

ESTABLISHED 1867. THE ANGLO-SAXON

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NOTICE TO READERS.

THE ANGLO-SAXON goes regularly to Sons of England lodges and branches of the St. George's Society in all parts of Manitoba, the British Northwest Territories of Canada, British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island; to branch societies of the Sons of St. George in all parts of the United States, to Clubs, Reading Rooms, Emigration Societies and similar institutions in Great Britain and Ireland, and to British citizens generally throughout Canada, the States, Great Britain and the Empire.

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER.

The evidences of the increase in the feeling, which is abroad among Canadians in favor of a stalwart Imperialism, are steadily increasing. A movement is on foot to have the depot of the 100th, or Royal Canadian regiment of the British army transferred to Canada. This is a most excellent idea and we hope to see it carried out and the principle extended. Nothing could more strongly illustrate the unity of the British Empire than the presence of a British regiment here, the sending of a Canadian regiment to England, the taking of Ghooorkas or Sikhs to Egypt or the bringing of Australian soldiers to Canada.

Furthermore, a deputation recently waited on the Premier and other members of the Government to ask that a new regiment of militia be organized in the Grand River district among the Indians of the Six Nations. The application was favorably received by the ministers, and will, we trust, be carried out. What a lesson would thus be taught to the Americans! They would see that instead of favouring a policy of extermination, it had been found possible under the Canadian system for men with Indian blood in their veins to grow up able and willing to stand shoulder to shoulder with white men in defence of their altars and hearths.

We sincerely hope that no false economy will be allowed to interfere with the realization of both the foregoing suggestions, and that the General in command will do his best to favour them. The prospects are favourable seeing that the Government is inclined to spend more money on defence and considering also that the Opposition, through Sir Richard Cartwright, has declared its willingness to favour the passage of the votes for militia expenditure.

ENGLAND'S INVITATION.

"Come now and let us reason together," says the Good Book, and that is also the import of the messages which have recently been received from the statesmen highest in authority in England regarding the trade relations with her Colonies.

First came Lord Salisbury's letter to Sir Howard Vincent, as honorary secretary of the United Empire Trade League in reply to the memorial presented by the Council of that body praying for the abrogation of the much talked of German and Belgian commercial treaties. The Premier fully recognised the inconvenient character of the stipulations contained in the treaties in question, but declined to give notice for their termination until a definite scheme had been produced offering such probabilities of increased trade within the Empire as would fully compensate for the risk involved. The Council of the League have decided to submit the correspondence to the Governments of all the Colonies and Dependencies, and to urge them to send to the Imperial Government definite propositions for closer trade relations with the Mother Country.

Scarcely was this correspondence closed when the London Times published a telegram from this side regarding the meeting of the Imperial Federation League in Canada, held in Ottawa on the 4th March, and containing the "definite proposition" of that body that Her Majesty's Government should call a Conference of self-governing Colonies to consider the question of imposing a special Imperial duty upon imports from all foreign countries into every British port for the purpose of producing funds for Imperial defence. A resolution of precisely similar character was proposed by Mr. McNeill in the Dominion House of Commons on the

23rd March, and although it was derided by the Opposition, half-heartedly supported by the Government and failed to reach a vote in the House it nevertheless elicited from the Colonial Secretary the declaration that it was "worthy of the most respectful consideration." The proposal was sufficiently definite but not entirely satisfactory, and Mr. Chamberlain invites the Colonies to continue their efforts towards the establishment of a British Customs Union.

Of course if these efforts are to be successful due consideration must be given to the views expressed by Mr. Chamberlain whose great speech we publish in this issue and which, we venture to think, has not been clearly understood in some quarters. To us it appears that he very decidedly favours Mr. McNeill's proposal of an all-round Imperial Customs duty on foreign imports, the proceeds to be applied towards the defence of the Empire. But he conceives that with such a duty the Colonies would obtain the largest share of the trade advantages. He therefore looks towards a reduction of Colonial Tariffs and the elimination, in the construction of these, of the protective principle. He mentions, but does not insist upon the establishment of absolute free trade within the Empire, as some of our contemporaries have supposed, but states that the only duties must be revenue duties and not protective "in the sense of protecting the industries of one portion of the Empire against the industries of another."

