POOR DOCUMENT

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Write plainly and take special pains with names.

Write on one side of your paper only.

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Write nothing for which you are not prepared to be held personally responsible.

THIS PAPER HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

MR. T. W. RAINSFORD, Travelling Agent for the Daily and Weekly Telegraph is now in Northumberland County. Subscribers are asked to pay their subscription to him when he calls.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 30, 1900.

LORD ROBERTS AS A GENERAL.

A good deal is being said in regard to the fact that Lord Roberts now commands a larger British army than ever before has taken the field. At no period of the Peninsular campaign which resulted so gloriously for the British arms, did Lord Wellington command so many soldiers as Lord Roberts now has under him in South Africa. This raises the question which is the greater general, Lord Roberts or the Duke of Wellington? It is a subject which would form a fine topic for some debating society for there is no likelihood of it ever being settled decisively. The conditions of warfare in South Africa at the present time are wholly different from those which prevailed when the Duke of Wellington was fighting his Peninsular campaigns. The British general had a superior French army to contend against, and had for auxilaries Spanish armies which were very badly disciplined, under generals who were not well versed in the art of war, and were unwilling to come into any general scheme of operations. Lord Roberts has an army all composed of men of one nation, superior in strength to the enemy, and he is supported at home by the war office which furnishes him with everything he needs in the way of equipment and supplies. There is not likely to be anything in this campaign at all similar to the difficulties which encountered Lord Wellington in the war of the Peninsula. It is not probable that there will be any battle in South Africa at all to compare with the great battles of the Peninsular war, Talavara, Salamanaca and Victoria. In the latter battle Lord Wellington had under his command nearly 100,000 men and the defeat inflicted on the French was the most decisive in the whole war, in fact few battles in history have been more decisive for the French fled from the field a disorganized rabble, leaving the whole of their guns and baggange in the hands of the British.

It is quite possible that under similar conditions Lord Roberts might rise to the height of greatness which was attained by the Duke of Wellington, but up to the present time he has had no opportunity of doing so, nor is it likely that he will have for it is altogether improbable that such a war as that of the Peninsula will ever be repeated. No man who reads the pages of Napier's history can come to any other conclusion than that the Duke of Wellington was a supreme master of the art of war, and that his abilities as a administer were also very great. Lord Roberts himself is certainly a master of the art of war, and would prove himself a competent leader in any campaign, but he has never been tested in the supreme fashion which did so much to raise the Duke of Wellington to his position of greatness, by contests with hostile and ignorant ministers, and the incompetent governments at Lisbon and Madrid. The people of the British Empire will have to be content to leave these two generals unweighed against each other, for no comparison is possible, but everyone will be glad and grateful that Great Britain has produced two such men who have been able to take so great a part in its affairs in the hour of need.

THE PHILIPPINES.

We do not hear very much in these days about the war in the Philippines, but it seems to be still going on and it requires the presence of a large American force in those islands. There does not appear to be any regular Philippine army in the field but the natives are waging guerilla warfare against the Americans and making things as uncomfortable for them as possible. There has always been a considerable number of Americans who were opposed to the war, and to the acquisition of territory by the United States in Asia, but the majority of the people seem to be looking rather after the glory which may come from a war in the east than to the material results which are to be obtained from it. We doubt very much if the Philippines as an American possession will ever repay what it has cost. The meeting which was held in New York on Thursday evening for the purpose of advocating an American policy and for the abandonment of the war in the Philippines, was addressed by a considerable number of representative men, some of them men of eminence such as the Hon. Mr. Boutwell and the Hon. Carl. Schurz but it is not likely that it will have any marked effect on public opinion any more than the pro-Boer meetings which are now being held in England. The truth of the matter is that in a period of national excitement men move in masses and those who attempt to oppose the popular view usually get the worse of it. The time may come when it will be very evident to all Americans that the Philippine policy is a mistake, but that time does not appear to have arrived yet.

TUPPER'S CONTRIBUTION TO EMPIRE DAY.

