

London Advertiser.

ESTABLISHED BY JOHN CAMERON IN 1862.

Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

London, Wednesday, April 4.

Criticism Run Mad.

The warped and perverse nature of Mr. Whitney's mind, with relation to governmental action, is well illustrated by his attitude towards the drainage bill introduced by the Hon. Mr. Dryden. The bill proposes to grant aid to municipalities to assist them in draining and reclaiming swamp land. It is a wisely-conceived measure, and will be productive of an immense amount of benefit to many sections of the Province. Mr. Whitney's objection to it is based upon the ground that as it proposes to benefit large numbers of the community by conferring governmental aid, it is practically a bribe offered to the members of the community so benefited to induce them to cast their votes in the Government's favor.

This is indeed a novel form of objection. It would apply with equal force to the granting of railway subsidies. We may conclude, therefore, that under Mr. Whitney's regime, if he ever had one, such subsidies would cease entirely. Carried to its legitimate conclusion, the argument implies that the Government cannot pass any measure beneficial to the public or any considerable portion thereof, without thereby standing convicted of an attempt at bribery, for it is quite certain that measures of that character will always be likely to impress the people with the idea that the Government are capable and progressive, and in that way indirectly to secure their general support. But surely that is not to be urged against the Government as a matter of opprobrium. We had always supposed that capable and efficient conduct of public affairs on the part of the ministry was a legitimate method of acquiring the confidence of the electorate.

We had supposed—and in this the approved authorities on political economy seem to bear us out—that one of the recognized functions of a Government was to supply aid of the character of that inaugurated to enable the carrying out of public improvements of too great magnitude to warrant their being undertaken by private enterprise.

Mr. Whitney apparently dissents from that view. There is no such principle contained in his political economy. The truth seems to be that Mr. Whitney is incapable of discriminating between governmental conduct which wins the confidence of the public, because of its merit, and corrupt acts looking to the debauching of the electorate. This we believe is largely attributable to the fact that he approaches all actions of the Government with the settled, preconceived idea that there is fraud or chicanery about them somewhere, and that his duty is to find it out. In his effort to apply this Procrustean method to all the political problems presented to him, he is sometimes led to strange assertions. In his present objection to Mr. Dryden's bill he has almost outdone himself.

Assuredly no more fantastic cause of savil was ever formulated.

The Passing of the "Three-Decker."

According to a statement in an influential English journal there is a change coming over the spirit of British journalism. It is now the day of cheap newspapers and short articles. The writer says: "The change is very slow, but it is sure. I could easily mention one or two great and powerful papers whose middle pages used to be covered with sparkling erudite productions in double-leaded type, containing the richest treasures of long accumulations of common-place books. In these papers now you will find two, or at the furthest three columns of clear, orderly, business-like writing on the latest telegrams." "The half-penny papers have come in, and these want no three-deckers." Hence the writer is afraid that men of genius and men of letters—the novelist always excepted—must therefore go back to Grub street.

Well, we hope that it is not quite so bad as that. We fancy that men of genius will still find scope for their powers, and that the men of letters will somehow conform to the new conditions. The fact is at any rate clear, that the public calls for articles that comment upon the news or put some important ideas in a brief, pithy form. The newspaper cannot appeal simply to those who can be classed as students, it must meet the general needs. Busy men have not time to read lengthy, elaborate editorials, though these may be the outcome of much knowledge and are shaped with considerable literary skill. This may be a fact to be regretted, but it is one that has to be faced, and while the daily journal does influence public life it must itself also reflect that life. Of course, there will always be in a large country special journals with a peculiar constituency, but the great body of newspapers must adopt themselves to changed conditions.

