

London Advertiser.

(ESTABLISHED BY JOHN CAMERON IN 1853.)

Managing Director, John Cameron
and Editor.

London, Wednesday, March 13, 1899.

The Oil Difficulty.

The Canadian oil producers laid their side of the case before the Ottawa Government yesterday. They claimed that Canadian wells could supply fuel oil in abundance for the manufacturers, and all the latter had to do was to use modern burners and keep plenty of oil in storage. There's the rub. The manufacturers claim that their burners are adapted to a certain grade of fuel oil, which they cannot procure in sufficient quantity in Canada, and that it is unreasonable that they should be required to install new apparatus for another quality of oil. Apparently the Government will have difficulty in satisfying both the manufacturers and the oil producers. The latter claim that the wells are under no monopoly, and that under existing conditions they are living from hand to mouth. A reduction of duty, they say, would be disastrous. On the other hand, the manufacturers are suffering for want of the only grade of fuel oil which they can burn with their present facilities. Many factories have had to close down, and the operatives are out of employment. These conflicts between different classes of producers are the natural outcome of any tariff system, and can only be fairly settled by reference to the interests of the whole community. The Government should decide this particular case on that line, even though private interest suffer.

"Ethereal Mildness, Come."

Surly old Winter is retreating to his Arctic home, growling and blustering a good deal at having to get out, and spring is beginning to arrive in sections, subject to the usual delays on account of the weather. Under the more genial influence of the coming season the streets are already relenting into mud. In a few days the snowdrop will be peeping timidly through the garden dirt, and then the crocus and tulip will flame up in colors so warm that the frost will shrink from touching them. The sap is climbing the trees and rioting through the naked branches, calling on them to wake up and put on their leafy garments. The Thames has broken his icy fetters, with the aid of dynamite, and smashed the waterworks dam in his hurry to reach the lake. The crows are crowing, and it is reported on good authority that a robin has been seen in this locality. The kindly sun, the gentle showers and the balmy zephyrs will soon combine to coax the treasures of the earth from her gelid bosom, and then the blossoms will sweeten the air, and the fields will put on their vivid verdure, and the gardens will glow, and the lambs will bleat, and the brooks will babble, and the rills will murmur, and the foliage will whisper, and the hawk will soar, and the blackbird will whistle, and the whole landscape laugh with joy.

We merely catalogue these facts to forestall the annual crop of spring poetry which will soon be brought to the newspaper market. As we have a quantity of the autumn product still unused, we cannot guarantee to handle much of this season's output.

The British Fiscal Policy.

In Ontario, the workingman pays hardly any tax to the general government. It is different in the British Isles. A country which has to raise such an enormous sum annually for the support of the army and navy, on the efficiency of which the very existence of the empire depends, must call upon all its citizens to contribute. Thus, the laborer pays indirectly on the tobacco he smokes, on the glass of beer or spirits he may consume, on his tea and coffee, slightly on his sugar, etc.—London Free Press.

The assertion that the Ontario workingman pays hardly any tax to the general Government is one which has done good party service like many other absurdities. The Ontario workingman pays a tax on everything he wears, on every imported article he ordinarily consumes save tea and coffee, on almost every manufactured commodity, domestic or foreign—in fact, on nearly every common necessity excepting agricultural products. The taxes that he does not pay directly to the Government in customs duties he pays in enhanced prices for domestic articles having a tariff advantage. It is just as well the workman should realize these facts. "It is different in the British Isles." There the workman pays customs and excise taxes on only eleven articles—chicory, cocoa, coffee, currants, raisins, tea, tobacco, beer, spirits, wines and playing cards. He gets his sugar cheaper than the workman of any other country in the world, thanks to the bounty of France, Germany and other kind neighbors. Nearly half the revenue raised by the British Government comes from the income and property tax, death duties, the stamp duties, the house duty, the land tax, the telegraph service and other imposts which fall primarily on the wealthier classes.

