULGARIA CANNOT RECEDE. Premier Stambouloff, of Bulgaria, explaining the Chadoirne affair in the general committee of the Sobranje, declared that there was neither motive nor desire to cause a breach with France. Bulgaria could not recede from the position she had adopted. He hoped the Sobranje would support the Cabinet in this decision. This was received with loud applause.

A Paris dispatch says: M. Herbet, the French Minister at Berlin, has advised Foreign Minister Ribot that the German Government supports Bulgaria in her attitude in the Chadoirne affair, and hold that M. Stambouloff had no option but to act as he did, and that France is not justified in the rupture of relations with Bulgaria. Timidities of Germany has regard to the affair, however, will not alter Ribot's policy, which is approved by the whole Cabinet. A communication to the press gives a forecast of M. Ribot's statements to be made in the Chamber of Deputies in reply to M. Millevoye's interpellation. In this statement the Minister will maintain the illegality of the arrest and expulsion of Mr. Chadoirne, and will assert that the general hostility of the Bulgarian Government was shown in the watching of the residence of M. Lanelle, the French Charge d'Affaires. At the same time he will announce the determination of France not to submit to violation of treaty rights. The report that M. Ribot has recalled all the French consuls in Bulgaria is premature. The Government does not desire to precipitate events.

RUSSIA AND BRITAIN. The distance between the British and Russian outposts in Asia continues to lessen. The Liberal policy, broadly speaking, is to keep them as far apart as possible, and the Tory aim seems to be to bring them face to face. The views of the Saturday Review, a Government organ, are of a robust order.

"We are going to Hunza and Nagar," it says, "because it is important for the safety of India that we should go there, and because we don't want Russia to get there first. But there does not appear to be any necessity to force ourselves on the tribesmen and call them accountants, too."

AN IMMIGRANT QUESTION. The proposal to petition the Government in favor of imposing a £3 poll tax on immigrant aliens has been rejected by the London Trade Council, after very full discussion, and nothing more is likely to be heard of it. The arguments which found most favor with the members of the Council were that the tax would be an international commodity, that aliens have as much right to come here as Englishmen have to go to foreign countries, and that, instead of attempting the impossible task of preventing immigration, efforts should be directed to the practical work of bringing the newcomers into the trade unions.

SANDOW IN A NEW ROLL. Sandow, the strong man who lifts horses with one hand and does other seemingly impossible things, figured this week in a new role. He served as the subject of a lecture on "The Superficial Muscles," by Dr. Osborn, the audience being composed entirely of lady art students, Sandow, who wore only stockings and shoes and a small loin cloth, exercised the various muscles, showing the effect when intense strain was applied, the doctor meantime discoursing learnedly upon the voluntary and involuntary muscular efforts and their effect upon the human frame. The ladies listened with rapt attention throughout. Their note books and sketch books testified to their industry, and Sandow finally felt so tired that he was obliged to sit down, admitting criticisms, that he voluntarily illustrated the movements of the muscles of respiration under varying conditions of slight effort to the most intense exertions.

MRS. BESANT STILL TALKING. Mrs. Besant does not return to her disciples in London until next week, lecturing meantime in several provincial towns. A son, a young man, is expected for her. She speaks in glowing terms of American audiences, dwelling upon the multitudes in the States willing to pay \$1 to hear her lecture. In England, as she points out, only a few people will listen to her. Mrs. Besant, Dec. 21.—Dorothy's grist mill, near Rockford, Townsend township, was burned Friday night. The mill was worth \$5,000, and was owned by Thomas Tombs.