The contribution of Sir Charles Tupper to the Empire Day exercises in Toronto was a speech in which he denounced imperial federation and declared that it could never be brought about. That is the kind of an imperialist Sir Charles Tupper is. It is to that which his pretended loyalty and his waving of the old flag has led to. He is the man who in his transactions with the mother country has declared that "business is business," that Great Britain should have no preference in our markets, and that the attempt to weld the British Empire together into a great and compact whole is destined to be a failure. It is no wonder that in connection with this speech Sir Charles Tupper announced the possibility of his retirement from politics, for we should suppose that true and loyal Conservatives throughout Canada, one and all, would rise up and repudiate the sentiments which he uttered at Toronto. Are they as a part of the great Conservative party willing to be committed to the theory that the Empire cannot be welded together, but that it must eventually be severed into its original elements. If what Sir Charles Tupper said in his Toronto speech is true, according to him the colonies are to go on in their present fashion for a time, which may be shorter or longer, and when some crises arises which ought to unite them, the bond of union between them will cease to exist. Sir Charles Tupper declares that Canada is not willing to bear any of the burdens of the Empire, that Canada after enjoying the protection of Great Britain for a century will not undertake to assume any of the duties or responsibilities which appertain to the defence of the Empire. That is the policy of the Conservative party at the present time as enunciated by its leader, and yet the men who put forward such a policy seriously have the assurance to attack Mr. Tarte and accuse him of disloyalty. While Sir Charles Tupper is preaching disunion and the dismemberment of the Empire on this side of the Atlantic, Mr. Tarte is upholding the Empire and preaching union and an imperialistic policy on the other side of the ocean.

OUR SOLDIERS IN THE TROPICS.

It is a noteworthy coincidence that at the present time the soldiers of two northern nations should be carrying on a war in the tropics—the United States in the Philippines and England in South Africa. In both cases the men are exposed to conditions of life widely different from those to which they have been accustomed, and probably many instructive and helpful lessons will be learned by their experience. On the face of the matter it will be apparent that different clothing, food and general treatment are required from that which would be suitable at home. These thoughts must often be in the minds of many who have friends in the Canadian contingents in South Africa, and happily an article written for the Medical Journal by Capt. Charles E. Woodruff, assistant surgeon to the United States army, throws much valuable light on the subject.

Dr. Woodruff lays special emphasis on the importance of cooking, and says that the most benificent change made in the Philippines was in sending out trained cooks. He has the following to say respecting canned meats, which is of general interest:

"In condemning canned beef one officer is said to have reported that it was devoid of nutritive properties and worthless as food, because all the real essence of the beef was boiled out and converted into beef-extract, and that nothing was left in the beef but the dry muscular fiber. Such a gross error is laughable to a physician, because the veriest medical tyro knows that the nutriment in the meat is the fiber and that boiling coagulates certain parts of the fiber, but that it is impossible to boil out more than two per cent. of the albuminous nutrients. This officer had been influenced by the vicious advertisements of beef-extract, each teaspoonful of which is boldly said to contain all the nutriment of one pound of lean meat. Like the vast majority of men he believed these absurd advertisements, and does not know the difference between the nutriment of the fiber and the stimulating substances in the beef-extract. When he eats boiled meat or canned meat and does not experience the same stimulation as after eating broiled beefstcak, he is somewhat confirmed in his opinion of the worthlessness of canned beef."

Dr. Woodruff says some hard things about the diet arranged for American soldiers abroad, the gravamen of which is that little thought has been given to variety. He comes, however, into startling conflict with an authority like Lord Roberts on the subject of alcohol, and merely to show his views we subjoin the following extract from his paper:

"We have exhaustion, physical and mental, and particularly the exhaustion of nervous tissue, the basis of neurasthenia, nervous prostration, and other numerous conditions known to physicians, in all of which there is apt to be an instinctive desire for a stimulant, tea, coffee, cocain, or alcohol. It is a temporary acquired craving precisely similar to that of many periodic or chronic drunkards or to the craving of certain degenerates among tramps, beggars, and criminals, who are in a condition of congenital nervous exhaustion unfitting them for work, and whose periodic orgies are proverbial. In every case the nervous system cries out for something to lift it out of its depression or inertia. Tho I am not quite ready to recommend a daily ration of wine or whisky such as all the Mediterranean nations use, it seems reasonable. * * * I look upon alcohol in moderation as an extremely valuable food in the tropics to counteract the excessive oxidation which in three weeks will make a man lose 40 pounds in weight. Tho many men refuse to acknowledge any such doctrine, they cannot escape the conclusion that the conditions produced by tropical heat make it necessary to have a liberal diet to counteract the increased wastes, and the more work that is done the greater still must be the amount of food."

