

The Planet.

Business Office 53
Editorial Room 102

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TUESDAY, JUNE 21.

LORD DUNDONALD'S REPLY

Lord Dundonald's relation of his experience with the Ottawa politicians is calculated to arouse the country. It points to a deliberate attempt to politicize the militia force and to persistent obstruction and neglect of the interests of both officers and privates. While it is a very startling statement, it is not without elements of humor. Sir Frederick Borden's ordinance corps of 100 men officered by one colonel and six lieutenant-colonels is certainly a good joke, and would make a splendid subject for a comic opera. Scarcely less amusing is the picture of the founder of the novel military organization editing the expert reports of the greatest general in the army next to Lord Roberts' and Kitchener with the shears so as to make them harmonize with his own ideas.

It seems clear from the statement of Lord Dundonald that that officer has had a terrible time with the politicians. To begin with, his reports on the state of the militia have been deliberately mutilated and issued in garbled form that Parliament and the country might be deceived. The General while in office uttered not a word about this impropriety, nor, it appears, did he publicly complain of the discourteous rejection of his various suggestions looking to the improvement of the force. His proposal that there be gunnery instruction and local camps for the training of officers was struck out of his annual report without the formality of a friendly or even of an official consultation. When he suggested staff rides for field officers to better qualify these gentlemen for the service they desired to perform he was met with a stiff and formal negative. He prepared instructions for officers, and had the letter press and plates ready for the printers. His application for authority to proceed with the printing was returned with the word "postponed" written across it. Here was a trained officer of exceptional ability and experience laboring among us solely with a view to the advancement of the efficiency of the military force. He makes suggestions and they are rejected summarily, without discussion, and in a manner that is obviously insulting. While all proposed movements having for their object the welfare of the militia have been thus obstructed by the Minister, the politicizing of the force has been in progress. This system is illustrated in the case of the 2nd Dragoons. There the colonel was overridden in order that a politician without the military qualifications might be promoted. Nor was this the only wrong committed in this particular instance.

The documents laid before the General as a preliminary to the promotion were incomplete. The reports of the colonel were omitted from them. Clearly, the garbling was designed to cause the General to assume his share of the responsibility for the political promotion without a full knowledge of the facts. Mr. Sydney Fisher's interference with another regiment, as we know, brought matters to a crisis. Against such political meddling the General uttered his very proper protest, and he did it, knowing that he would impair his own position for the benefit of the militia and for the public good. Now the meaning of this protest is in some quarters misrepresented and misunderstood. Lord Dundonald did not demand "partridge" or special and superior fights for himself, as the spoilsman would have us believe. What he stood for was the exclusion of party politics from the militia and the offering of that important service in accordance with the law of the land, and the King's regulations. Our militia system, it is well to remember, offers to the man in the ranks the opportunity to rise by merit and through military qualifications, step by step, until he reaches the command of his regiment. It excludes, and wisely so, every idea of politics. It does not ask whether a man is a free trader or a protectionist, a Liberal or a Conservative. What it contemplates is the recognition of the country's defenders as Canadians first and only, and their appointment or promotion to positions of responsibility in virtue of their military accomplishments. There is a law under which the principle is carried out. The colonel is answerable for his regiment. He recommends appointments and promotions, and his proposals pass through military channels until the Minister of Militia gives them due effect. The politician has no right to interfere. And let it be well understood that Lord Dundonald in protesting against Mr. Fisher's intervention stood not for any rights or privileges

for himself, but for the right of the private soldier to become an officer, for the right of the officer to aspire to higher rank if militarily qualified, and for the protection of the qualified and meritorious in the King's service against displacement by the nominees of politicians.

Responsible government is not impaired by the position which Lord Dundonald has taken. Responsible government made the law; and the law having been made Lord Dundonald's claim that it ought to be observed is a tribute to the responsible system and a service of great value to the militia force and the country it defends. Considering the insulting treatment with which Lord Dundonald has been met, there need be no wonder that he finally spoke out and thus produced the crisis which terminates his official life in Canada. He was right in protesting against a policy which impairs the defensive force. While his protest preserves his own honor, it is equally a service to the country, for it imposes upon us the necessity of examining the Militia Department and of seeing to it that the self-sacrificing efforts of officers and men are not neutralized by the folly and mismanagement of the ruling politicians.—Mail and Empire.

