

THE IMPERIAL BUDGET.

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA, INDIA AND OTHER DEPENDENCIES.

An Interesting Compilation of Recent Colonial Happenings and other Events.

Victoria.

Sir Graham Berry, in delivering his first Budget statement as Treasurer in the Victorian Assembly, said despite a stringent policy of retrenchment and extra revenue from new imposts he exacted a deficiency at the end of the year of about £1,037,000. The year began with a deficit of £1,570,000, which would weigh heavily on the colony for some time to come, and was largely attributable to the enormous expenditure on the Melbourne Exhibition.

The Public Service Commissioners have suggested a radical scheme of retrenchment, under which a large number of superfluous offices would be abolished.

At the instance of the liquidators of the Real Estate, Mortgage, and Deposit Bank, a writ has been issued against the Hon. James Munro, late Premier of Victoria and now Agent-General in London, for £37,000, being calls on 15,000 shares in the bank.

Queensland

In the debate on the second reading of the Government measure for subdividing Queensland into three provinces, Mr. John Donaldson, the Colonial Treasurer under the late Government, moved an amendment to the effect that the time for subdividing the colony was inopportune. The debate was at last advices proceeding.

New South Wales.

The commission appointed to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Eddy, late Commissioner of Railways for New South Wales, by the Hon. Mr. Schey, has forwarded its report to the Governor, Lord Jersey. It is understood that the commission finds that Mr. Schey has entirely failed to prove the serious charges made by him in the Legislative Assembly. They were made recklessly and had absolutely no foundation in fact. Mr. Eddy's honor and integrity, the report states, are perfectly cleared.

Messrs. John Hurley, John Martin, and John Nathan have been arrested on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the shareholders of the Australian Banking Company. Mr. Hurley was formerly a prominent labor member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly.

Sentence has been pronounced upon Mr. G. N. Taylor and Mr. Charles Clarke, who were convicted for conspiring to defraud the Land Credit Bank of £37,000. Taylor has been sentenced to eight years' penal servitude, and has been fined £5,000; Clarke has been sentenced to four years' penal servitude and has been fined £500. The fines are to be levied on the property of the convicts.

England and Germany.

Referring to the recent visit of the German Emperor to England, the *Vossische Zeitung* expresses itself in very warm terms as to the excellent understanding which at present exists between England and Germany in the sphere of foreign policy, and adds that "the harmony in the aims of our empire and of England as regards foreign policy appears to be so perfectly sincere that the change of Government which has occurred in England and the retirement of Lord Salisbury, whose great merit it is to have brought this country into closer contact with the Triple Alliance, will not disturb it."

India.

The Rajah of Sikkim persists in refusing to take part in the administration of the State, therefore the Government of India has decided to pass him over, and, if possible, to bring back his son from Tibet to assume the position of Regent.

On the invitation of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, a conference has been held to discuss the question of instituting a regular system of drainage and water supply in the municipalities and rural areas throughout the province. Several officials and the leading non-officials attended, the subject was well thrashed out, and resolutions were arrived at which will probably form the ground of legislation. The importance of this matter can hardly be overrated. Not many weeks ago several places were threatened with a water famine, now happily averted by timely rain, and there can be no doubt that well-planned drainage schemes would greatly diminish the terrible mortality from cholera, fever, and malaria which prevails in many districts.

The Lieutenant-Governor has started on a tour of inspection in the eastern districts of Bengal.

Afghanistan.

Owing to attacks upon small parties of the Zho Valley levy in and about the Gomal Pass, 300 native infantry, 100 cavalry, and two mountain guns have been ordered to Kajuri Kach. This force has been sent at the request of the Waziri headman, that tribe having resented the appearance of an Afghan outpost in the Gomal, which has been boycotted.

The Besud and Dah Zangi Hazaras have blocked the road between Cabul and Herat. The rebellion against the Ameer is steadily extending.

News from Herat states that the tribal levies, probably Uzbeks, sent from Maimena to assist in suppressing the Hazara rebellion, have mutinied and returned to Maimena, where they attacked the Ameer's garrison, but were completely defeated. Another report says that a battalion of Afghan troops, sent from Maimena, was cut up by Uzbek rebels.