It is also asserted by Dr. Woodruff that overeating does not seriously affect the liver, and that abdominal bandages have not proven of much service. While these views do not coincide with the experience of the British in India, perhaps less exception may be taken to his concluding observations:

"From all that has been said we are safe in concluding that the white race, raised in cold countries, will always rule the earth. The tropics left to themselves always revert to savagery as in Haiti, or semi-barbarism as in Central America. As we need and must have the productions of the tropics—tea, coffee, tobacco, hemp, etc., we must go there for them, for the native savage will never be able to develop the resources of his own country, nor govern it. Those countries must always be under the rule of men raised in cold climates. It is the white man's burden which will never grow less. The white man's burden is heavy enough, as it is even with the best of food—so let us not think for one instant of reducing the ration in the least item, but to increase it, if need be, to the point of extravagance. England with all her care, pays for her eastern trade in the health of the families of her servants in India. Kipling talks of it in his stories, and it is already an old story with us. Some of our regiments which have not left the country are said to have already over 230 pension applications on file—who can guess the future record of the regiments from Manila?"

These views have an equally forcible bearing on our problems in South Africa.

THE INTERCOLONIAL.

A Moncton correspondent of the Sun writes to that paper for the purpose of seeking to show that there was a deficit last year in the working of the Intercolonial Railway instead of a surplus. By throwing all the railway expenditure on capital account into the pool he is able to prove that the Intercolonial expended more money last year than it received, but as this is an entirely new way of reckoning the accounts of the Intercolonial, we do not think that it will meet with general approval. It would be very easy for any one who was disposed to go over the accounts of the Intercolonial Railway, when it was under Tory management, and by adding the capital expenditure prove that there was millions of a deficit for many years. This correspondent says that there was no less than $620,000 expended last year for new rolling stock on the Intercolonial and that this went to capital account. To what other account could it have gone? It was a new expenditure, no part of the current expenses of the railway, an expenditure caused by the necessity of equipping the road in a better manner than it had been equipped previously. When the Intercolonial Railway was built only such rolling stock was purchased as was needed for the requirements of the traffic, and this rolling stock was charged to capital expenditure. When the business of the road so enormously increased the necessity for more rolling stock also arose and therefore the addition of more rolling stock to equip the road was charged to capital account in the same manner as it would have been had it been placed on the road when the road was first finished. Under Mr. Blair's management the Intercolonial Railway is doing a far larger business than it ever did before, and it is doing it at a profit and not at a loss as was the case under the Conservative administrations. Mr. Blair has devoted all his energies to the improvement of the road and the result is that there is everywhere a demand for new rolling stock to accommodate the increased traffic. It was not so in the old days when the rolling stock was more than ample, for all the business of the road. But between Montreal and the eastern end of Cape Breton, the cry is for more rolling stock and the minister of railways finds it difficult to supply new rolling stock as fast as it is required. The members of parliament from Cape Breton during the present session have taken up a great deal of the time of the House in speeches in regard to the lack of rolling stock to accommodate the traffic on their district and the same demand is made all along the line. We have no doubt that when sufficiently equipped the Intercolonial will be able to yield a handsome surplus over all ordinary expenditures.

THE DYNAMITERS.