"UNKNOWN"—A FOREIGNER.

Says the Ottawa Citizen: The exposure by the Citizen of the fact that Sir Wilfrid Laurier's reference to Lord Dundonald as a "foreigner" was suppressed in the Globe office has made that journal so worthy as to leave no doubt of the intent to deceive its readers. As in the case of the premier when he used the word, the Globe had evidently lost its temper when it endeavored in a column leader to explain away what in the next breath it professes to consider "not a very serious matter." It refers to this great fireside journal as "fat-witted" and describes it as "a feathered scavenger." Incidentally it explains:

The Globe gives perhaps more space to Parliament than any of its contemporaries, but it does not profess to give a word for word report. If its reporters failed to report the use of the word "foreigner" it was because it had no real hearing on the debate. The Citizen knows well the circumstances under which the word was used and its attempt to make an anti-French campaign on the head of it is merely a feeble-minded attempt to be machievous.

What the Citizen charged was that the word was included in the report sent the Globe but was deliberately suppressed in the Globe office, so the Globe cannot shield itself behind the old subterfuge of "blaming it on the reporter." The Globe does give large space to parliamentary reports. It reported the debate on the Dundonald question verbatim—down to the point where Sir Wilfrid Laurier arose to address the House then, curiously enough, it failed to report the premier's remarks verbatim, and suppressed all reference to the obnoxious term which was subsequently so vigorously presented in the speeches of Mr. Fowler, Mr. P. Col. Sam Hughes and other speakers, and which in consequence were condensed almost out of sight. In view of the fact that the press of Canada has been ringing with the incident of the premier's slighting reference ever since, the suppression of such an important feature of the debate convicts the Globe of a deliberate intention to endeavor to mislead and deceive its readers.

However, the Globe is now sufficiently impressed with the position it has placed itself in to reproduce the portion of the debate from the "revised" Hansard and this is the way it reads:

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—Lord Dundonald in his position is charged with the organization of the militia, but he must take counsel here when organizing a regiment. He is a foreigner—no.

Some hon. members—No, no. Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I had with drawn the expression before hon. gentlemen interrupted. He is not a foreigner, but he is a stranger.

Some hon. members—No. Those who were present and listening to the premier, including the leading members of the opposition who sat immediately opposite to the first minister and closer to him than the Hansard reporters, are positive that the word "no" did not follow the word "foreigner"; neither do they recall the sentence—"I had withdrawn the expression before hon. gentlemen interrupted." When Sir Wilfrid pronounced the word "foreigner" he paused as if to give the word full effect as a derisive fling at the other side of the House, for the right hon. gentleman was obviously annoyed and somewhat disgusted at the blunder of which Mr. Fisher had been guilty and had been further irritated by the preceding effective summing up by Mr. Borden of the ludicrous exposure of the attempted deception. A storm of protest from the opposition, weakly minimized in Hansard to "Some hon. members—No, no," greeted the obnoxious word "foreigner" and in reply to it the premier exclaimed defensive-

ly—"Well he is a stranger," which was also resented. No doubt the same influence which was alive to the necessity of editing the Globe report took care to dress the Hansard so as to pave the way for the "stranger" explanation which blossomed out in the Grit organs next day with such suggestive unanimity, and which appears in the Globe at this date. It says—

If any one looks up the two words in an English-French dictionary he will find they are both translated by the word "stranger."

Well, the Citizen has looked up the word "stranger" in A. Mendel's French-English dictionary published by Eyre and Spottiswoode, London, Eng. It does not give the word "stranger" as the equivalent of "foreigner" at all. It gives the equivalent in English as "unknown, a foreigner." To speak of a person as "an unknown" is very different to the mere non-committal description conveyed by the assertion that a person is a stranger, and is a description which conveys more with the impression conveyed by the premier's tone and irritation of manner when he used the word. It was not alone what the premier said but the "how" way he said it that aroused the instant storm and made those who heard him smile when they listened to the subsequent smooth turn given to the incident.

BAD MANNERS.

Mr. Willison says in the Toronto News:—Sir Frederick Borden is reported to have made an extraordinary reference to Lord Dundonald. He was asked if the drill books prepared by the Major-General would be continued in use. "I understand," he is represented as saying, "that Lord Dundonald has written some books, and if they are in good English and can be followed, the drills will be carried out along the line upon which they are written."