There is every probability of a mission proceeding to Afghanistan, to enable the Ameer to state his case regarding Bajaur, Waziristan, and Chaghai, and to offer him an explanation of the Government's policy on the north-west border.

[Since the above was written it has been definitely decided to send a mission to the Ameer in October, the Ameer having expressed a desire to that effect.]

Burmah.

Mr. J. G. Scott, C. I. E., Superintendent of the Northern Shan States, has returned to Lashio after a prolonged tour through the States, many of which had never previously been visited by a European, and of which practically nothing was known. The primary object of the tour was to inquire into the ability of the Tsawbas to pay the full amount of tribute, a point which has led to much friction in the past. Mr. Scott's report on the wilder States is awaited with much interest. Mrs. Scott, wife of the Superintendent, accompanied him throughout his journey, which lasted seven months.

The official report on the recently discovered Mergui coalfield estimates the probable yield at a million tons.

It is probable that one company of soldiers will shortly be sent as an experiment to Bingyi, the recently discovered sanatorium, 20 miles from Tatkon Station, on the Burmah State Railway. Bingyi has been very favorably reported on, and if the experiment proves a success Burmah will at length have its own hill station.

The crop outlook in almost every district in Burmah is especially bright.

The Gold Coast.

Sir William Brandford Griffith, Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, has returned with his staff and escort to headquarters after installing the new King of Eastern Crobo and abolishing human sacrifices and other barbarous fetish rites. Crobo Hill was evacuated on the 23rd inst., by the fetish priests and priestesses and their followers, and was occupied on the following day by three officers and 100 Houssas with two guns. The utmost order and tranquillity prevailed. The Crobos and all the surrounding tribes express approval of the energetic action of the Government in occupying the hill as tending to bring about an enormous increase of trade with the interior.

Cape Colony.

The Cape Franchise Bill has been read a third time and passed by a large majority in the House of Assembly.

The export of gold from Cape Colony during the month of July amounted to £381,000, against £260,000 during the same month of last year.

British Influence in Morocco.

The Sultan of Morocco has been informed by the French Political Agent at Fez that England will not take any action about the treatment of the Mission. Prompt measures are necessary to re-establish British influence in Morocco.

Japan.

An extraordinary trial, known as the judicial gambling case, has just come to an abortive conclusion at Tokio. The President and the six Judges of the Supreme Court were charged with playing cards in a tea-house with dancing girls for partners. Strenuous efforts were made to hush the matter up; but the accused Judges declared their resolve to have the whole matter thoroughly sifted. A special "Admonition Tribunal," was opened for the investigation. The inquiry, which was conducted with closed doors, has resulted in the Court pronouncing the defendants to be beyond the reach of prosecution.

NEWS FROM THE MOTHERLAND.

MAIL SUMMARY OF EVENTS OF INTEREST IN THE OLD COUNTRY.

The Lady Godiva Show—The Dunmow Flitch—English Women as Doctors—Other Subjects Worth Reading.

Lady Godiva at Coventry.

The annual Godiva pageant at Coventry attracted a large number of holiday folks. The streets through which the procession passed were well-filled. In the procession were representatives of historic and legendary worthies who have been associated with the city in bygone days, from the Black Prince to Falstaff and Mary Queen of Scots. Local trades and industries were represented by large cars, which were structures illustrating the different crafts. Various friendly societies took part in the proceedings. Many of the attendants were tastefully attired, the children on horseback in particular appearing to much advantage. Lady Godiva was impersonated by the well-known lady swimmer, Miss Alice Sinclair.

The Dunmow Flitch.

The yearly festival of the Dunmow flitch of bacon was celebrated at Dunmow in the presence of nearly 5,000 persons. Lord and Lady Brooke, with a party of friends from Easton Lodge, were present.

The claimants for the time-honored matrimonial prize were Mr. and Mrs. Denis Bridgman, of Tycoe-villa, Allenby-road, Forest-hill, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hird, of Turner's-road, Burdett-road, Bow. Mr. Hird is an Army pensioner, having served 22 years in the Royal Artillery. He is 79 years of age, his wife being a few years younger. They have been married 54 years. This is the first time in the recorded history of the festival that so aged a couple have entered the trial.