Then something may be said for the short article. It is not necessary to say everything, even upon one subject, in one day. A live journal is a constant visitor to the homes of many people, and it may present day by day, in a clear and compressed form, the ideas that are living and influential. A great preacher was once asked why he had not made the sermon shorter, and he replied because he had not had time. There are some things that it is easier to put into

two or three columns than into one. The merit of articles is not to be measured by their length, but by their suggestiveness. It may be that the average newspaper reader does not want too much strain upon his thinking powers; but we do not believe that he is as lazy as some people make him out to be. He does not want all his thinking done for him. With all his reputed laziness, we should not be surprised to learn that he appreciates brief notes which suggest a good road along which his mind may travel in the investigation of political and social subjects, as well as the "three-deckers," which aim to provide him with a complete guide book.

Binder Twine.

If all the untruths which have been told by Opposition orators about the manufacture and sale of binder twine at the Kingston Penitentiary were collected, they would fill a large volume. They trust, apparently, to make enough of exaggerated statements regarding the industry, and hope that some of them will be believed, to the detriment of the Government.

Anyone who carefully reads the statements issued by the Minister of Justice, under whose oversight the penitentiaries are managed, will have no difficulty in comprehending how little ground there has been for the attack on the Hon. David Mills, and how much better the output of binder twine has been managed since 1896 than it was when under the care of the leaders of those who are now trying to make political capital by misrepresentation.

It is not generally known that when the present Government came into power it found the whole of the output of binder twine of the year unsold, lying deteriorating in value in the penitentiary, instead of being marketed, as it ought to have been. It was the system that was all wrong, and the exposure of this fact is what has made the Opposition orators so very anxious to establish a set-off. This, so far, they have been unable to do.

It looks as if the firm of Kruger & Steyn would have to liquidate pretty soon.

The extension of the time during which farmers can purchase binder twine—this year's make—at Kingston Penitentiary is a good move which will meet with acceptance by the farming community.

President Kruger says he will retake Bloemfontein within a week, but then we must remember that he is the same gentleman who gave out that the Russians were in London and that a corporal's guard was holding the city.

Paris landlords are making preparations to fleece foreigners who visit that city to attend the Exposition. Reports state that many of them have given their regular boarders notice to quit their rooms, as they would be needed for visitors.

The Boston Herald, in speaking of the Boer proposal for peace, says: "The asking of such a concession under the circumstances was preposterous, and argues that the Boers are not yet whipped sufficiently to bring them to a realization of their real weakness. But Lord Salisbury's reply may do something to purge their minds of delusion."

CLEVELAND THUGS

Waylay a Policeman, and Steal His Belongings, Including Handcuffs.

Cleveland, Ohio, April 3.—While shadowing a suspected robber last night, Patrolman Fitzgerald was taken captive by seven men. Fitzgerald had followed the suspect into the house. He was immediately seized, overpowered, bound and gagged by the thugs. After taking his money, watch, billy, revolver and a pair of handcuffs, the men left the policeman to get free the best he could. After half an hour Fitzgerald succeeded in severing his bonds with his teeth, and went to the Central police station.

DR. PARKHURST ON SHELTON. New York, April 4.—In his sermon Sunday night at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, Dr. Parkhurst referred to the experience of Rev. C. M. Sheldon as editor of the "Tribune Daily Capital." He said: "Sheldon had a good deal to say about doing things as Jesus would do them. There is a suggestion about that phrase, although which I repeat it was not meant to be infelicitous; it gave opportunity to the ungodly to revolt. 'Pleading as Jesus would do them,' 'sanitary plumbing that would please Jesus,' touches in unpleasant way the spot where we keep our sense of the holy. Why not have said exercising in everything we do—editing, plowing or whatever else—the same spirit which Jesus exercised in what he did, and then everything would turn on finding out as accurately and nicely as possible just what that spirit was?"

Astounded the Editor.

Editor S. A. Brown, of Bennettville, S. C., was once immensely surprised. "Through long suffering from Dyspepsia," he writes, "my wife was greatly run down. She had no strength or vigor and suffered great distress from her stomach, but she tried Electric Bitters, which helped her at once, and, after using four bottles, she is entirely well, and can eat anything. It's a grand tonic, and its gentle, laxative qualities are splendid for torpid liver." For Indigestion, Loss of Appetite, Stomach and Liver troubles it's a positive, guaranteed cure. Only 50c, at W. T. Strong & Co.'s drug store.

