

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 21, 1902.

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Notice of Births, Marriages and Deaths 30 cents for each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
Owing to the considerable number of complaints as to the mismanagement of letters addressed to the office of the paper, the following notice is hereby given: Letters should be addressed to the Editor of the Semi-Weekly Telegraph, St. John, and all correspondence for the editorial department should be sent to the Editor of the Telegraph, St. John.

FACTS FOR SUBSCRIBERS.
Without exception, names of new subscribers will not be entered until the money is received.
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Be brief.
Write plainly and take special pains with names.
Send your name and address to your communication as an evidence of good faith. This paper is not responsible for the return of communications in the Maritime Provinces.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.
The following persons are authorized to canvass and collect for The Semi-Weekly Telegraph, viz.:
W. A. SOMERVILLE,
W. A. PERRELL,
Subscribers are asked to pay their subscriptions to the agents when they call.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph
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THEIR BOOMERS' POLICY.
Probably the Americans who are now nothing with curiosity and disgust the fact of so many farmers from their own north-west, emigrating to Canada, fail to realize that to a considerable extent the building up of our northwest has been due to the policy which the United States has so persistently maintained against Canada.

It is no doubt a fact that had we enjoyed reciprocity with the United States and a market there for our agricultural products, the people of our eastern provinces would have stayed at home and developed to a very much greater extent the agricultural resources of these provinces instead of migrating so largely to the west and going into the grain-raising business. Under a reciprocity treaty with the United States, the eastern provinces would have developed into consumers of American products, and even in the flour and meal line, the development of our northwest would have been delayed for many years. The American policy of ignoring Canadian development, instead of cultivating reciprocal trade relations with us, has therefore not only proved a direct loss to the United States, but has had the result of building up our northwest in a material degree at their expense and with the effect of developing Canadian competition for the European grain markets which might much longer have remained theirs.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIVES.
A very important element in the strength of the Boers which the pro-Boer advocates during the war persistently overlooked, was the large native population under the control of the Boer fighters. The census of the Boer population according to the figures under its administration gave it a population of 77,710 whites and 129,787 natives. Of the whites, 10,761 were directly engaged in agriculture, holding with them 41,817 "colored servants." The population of the Transvaal before the war was about 245,397 whites and 748,750 natives, a proportionate number of the latter being doubtless also "colored servants." These "colored servants," or Kaffir boys, were, according to all accounts, practically slaves and very largely augmented the forces of the Boers as servants during the war, their aid and that of foreigners probably enabling the Boers to fight in the field.

Now that the war is ended, the question of dealing with the natives becomes a very important one, and, as has been the case in all treatment with the natives in other British colonies, they stand to benefit by the change immensely. It may be true that there has been much sentimental nonsense printed about British love for the natives, and it may be true that the British colonist in South Africa equals the Boer in his contempt for the Kaffirs—probably because the difference between them is so great. But there is this difference between British masters and Boer masters—that the British pay the Kaffirs better than the Boers did and will see that they are not flogged to death. He has far more remunerative use for them in satisfying the demand for labor, especially in the mines, where in 1890 they were employed to the number of 97,800. He is willing to be just toward them and under British rule the prohibition of liquor selling to natives will surely be enforced. It is certainly to be assumed that under British rule the natives formerly under Boer government will be more prosperous and contented.

The British political attitude toward the native is, however, the principal matter in which reform is to be noted. The exact nature of the attitude has not been determined, for it is in detail admittedly a difficult problem, and the eighth article of the peace terms recently signed implies the postponement of its solution. That

article provides that the question of granting the franchise to natives will not be decided until after the introduction of self-government. The latter rests wholly within British discretion, which it is safe to say will not be exercised while any menacing sign of Boer disaffection remains. The practical condition at present is that about 800,000 whites south of the Zambezi are now united under a British regime as a political and economic aristocracy over about 8,000,000 blacks. The speedy reclamation of the Boers will strengthen the whites and enable them to consider, not what they must, but what they may be pleased to concede. In the Transvaal under Boer rule the native was destitute of political rights, could not move about without a permit and could not buy liquor. In the Orange Free State his position was but little better. In Cape Colony there has been a restricted Kaffir vote of little account, and in Natal the British colonists have been opposed to granting the natives any voting powers. A native franchise in South Africa is probably therefore very remote. Still, many Kaffirs have acquired large wealth in cattle and the race seems capable of development. There is no doubt that all the possibilities of such development by education will under British rule be provided and it consequently seems probable that under the just laws, especially as regards taxation and protection under their contracts, which British government will safely assure them, the natives will prove an invaluable aid in the rough work of building up South Africa. What may be their ultimate standing will now lie largely with themselves.

