

Sensible and Sincere

Harcourt Wins High Praise for His Budget.

Balfour's Amendment to the Scotch Committee Bill Defeated.

Arrival of Her Majesty Queen Victoria at Coburg.

Sir Charles Russell Appointed Lord Chief Justice of Appeal—Gen. Middleton Amazed—German Military and Naval Officers Forbidden to Bet on Race Tracks.

Betting at Racecourses Prohibited. BERLIN, April 17.—Emperor William has issued a rescript prohibiting officers of the army from betting at racecourses.

Ermine for Sir Charles Russell. LONDON, April 17.—Sir Charles Russell, Attorney-General, has accepted the position of Lord Justice of Appeal, in place of Lord Bowen, who died on April 9.

Passed Its Final Reading. LONDON, April 17.—In the House of Lords today the amendments to the Bering Sea Bill submitted by Lord Kimberley were accepted, and the bill as amended passed its third and final reading.

Civil Marriage. BUDA PEST, April 17.—The Lower House of the Hungarian Diet voted this morning to accept the Civil Marriage Bill without further discussion. Great enthusiasm prevailed when the decision was announced. This assures the passage of the measure practically as it was introduced.

Approved. LONDON, April 17.—The House of Lords amendments to the Bering Sea Bill were approved by the House of Commons this evening.

Tablet to Jenny Lind. LONDON, April 17.—A memorial tablet to Jenny Lind Goldschmidt will be unveiled in Westminster Abbey on Friday. The tablet is near the Handel memorial.

Thousands of Good Wishes. BERLIN, April 17.—The Hamburger Nachrichten prints a letter from Prince and Princess Bismarck, expressing their thanks for the thousands of congratulatory messages they received on their birthdays from friends at home and abroad. The prince received 11,000 messages on his birthday.

To Readmit Jesuits to Germany. BERLIN, April 17.—The opinion here is general that the bill to readmit the Jesuits into Germany, which passed the Reichstag yesterday, will be rejected by the Bundesrath. It is significant that the debate on the question in the Reichstag yesterday was not participated in by any member of the Government.

Income Tax for Germany. BERLIN, April 17.—In the Lower House of the Diet of the Duchy of Baden today Dr. Ruckenberg, president of the Department of Finance, introduced a bill providing for a progressive income tax, beginning with a tax of 5 per cent and increasing to 40 per cent, the latter on incomes of 200,000 marks and upwards.

The Scotch Committee. LONDON, April 17.—Debate was resumed in the House of Commons this evening on the Government's motion that a Scotch standing committee be appointed for the consideration of all bills relating exclusively to Scotland. Mr. Balfour's amendment was rejected by a vote of 252 to 219. Most of the Parnellites abstained from the division. The debate was adjourned till Friday.

The French Budget. PARIS, April 17.—The budget for the ensuing fiscal year shows a deficit of \$3,000,000 francs after the deduction of the amount realized by the conversion of rentes. The Government propose a number of economies to cover this deficit, including a reform of house duties and a reduction of guaranteed interest on railways. It is estimated the application of these reforms will leave \$14,000 francs surplus.

Many Buildings Burned. VIENNA, April 17.—Thirty-three houses were destroyed by fire today at Adler Kosteletz, a town of Bohemia. Two persons lost their lives and several were injured.

Rejected. LONDON, April 17.—In the House of Commons today the motion of Mr. Wm. Pritchard-Morgan for Mr. Merthyr Tydfil was rejected by a large majority.

Comment on the British Budget. LONDON, April 17.—The newspaper comment on the budget takes a wide range of its details, and it is thought by many that the Government may be defeated by the measure, though this is not the general belief. The Parnellite members, it is said, will surely oppose the increase of taxation.

South Africa as a Gold Producer. LONDON, April 17.—The progress of the gold mining industry in South Africa continues at a pace which well exceeds expectations. February is a short month; but, taking the return of the Witwatersrand district for that period as a basis of calculation, the yield this year promises to reach 1,800,000 ounces at the least. There are other mining districts outside the Rand, but the development at the latter center has become so great that these other sources of supply sink into insignificance.

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interview with Sir Fred Middleton today, the General said that the statements in Col. Houghton's most recent effusion in a Montreal paper, concerning the occurrences of the Northwest rebellion in 1885, were preposterous, and added: "I see no reason to alter one single statement I have yet made, and the position he takes simply amazes me. I have come to the decision not to take any more notice of Col. Houghton's ravings, for I am confident the people of Canada can rightly judge between us."

Samoa. LONDON, April 17.—Inquiry at the Foreign Office has elicited the statement that the British Government is not in negotiation with any power with a view of modifying the present arrangements in regard to the administration of affairs in Samoa, nor are any such negotiations contemplated.