Starting from the ideas of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, it will now be necessary for the people and parliament of this country to endeavor to comply with England's invitation, and consider the extent of the changes which would require to be made in the Canadian Tariff in order obtain preferential advantages in the markets of the United Kingdom.

LIGHT AT LAST.

It would be a mistake to suppose that because, just now, the prospects of obtaining preferential trade within the Empire are brighter than ever they have been before, Federationists generally have no higher aim, or that they have given up striving for a united Empire, united politically as well as commercially. At their recent annual meeting in Ottawa, some voices were heard, from experienced and influential quarters, discouraging such higher aspirations, and asserting that the hope of obtaining anything like representation of the whole Empire in a common council might as well be abandoned. We confess that we are unwilling to adopt this view, and that we are sanguine enough to believe that some practical system of Imperial representation will yet be discovered. At the same time we do not expect to see our hopes realized in the immediate future, and are content to "bide our time." Like Mr. Chamberlain we do not believe in undertaking too much at once, or as the Americans say "cutting off a bigger chunk than we can chew." We retain our faith in the one word practical ability of Imperial Federation quietly waiting the opportunities as they may arise for pushing forward step by step towards its realization.

It is not so very long ago since the time that Imperialists were thankful and jubilant when they could point to a phrase or an article in any leading newspaper in the Old Country, and more especially in the London Times, indicating that said newspaper was inclined to notice favourably the views of those who advocated the Consolidation of the Empire. That the times are now greatly changed in this respect is proved by the recent remarkable utterances, not only of the whole English press, but also of Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain who have no hesitation in using the words "Imperial Federation," and characterizing that problem as one impudently demanding solution. Let any one read Mr. Chamberlain's speech from beginning to end and he will find that the Imperial idea has not only not been taken hold of the British mind but, at the present moment, is the motive power among British statesmen. Mr. Chamberlain declares himself to be an Imperial Federationist to the fullest extent when he says:—"We may endeavour to establish common interests and common obligations. When we have done that it will be natural that some sort of representative authority should grow up to deal with the interests and obligations which we have created."

In January last we ventured upon the statement that the members of the Home Government "seem to be, at the present moment anxiously considering the best plan for realizing the Imperial

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idea." The events which have since occurred prove that this diagnosis was essentially correct, and that the British Government has passed through the stage of consideration, and is now prepared to act. In our last issue we pointed out that as long ago as in October last year the Imperial Federation League in Canada had memorialised Lord Salisbury to call a conference to consider the question of imposing a special Imperial duty on all imports from foreign countries. We learn by cable that this is to be done Mr. Chamberlain on the 6th April having sounded the Colonial agents general regarding the requisite basis for discussion. The Colonial Conference will be preceded by the Congress of British Chambers of Commerce which is to be held in London on the 8th June, and over which Mr. Chamberlain is to preside.

THE REMEDIAL BILL.

It is not to the credit of representative institutions that obstruction and anarchy were able to maintain the upper hand so long, while the Manitoba School question was being discussed in the Dominion House of Commons. During the week ending 11th April, it sat continuously for five days and nearly six nights, while the most active members of the Opposition were employed in adducing voluminous arguments to prove that their object was elucidation and amelioration but not obstruction. This was kept up during the following week with the result that the bill was effectually blocked and both political parties badly demoralized. The French Canadian liberals broke loose from Mr. Laurier, while the Ontario Grits stood to their guns. Some moderate Conservatives who had voted against the bill remained quiet, but others made common cause with Mr. McCarthy and the third party in obstructing it. Among these were Col. Tyrwhitt, Dr. Sproule and Mr. McNeill, members who had always previously been credited with being among the staunchest supporters of the Government.

In opposing the bill Mr. McNeill maintained that there was nothing in the Constitution which obliged parliament to interfere in the matter. He said:

"We have to consider this question, not from the point of view in which it is placed before you by many of the speakers who have addressed this House on that subject, not from the point of view that the constitution compels you to do one thing or the other with regard to this. The only decision you have with regard to the Constitution, is the decision the judges themselves said they were giving, namely, whether you have jurisdiction to deal with the matter at all; and it is left to this Parliament to deal with it in the way it thinks best. And the question we have to decide is, whether it is best, in the interests of Manitoba, that separate schools should be established there. The proposal is to re-establish separate schools, and it is for this house to say whether it considers, in its wisdom, that it is good or ill to do so. I think after the argument we heard here the other night, and with the experience we have to-day in reference to separate schools in this Dominion—our experience that, when separate schools do not exist, there is peace, harmony, good feeling and good fellowship, and, where they do exist, we have bitterness and strife and distrust—that experience alone ought to be sufficient to decide us as to what is the wisest course for us to pursue with reference to this matter."

