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**The Advertiser**  
Founded by John Cameron in 1863.

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**THE WESTERN ADVERTISER.**  
SIX WEEKLY EDITION  
By mail, per annum, \$1 00

**JOHN CAMERON, President and Manager.**

"The Advertiser" is an organ of news and of thoroughly independent opinion. The Advertiser alone is responsible for opinions expressed in these columns.

"The Advertiser" advocates Constitutional Free Trade, free trade with Great Britain, free trade with the world.

"The Advertiser" looks forward with hope to Canada's future as that of an Independent Canadian Nation, in equally friendly alliance with the United States and with Great Britain, believing that such a status would be best for Canada, best for Great Britain, and promotive of the best attainable relations with the United States. As to Imperial Federation, sometimes spoken of, the Advertiser as yet has seen nothing proposed that bears any stamp of practicability, and in any case infinitely prefers the grander and more really hopeful scheme of a federation of the English-speaking peoples of the world. Towards this consummation a large stride would be taken by a Confederation of the English-speaking people of the North American Continent.

"The Advertiser" advocates prohibition and sale of intoxicating liquor; and all expedient general legislation and persuasion in the meantime.

"The Advertiser" is an advocate of equal rights for women, whether as regards the franchise, or equal wages for equal work.

"The Advertiser" is a believer in Christian Union, and considers the time has come when the various Christian denominations should come closer together. Those bodies which are now nearest should unite first. Under the present system there is an unjustifiable waste of men, means and effort. The Advertiser will endeavor to promote the movement for Christian union not alone by direct appeal and argument, but by seeking to present the best rather than the worst side of each denomination.

"The Advertiser" advocates Obligatory Voting as both necessary and practicable. Nothing would so much purify electoral contests. Nothing would so much enforce the idea that the franchise is a duty, not a chattel.

God's in His heaven,  
All's right with the world.  
—[BROWNING.]  
London, Monday, Jan. 9.

THE Woodstock Sentinel-Review is resplendent in new type, concerning which it candidly remarks it has "the pride of a young girl in a new frock." The W. S. R. has always been a good paper, and Bro. Andrew Patullo is its prophet.

THE Canada Presbyterian, published at Toronto by C. Blackett Robinson, has been enlarged and improved, and will shortly, when its various plans get into working order, be better than ever. Typographically the Canada Presbyterian is a handsome sheet. It fully deserves its present prosperity.

Mr. E. E. SHEPPARD has not taken his defeat by a 3,000 majority very well. The last issue of Saturday Night contains fully half a dozen columns of scolding at the men and women of Toronto. Mr. Sheppard speaks as if a man who is a sound church member and temperance man must necessarily know little about sidewalks and sewers. But the people of Toronto took the view that Mr. Fleming, though pleading guilty to being a church member and a temperance man, was also a more practical man than his opponent, even on sidewalks and sewers. Mr. Sheppard mastered the votes of so many women against him, and asks, rather smugly, whether "if a man had to go home and consult his wife, who is not a business person, before transacting a piece of important business, would the commercial concerns of his firm ordinarily be hindered or assisted thereby?" It all depends, Mr. Sheppard. If the man were wise, he would consult his wife; if he were a fool, he wouldn't.

THE recently-elected Governor of Michigan, in his inaugural address, in order to secure greater accuracy in election counts, and to remove opportunity for fraud, recommends that a law be passed providing for a separate board for counting the ballots; that the boxes be changed in the middle of the forenoon, at noon, and in the middle of the afternoon; that as soon as the count of the first box is completed it shall be the duty of the canvassing board to put up in public view a bulletin showing how the vote stands, and as soon as the several boxes are counted have the result bulletined at once. When the polls close there will be but few votes to count, and by 6 o'clock the result can be known, and as the result of the vote up to 8 o'clock has already been made public, there is little opportunity for mistakes or deception. The Governor holds that the board canvassing during the day, without having been exhausted by a day's work as inspectors of election, is of itself a guaranty of fewer mistakes and

greater accuracy in ascertaining the result, and as it will inspire confidence it will reduce the number of demands for recount, with the expense and hard feeling engendered, in which the defeated candidate and party invariably charge fraud. The expense would be but little, if any, greater with two boards than with one, because the work would all be done in one day, for which under the present Michigan law usually two days' time is paid for. This proposition of having a half-day count and a bulletin of how the vote stands has the merit of novelty. How the parties would hustle in the last few hours of polling, if the mid-day bulletins went to show it was a neck-and-neck race.