The Queen at Coburg. COBURG, April 17.—Queen Victoria arrived here at 4:35 this afternoon. Her Majesty was received in state by the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and all of the imperial and royal guests who have arrived here to attend the wedding of the Duke of Hesse and Princess Victoria of Saxe-Coburg.

On the way to the palace the burgo-master and municipal authorities presented the Queen with an address of welcome, to which her Majesty responded with a few words of thanks. The route to the palace was densely lined with enthusiastic sight-seers. A cannon salute was fired from the towers in honor of the Queen.

The Prince of Wales joined in the family dinner at the palace in the evening.

Priceless Treasures Impaired. LONDON, April 17.—Archaeologists are raising a strong protest against the Egyptian irrigation schemes. The engineers have recommended vast reservoirs, the base of which will be formed by a dam a short distance below the island of Philae. The dam will create a reservoir of enormous extent, not only drowning the island of Philae, but extending southward into Nubia nearly 100 miles. When full the waters of the reservoir will rise several feet above the highest level of the pylons of the temple of Isis at Philae. The rocks surrounding the island are full of hieroglyphic inscriptions. These will spend many months under water, and there is yet much to be discovered in the immediate neighborhood. Many other priceless treasures are also threatened.

The Ghosts Did Not Materialize. LONDON, April 17.—An odd action is being tried in the courts here against the Earl of Abingdon at the instance of a Mr. Scott Hall. Some time ago Mr. Hall entered into a contract with the earl's agent for the purchase of Cumner Place, the agent, Mr. Hall claims, reporting it to be the house in which Amy Robsart died.

In further representation of the desirability of the purchase, the agent, it is alleged, asserted that frequent appearances there of the ghosts of Amy Robsart, Varney and Anthony Foster had attracted a large number of visitors, among whom were many Americans. Upon these representations Mr. Scott Hall contracted to purchase the place, but subsequently discovered, as he claims, that the Cumner Place he had bought was not the Cumner Place in which Amy Robsart was killed.

Mr. Hall declares that the original Cumner Place, the scene of the death of Amy Robsart, is in ruins and several miles from the locality of his purchase. He therefore asks to have the contract of purchase annulled.

British Revenue Returns. LONDON, April 17.—The total revenue for the year ending March 31 was \$28,297,362. This included \$7,163,952 paid into local taxation accounts. During that period the increases in revenue were: House duty, \$15,000; property and income tax, \$1,750,000; postoffice, \$70,000; telegraph service, \$60,000. The decreases were: Customs, \$11,260; excise, \$156,384; stamps, \$395,156; land tax, \$3,000; crown lands, \$10,000; interest on the Suez Canal shares, \$1,765; miscellaneous, \$7,201. As distinguished from the total revenue given above, the net increase paid into the Exchequer was on the quarter \$2,581,394, as compared with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year, and the net increase for the year just ended was \$738,033. The surplus balance in the Exchequer on March 31, 1894, beyond the amount of the charges on the consolidated fund on the same date payable in the June quarter of 1894, was \$2543,174.

South Africa as a Gold Producer. LONDON, April 17.—The progress of the gold mining industry in South Africa continues at a pace which well exceeds expectations. February is a short month; but, taking the return of the Witwatersrand district for that period as a basis of calculation, the yield this year promises to reach 1,800,000 ounces at the least. There are other mining districts outside the Rand, but the development at the latter center has become so great that these other sources of supply sink into insignificance.

When it is remembered that so recently as 1891 the total yield was some 730,000 ounces, while in 1888 the district was hardly known as a gold producer, the importance of the progress may easily be imagined. Upon a low basis of valuation the gold that is promised to be won from the "banket" reefs of the Rand this year would be worth \$3,500,000, which is a sum that puts South Africa well in the forefront as the present largest producer of gold in the world, although, of course, its exports were exceeded by Australia and California in their palmy days.

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ure, but how they will treat the spirit tax it is too early to predict.

In commenting on the budget the Times says: "It is only fair to say that allowing for the difficulties and pressure that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had to contend with, the budget is much less objectionable than the public had reason to infer it would be."

The Daily News says: "Sir William Harcourt has raised himself to the very highest rank among the financiers of the country. There is not another man living except Mr. Gladstone who could have framed this budget or delivered such a speech as that delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in presenting it to the House of Commons."

The Chronicle calls it a notable budget, and adds: "It may be regretted that while going so far it did not go further in a democratic direction; but while it is not perfect it is useful and practical."

The Standard thinks the proposals have been framed in a spirit of sincerity and sense.