The tone of this statement could hardly be more offensive. He "understands" that Lord Dundonald has written "some books"—when he authorized their publication and their adoption. "If they are in good English." What can be said of such manners?

The procedure followed by the Government in dispensing with Lord Dundonald's services has been singularly lacking in the courtesy which people owe to themselves if not to others. The British way of terminating the engagement of so important an officer would be to send an official letter by a special messenger. Perhaps that is too formal a style for this country. Surely, however, a letter might have been sent to Lord Dundonald acquainting him with the action of the Government. That was not done. The only notification, which he has received is a slip of yellow telegraph paper with a typewritten message. A good business house would think twice before dismissing an unsatisfactory commercial traveler so unceremoniously.

Lord Dundonald quarrelled bitterly with the Government, but he was a high officer of State, who had given hard and unselfish work to the country. To dismiss him by a curt telegram was exceedingly bad manners. Mr. Sydney Fisher's personal discourtesy precipitated the quarrel. Sir Frederick Borden's sneers, if he be correctly reported, give a touch of distinct vulgarity to the behavior of the Cabinet.

PIANISTS SMALL MEN: VIOLINISTS LARGE.

Atlanta Constitution. Silvia Risegari, the young Italian pianist, yesterday was discussing his country, Italy, and from that the conversation drifted to music and art generally.

"You may laugh at me," S. Risegari remarked, "but most of the great pianists have been small men and the great violinists are large men. I couldn't explain why this is, but nevertheless, the statement is true."

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DISTRICT DOINGS. BLENHEIM

June 21.—Robert Mener was hurt badly at Chatham on Saturday last, being kicked in the face by a horse. He was rendered unconscious by the kick and was taken to the General Hospital. The latest reports are that he is doing as well as could be expected.

Prof. Burgess conducted the services at Trinity church on Sunday. At the evening service Eric Boun-sall sang a solo, "A Clean Heart." On Saturday morning last Mr. Dundonald McIntyre, of Sheldrick street, died suddenly at the age of 85 years. He formerly lived on the Centre Line.

The funeral took place yesterday at the house, the service being conducted by Rev. G. B. Brown, after which the body was interred at the Evergreen cemetery.

Dr. and Mrs. McK. Mitchell and daughter, Eric William, who have been visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Morris, left for their home yesterday.

Miss Ethel Thompson, of Harwich, visited the Misses Russell on Sunday last. Mr. and Mrs. S. Sullivan left for Gloucester on Saturday last.

The first of the home games of the C. L. A. was to have taken place here yesterday at two p. m. Ridge-town sent word that they could not get a team together, then the boys tried to get the Bugle Band team of Chatham, but could not secure them.

CONSUMPTION BEGINS WITH A COUGH.

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DRESDEN

June 20.—At the conclusion of Dresden's b. g. celebration and reunion on Thursday evening last a meeting of boys and citizens was held, when a permanent "Old Boys' Association" was formed, which unanimously decided to make June 15th and 16th Dresden's reunion days, and to make the event an annual one from now on.

Miss Mary Gatzke, of Wyandotte, Mich., is the guest of Miss Katie McDonald.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Elgin, who attended the old boys' re-union, spent Friday and Saturday with friends in town.

Roland Wallen, of Winnipeg, is visiting at the home of his parents, North Dresden.

The Dresden branch, I. O. F., attended divine service in the Presbyterian church yesterday morning. Wood Shane, of Detroit, was the guest of his sister, Mrs. S. Shaw, Victoria avenue, on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sharpe, Miss E. Sharpe and Mrs. W. H. Willison have returned from Leamington, where they attended the marriage of Ernest M. Sharpe to Miss Fuller. The young couple will take up their residence in Orillia, where Mr. Sharpe is stationed at present.

Mrs. L. J. Wright, of Leamington, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. A. J. Davies.

Geo. Rayment, of Chatham, died Saturday morning at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. Hartwell Anderson. Mr. Rayment had attended the reunion and being seized with a paralytic stroke, passed away early Saturday morning. He was a former resident of our town and was buried in the Dresden cemetery, the funeral service being held at the home of Mr. Anderson on Sunday afternoon at two o'clock.