In order to appreciate the other side of the question we quote also some remarks of Col. Prior on the subject, which possess additional interest for our readers on account of his reference to the Order of the Sons of England. Towards the conclusion of his speech Col. Prior said:—

"Now, Sir, only one word more, for I have promised not to detain the House. I am a Protestant, I am the son of a Church of England clergyman, and was always brought up to believe that the Protestant faith was the true faith. But I was brought up also to believe, that there were good people who believed differently from what I do, and that I should revere and re-

spect their religion. I am also proud to say, that I am, and have been for some time past, a member of that grand and patriotic Order, the Sons of England. This society, as some hon. gentlemen know, is composed entirely of Protestants, no Roman Catholic, nor the husband of a Roman Catholic wife, is allowed to be a member of that society. Many of the very best men in Canada, merchants, manufacturers, professional men, are members of that association; but, the great number of members is composed of the honest and industrious mechanics and labourers of this country. Sir, that association is bound to be in a short time, a power in this land. A more sturdy and a more independent lot of men, you cannot find, than the men who meet in these lodges. Yet, although they are Protestants to the backbone, and although they have naturally no love for the Roman Catholic church, or the tenets of the same; still, such a keen sense of justice have these men, such a sturdy English love have they for what is right, and for fair-play, that between my nomination and my election, after I had declared my intention of supporting the Government on this bill, when I had explained this bill as well as it lay in my humble power to do, they saw fit to pass a resolution unanimously, in Alexandria Lodge, containing a vote of confidence in me, and they pledged themselves to support me at the coming election, as I verily believe they did support me. Now, Sir, that shows, that although we may have differences of opinion, there is a large body of men, a large body of Protestants in this country, who are tolerant enough and fair enough to believe that the minority in Manitoba should have their just rights. I say, Sir, that while we have plenty of men like that, who can look such a grave question in the face, and bring to bear upon it unbiassed minds; there is no danger in this country for us to fear, either from traitors within or without our gates."

For ourselves we are inclined to agree with the Hon. E. G. Prior that the best course is to grant to the minority in Manitoba exactly the same rights and privileges which have been enjoyed for many years by the Protestants in the Province of Quebec. That this should be done at the most inopportune time, and in the face of any and every opposition does not however by any means follow. The matter is not urgent and might very well have been deferred until after the general election, and instead of placing before the people such a blurred and indistinct issue, their decision should have been elicited on the much more important issues which are associated with Preferential Trade and Imperial Consolidation.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH.—We take the following paragraph from the editorial notes of the Mail and Empire of 11th April: In his careful study of the question of closer Imperial union, Mr. Chamberlain evidently does not overlook the literature on the subject. His speech before the Canada Club contains conclusive internal evidence that he has read that excellent essay entitled "Within the Empire," by Mr. Thomas Macfarlane, F.R.S.C., Ottawa. Mr. Chamberlain closes his speech with the following quotation from a poem which occurs in that essay, and of which also Mr. Macfarlane is the author:—

Unto the Empire! Make it stand compact Shoulder to shoulder, let its members feel The touch of British brotherhood, and act As one vast nation, strong, and true as steel.

Sons of England

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MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S GREAT SPEECH.

AN ADDRESS TO CANADA CLUB.

References to Imperial Federation.

Obligation of Defence—A Common Interest in Imperial Trade.—Difficulties in the Way of Accepting a Preferential Tariff—Suggestions for an Imperial Zollverein.

Following is the full report, taken from the London Times, of the speech delivered by Mr. Chamberlain before the Canadian Club in London on March 27, on the question of Imperial Federation and Imperial Trade.

The President, Sir Robert Gillespie, occupied the chair. Admiral Sir Leopold McClintock and General Sir T. L. Gallwey having responded for "The Army and Navy," the President proposed the toast of "The Governor-General (the Earl of Aberdeen) and the Dominion of Canada."

