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*God's in His heaven,
And it's right with the world.*
—(BROWNING.)

London, Saturday, June 18.

HON. EDWARD BLAKE GOES TO THE BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The news from Toronto this afternoon puts at rest all doubt as to the intentions of Hon. Edward Blake in regard to the request that he should accept a seat in the British House of Commons for an Irish constituency. Canada will part regrettably, even for a time, with her most talented son.

The present is a time in which the Dominion needs the services of every able and honest statesman, and Mr. Blake could have done this country great service if he had consented to return to public life here. He has chosen the greater field of action, and we doubt not that in the most important legislative body of the world he will at once take a foremost place. No one can tell the momentous results to Canada as well as to Ireland and to the whole empire that may accrue from the present move on the part of this great statesman.

We shall await with confidence the outcome of his mission to the land of his forefathers and of his advocacy in the forum of British public opinion of those great Liberal principles which he and they have always warmly espoused.

To us in the West, in the county which gave the honorable gentleman birth, his call to the House of Commons at no important epoch in the history of the country affords special interest. Some have attempted to minimize the importance of the call, because it comes from Ireland. We do not look on it in that light. Some of the greatest statesmen that have sat at Westminster have been Irishmen, and have represented Irish constituencies. It matters little, however, what constituency Mr. Blake accepts. In the House of Commons he will be no parish politician, but his broad sympathies will be extended to every movement calculated to contribute to the welfare of the whole people. We happen to know, too, that the call for Mr. Blake meets with the warmest approval from Mr. Gladstone, Lord Rosebery, Earl Spencer and other leading Liberals, whose personal acquaintance and esteem he has for years enjoyed. It would not surprise us if Mr. Blake is given a place in the next Liberal Cabinet. In any case his experience in Canada and his wide knowledge of the whole question of self-governing communities will make his services invaluable in formulating the great measure of reform that has been promised Ireland.

THE ASSESSMENT APPEALS.
Next week the city Court of Revision will sit for the disposal of appeals against the assessment of the current year. It is reported that an unusual number of objections will be made to the assessment. One of the points raised is as to the income assessment. It is not generally known that the Assessment Amendment Act of 1892 makes a material change in the Assessment Act.

Hitherto the exemption was on the annual income from any source of any person to the amount of \$400, provided the income did not exceed \$1,000. But if a man did not have more than \$700 personal earnings it was not liable to taxation. By the act passed at last session of the Legislature, the annual income of any person derived from his personal earnings is exempted to the amount of \$700. The annual income of any person is exempted to the amount of \$400 when derived from any source other than personal earnings. It is provided, however, that no person shall be exempt for and in respect of the place or sum greater than \$700, whether derived from personal earnings or from other sources of income or from the two combined.

THE COMING WORLD. edited by a militia officer, protests against the appeals to the councils for money for camp purposes. He agrees with us that it is a small thing for a Government, professing to have a treasury overflowing with surplus funds, to peddle around the camps to the places that are willing to contribute a few hundred dollars to the expense of holding them. This is not even economy from the militia point of view, as Major-General Herbert has pointed out. The lugging of the camp to St. Thomas, indeed, was a direct loss to the service in money and convenience, and seriously handicapped the force.

"HECKLING" AND THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRUTH.

Surprise has been expressed in some quarters because a higher court has quashed the conviction of a citizen of Kingston who was fined by a magistrate because he asked a political orator to answer a civil question. The setting aside of a conviction of that kind proves that despite the new criminal code the people have yet some rights.

Why any intelligent public speaker should object to answer a question for information we have never been able to understand. Yet so anxious have some people in Canada become to silence all opposition to their own views that they have been ready at any moment to be in the arrest and imprisonment of any unfortunate fellow who, in the pursuit of information, has been moved to propound a query.

Those of us who have been brought up in the British school can have no sympathy with such a one-sided method of giving information. In England and Scotland, especially Scotland, the right to "heckle" a candidate for public honors is known and recognized of all men, and it is no exaggeration to say that the answering of the questions addressed to him from all parts of the meeting in a great many instances affords the best test of the ability of the candidate that could possibly be supplied. It is an easy thing, as we know, for some men to have their speeches completed for them by a clever subordinate, ready to say or to read off. This is how one Cabinet Minister, well known to many of our readers, manages to pose as a wise man. His true character would be revealed if he had to respond to the questioning on points of public policy such as even the Gladstones and the Balfours are submitted to by the free and independent electors of the motherland. There may be an improvement on this score in Canada now that the right to "heckle" a candidate has been vindicated.

Canadians have certainly permitted their right to think, and to speak as they think, to be trampled on far too much, and those who seem to despair of our ever becoming a truly great nation take the opportunity of pointing to this fact as proof of their contention. Last 1st of July, those who were near the platform at the children's gathering on Victoria Park, in this city, were compelled to listen to the harangue of a legal functionary who, backing in the sunshine and prosperity of public offices for himself and family, expressed the conviction that no one had any right to complain of the condition of affairs in Canada. He went further and took up the extraordinary position that the dissatisfied man was not wanted here. "Let him," said the speaker, "buy a ticket for the States, and go and live there." This "patriotic" advice, as may be imagined, has been seized upon by speakers who favor political union with the States to show how little really national spirit there is in Canada at the present time. "Here," said one of these advocates, at a meeting the other day, "was a professedly loyal man telling the young men and young women of Canada, who could not make the condition of affairs as they are, to forsake their country—to go to a foreign land—if they were not satisfied with the manner in which the country was governed and its wealth distributed. And all in the name of patriotism!"