The ages of Mr. and Mrs. Bridgman are 38 and 33 respectively. Mr. J. Cook presided over the Court as Judge. Mr. R. Marsh acted as counsel for the claimants; and Mr. J. M. Welsh resisted the claims in behalf of the donors of the bacon. Mr. J. Hamilton was clerk of the Court, and the jury was composed of six maidens and six bachelors. The jury found a verdict for both couples, who were then carried round the meadows in which the trial took place in old-fashioned chairs, on the shoulders of about a score of men, and headed by a brass band. Upon arriving at a specially erected stage both couples took the customary oath, kneeling on rough stones, after which they were duly presented with the flitches.

English Women as Doctors.

At the last meeting of the British Medical Association, Dr. J. H. Galton moved: That article 4 of the articles of association be altered by expunging the words "No female shall be eligible for election as a member of the association." He appealed to them, the rulers of the greatest association in the world, to join with him in removing that disability from their articles, for it was a blot upon the fair fame of the association. It was a stain left from the high tide of rank prejudice, but he hoped they would wipe out the stain that day.

Mrs. Garrett Anderson, addressing the meeting in support of the resolution, said that medical women were very much on the increase—there were now 140 in the profession and 130 students. She was of the opinion that keeping them out of the association did harm in the way of diminishing that sympathy which ought to exist between the two sexes in the profession. It would be a pity if there grew up in the minds of the women in the profession a feeling of anything approaching to hostility against the men. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. George Brown (London) said no one had worked harder at Bath than he did to exclude women, but he hoped that that verdict would now be reversed. They had arrived at the time when women had been introduced into the profession and they would stultify themselves by refusing them admittance to that association. He thought he could do the work of a surgeon very much better than any woman could, and he believed he was expressing the views of all the gentlemen present. (Cries of "No, no.") Well, women might be of some use, so they would give them a fair field showing them no hostility and no particular favor.

Dr. Pringle having seconded the resolution, and spoken of the excellent work that was being done in India by women of the profession, it was put to the meeting and carried amid enthusiasm.

Dr. W. H. Hingston, M.D. (Montreal) then delivered an address on Syn-

thesis in Surgery. He spoke of the state of surgery in Canada, and dwelt upon some of the primitive methods of the Indian aborigines, from which, he said, domestic surgery in civilized countries might in some things learn a little.

The Favoured Nation Clause.

At the last meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, a letter from the Foreign Office was read stating that with regard to the Spanish West Indies it was understood that the preferential rates promoted by Spain to the United States will not be conceded to other countries, and that Portugal had refused to include colonies in the new treaty proposed by her Majesty's Government, but that if any opportunity occurred of securing better treatment for British trade in Portuguese colonies her Majesty's Government would not fail to take advantage of it.

The General Trade Committee had adopted the following resolution:—"Resolved, that this Chamber views with much satisfaction the several steps taken recently by Her Majesty's Government to give increased facilities for and protection to commerce in the interest of Morocco and also the energetic efforts made by Sir Charles Euan Smith to negotiate a new treaty with the Sultan, stipulating for reforms of great commercial importance, and trusts that the negotiations may be continued and brought to a successful issue." The adoption of the committee's proceedings was carried.

Remarkable Lunacy Inquiry.

A remarkable lunacy case was recently inquired into at Dover, where a special court was held before Master Bulwer, Q.C., and a special jury of 23. The inquiry was as to the alleged insanity of the Rev. F. J. Ramsden, late rector of Uffington, near Stamford, Lincolnshire. It appeared that in 1875 Mr. Ramsden met with an accident in the hunting field and injured his spine, after which he had paralytic seizure developing into insanity. The malady produced a craving for drink, and while under its influence Mr. Ramsden fell on the stairs, dislocating his shoulder and injuring his head. Amongst other eccentricities he had gone into the streets in his night clothes; and he was in the habit of giving large orders to tradesmen for goods which were not required. In 1889 he was suspended by his Bishop for irregularities, but the sentence was reduced upon the submission of a doctor's certificate as to Mr. Ramsden's mental condition. Mr. Ramsden's income was about £2,000 a year. It was shown that he had squandered large sums of money. The jury found that he was of unsound mind and incapable of managing his own affairs. The Master made an order accordingly.

Earthquake in Cornwall.