Berlin has 63 public monuments. Half a million clerks are employed in London.

Why will you allow a cough to lacerate your throat or lungs and run the risk of filling a consumptive's grave, when by the timely use of Bick's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, the pain can be allayed and the danger avoided? This syrup is pleasant to the taste, and unsurpassed for relieving, healing and curing the affections of the throat and lungs, coughs, colds, etc.

A WORTHY SUCCESSOR

Was the Budget of 1900, to the Splendid Record Presented by Mr. Fielding in Previous Years.

An Interesting Comparison of Figures Showing How the Country Has Prospered Under Liberal Administration—A \$50,000,000 Revenue—Budget Pointers.

[From Our Ottawa Correspondent.] Ottawa, April 2.—The budget of 1900 has proved to be a worthy successor to those which have been presented by the same minister in previous years. Each year Mr. Fielding has been able to make a satisfactory report of the condition of the country's finances, and these reports have been in steady progression, arithmetical progression at first, but this year it begins to look like geometrical progression. As he himself remarked, the budget of 1898 was good, but that of 1899 was phenomenal. A year ago we looked upon 1898 as phenomenal, but so quickly does the human mind adapt itself to changed conditions that after a few more years of reform rule this sort of budget will be taken as a matter of course, and the old days of big deficits will be but a fading memory of an unpleasant dream.

TWO ACCOUNTS AND THEIR DIFFERENCE.

To take one or two figures as samples of the general balance sheet, and for purposes of comparison:—The customs receipts have increased \$3,612,000; excise receipts, \$1,770,000; and miscellaneous, \$1,138,000; while the receipts of the postoffice have decreased \$334,000; or a net increase of \$5,186,000. This is what is known as the income or revenue account, as distinct from capital account, a distinction which, as the minister pointed out, was most necessary to keep in mind. The names of the two accounts suggest their essential difference, income account being expended in meeting running expenses, the cost of government, and the general administration of the affairs of the country from day to day, while capital account is charged permanent public works, such as the construction of railways and canals, the subsidizing of railways, and other exceptional charges of one kind or another. When the expenditure on the income or revenue account exceeds the receipts, the result is a deficit, and, of course, when the income is greater than the expenditure, there is a surplus.

THERE IS A SURPLUS, while an excess of expenditure on capital account results in an addition to the public debt. This is a point that cannot be made too clear, as a proper understanding of this will explain one or two things which are often somewhat confusing to the average elector. For example, it is not infrequently objected that it is impossible to have a surplus, and at the same time an increase of the public debt. But it will be seen that this is possible, and often occurs quite legitimately. It will be further seen that while a deficit in the income or revenue account is as much an evidence of extravagance as being in the public affairs as it would be in private life, it is a parallel case to a man living beyond his means, it does not follow that there is extravagance or lavishness in the expenditure of public money when the expenditure on capital account exceeds the revenue, inasmuch as such expenditure, if made upon permanent public works of a necessary character for the benefit of the country, is a good investment, bearing first-class interest, and eventually making big returns to the country. It is only when this is not the case that expenditures on capital account are improper and extravagant.

A COMPARISON OF FIGURES. With this understanding of the case clearly in mind, what is the financial condition of the country after three complete years of Liberal administration, and how does it compare with eighteen years of Conservative government which preceded it? The increase in the national debt from 1878 to 1896 was \$18,000,000, or an average increase per annum for the entire period of \$6,500,000—six and a half million dollars added to the debt of the country for every one of the eighteen years that the finances of the Dominion were under Tory management. During the three years which have since passed the total increase has been \$7,775,000, or an average per annum of less than \$2,600,000, and even of this increase at least two and a half millions were paid out to meet obligations bequeathed to the present government by its predecessors, and for which, while they had to find the money, they were in no way responsible. So that, making this fair deduction, the annual addition to the national debt under Liberal rule has been but \$1,700,000, as against \$6,500,000 when the Tories were in power.