**ANTIQUATED, WITHOUT DOUBT.**  
Even if the Dominion voters' lists were completed in East Elgin in December, 1891, as the St. Thomas Times asserts, does not that prove that they are decidedly antiquated? Before a man could get on the lists last fall, unless his name was "stuffed" on the lists by unscrupulous manipulators, proof had to be given that he had lived in Canada for twelve months previously. Thus no one who has come to St. Thomas or any part of Elgin county within the last two years can be legally on the lists upon which the ensuing bye-election will be held. The young men who have come of age will also be disqualified, and thus many hundreds of men entitled to vote by every consideration except the fact that they do not find their names on the lists are prevented from going to the polls. To make up for this they will political agent will be able to persuade the many voters who have died since midsummer, 1890, and the Ottawa bribery fund will be drawn on to bring back from the United States and from other parts of the country many former electors of the constituency. This foreign vote—this crowd of people who have no longer any interest in the riding—may decide the election, as persons similarly situated have decided elections in other parts of Canada. If they do, what a farce it will be to call it a victory scored by any section of the people of East Elgin!

We thank our contemporary for reviving this question of defective and antiquated voters' lists. It enables us once again to urge the necessity for making a radical, a democratic change, in the compiling of the lists. The lists should be made up by competent, non-partisan officers a few weeks before an election, and the time of prior residence required should be not more than six months. This, with the enforcement of the "one man, one vote, residential suffrage" principle, which should command itself to every fair-minded citizen, would do away with the use of scandalously old and incomplete lists such as are thought good enough for the people of East Elgin to vote on. To secure this end the Liberal party should have the aid of every honest Conservative, for present-day methods benefit no one but those who desire to profit by unfairness and chicanery. The antiquated voters' list system must go!

## Our English Letter.

The Liberals Propose a Penny Ocean Postage.

Gossip About the Canadian Portrait of Mr. Gladstone.

An Attempt to Equalize the Magisterial Strength—Canada and the Cattle Disease—Prof. Robertson's Declaration.

(Special to the ADVERTISER.)

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 23, 1892.  
It is too late to wish the editor and his efficient staff, and your increasingly numerous readers, a merry Christmas, but I am in sufficient time to send cordial greetings for the new year; for if no disaster intervenes this letter will reach you in the new year week. When we have conquered the air—and that triumph of science and art is not far off—then our ships, traveling at the rate of 150 miles per hour, will cover the distance from London, where I reside, to London, where you reside, in two days at most. Meanwhile we must be content with ten or eleven days and 5 cents postage, though as to the latter item I am glad to say that there is good reason for believing that the present Liberal Government is anxious to inaugurate an ocean penny postage—the scheme advocated more than 40 years ago by Elizer Burritt, the learned American blacksmith, and taken up so vigorously in these modern times by a Conservative M. P., Mr. Henniker Heaton. Our Postmaster-General is busily ascertaining the facts of the case and corresponding with postal officials in all parts of the world to see if the step can be safely taken and the cheap transit of letters amicably arranged. If newspapers, etc., can be sent at 1 penny for two ounces, why should a half-ounce letter cost 2½ pence? That is a poser, or to use Lord Dundreary's famous phrase, "It is what no fellow can understand!"

From a letter received two days ago, I learn that your correspondent "Philo" has been placed on the advisory council of the World's Exhibition at Chicago. The honor is great and much appreciated, but the appreciation would have been greatly intensified if a guarantee for all transit and other expenses had accompanied the election to the high office of counselor. However, it will be evidently within the range of my functions to counsel the managers accordingly, as all the world knows that one has only this consolation, that they would eagerly have given the guarantee referred to if they had appraised "Philo" at the value that he sets on himself!

I need not write a line respecting the presentation to the National Liberal Club of the portrait painted by Mr. Forbes, of Toronto, and the gift of Canadian Liberals, as you will, by telegram, have received full particulars. When I knew of the arrangement, I sat down to write for a ticket so that I might be present at the proceedings. But I was too late! A thousand applications had to be refused. As it was, the crush was very great, but the meeting was enthusiastic. Earl Rosebery presided, and