Presbyterians in Council.

Meeting of the Western Ontario Synod at Hamilton.

Important Deliverance on the Subject of Temperance.

The Hymnal and the Methods of Public Worship Considered.

HAMILTON, April 17.—About 200 delegates assembled at the Presbyterian Synod of Western Ontario, being held in McNab's Church. At to-day's session after devotional exercises, conducted by the new moderator, Rev. J. R. Battisby, of Chatham, the Synod got down to business. The committee on the Buxton building fund reported that \$221 had been received and paid to Rev. Wm. King, as directed by the Synod.

The accounts of the treasurer were examined and found correct. Dr. Cochran, governor of the Brantford Ladies' College, reported that institution to be in a progressive state and was successful financially.

The Stratford Presbytery petitioned that the Synod use its influence with the General Assembly to delay proceedings in regard to the proposed change in the hymnal. A committee was appointed to meet the Stratford representative and draft a new overture. The general opinion seemed to be in favor of some change in the hymnal.

Dr. Laing presented an overture signed by himself, Dr. Fletcher and A. McLaren to the effect that the order of public worship in Presbyterian churches be improved. Dr. Laing said the service should be for edification and uniform in substance and order. At present some churches gave too much time to singing and others too much to prayers.

In the discussion on the proposal to improve the church service, Rev. Dr. Laing said that the impression prevails that the church prohibited the use of a liturgy, but that was not the case. He desired liberty in the use of a ritual and expressed the opinion that if a form of worship was sanctioned most congregations would gladly take advantage of it.

In answer to Rev. Dr. Thompson, of Sarnia, Dr. Laing said he approved of a minister writing his prayers beforehand if he found it better to do so.

Dr. Thompson said he was glad to hear this view expressed, because he had used prepared prayers himself on occasion. He heartily agreed with Dr. Laing's overture. The Presbyterian form of service needs to be brightened, and he would like to see responsive reading by the congregation introduced.

Mr. John Cameron, of London, also strongly supported the overture. The music of the church especially needs to be improved.

Mr. Wm. Stevely, of London, cautioned the synod against falling into a ritualistic system, but agreed that the music should be improved. He even approved of soloists. If they could be got without pay, so much the better.

A. I. Mackenzie, of Hamilton, was opposed to any movement that would tend to turn the church into a concert hall.

Mr. Thomas Houston, of Sarnia, Rev. Angus McKay, of Lucknow, and other members took part in the discussion. It was finally decided to recommend Dr. Laing's overture to the General Assembly in a slightly modified form, and a committee composed of Rev. Dr. Laing, Rev. Dr. Laidlaw, Rev. Dr. Thompson and John Cameron was appointed to support it.

Considerable time was occupied during the afternoon session over the consideration of the appeal from D. M. Gordon, an elder of the Midland Presbytery, who appealed against the Presbytery's finding in connection with a difficulty he had had with the pastor, Rev. Hector McQuarry.

Rev. Dr. Cochran presented a lengthy report on the matter, from which it appeared that Mr. Gordon had refused to appear before the Wingham session to answer a charge of slander and falsehood. It was alleged against Mr. Gordon that the slander consisted of doubting reference to Rev. Mr. McQuarry's temperance standing. The falsehood, it was stated, consisted in Mr. Gordon alleging that the minister had stated that Gordon was "a weak-kneed, wishy-washy, milk and water man, having no backbone in regard to temperance."

After a lot of discussion it was decided, on motion of Rev. F. Straith, that a commissioner be appointed to issue the matter at Lucknow, or elsewhere, providing all parties interested, were willing. They expressed their willingness and the matter was dropped. The following were appointed the commissioners: Revs. Dr. Cochran, Dr. Fletcher, Dr. McMullen, A. Henderson and the moderator, Dr. Battisby, and Messrs. Adam Spence, A. W. Leitch and John Cameron, elders. The commission will in all probability meet in Wingham.

An appeal in regard to the rearrangement of the congregations of Belgrave, Calvin, East Wawanosh, White and Large-side Churches into two pastoral charges was referred to a committee to consider upon and report.

The report of the state of religion was most gratifying to the synod. One of the recommendations agreed to was that prolonged pulpits vacancies should be discouraged.