FLYING MILLION REVENUE. So much for the past. The outlook for the present and the prospect for the immediate future is yet more reassuring, for the minister of finance estimates that the total revenue for the current year will be \$50,000,000. It has been completed, will, for the first time in the history of confederation, exceed \$50,000,000. Against this, the expenditure—these figures, of course, have reference solely to income account—the expenditure is estimated at \$43,175,000, leaving a net surplus when every liability has been fully met of at least \$7,500,000, far and away the largest surplus on record in this Dominion. This is a great expectation, and some may be tempted to doubt whether it is not altogether too sanguine. But the present finance minister has shown himself thoroughly reliable in these matters each year, his forecasts have always proved well within the mark, and the final balancing of the public ledger has invariably made a better showing than he anticipated, so that we are justified in accepting his estimate on this occasion and anticipating this splendid credit balance, unprecedented though it be. The estimates

AS TO CAPITAL ACCOUNT, are equally exceptional and gratifying. The expenditure will be a large one, for great progress has been made in railways, canals and other public works, looking to the development of the country commensurate with the glorious growing time of prosperity that we are enjoying. Moreover, there has been the exceptional and heavy expenditure occasioned by the noble services Canada is rendering to the empire in South Africa, "but," declared Mr. Fielding, "looking at the matter carefully, making the best estimates one can for the year, of which four months are yet to elapse, I am of the opinion, and I think that opinion will prove to be correct, that, during this current year, we will pay all the Liberal outlay on ordinary account, that honorable gentlemen opposite take of so often; we will pay all the capital charges, we occasionally hear about; we will pay

SPRING THE RUNIANS, GRAY, CARRIE CO. 1900.

Easter Novelties and Easter Wants

In a little over a week we'll have Easter, and the Big Store is better prepared than ever to meet every want. No matter what you require you'll find us well prepared to supply. Our stocks have been carefully selected and include the most reliable qualities and latest styles. You may think of—

Attractive displays, elegance and novelty await you at every turn.

Easter Jackets, Easter Hats, Easter Bonnets, Easter Waists,

Easter Gloves, Easter Parasols, Easter Costumes, Easter Hosiery.

Everything you want will be found here in ample variety.

Easter Dress Goods

The Dress Goods section has already caught the inspiration of Easter trade. Come here any day and you'll find this department crowded with enthusiastic shoppers, interested in the magnificent displays of New Dress Stuffs. This is certainly the Dress Goods center. Everything new in Dress manufacture is shown here.

NEW SPRING HOMESPUNS.

46-inch Homespun Suitings, all-wool, plain and checks, light and dark colors, 75c goods. Special per yard..... 60c
54-inch Homespun Suitings, in fawn, gray and brown, plain. Special per yard..... 75c
54-inch Homespun Tweed Suitings, small broken checks, browns, fawns and gray-green, mixed; per yard..... \$1 00
56-inch Homespun Suitings, light gray, fawn and dark gray, all-wool, shrunk, very stylish for suits, per yard..... \$1 25
44-inch Ladies' Cloth Suiting, all-wool, in all the new and staple colorings for jacket and skirt, at, per yard..... 60c
50-inch Ladies' Cloth Suitings, new shades and tints, in castors, blues, browns and deep strawberry, per yard..... 95c

BLACK DRESS GOODS.