The display of fireworks which was to have been given Thursday night will be put on by the committee on Thursday evening, June 30th.

The Northway Co., Ltd. The Busy Cash Store The Northway Co., Ltd.

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AT ABOUT HALF PRICE SEE WINDOW

THURSDAY MORNING we place on sale twenty-five dozen fine Lawn Waists at a little more than HALF REGULAR VALUES, divided into three lots, as follows:

- LOT 1—Eight dozen ladies' fine white lawn waists, cut in latest styles, some made with clusters fine tucks on front, back and sleeves, others with rows fine val insertion and clusters tucks down front, tucks on back and sleeves, fancy tab collars, sizes 32 to 40, the best \$1.00 white waists in Canada, clearing Thursday at 99c.
- LOT 2—Ten dozen fine white India lawn waists, latest cut, with front of all over tucks and rows swiss insertion, clusters, tucks on back and sleeves, tucked cuffs and collar, sizes 32 to 40, extra good value at \$1.50 each, clearing Thursday at 98c.
- LOT 3—Seven dozen extra fine white lawn waists, made with all-over pin tucked V shaped yoke on front and back, waist and sleeves with all-over large tucks and swiss insertion, fine pin tucked collar and cuffs, sizes 32 to 40, regular \$2.00 to \$2.50 each, clearing Thursday at 99c.

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High Grade Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machines

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P.S.—We have also added a newly invented machine to iron the edges of Collars and Cuffs.

The Parliam Steam Laundry Co. of Ontario, Limited. London, Hamilton and Toronto.

WALLACEBURG

June 21.—Mr. Joseph Harrison, of Detroit, spent a few days at his home.

Miss Lena Alberta, of Toronto, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Geo. Douglas, for a few weeks. The J. O. F. attended service at Knox Church last Sunday morning. The pastor, Rev. J. M. Nichol, addressed them very suitably in his usual good style.

At the Methodist Church on Sunday evening last a quartette was given. It was an usual very acceptable. Mr. D. Shaw, Mr. T. B. Dundas, Mrs. A. B. Carswell and Mrs. T. B. Dundas formed the quartette.

Mr. Ralph Rochester, of Windsor, visited friends over Sunday. Miss Edna Mickle is visiting relatives at Amherstburg.

A moonlight excursion will be given to-morrow evening by the Band on the St. W. Niagara.

Decorations Day will be held by the societies next Sunday afternoon, June 26th.

Miss Scott, of Leamington, formerly teacher in Sullivan's Business College a few years ago, is the guest of Miss S. Riddle.

Miss Scanlon, our separate school teacher, was called to her home on Saturday through the death of her brother, an engineer, who was killed in a railroad accident near Paris.

Miss Louise Quinn, of Toronto, is the guest of Miss Madeline Boulton.

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Get a box of the old reliable Dr. Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut, which loosens the bowels without causing griping pains. No remedy is half so satisfactory as Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Price 25c.

If we had no failings ourselves, we should not take so much pleasure in finding out those of others.

A WORD TO WOMEN.

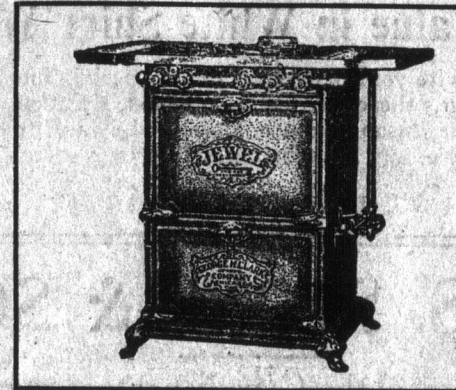
Any sick woman is invited to consult by letter with Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y. In an active practice of more than thirty years, assisted by a staff of nearly a score of associate physicians, Dr. Pierce has treated and cured over half a million women. All diseases peculiar to women are treated with success. This consultation by letter is absolutely free. Every letter is treated as strictly private and is absolutely confidential. Answers are mailed promptly giving the best of medical advice. All answers are sent in plain envelopes bearing on them no printing of any kind. Write without fear and without fee to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Women who apply pet names to a man (elicit in selecting the most inappropriate for that use.

Monkey Brand Soap removes all stains, rust, dirt or tarnish—but won't wash clothes.

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