It is hard to understand the pleasure which some journals in this country feel at the slightest flurry of protectionist sentiment in Great Britain, when they know that British free trade gives us our best market and that without it the British empire

could never have been what it is today. It is only Britain's open-door policy that has reconciled other nations to the marvelous expansion of her dominions. The proposal to put a small duty on wheat entering the United Kingdom, about which protectionists are making much ado, is only a newspaper suggestion, and it is not believed any Government will venture to take such a step, as it would provoke the hostility of the manufacturers and workmen alike. The Free Press naively says that "a tax of 5 cents per bushel on wheat would greatly aid the British wheat grower, while the exporter from abroad would have to pay the duty." Such a statement carries its own refutation. Of what value would the duty be to British wheat growers if it did not raise the price of wheat in Great Britain? And if the price were raised, who would pay the increase but the British consumers? The old fiction that the foreigner pays the duty has nowhere been more thoroughly exploded than in Great Britain. No British statesman would presume to trifle with the intelligence of the people by arguing that the wheat tax would not fall on them. Such a tax, therefore, could be defended in Great Britain only as a measure of extreme necessity. But what benefit would accrue to Canada in the event of the British Government deciding on such a policy? Would colonial wheat be excepted from the duty? Gratitude to Canada for the preferential tariff would be a powerful influence in disposing British opinion towards that course, but it is very doubtful if the Imperial Government would discriminate in favor of the colonies, for fear of offending the United States. American co-operation is indispensable at present to Imperial interests in the East and the Salisbury Administration will not care to run the risk of chilling American friendship when it is being turned to a useful account. This is another reason why it is pretty safe to predict that nothing will be heard of a wheat duty in the approaching budget.

Young Charlie Tupper, who is hurrying to Ottawa for the session, says he has a political bomb in his pocket which will explode the Government. He grows more like his dad every day.

Mr. Harcourt's revenue bill was carried yesterday by a majority of eleven. The Opposition's "direct taxation" howl will now subside, as the public will find by actual experience that there's nothing in it.

The Reichstag has defied the mailed fist and voted down the Kaiser's army bill. A constitutional struggle between the Emperor and the Parliament would be one of the best things that could happen to Germany. It is about time the democracy should assert itself and show the Kaiser his proper place.

The London Times mentions Chief Justice Russell as the probable successor of Lord Herschell on the Joint High Commission. Lord Russell is an able man, and is well known and very popular in the United States and Canada; but the Times is altogether foolish when it says that he would be persona grata to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and a section of the Canadian people, "because he is a Roman Catholic." Canadians don't care a straw whether Lord Herschell's successor is a Protestant or Roman Catholic, and the Times should be ashamed to insinuate that they are influenced by such a narrow religious spirit as it ascribes to them.

The Advertiser is a more or less powerful journal, but we doubt if it is powerful enough to induce the Laurier Government to take off the outrageous duty it has placed on the sugar, a duty which is restricting the use of that article among the masses and is seriously injuring the fruit industry.—Chatham Planet.

The Planet said very little about this "outrageous duty" when its political friends were in power. The Liberal Government reduced the tax, but now that revenues are ample we believe they should cut still another slice off. There is no doubt the sugar duty is a hardship to the fruit industry and the other industries in which sugar is a raw material.

The Advertiser ventured to say the increased liquor license did not concern the public, and the Ottawa Citizen replies that it concerns the public just as much as a tax on tea. A tea tax is paid by tea drinkers, who constitute the public, but a liquor tax is paid by three classes, the producer, license holders and consumers of intoxicants, who do not include the whole public by any means. Evidently the license holders think they will have to pay most of it, as they have raised the chief objection. If it is necessary to put a little more water in the whisky or reduce the size of beer schooners to make up the tax, the consumers will be better off.

NUMBER THIRTEEN.

Chicago, March 14.—Peculiar features in regard to the superstition connected with the number thirteen were involved in the death of James Powers, a window washer, yesterday, happening, as it did, on the 13th of the month. He was employed on July 13, 1898, to take the place of John Miller, a window washer, who met his death on that day, falling from the same window for which Powers fell. The window is the thirteenth window from the ground. The dead man was 26 years of age—twice thirteen. Miller, the first man to meet his death from the unlucky window, had worked just 39 days—three times thirteen—when he fell and was killed.

If you have had the grip take Hood's Sarsaparilla. It will brace you up, purify your blood, and overcome all bad effects of the disease.

What Others Say.

Uncle Sam's Little Marine.

Britain's naval budget makes our ambitious effort look like the report of the treasurer of an inland boat club.

Neatly Turned.

(Peterboro Examiner.)

"Sir Charles Tupper," says the London 'Tiser, "bloweth where he listeth." But nobody listeth where he bloweth.

Is This Lese Majeste?

(Simcoe Reformer.)

Mr. Choate, the New United States ambassador, had his legs under her Majesty's mahogany at Windsor Castle for the first time on Monday.

(The Mayor of All London.

(Parkhill Gazette.)

What is the world coming to? The Mayor of All London was told the other day by the head nurse of the city hospital that a certain matter about which he questioned her was none of his business. No wonder he gathered up his official robes and left the room. He will be "shy" of head nurses in future.