SLAVERY MUST BE STOPPED. Paris, Dec. 19.—A blockade of the coast of Morocco is within the probability of the near future. Should that fail to secure the desired effect an expedition to the interior of Muley Hassan's dominion may follow. Muley Hassan has repudiated his own endorsement of the Brussels agreement by furthering the sale of negroes in his empire. Moreover, it has been discovered that the Sultan of Morocco has contented himself with the foundation of a settlement in which the slave trade is legalized, and in which the children born of these unions may be sold for the Sultan's benefit. In fact, slaves were bought in Morocco in much the same way as before.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK. New York, Dec. 19.—Telegraphic reports from the leading commercial centers of the United States report a seasonable quietness in chief lines of trade. The cold weather has come too late to make any material difference in the volume of trade for the remainder of the year, but generally prospects are considered good, and confidence is expressed in the business prospects of the early future. With the holidays near at hand and stock-taking generally prevalent, quietude is the general characteristic of trade.

IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA direct exports of grain and flour have ceased for the winter. Boston, Portland, Me., and Halifax to some extent becoming winter ports of export for Ontario and Quebec. General trade in these Provinces is quiet and prices except for wheat, are steady. The total number of business failures in Canada this week is 23, compared with 45 last week and 35 in the like week last year. Bank clearings at four Canadian cities this week aggregated \$21,410,986, a decrease of 24 per cent on the week.

A Pleasing Sense Of health and strength renewed and of ease and comfort follows the use of Syrup of Figs, as it acts in harmony with nature to effectually cleanse the system when constipated or bilious. For sale in 75-cent bottles by all leading druggists.

New York Store. A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF CHAMPAGNES, MADERA, SHERRIES, PORTS, BURGUNDY, CLARETS, SAUTERNES, BRANDY, GIN, RUM, SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKY.

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CHRISTMAS GOODS

A Choice Assortment

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CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS, 256 Dundas Street, - - London.

THE IMPERIAL army has been thrown from his horse and had his neck broken. He was the finest commander in the Chinese army and was greatly admired. China will find it difficult to replace him. Queen Victoria has written a letter in which she expresses sympathy with the agitation now being carried on for the abolition of the sport of rabbit coursing. The Pall Mall Gazette urges the Queen to give evidence of the sincerity of her sympathy with the movement by the withdrawal of her support from the maintenance of the loyal hounds.

TRAGEDY AT THAMESFORD. Fred McLeod Drowned While Skating on a Mill Pond.

THAMESFORD, Dec. 21.—A young man named Fred McLeod, fourth son of Joel McLeod, a retired farmer of this village, was drowned here on Saturday. During the afternoon a number of boys were skating on the mill pond, when McLeod broke through the thin ice, and being unable to swim sank to the bottom. Another boy named Fillmore, son of James Fillmore, tanner, went to his assistance, and in endeavoring to save him was pulled into the water, and would surely have been drowned had it not been for the timely assistance of the other lads, who threw a rail into the water just as he was sinking for the last time. The deceased was attending the high school at Woodstock until a few days ago, when he returned home to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents. He was 19 years of age and his future was very promising.

BURNED OUT.

NORFOLK, Ont., Dec. 19.—John Thompson's implement warehouse, John McMillan's blacksmith shop and C. J. Seagriff's furniture shop and warerooms were destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. Thompson has \$400 insurance, his loss will not be large. McMillan has no insurance, and loses \$1,000. Seagriff has \$500 insurance and his loss will be \$500 more.

ATTEMPTED MURDER. Dorothy's grist mill, near Rockford, Townsend township, was burned Friday night. The mill was worth \$5,000, and was owned by Thomas Tombs.

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THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK. New York, Dec. 19.—Telegraphic reports from the leading commercial centers of the United States report a seasonable quietness in chief lines of trade. The cold weather has come too late to make any material difference in the volume of trade for the remainder of the year, but generally prospects are considered good, and confidence is expressed in the business prospects of the early future. With the holidays near at hand and stock-taking generally prevalent, quietude is the general characteristic of trade.

IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA direct exports of grain and flour have ceased for the winter. Boston, Portland, Me., and Halifax to some extent becoming winter ports of export for Ontario and Quebec. General trade in these Provinces is quiet and prices except for wheat, are steady. The total number of business failures in Canada this week is 23, compared with 45 last week and 35 in the like week last year. Bank clearings at four Canadian cities this week aggregated \$21,410,986, a decrease of 24 per cent on the week.

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