As announced on Saturday in the columns of The Telegraph, the three men who attempted to blow up one of the locks of the Welland canal a few days ago have been found guilty of the charge made against them and sentenced to imprisonment for life. This is a substantial measure of justice and ought to have the best possible result in the cases of all persons who are disposed to follow in the same track as these three dynamiters. It is said that the three men are Fenians, or that they were employed by some Fenian organization for the purpose of committing the crime for which they have been convicted. If so it would seem that if the Fenians are about to repeat the blunders of 1866 and alienate from themselves the sympathy of the whole civilized world by acts which cannot be at all helpful to the cause which they pretend to have at heart. A life sentence will give these three dynamiters plenty of leisure to reflect on the folly of their conduct and it will certainly serve as a warning to other dynamiters in other parts of America to beware of Canada.

BRITISH POLITICS.

The weak condition of the Liberal party in the United Kingdom has led to rumors of all kinds with respect to the coming election. The very latest is a statement that Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Rosebery are about to make a combination for the purpose of reorganizing the Liberal party on new lines, and to bring it more into harmony with the imperialistic policy which is now the fashion in England. This statement may or may not be true, but certainly it is sufficiently plausible to meet with some credence. It is well known that Lord Rosebery has not recently been in harmony with many Liberals, especially with those Liberals who are opposed to the war in South Africa, and to further extension of the British Empire in that direction. Many Liberals think that this war might have been avoided, but they are willing to give the government their best support now that it is on. Other Liberals are agitating, very unwisely it would seem to us, that the war should be stopped, a policy which is certain for the time being to injure the party that puts it forward. The Liberal party has always been a peace party and has endeavored to secure a peaceful development of commerce rather than achieve military triumphs. On the other hand Mr. Chamberlain, who is now a member of a Conservative party, has very little in common with most of his associates. Mr. Chamberlain began life as a Radical and he continued to be a very prominent member of the Liberal party until the Home Rule question came up for discussion. Everyone thought then that Mr. Chamberlain would be the successor of Mr. Gladstone as leader of the House of Commons when Mr. Gladstone choose to retire from public life, and perhaps there was a little of impatience in Mr. Chamberlain's feelings at Mr. Gladstone's remaining so long on the stage and blocking the way for his own advancement. In regard to Mr. Chamberlain leaving his party on account of the Home Rule question, few people think that he had such strong convictions on the subject as would have justified him in leaving his party on that account, if there had been no other cause for his action. Mr. Chamberlain, however, is by no means in harmony with many of his associates in the Conservative party. He is looked upon with unfeigned distrust by the old stolid and stupid Tory squires who make up the bulk of the party in the House of Commons. They regard him as revolutionary in his tendencies and as a unsafe leader. Yet it is impossible to ignore his ability or to deprive him of his power in the House of Commons, and so the relations between him and them are strained. Under these circumstances it has always been thought probable that Mr. Chamberlain would eventually return to the Liberal party, where a leader is very badly wanted in the House of Commons, if anything like the reorganization of the party can be effected, now that the Home Rule question has ceased to be a live issue. At the same time there is the very serious difficulty to encounter that Mr. Chamberlain by his desertion of the party has incurred the dislike of the close and personal friends of Mr. Gladstone, and is looked upon as a traitor and a deserter, so much so that he has been frequently called a "Judas" by members of the Liberal party in the House of Commons. Whether such a combination as has been suggested between Lord Rosebery and Mr. Chamberlain would be successful remains to be seen. It is highly probable, however, that some such arrangement is now being thought of.

OUR PROSPECTIVE PENSION LIST.

The enormous pension list of our American neighbors is invested with a new and sympathetic interest to us since we are now obliged to contemplate the possibilities in that direction which the war in South Africa opens up to us. We know nothing of the plans or purposes of the government in that regard, but it is safe to assume that the matter of pensions will at least receive thoughtful consideration. At most this cannot mean more than a trifle as compared with the huge sum which the United States will have hereafter to pay in annuities. It is astonishing, but nevertheless true, that on 30th June last there were still 2,000 names on their pension roll arising out of the war of 1812. Of these all but one are those of widows, which is a curious and suggestive fact. Probably $75,000,000 a year is still being paid on account of the civil war.