The World Claims Him.

(Toronto Telegram.)

Poor Rudyard Kipling's fame is in danger of being divided among the greedy nations outside the British Empire.

Emperor William of Germany expresses his gratitude for "the soul-stirring way in which he has sung about the deeds of our great common race."

And a Minneapolis paper seeks to Americanize Rudyard by its boast that "the United States may well claim a proud share in Kipling's achievements."

The United States share in any of Kipling's achievements is as inconspicuous as Kipling's services to Emperor William. A few years more and Emperor William will believe that Kipling's greatest works were "made in Germany," and the Minneapolis papers will be explaining that Kipling's best poems and stories were all written by his American wife and published in her husband's name.

Light and Shade.

Word He Wanted.

"I wish," said the man who was writing a speech, "that I could think of the word I want."

"What kind of a word is it?" asked his wife.

"Something that means cut-throat, robber and villain. It's got to be a word of at least four syllables, because I want it to be a polished sarcasm."

Washington Star.

Apart.

You will forget, of course; no mortal man was ever built upon a constant plan. So be it; let the dear dream fade from view. Forget—but don't forget that I will, too.

What the Cubans Want.

"Ye can't make a Cuban understand that freedom means the same thing as a pintichry sinitine. When we try to get him to wurruk he'll say: 'Why shud I? I haven't committed any crime.' That's goin' to be th' trouble. Th' first thing we know we'll have another war in Cuba when we begin distributin' good jobs, twelve hours a day, van sinitine-five. Th' Cubans ain't civilized in our way. I sometimes think I've got a touch iv Cuban blood in me own veins."—Mr. Dooley.

The Choir Invisible.

May I reach

That purest heaven—be to other souls
The cup of strength in some great agony,
Enkindle generous ardor, feed pure love,
Beget the smiles that have no cruelty,
Be the sweet presence of a good diffused.
And in diffusion ever more intense!
So shall I join the choir invisible,
Whose music is the gladness of the world.
—George Eliot.

A YEAR OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Sons of England Grand Lodge in Session—Interesting Reports.

Ottawa, March 15.—The grand lodge, Sons of England, convention opened here yesterday afternoon, President Parnell in the chair, and a large attendance. The members were welcomed by Mayor Payment on behalf of the city council, and by the city lodges, in a warmly worded address.

The supreme grand president's report said in part: The year has been full of encouragement and the financial position of the society very much improved. In some districts a systematic canvass was made of all the eligible candidates, the result being a large increase of membership. Lodge Loyalty, of Aurora, doubled its membership in one year, winning the first prize; also obtaining for one of its members the prize for bringing in the largest number of members during the three quarters.

The supreme grand secretary's annual report and financial statement says: General cash statement—Receipts: Cash from subordinate lodges, \$10,205 02; cash from subordinate lodges, \$11,231 09; cash from subordinate lodges, guarantee, \$208 77; cash from subordinate lodges, beneficiary, \$31,678 01; total, \$53,322 86. Expenditure—S. G. L., \$8,615 87; expenditure, funeral, \$13,252 96; expenditure, guarantee, \$386 75; expenditure, beneficiary, \$28,861 27; balance, \$2,256 01. Total, \$53,372 86.

The number initiated during the year was 1,703; number of financial members in good standing, Dec. 31, 1898, 12,292, or 411 more than the previous year; honorary members, 264; number of members owing more than sixteen weeks' dues, 1,100; number of members dead during the year, 101; present membership, after deducting 1,026 suspensions and expulsions and not including South Africa, 13,556, or an increase of 605 over the year of 1897.

There are 250 members in Newfoundland, 1,687 in New Brunswick, 393 in Nova Scotia, \$53,322 86 in Prince Edward Island, 1,187 in Quebec, 600 in Manitoba, 84 in Assiniboia, 121 in Alberta, 418 in British Columbia, and 10,446 in Ontario.

Amount of cash received by subordinate lodges during the year,

\$84,631, an increase of \$3,008 over 1897. Paid for sick benefits, \$22,830, a decrease of \$488 from last report; paid for medical services, \$15,976, an increase of \$909; cost of management, \$19,732, a decrease of \$300 from last report; cash to credit of subordinate lodges in land and other securities, \$65,316, an increase of \$9,026; cash in hands of lodge treasurers to meet current expenses for the December quarter, \$7,277; total cash to the credit of subordinate lodges, after deducting \$4,600 liabilities, is \$68,458, an increase of \$7,590.