Special All-Wool Cheviot Serges, 44-inch, good heavy weight for suits, in Priestley's and French makes, extra values, at, per yard..... 35c and 50c
Special All-Wool Serge Suitings, 44-inch, heavy and fine Twills, Priestley's, also French makes, special for jacket and skirt, extra special per yard..... 50c and 65c
Special All-Wool Tweed Suiting, Priestley's new make, elegant style for jacket and skirt, in plain black and navy, 44-inch, per yard..... 75c, \$1 00 and \$1 25
Special Venetian Suiting, 46-inch, All-Wool, extra bright finish for jacket and skirt, black and navy, per yard..... 85c
Special Priestley's Black Cloth Suiting, 46-inch, all-wool, thoroughly shrunk, guaranteed not to spot nor crock with wet, very high finish, extra special per yard..... \$1 25
Special Cheviot Suitings, 54-inch, all-wool, good heavy twill for skirt and jacket, the newest Homespun finish, correct style, black and navy. Special per yard..... \$1 25
"Priestley's Poplins," 44-inch, all-wool, good silk finish cords, fine and heavy make, Priestley's stamp, per yard..... 75c, \$1 00 and \$1 25

Easter Millinery

The most exquisite showing of Trimmed Hats and Bonnets to be seen in London. We're in absolute command of the Millinery market, and as soon as new styles are introduced we get them. We show variety enough to suit the wants and tastes of every class. There's no doubt about it, we lead the trade in Millinery.

DAINTY EASTER GIFTS.

Very handsome Steel and Jet Belts, pointed yoke effects back and front.
Dainty Pearl Belts from 90c each to..... \$1 65
Our special in pretty Jet Belts for..... 25c
Patent Leather Dog Collar Belt, with patent lock, the latest..... 50c
Genuine Seal Leather, with all around dog collar, at..... 75c
The new Finger Purse, in grays, tans, chocolate and black, from 75c each to..... \$1 75
Jet and Steel Handkerchief Bags, very handsome, at each \$1, \$1 25, \$1 50 and..... \$1 75
Fancy Steel Girdles with purse attached—latest novelty.
Gun Metal Purses. French Gray Purses. Silver Purses with chains.
Dainty Bisque Novelties for Easter Gifts sell from 25c up.

NEW GLOVES.

We are very enthusiastic about our Kid Glove showing, which is really the best we have ever made; elegant styles, excellent qualities, and perfect fitting. When you see our Kid Glove display you see the best in the market.
Fowne's "Rocquaine," 2 large pearl clasps, heavily embroidered points, in modes, tans and grays..... \$1 50
Perrin's "Belfort," 2 clasps, with black, self and white points, pique sewn, in tans, modes, grays and blues..... \$1 50
Perrin's "Capitol," 2 clasps, in pearl and tuscany shades with black and self points..... \$1 00
Perrin's "Eglantine," 2 clasps, with self, black or white points, in new shades of tan, mode, blues, red and gray..... \$1 00
Perrin's "La Rive," 2 clasps, with heavy black or white stitching, in grays, modes, tans and blacks, very stylish..... \$1 25
Perrin's "Yvonne" black, undressed, with new stitching and 2 clasps..... \$1 35

The Runians, Gray, Carrie Co

208, 210, 210½, 212 Dundas Street, London.

all the railway subsidies; we will pay every dollar of the expenditure required to the 1st of July for our services in South Africa; and at the end of the year we shall not have added one dollar to the public debt."

It is not possible in the limits of this letter to touch in detail upon all the points dealt with by the finance minister in his speech, but the proposals made looking to changes in the present tariff may be summarized as follows:—First and foremost is the increase of the preferential to Great Britain, from 25 per cent to 33½ per cent, a proposition which was met with loud and prolonged cheering from the government benches, though this further evidence of practical patriotism failed to elicit the slightest mark of approval from the ill-loyalists on Mr. Speaker's left. It is further proposed to invite the Island of Trinidad in the West Indies to join the Dominion in a free exchange of the products of the two countries, except spirituous liquors and tobacco, for a term of five years and afterwards to continue until terminated after one year's notice by either country. The only other change proposed is to admit machinery not of a class made in Canada, but imported for the manufacture of beet root sugar, free of duty.

BUDGET POINTERS.