What pensions will have to be paid as the result of the war with Spain, and the insurrection in the Philippines, cannot yet be computed. Already 25,000 claims have been put in by soldiers and their relatives because of the latter affair, and half as many are being considered in connection with the Cuban conflict. Moreover, the whole scale of pensions has been raised by the passage of the Grand Army bill, which, among other things, provides that the pension commissioner shall not refuse pensions to widows having an income not exceeding $250 a year. The limit had been previously fixed by the Pension office at $90 a year, and a considerable increase in the roll will at once take place. An income of $250 a year does not appear large to well-to-do people, especially those who live in cities, but, considering the circumstances of the great mass of the population, it is practically sufficient for support. There are hundreds of thousands of laboring men who have to maintain themselves and their families on less than this, and they have to contribute their share of the taxes.

THE GROWTH CONTINUES.

An increase over last year of $42,875,453 in our aggregate trade affords satisfactory evidences of continued prosperity. This growth was made up of $24,355,251 in imports, and $18,520,202 in exports. There are still two months of the fiscal year to run, and if nothing happens to check the upward tendency our trade for 1900 will exceed that of 1899 by more than $50,000,000, and it must not be forgotten that 1899 was the best year in our history.

For the same ten months the revenue amounted to $24,226,142, as compared with $21,072,127 during the corresponding period last year. These are large figures, and they indicate the course pursued by the government in respect of expenditure, but they would have been at least $4,000,000 larger if the Foster tariff had still been in force. That sum represents just so much money left in the pockets of the people of Canada.

It is also noteworthy that while the imports for April show a large increase over those of the same month last year the revenue is less. This is due to the preferential tariff, the full effect of which our people are commencing to realize. And this saving is not limited to the first cost as shown by the trade returns. To it must be added the percentage of profit which dealers would add, inasmuch as the duty is a part of the cost price of the goods.

A CONSERVATIVE QUARREL.

There is a very pretty quarrel on between Sir Charles Tupper and Mr. Birmingham, who has been until recently the Conservative organizer for the province of Ontario. Mr. Birmingham has been writing to Sir Charles Tupper making certain demands on the latter in regard to the transactions of the Conservative party and he has threatened that if his demands are not complied with he will move to have the conduct of the Conservatives in the elections of 1882 and 1887 investigated at the same time as the Brockville and West Huron elections are being inquired into. Sir Charles is very indignant at this threat and undertakes to set Mr. Birmingham at defiance, but he may find this to be a very unwise proceeding, for if Mr. Birmingham's threat is carried out and the elections of 1882 and 1887 are made a part of the inquiry before the judicial commission, some of Sir Charles' prominent friends may have to take to the woods. Mr. Birmingham, who up to the present time has been one of the elect, so to speak, in the Conservative party, as prominent as Mr. George E. Foster and certainly much better known in the province of Ontario, is a good Conservative who has never changed his allegiance, and surely he would not speak of election frauds by the Conservative party in 1882 and 1887 if there had been no such frauds. We trust that this quarrel between Sir Charles and his late lieutenant will not be allowed to slumber, but that it will go on and everything come out that will tend to shed light on the rascality of the Tory party in the two elections mentioned. They have been doing such a tremendous amount of talking and uttering such virtuous sentiments in regard to one or two Liberal elections that it will be interesting to see what the Tory press will have to say when their own dirty linen is being washed in public. One might have judged from some of the editorials which have appeared in the Sun for the last twelve months that such a thing as election frauds would be quite impossible in connection with the Tory party. But Mr. Birmingham knows better and will be able to give great assistance to the judges who are inquiring into the election charges by pointing out the direction in which they ought to look for the purpose of unearthing Tory rascality.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER AND THE EMPIRE.