We confess that the criticism is well founded. No patriot has ever advised those who feel aggrieved to desert their native or adopted land. He is no patriot who gives that advice. The historian of all lands and of all ages tells us that the patriot is he who is not afraid to listen to those who believe that they have grievances; who is not afraid to stand up for what he believes to be right, though he may be in the minority; who is ready to stand by his country, no matter what befalls it; to love her, to work for her, and, if need be, die for her.

The whole idea of suppressing the truth by preventing investigation, of suggesting that a citizen who is dissatisfied with the existing order of things should pack up and decamp, is wrong. Great Britain has not become great by her people following such advice. She never would have enjoyed the blessings of a free people if the opponents of wrong-doing in high places had cleared out at the invitation of the "patriotic" office-holders of the day, who invariably are satisfied with the statu quo—as well they may! The American colonists rebelled against paying tribute to the old world monopolists. Who would not have despised them if they had tried to get a reform of their grievances by skedaddling? Many of our forefathers endured obliquity and privation to secure even that measure of responsible government for Canada which now exists. But for them, Family Compactism and class rule would have prevailed. The memory of such men is revered. They are the true patriots. Let us have no more of the brand of patriotism that would advise the suppression of the voice of the oppressed and would counsel the exodus of the dissatisfied; it is a humbug.

Emin Pasha, it seems, is not dead. He will have an opportunity of reading many valuable obituaries of himself when the next mail reaches him at his Central African place of abode. The intrepid explorer has certainly done a great deal to make known the Switzerland of Africa. His latest explorations show that spurs of the great Abyssinian highlands extend far southward, and, gradually uplifted to greater heights between Victoria Nyanza and the two western Nile lakes, become a system of mountain and peaks, less extensive than those of Abyssinia, but surpassed in height only by Kilima-Njaro. There, under the tropical sun are perpetually snow-crowned summits, great ice rivers rivaling some of the Alpine glaciers, and at least one volcano in a state of eruption, the only region where active volcanoes have been found with glaciers except in Alaska and South Polar lands. This is a new wonderland. Why wonder says it will be 100 years yet before the Himalayas are thoroughly explored; but a few more years will see a railroad extended to Victoria Nyanza, and it is certain that mountaineers will not then long delay to try snow climbing in Central Africa.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, SATURDAY, JUNE 18

TOPICS OF TODAY.

The terrific electrical storms in Pennsylvania and New York recently were caused by the advent of a great solar disturbance by the sun's rotation. This disturbance was visible in a high northern latitude and near the sun's eastern limb.

Mrs. Langhorne, who died in Scotland a few days ago in her 97th year, was the widow of a well-known clergyman of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and a daughter of the famous Parson Smith, of Musselburgh, who was an early friend of Sir Walter Scott. Mrs. Langhorne had a great store of interesting anecdote, as her father was in company with Johnson and Boswell when they visited Edinburgh. She had known Burns, Hume, Robertson, and all the other northern celebrities of her day. She had also many reminiscences of Sir Walter Scott and his contemporaries.

The smallest pony in the world recently arrived in the world from the Shetland pony farm of the Marquis of Londonderry, on the island of Bressay. It is a little coal colt that weighed but sixteen pounds and was only nineteen and a half inches high at its birth. It is a perfectly healthy, well-formed animal. The great object of the breeders of Shetland ponies is to keep down the size of the animals. The price increases in inverse ratio to size. This is partly from fancy and fashion and partly because the smaller the ponies the better fitted for working in the seams of coal in the mines where they find their chief usefulness.

Henry Labouchere, the London editor and member of Parliament, at one time attached to the British legation at Washington, and a number of characteristic stories of his eccentricities are still current at the capital. One relates that during a brief trip to New York he was mistaken for a celebrated Irish patriot by some Irish Americans who met him in Broadway. He encouraged the delusion to the extent of eating a dinner given in his honor by the friends of the cause, and finally gave them the slip without revealing his identity. Mr. Labouchere is now 61 years old. He is one of the keenest and clearest-headed men in the House of Commons, his cynicism and his airy way of dealing with public questions veiling a profound acquaintance with men and measures in politics.

What was at first regarded as a simple amateur venture in the way of experiment—the French velocipede for service on land and water as well as in the sea—has become a mechanism. Instead of skeleton wheels the wheels are made hollow, so that when the machine enters the water they support the device with its rider; they are also grooved on their circumference with rubber tires for land use. At the sides of the wheels are small copper paddles, and when the machine is run from the land into the water these serve to propel it, so that while the machine can make very good speed on land, it is able to make about three miles an hour in water, with the same exertion as is needed on its propulsion on a good road. It is stated that it does not easily tip over when in the water, and that when some special features have been still further perfected, its efficiency and usefulness will be largely enhanced. The points mentioned in which improvements are desirable are the addition of air-tight compartments, enlargement of the paddles, and a reduction of the weight of the entire machine.

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