A NOTABLE GATHERING.
The great event of the new reign, the Coronation, has been wisely seized upon by the king and his counselors as a fitting opportunity to gather together in London the leading statesmen of the empire. From far and near, from Australia, Africa and the east, from the islands of the sea and from Britain's great heritage in this western continent, the nation-builders are hastening to do obeisance to their sovereign lord and to take counsel with one another and with the British statesmen on the plans for the furtherance of Greater Britain. To the thoughtful mind, the gathering of the premiers and ministers of the crown, the rulers by the people's will of the king's domains in Britain and beyond the seas, is the notable event of the coronation. These men of peace represent a power greater than the more imposing naval or military pageant; they stand for a united empire whose policy shall no longer be dominated by any exploded fallacies of a little England type. When a similar gathering on a less comprehensive scale was held at the time of the diamond jubilee, the non-British world scoffed at the vows of fealty to queen and constitution which these men from the outer marches of the empire offered as their tribute, but the world has since learned that these vows have been redeemed in blood on the South African veldt and is in a better mood to recognize the magnitude of the present gathering and to heed the offers of service which may be made at London on this occasion.

History has been making rapidly since 1800, and many of the men who represented their nations on the former occasion are returning to swear a new allegiance and to repeat the offers of service to their new crowned king. To no one among them all, we venture to think, will on a more hearty greeting be given by the king and court or by the people of the great British metropolis than to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who is himself the embodiment of that wide spread liberty which the war-worn flag of Britain brings to the alien peoples whom it covers. Sir Wilfrid is an object lesson to those wiseacres who scarce can realize that in a generation the old feud of the Boer and Briton will be recalled in South Africa only as another example of the freedom which British rule ensures to every subject. Sprung from the race whose valiant struggle for domination in the new world ended on the Plains of Abraham, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the premier of United Canada, is a splendid example of the unity of purpose which may be developed, in peoples whose blood, language and traditions are different, by the display of the broadest principles of freedom in government.

KING OF SCOTLAND AS WELL.
The Scottish people who had made protest at the assumption by the King of the title of Edward VII., on the ground that King of Scotland he would be Edward I., may feel to some degree mollified at his action in regard to the assistance of the Scottish church. He has announced his intention of continuing the annual subscription, instituted by Queen Victoria, of £2,000 per year to the Presbyterian Church of Scotland "for the propagation of the Christian religion in the Highlands and islands of the northern portion of the United Kingdom," and has expressed in writing the wish that a

part of this amount be devoted to the "aiding of young men to preach the Gaelic tongue in the Highlands." He has, at the same time, following his mother's example, declined to contribute to foreign missions, but his action in recognition of the beloved language of the Highlands is none the less notable. And yet as head also of the Established Church of Scotland, it is not unnatural. The error of such a usually well informed newspaper as the Boston Transcript in this connection is curious. The Transcript says: "This action of the King is significant for two reasons: First—That although he is the constitutional head of the Established Church of England, he is not a member of it, and secondly, he is evidently desirous of preserving, not abolishing, the Gaelic language." Our Boston contemporary evidently overlooks the fact that Presbyterianism is just as much the Established Church of Scotland as Episcopalianism is the Established Church of England, and when the sovereign is in Scotland he is naturally attends the Presbyterian church as he does the Episcopal church when in England. Neither should the King's kindly action in regard to the Gaelic language be taken as the encouragement of any foreign tongue within the British domain, for Gaelic is conspicuously one of the British tongues, with its home and headquarters within the kingdom and the strength of the race to which it is native has contributed in very marked degree to the proud superiority won by Britain in the past century's history of the empire.

The King and all his reflecting subjects know that the glory of the Highland regiments of British soldiery is but one evidence of the strong tone that the Gaelic tongue maintains in the splendid chorus which marks the British empire of nations in its forward march of greatness. Yes, the King's acknowledgment of this fact is an example for the other nations of Europe, the sovereigns of which are tending to alienate the affections of many of their subjects by their endeavor to obliterate the mother tongue of sections which have become allied under their flag, as in Finland and Poland. Britain has a way of doing these things somehow which results in the making of friends and admirers of its otherwise enemies, while the policy of too many other nations seems to be only to irritate the natural animosity of the races. It is evident that happen to have come under their dominion.

THE TRANSATLANTIC TRADE.
Another line in which the grasping American policy is apt to alienate Canadian trade is the American endeavor to monopolize the transatlantic business under American management and ownership, if not under the American flag. The recent Morganization of a number of the New York steamship lines has awakened such resentment in England that the organization of a rival service to Canada has been announced as probable. The natural order of events, as has hitherto been stated in The Telegraph, there would be no early prospect for the financial success of a Canadian flag line, but since the Americans seem so anxious to oblige the British to acknowledge their supremacy, it seems entirely within the bounds of possibility that the British may take the trouble to demonstrate that they can be absolutely independent of Americans. The Canadian route certainly offers the shortest sea trip and if a first-class greyhound service were established from St. John it would stand out more into American trade than any American service could reap from Canadian trade. Nothing succeeds like success, and any good service if maintained long enough in efficiency to merit success is pretty certain to secure a measure of it. If the British people themselves should decide that they as a matter of sentiment prefer to travel from a Canadian port, it is in their power to turn the tide of travel from American ports. In this connection the Canadian Trade Review remarks: "There is no doubt that with our facilities we can not only equal but surpass the trip across the Atlantic, so as to fully meet American competition, but also to prove a powerful rival for the seagoing trade of the British Empire. 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