The Sun tries to deny that Sir Charles Tupper's policy as enunciated at Quebec, is a policy of disunion and the dismemberment of the British Empire. It quotes a few sentences from Sir Charles Tupper's Empire day speech at Toronto, in which a pretence is made that he is for the union of the Empire, although in the same speech he declared that in his opinion a parliamentary federation of the Empire is impracticable. Sir Charles Tupper, of course, did not speak at Toronto in the same decisive fashion that he used at Quebec and Montreal, because the Toronto people would hardly have stood Sir Charles' Quebec speech, but when a man comes forward and declares himself for the union of the Empire and yet opposed to the only means by which that union could be legally and properly accomplished, we may have our own opinion as to his sincerity. There were men in the old thirteen colonies, after the close of the revolutionary war, who, while they pretended to be in favor of the union of the new states, yet refused to accept the constitution under which these states alone could be united. These objectors were brushed aside because their view was impracticable, and because while pretending to be unionists they were really disunionists. There can be no permanent union of the British Empire unless it is placed on some legal basis. When Canada has 25,000,000 people and Australia 20,000,000 it is impossible to believe that the existing arrangement can continue without some modification. Canada and Australia will feel themselves to be nations and claim to have something to say in regard to the concerns of the Empire. They will be looked upon as factors in its defence and yet without a parliamentary union they will be powerless to influence its councils. Yet here Sir Charles Tupper is educating the Conservative party into a belief that a parliamentary federation is impracticable, and trying to commit that party to a line of policy which, if adopted, would forever be a bar to any closer union between the colonies and the mother country. There never was a more unpatriotic and anti-British speech delivered by any statesman than that by Sir Charles Tupper in Quebec, and his speech in Toronto, notwithstanding his pretended loyalty, was in effect very little better. Sir Charles cannot blow hot and cold in the same breath. Any man who is in favor of the closer union of the British Empire must be prepared to accept and adopt whatever means are essential to bring that union about. For Sir Charles Tupper to pretend to be a friend of the union of the Empire, and at the same time to be preaching disunion, is adopting the same line of conduct that he followed in his last speech in St. John, where on the Institute platform he had the effrontry to pretend to be a great friend of this city, although every man that heard him knew that he had been its greatest enemy and most vigorous opponent, and that he was responsible for carrying the Intercolonial by a route which made it almost useless to St. John. Sir Charles Tupper's imperialistic pretences are no more sincere than were his pretences of friendship to this city.

IS THE WEST TORY?

It is perhaps only natural that the Tories in parliament and their press should be almost offensively boastful about their prospects at the present juncture. They realize that they are on the eve of a general election, and consider it to be the part of policy to put on a bold and confident front. Their real feelings, however, may be quite the opposite, and we cannot see

Clothing for Men, Youths and Boys.

After all Oak Hall is the one great clothing store of St. John. Hundreds of men regard this as Clothing Headquarters—as the thoroughly dependable, all-the-year-round store, where they always pay out their money on this condition: They get it back if the purchase is not entirely satisfactory. We protect you thus—and protect ourselves by buying only dependable garments. We know what we're selling. We know it's right. Come to the old corner **today,** where there are more new spring suits than in the average good stores.

MEN'S SACK SUITS

Of stylish cut and popular fabrics in tweeds of fancy checks and plaids and Serges in blues and blacks.

$6, $7.

MEN'S WORTHY SUITS,

Newest patterns and effects in mixed Tweeds; also plain blue and black Worsteds and Serges, the proper cut in coats, splendidly tailored, perfect fitting, thoroughly guaranteed. Suits such as elsewhere would cost you all of $10.00. Marked here for $8.00.

MEN'S STYLISH SPRING SUITS,

4-button Sack style and Cutaways. Fabrics, linings, fit and finish the equal to anything obtainable elsewhere at $12.00. Our price $10.

MEN'S VERY SWELL SPRING SUITS

in the favorite Sack styles, and with every touch and turn of custom-made suits. Fancy Tweeds, All-wool Serges and Worsteds. Hundreds to choose from and every size; the price $12.

Boys' Clothing.

The brightest, prettiest Clothing for Boys to be found in the city. Novelties predominate, but you will find any quantities of the staple styles here and at the right prices too. We want you to become acquainted with this department, every day is a genuine bargain day and every piece of clothing sold is dependable.

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For Boys, 3 to 12 years, in Checks, Plaids and Stripes and Blue Serges, $1.25 to $5.25.

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For Boys, 9 to 16 years, in Tweeds, Worsteds and Serges, $3.00 to $8.00.

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ST. JOHN, N. B.