Amount received from assessment, \$10,978, an increase of \$2,128; total, \$11,020, an increase of \$2,128; total, \$11,020, an increase of \$1,249 over 1897; funeral claims for 95 members, \$9,200, an increase of 28 members, and \$2,650 over previous year; 76 members' wives, or 12 more than 1897, \$3,476, an increase of \$547; Total payments, \$13,222, an increase of \$3,175, or \$2,202 more than the income.

There is a slight increase in the death rate among members and members' wives. The amount to the credit of this department is \$7,306, or \$1,959 less than in the last report. This is accounted for by the death rate having increased as above, but is proof that the funeral fund is working at a loss.

The supreme grand auditors called attention to the continued decrease in the reserve fund and the funeral department, and the report of the supreme grand treasurer contained these words: "During the past year there has been an increase in expenditure only in the funeral department. In the general fund there is an increase in the expenditure. The total receipts are \$28,861, and expenditure \$28,055."

GUELPH COLLEGE

More Money Needed for the Institution.

The New Insurance Bill—Hon. Colonel Gibson Says It Will Deal With Materiality and Threshing Engines.

The annual report of the Ontario Agricultural College and Experimental Farm, which was presented to the legislature Tuesday, states that the institution has enjoyed another prosperous year. The institution, it says, is gaining the confidence of the farming community and doing much for the province as a whole, stemming the tide from country to city; preparing young men for agricultural pursuits; conducting experiments for farmers, fruitgrowers and dairymen; publishing the result of work done from year to year; assisting at Farmers' Institutes, and other public meetings, and contributing in various ways, directly and indirectly, to the dignity and success of farming as an occupation.

The attendance was the largest in the history of the college, with 333 on the roll—223 in the regular course, and 110 in the dairy course. Of those in the regular course 87 per cent were from Ontario 74 per cent from the other provinces, and 54 per cent from other countries. Their ages ranged from 16 to 31 years, and averaged 20. The dairy students were somewhat older. Increased dormitory accommodation was needed, and also two new buildings, one for a physical laboratory, and the other to embrace the library, reading-room and a medium-sized hall for meetings. The whole cost would cost about \$20,000. Another \$3,000 was needed towards maintenance expenditure.

The college expenditure amounted to \$43,395, and the receipts to \$34,741, leaving the cost at \$8,654. Farm expenditures were: Farm proper, \$8,322; experimental plots and feedings, \$7,635; experimental dairy, \$5,156; dairy school, \$7,012; poultry, \$1,184; horticultural, \$5,171; mechanical department, \$1,433. Revenues were: Farm proper, \$6,345; experimental plots and feedings, \$1,537; dairy, \$2,189; horticultural department, \$90; mechanical department, \$172. The total net expenditure was \$56,961.

THE ONTARIO INSURANCE BILL.
Hon. Col. Gibson stated in the legislature that the bill relating to the insurance act, of which he has given notice would deal principally with the question of materiality and fix the distance which threshing machine engines must be kept from barns. These were the main points brought to the attention of the government by the insurance men last week.

Five sisters of the American Order of the Heart have, according to a dispatch from Pinar Del Rio been ordered away from Cuba by Archbishop Chapelle, the papal representative recently appointed to investigate the affairs of the Catholic Church in that island.

DANGER AVERTED.

If a man should cross a deadly snake in his pathway, he would quickly crush it beneath his heel before it could sink its poisonous fangs into his flesh. He would not step out of the way and temporize with the dangerous reptile. And yet how many people are there who temporize with a



still more deadly enemy—consumption. Like a silent serpent, it glides along almost unnoticed. First a cold, or sore throat, then a slight cough, then catarrh, then bronchitis, then bleeding from the lungs and finally death. The way to crush out the threatening evil is to fortify the system and purify the blood with Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Every weakness and abnormal condition that precedes consumption is cured by this non-alcoholic remedy. At the first sign of derangement of stomach, liver and blood, look out! It is only a question of time until the lungs will be attacked through the impure blood, and then the danger will be most deadly.

It should be known to every sick person that Dr. R. V. Pierce will give carefully considered, fatherly, professional advice by mail to all who write him at Buffalo, N. Y. No charge or fee of any nature is asked.

"I am a railroad agent," writes I. B. Staples, Esq., of Barclay, Osage Co., Kans., "and four years ago, my work keeping me in a warm room and stepping out frequently into the cold air gave me bronchitis, which became chronic and deep seated. Doctors failed to reach my case. A friend advised me to try Dr. Pierce's medicine, and by the time I had taken the first bottle I was better and after taking four bottles the cough was entirely gone. This was a year ago last winter, and again last winter I took about three bottles to prevent a return of my trouble."

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