Pentewan, a seaside village near Mevagissey, was visited on the night of July 26 by a series of earthquake shocks, which created much alarm. The first was felt shortly after half-past 10. It was preceded by a low rumbling noise, resembling distant thunder. The sound ceased suddenly and was immediately followed by a violent tremour of the ground, causing houses to vibrate and furniture to shake for several seconds. Many of the inhabitants were in bed. In considerable alarm they arose and were comparing notes about the startling occurrence, when a second shock scarcely less pronounced increased their anxiety. About a dozen persons mustered in the street, clad only in their sleeping attire, and they could not be persuaded to return to their dwellings for some time. At intervals of from three to five minutes three more shocks were felt. They varied in intensity. In each case they were accompanied by premonitory rumblings. No damage so far as can be ascertained was done, but it was a long time before the village resumed its wonted quietness.

The Manchester Ship Canal.

In a report presented to the Ship Canal Committee of the Manchester City Council, on behalf of the corporation members of the canal board, Alderman Sir John Harwood indicated probable capital requirements for this undertaking which seem to bear out previous rumours of a deficiency approaching a million and a half in the amount so far provided, though that included the corporation loan of three millions.

The corporation directors have been very much impressed with the enormous quantity of work done which cannot possibly be called into requisition or earn anything for a very considerable period. This will be a dead weight on the earning portion for a long time. They have also been struck with the unnecessarily expensive character of some of the materials used. The coping of the docks is of granite,

If millstone grit had been used it would have served the purpose equally well, and about £60,000 would have been saved. This was one out of many instances. A great many things, it is pointed out, might have remained over until the canal was earning money, and additions could have been made out of the profits. When extended accommodation was required for the trade money would have been readily obtainable for the purpose. The maxim that when a thing is done it should be done well was a maxim which should be taken in reason, regard being paid to the question of means.

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THE

AIMS, OBJECTS AND BENEFITS

OF THE

SONS OF ENGLAND

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Organized in Toronto, December 12th, 1874

To Englishmen and Sons of Englishmen:

The mission of this Society is to bring into organized union all true and worthy Englishmen; to maintain their national institutions and liberties and the integrity of the British Empire; to foster and keep alive the loving memory of Old England, our native and Motherland; to elevate the lives of its members in the practice of mutual aid and true charity, caring for each other in sickness and adversity and following a deceased brother with fraternal care and sympathies, when death comes, to earth's resting place.

Great Financial Benefits, viz: Sick pay, Doctor's attendance and medicine and Funeral Allowance are accorded. Healthy men between the ages of 18 and 60 years are received into membership. Honorary members are also admitted. Roman Catholic Englishmen are not eligible.

Reverence for and adhesion to the teachings of the Holy Bible is insisted on. Party politics are not allowed to be discussed in the lodge room.

The Society is secret in its proceedings to enable members to protect each other and prevent imposition—for which purpose an initiation Ritual is provided, imposing obligations of fidelity to the principles of the Society on all who join it.

The Society is making rapid growth and has lodges extending over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores, having a membership upwards of 12,000 at present, the ratio of increase being for greater as the Society's influence and usefulness is better known. Lodges have been started in South Africa and will soon probably be started in England, etc.

The Beneficiary (Insurance) Department is providing insurance to the members for \$1,000 or \$2,000 as desired, at the minimum cost, insured by any other fraternal Society in Canada, and is conducted on the assessment system. The assessments are graded. A total disability allowance is also covered by the certificates in class "A." There are no disability claims in class "B." No Englishmen need join other organizations when the inducements of this Department are considered.

Englishmen forming and composing new lodges derive exceptional advantages in the initiation fees, and 12 good men can start a lodge.

The Society is governed by a Grand Lodge with subordinate lodges—the officers of which are elected annually. In our lodge rooms social distinctions are laid aside and we meet on the common level of national brotherhood, in patriotic association for united counsel and effort in maintaining the great principles of our beloved Society. As such we can appeal to the sympathetic support of all true Englishmen—asking them to cast in their lot with us, thereby swelling the grand roll of those bound together in fraternal sympathies and in devotion to England and the grand cause of British Freedom.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned.

JOHN W. CARTER,

Grand Secretary.

Grand Secretary's Office,
Shaftesbury Hall,
Toronto, April 1st, 1892.