The total value of the mineral products of Canada in 1890 was \$16,760,000; in 1896 \$20,760,000; in 1898 \$48,245,000; were only \$138,000 higher than they were three years before, but on Jan. 31, 1900, they had increased over \$15,000,000.
The aggregate trade of Canada for the first eight months of 1899 was \$193,152,000 and for the same period of the current year \$225,287,000, an increase for the eight months of over \$32,000,000.
The domestic exports of the United States in 1899, was \$15 84 per head and of Canada \$25 85 per head. The total foreign trade of the United States in 1899 was \$25 31 per head and of Canada \$32 92 per head.
The number of immigrants arriving

in Canada in 1896 was less than 17,000; none of whom (speaking generally) were from the United States. Last year 44,500 settlers came into the Dominion, of whom 12,000 came from the republic to the south.
On June 30, 1898, the wage earners of the country had \$42,000,000 saved up in the postoffice and government savings banks; in June, 1899, this had increased \$3,700,000; but in January, 1900, the total had grown to \$51,568,000.

The amount of bank clearings is recognized as reliable indication of the condition of trade. The clearings in the six principal cities of Canada in 1897 were \$1,174,000,000; in 1898, \$1,390,000,000; in 1899, \$1,550,000,000—an increase of \$375,000,000 in two years.
In 1895, 1896 and 1897 the Canadian Pacific Railway actually cancelled more land sales in the Northwest than they effected new sales, but in 1898 they sold nearly 193,000 acres, and in 1899, 227,000 acres. The Dominion land sales in 1895-96 were to the value of only \$93,000, and the following year the amount dropped to \$56,000, but last year, \$135,000 was invested in Dominion lands in the west.

The average annual increase of the tariff of Canada during the different tariff periods since confederation is as follows: From 1868 to 1878 (ten years of revenue tariff) 3.15 per cent; from 1896 to 1899 (three years of reduced tariff and preference to Great Britain) 11.52 per cent; year ending June, 1900 (four months being estimated, 14.14).

It is universally admitted that there is no better criterion of the general business activity of the country and to the condition of the working classes than the circulation of small bank notes, the \$1 and \$2 notes. The value of these notes in circulation in October 31, 1894, was \$7,000,000; in 1895, \$7,300,000; in 1899, \$9,420,000.
The total trade of Canada in 1893 (the first year of confederation) was \$131,000,000; in 1878 it had increased to \$172,000,000, an increase of \$41,000,000 in ten years of revenue tariff, or an average of \$2,700,000 per annum. In 1896 Canada's total trade was \$239,000,000, an increase in eighteen years (of ex-

treme protection) of \$66,000,000, or an average of \$3,700,000. In 1900, if the remaining four months of the fiscal year keeps up the average, the total trade will be \$374,000,000, an increase of \$135,000,000 in three years of Liberal administration and preferential tariff. The average increase of trade during 18 years of Tory protection was \$4,700,000 each year; the average increase during four years of Liberal preferential and general reduction of tariff, has been \$33,800,000 each year.

A Toronto Merchant

Bears Important News to His Fellow Citizens.

Toronto, April 4.—Here is a letter we hope every one of our readers will peruse. "I am 39 years old. Have been troubled for four years with what I thought was rheumatism—stiffness in the muscles of my legs, later in the arms. Soon the stiffness changed to soreness. Went to Hot Springs, and came back a little better. Was a moderate drinker, but quit using liquor altogether, and carefully regulated my diet. One day I got wet, and then the trouble was worse than ever. Had to lay off for three weeks. Have had similar attacks at intervals ever since, each one worse than its predecessor. Had headache, pain in the small of my back, arthritic, dark, scabby and scalding. Began using Dr. Arnold's English Tonic Pills a short time ago, and am already wonderfully improved. Feel confident they will cure me, and I shall give them the chance and report. I have not felt so well for years as I have since I began using your pills."

H. LEWIS.

447 Yonge street, Toronto.
Dr. Arnold's English Tonic Pills, the only medicine that cures disease by killing the germs that cause it, are sold by all druggists, at 75c a box; sample box 25c, or sent prepaid on receipt of price to the Arnold Chemical Co., Limited, Canada Life Building, 4 King street west, Toronto.