Rev. W. J. Clark, of London, presented the report of the committee on temperance. The report stated that the majority of the synods had reported in favor of prohibition, but there was some diversity of opinion as to the best method to be employed to

secure it. Two of the recommendations in the report stirred up a lively discussion. One of the clauses expressed gratitude for the success of the recent plebiscite, and the promises made by the Ontario Government, "of which he (Sir Oliver Mowat) is the head." The words quoted proved a stumbling block to some of the delegates, who stated that they did not wish to be recorded as declaring Sir Oliver to be the Government's head when the coming election might depose him, and they voted to strike out the words, but the amendment was not accepted by the large majority. The second bone of contention was a recommendation to the effect that the members of the Synod be instructed to advise their flocks to support Parliamentary candidates favorable to prohibition. Some thought this smacked of Popish practices, and others wanted the word "good" added to apply to the candidates. The amendment, however, did not prevail, and the report, as a whole, was adopted.

Rev. Dr. Fletcher was appointed visitor to Brantford Ladies' College.

STEALING A RIDE.

Some Peculiar Expedients of Knights of the Road.

Railroad Men Relate Their Experiences—Riding on the Rods—the Humorous Tramp Who Did Some Tall Walking—One Had a Mat in a Gas Pipe.

While waiting for the verdict of the coroner's jury on the late G. T. R. accident the other night, a number of railway men present commenced to relate their experience with professional tramps and the various expedients resorted to by them to steal rides on both freight and passenger trains. The tall, stout man with the mustache was inclined to take a philosophical view of such affairs, saying that when a chance presented itself nine men out of ten, as a matter of fact, were not averse to taking a short ride, the thought of it being a misdemeanor never entering their heads.

This caused the man with "sideburns" to volunteer the information that street car tickets were found on the bodies of both the victims of the late collision and also the fact that from his personal observation he would not be surprised but what a couple of jurymen had done some free riding.

RIDING ON THE RODS. This caused a laugh, and the speaker was twitted by the man with a bad cigar about not giving "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," when in the stand.

The man with the "sideburns" replied that he had not been asked anything about that, and adroitly changed the subject by relating how a certain express drew into the G. T. R. station one day with a man lying across the rods under the car. "He was hatless and nearly blind," the speaker went on, "and dirt, dust and grime were on his face. In fact, it was impossible to tell what he was for a time. When we made him presentable we found him to be a comparatively well dressed young man, tall and slim and of dark complexion. He was evidently in hard lines, but would not disclose his name."

Then a reporter knew a cigarmaker who traveled clear from California to London on the bumpers and never received a scratch. But the man with the one arm and Milesian accent put their porter completely in the shade by telling about the little girl he had picked out from between the cars one night at the London East station. She was not 10 years old and was running away from Watford to friends in Toronto. The might-have-been aspirant to the position of chief cook and dishwasher to Gen. Coxey was sent of home.

ON THE TRUCKS AND PILOT. "I once heard a fellow asking a conductor for a ride to Windsor," said the little man with the large hat. "Of course the conductor refused, and told him to clear off."

"Very well, then," replied the man who had asked for a ride, "I will be in Windsor ahead of you."

"And do you know, when we got to Windsor that fellow walked past the caboose and joshed the conductor. He had ridden on the pilot."

"Did you ever see a pair of goggles like what they use in sawmills to keep the dust out of their eyes?" It was the man with the shamrock voice and one arm that spoke again.

A several had, or at least said they had, the narrator went on: "Well, I once found a little colored kid hanging around the East End station. He had a big pair of these goggles, and when I asked him what he was doing with them, he told me that they were to keep the dust out of his eyes when he was riding the trucks."

DID SOME TALL WALKING. Then everybody could see that the silent man had a story to tell. After a copious expectation he started in: "Say, do you fellows remember —?" Well, he was a regular terror to steal a ride with. Was bigger than most tramps, too, and they generally obeyed him. Well, one time when I was firing with him he warned a young fellow off at Woodstock. The lad climbed off, but the driver noticed him again at Ingersoll. He was pretty mad by this time and said: "Say, there, I thought I told you to get off at Woodstock?"

"So you did, mister," replied the youngster, "so you did. But you didn't say anything about getting on again, did you?"

"And the first fellow I saw after we struck London was this same young man."

It was now the turn of the man with the bad cigar to shine. I remember once a fellow wanted to ride with us from Dorchester Station," said he. "The conductor told him with greater emphasis than politeness that the thing was impossible. When we got to London the man walked past the train as it stood on the siding. Catching sight of him, the conductor told him he had two minds to hand him over to the police."

"Hand me over to the police," answered the man in an incredulous tone and evident surprise. Then he went on conciliatingly: "Say, mister, I've done some tall walking since I saw you last."

Then the talk became general. One man had seen tramps riding with the pigs because they were warm, another had found one in a piece of gas piping on a flatcar with a mat under him for comfort, and still another had seen tramps fished out of the smokestacks of stationary engines during shipment.

"Silence!" It was the constable who spoke, and the jury returned their verdict.

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