was well supported by a host of Liberal M. P.s. Mr. Blake, in an eloquent speech, made the presentation. The chairman admirably responded, and was followed by Mr. W. A. Hunter, a Scotch M. P., the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education for Ontario, and Mr. W. A. McArthur, an English M. P., so that the rose, the shamrock and the thistle were well represented on this interesting occasion. I told you in a former letter that Mr. Gladstone was much pleased with this Canadian artist's work. All who have seen the portrait admire it. It is true to the life—even down to the maimed finger. The portrait is now hung in the coffee room of the club. It is full length, and the G. O. M. is represented as facing the spectator. He stands very erect and looks very grave. He is dressed in a light grey tweed suit, with a white vest and a dark blue tie, carefully arranged, as is customary with the Premier. On great public occasions he sports a flower. Indeed, when this is seen the habitues of the House expect a speech. It is, in fact, "Notice to all whom it may concern." So Mr. Forbes has put a pale red rose (not a primrose) in Mr. Gladstone's button-hole. The Premier's right hand rests on a document lying on an awkward table while his left hand grips a paper of memoranda. Altogether it does great credit to Mr. Forbes. It is a fine portrait of the veteran statesman (now at Bearitz) who, before this letter can reach you, will have passed (on Dec. 29) his 83rd year. By the way, we are informed by a telegram from Niagara Falls that Mrs. Gladstone is on the register there as an elector having the privilege of voting on local issues. This is in virtue of the fact that she owes the register there, and there, presented to her on the occasion of the opening of the Canadian Park.

It is pleasant to learn that for some time past there has been a slow and steady revival in the agricultural prospects of the Dominion—at least, statistics look in that direction, whatever politicians may say. They (i. e., statistics) show that the British imports ending with November, 1892, reached a value of £10,281,686, as against £3,988,353 for 1891—being an increase of 14.38 per cent. No less than 12,000 Canadian turkeys—60 tons weight—arrived in Liverpool one day last week for the English Christmas market. It makes "Philo's" mouth "water," as they say in Canada, but unfortunately there was not one with my address upon it; and to make it more aggravating, only this morning I received a letter from a turkey in a Birmingham cage, saying, that he wanted me and my belongings to go to Madagascar to help him to eat four turkeys and nine fowls which had been generously sent to him as a Christmas present. If I were in the mood to moralize—but I am too angry for that—I should say: "You see how unequally the good things of this world are distributed," or to put it more philosophically, as the pseudo Sir Rev. Roger Tichborne did in that memorable classic saying of his: "Some folks have money without brains and some have brains without money." I will not venture to say to which class I belong—ca va sans dire!

It is reported here that the Dominion Government has proposed to the British Ministry to send experts to Canada to investigate the cause of the alleged disease among Canadian cattle—the expense to be defrayed by Canada. But if England is in this matter courteously invited to help Canada, the Dominion also is willing to help the farmers of Great Britain. Your Prof. Robertson informs us that the Government model farms in Canada have established the fact that fifteen pounds' increase in the weight of live hogs can be obtained per bushel even of inferior wheat put into the troughs. He, therefore, gives an important hint to agriculturists. "Why," he asks, "should not English farmers turn the best wheat at 20s or 28s a quarter into fresh pork? They would thus obtain a quality of lean and nutritious flesh much superior to the lardy bacons which come in from foreign countries where Indian corn is the staple and almost the only food." This is, in my humble judgment, a capital suggestion, especially just now when the farming interest in the old country is so sorely depressed. I have no doubt Prof. Robertson's hint will be gratefully followed up.

Our Lord Chancellor is starting the old political fogies of England by vigorously attempting to rectify the balance of Tory and Liberal magistrates in our borough constituencies. The Tories have had nearly three-fourths of the magistracies everywhere. The Tory Government was recklessly partisan in this matter. But the Lord Chancellor is determined that equity shall rule, and in the new appointments he bravely recognizes the claims of the democracy. If capital is on the bench, labor also must be there; if the employer is a justice of the peace, the employee also must be a justice of the peace. I have been lying before me now a number of appointments of the latter class. For instance, in the county of Kent, where I reside (the garden of England), Mr. John Potter, a journeyman papermaker at a mill in Maidstone, has been placed upon the commission of the peace. He is the best workman in Kent yet raised to the bench. At Shrewsbury a journeyman tailor, at Coventry a mechanic, at Leicester a foreman in a boot and shoe manufactory. One highly-accomplished Tory protested indignantly at this elevation of artisans to the magistracy, but received for answer the scathing repartee: "Well, sir, what is it you want on the bench—brass or brains?"

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Cures Consumption, Coughs, Croup, Sore Throat. Sold by all Druggists on a Guarantee. For a Lane Side, Back or Chest Shilo's Porous Plaster will give great satisfaction.—25 cents.

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For the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Headache, Constipation, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Fever, Irritation of the Bowels, Piles, and all derangements of the internal system; purely vegetable, containing no mercury, minerals or deleterious drugs.

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## OVERCOATS.

Is it an Overcoat you want this cold weather? We succeeded in getting hold of about 500 at almost half price. \$5, \$6 50, \$7 50, \$8 50, \$10. These prices, when you take into consideration the values, are very low, in many cases below the wholesale price. We don't need to keep the trashy kind. You get them for less, of course, and so you should. The Boys' Overcoats come at less money. We have a full assortment of sizes.

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