Mr. Chamberlain, who on rising to respond to the toast was received with prolonged cheers, said: Mr. President and Gentlemen,—I feel honored in being associated in this toast with Dr. Montague, a member of the Ministry and Parliament of Canada, and I feel a great pleasure in meeting so many representatives of that great Dominion, which, whether we have regard to the area of its territory, to its population, to its natural resources, or to any other test by which we gauge the greatness of a people, stands to-day first among the group of kindred nations which, together with the United Kingdom, form the British Empire. (Cheers.) I have on two occasions had the pleasure of visiting Canada, and I have had the opportunity of making the acquaintance of many of her leading statesmen, notably of the late Sir John Macdonald, that most Imperially-minded man—(cheers)—whose guiding idea throughout his long political life was to maintain intact the local independence of Canada in close alliance with the mother country. (Cheers.) I think that at times he had no easy task. (Hear, hear.) There were prominent men on both sides of the Atlantic who at one time assumed that the manifest destiny of Canada was to be absorbed into the great republic on its southern frontier. ("No, no," "Never.") That was the opinion. (Hear, hear.) It is an ancient controversy, and I do not think it necessary to refer to it now except to mark the contrast between the doubt and hesitation of those days and the determination now of every man in Canada to maintain his local institutions, his special identity, and at the same time to draw closer the bonds, which unite him to the great parent state. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.)

CANADIAN LOYALTY.

The recent isolation of the United Kingdom, the dangers which seemed to threaten us, have evoked from all our colonies, and especially from Canada, an outburst of loyalty and affection, which has reverberated throughout the world, which has had a great effect, and which testifies to a sentiment that is deeper than words can express—(cheers)—and it answers a question that we have sometimes asked ourselves. We have been told by cynics that these expressions of loyalty and affection are superfluous—that they are the ornaments of after-dinner oratory—"No, no"—and that the colonies would take care of themselves. That idea, at any rate, must have been dispelled by what has recently happened. (Hear, hear.) The shadow of war did darken the horizon, and to none of her Majesty's subjects was that shadow more ominous than it was to our fellow-citizens in Canada, but there was no hesitation, although, if that had happened which would have been abhorrent to all of us, the brunt in the first instance would have fallen on Canada. A unanimous voice went up from the people and Parliament of Canada to say that this matter, although it did not directly affect their interests, yet affected the honor of the British Empire, and they made common cause with us. (Cheers.) They were prepared to stand shoulder to shoulder and to bear their share in all the evils that might come upon us. Well, their decision was emphasized in the debate to which you, Mr. President, have referred, which took place recently in the Dominion Parliament, and the moral of which was summed up in the conclusion of the eloquent speech of Mr. McNeill, the mover of a loyal and patriotic resolution, when he said: "The British people are one people, animated by one spirit and determined to stand together as one man in defence of their common rights and in the maintenance of their common interests." ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) "We desire peace before all, we regard war with horror, but we are prepared

to accept it with a will, if it be necessary to defend the honor of our own Empire." Attention to the speaker. He speaks and he strikes. The Empire of Great Britain and the Empire of the United States are appanage of the same. (Cheers.) Now, debate, many of us, to the same end, was unanimous.

IMPERIAL

But again I made to the vision, which even unity of the Empire and a hope of something might be together. (Hear, hear.) You now, generalization, this vision of loyalty pass away with on the part of imperial statesmen (Cheers.) I had that it was not had the opportunity of this great before us now years, which the sentiments has not up to a scheme. In the formed—the feet on each a League—under pieces. The President, and the assistance tinged st personages; but dissolved; with ed its object, object was in opinion to the ject. But d again and ag a plan, and it to answer the that we may, its experience our hopes, if of a federati final realization vast magnitude plication that at the present follow their g give up our a It is only a proach the go that we must assistance. To for the British ment, with l and legislation ed by thousand ditions as var vail in our s colonies—that from which might shrink ever, approach mation by a p ment. (Hear mind, in the Shakespeare—"No vast des hesitation of those days and the determination now of every man in Canada to maintain his local institutions, his special identity, and at the same time to draw closer the bonds, which unite him to the great parent state. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.)

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