

London Advertiser.

FOUNDED BY JOHN CAMERON IN 1863.

The Daily Advertiser.

Two Editions.

Daily, by mail, for three months, \$1.00.

By mail, per annum, \$3.00.

Western Advertiser.

(OUR WEEKLY EDITION)

By mail, per annum, \$3.00.

Advertising Rates made known on application.

Address all communications to

ADVERTISER PRINTING CO.

LONDON - CANADA.

JOHN CAMERON, President and

Managing Dir.

God's in His heaven,

All's right with the world.

—Showering.

The Postoffice Scandal.

On the inquiry into the conduct of

postoffice civil servants who took part

in the West Huron election—against

Mr. M. C. Cameron, M.P.—the excuse of

the accused was that they only dis-

tributed literature at the church door

on Sunday, and that they were

obeying instructions. Both alleged

that they were ordered to enter the

riding by the postoffice inspector.

From their story, it would seem that

these men were not free agents—that

they were compelled to take compul-

sory holidays, and go to a riding in

which they were acquainted, to aid in

the defeat of the Liberal candidate.

A man thinking of the future, and

recognizing the risks of a new Admin-

istration taking power, ought to have

hesitated before taking holidays on

such conditions. He would have been

warranted in refusing to neglect his

duties, even at the mandate of the

postoffice inspector, or of the Post-

master-General himself.

The fact that such an order was

given shows how desperate were the

Conservative managers at Ottawa in

their endeavor to hold on to office af-

ter the country had turned against

them. We cannot believe that any

inspector would issue such an order

unless under direction from the Post-

master-General, and we doubt the wis-

dom of his doing it even under pres-

sure from Ottawa?

The case is not likely to rest at the

point now reached. M. C. Cameron,

M.P., may be relied on to prove the

bottom. No matter how the of-

fenders in this instance fare, it can-

not too soon be understood that in

future civil servants must attend to

the duties for which the whole people

pay them. If they choose to enter the

political arena, which surely can be

manned by those outside the service,

they cannot grumble if they share the

fortunes of the offensive partisan.

A Prosperous Company.

The affairs of the Huron and Erie

Loan and Savings Company, as shown

in the annual report, just issued,

give evidence of capable and careful

management. In face of the hard

times a dividend of 9 per cent per an-

num has been paid, and the reserve

fund increased from \$700,000 to \$730,-

000. Mr. John Labatt succeeds Mr. A.

W. Forte on the directorate, and it

goes without saying that the com-

pany will continue to merit and enjoy

the confidence investors and deposi-

tors have so freely reposed in it

hitherto. The great care taken in

the inspection of lands offered as se-

curity, and to the promptness with

which sales are made when real

estate falls into the company's hands

is doubtless largely due to the suc-

cess of the business. London is to

be congratulated upon being the home

of a company which for its third

third of a century has been a con-

spicuous example of honorable and

judicious business enterprise. Mayor

'Little's felicitations as president of

the company are amply warranted by

the results of the year's business.

Peterboro Central Exhibition di-

rectors have asked Hon. Mr. Laurier to

open their show next fall, and the

Premier has consented to do so, if

his official duties will permit. Mr.

Laurier's time is much in demand

these days.

Funerals in Winter.

Chauncey Dewey, the United States

railway magnate, having caught a se-

vere cold while participating in a fu-

neral ceremony, writes to the press

condemning public funerals, and says

the danger, especially to the pain-

bearers, is great. In Canada, the pub-

lic have in recent years been working

a quiet, yet effective, reform in re-

gard to funeral services. In nearly

every case nowadays, the service at the

grave in the winter months is cut

down to a simple prayer, and the

clergyman officiating has the good

sense to request all present to keep

their hats on. In many cases, too,

funerals are really private, the general

public not being invited to participate,

and only the immediate relatives go-

ing to the cemetery. There is no dis-

respect in such an arrangement. The

dead can in no sense be honored by

the living exposing themselves to dan-

ger in laying away the body of a

friend from which the spirit has taken

its departure.

A Creditable Showing.

Many readers will be interested in the report of the annual meeting of the Dominion Savings and Investment Society of this city, printed in another column. This is one of the oldest savings and investment societies in the province, and it is conducted with energy and carefulness. This is made evident by the fact that the amount loaned last year was \$309,522, selected from loans applied for, amounting to \$555,529. The amount due savings bank depositors in now \$623,292.06, and there is over \$600,000 due holders of currency debentures. In security for this the company has over \$934,000 permanent stock and mortgages on property, the cash value of which is \$2,215,515.82. Last year the company earned \$52,274.95, all of which except \$5,576.62, which was carried to the reserve fund, was devoted to the payment of dividends.

The Dominion Society has made very advantageous arrangements for new headquarters. The officials will, at an early date, move into the handsome offices now being fitted up for them in the Masonic Temple Building, corner of Richmond and King streets. No better premises for the purpose could be found.

The London Hockey team did not win in the contest with the Berlin club last night, but they came very near it. President George C. Davis has reason to be proud of his team, and to be satisfied with the support which the legitimate sport-loving public of London gave them.

Le Monde (a Quebec Conservative paper) now threatens that unless the coercive policy of Sir Charles Tupper is applied to Manitoba, Confederation must be smashed. Out of office, how belligerent these people become!

A City School Decision.

The internal management committee of the London school board very properly and unanimously refused to make any changes in the management of the Colborne street school.

One of the trustees, elected a few weeks ago, started in to secure the transfer of Miss Coyne to a subordinate position in another school. Those who know Miss Coyne's qualifications, and are cognizant of the fact that she has been a painstaking, energetic, uniformly successful teacher, as well as a good manager of those under her supervision, naturally opposed the change. Incidentally, it was suggested by some that because Miss Coyne was the only woman placed in chief control of a city public school, proof was afforded that she was less qualified to secure discipline in boys than a male teacher would be. But Inspector Carson promptly met this insinuation with a strong testimonial in behalf of Miss Coyne.

The idea that school management depends on sex has no foundation in fact. There are just as competent managers among women teachers as among men teachers, and there is no evidence that the degree of success in disciplining unruly boys which Miss Coyne has attained at Colborne street has been exceeded by the principals of other city schools.

A Unique Record.

That the Temperance and General Life Assurance Company has had a unique and most creditable record is beyond dispute. It claims for the year 1896 to have had the lowest mortality on record for a company in its eleventh year, being only \$2.37 for each \$1,000 of average risk for the year. Its mortality for eleven years has been 4.11 per 1,000 per annum for the average number of risks carried.

With regard to investments the strong claim is made that this company never owned a dollar's worth of real estate either on account of purchase or through foreclosure of a mortgage, and that it closed its books at the end of 1896-6 without a dollar of interest overdue and unpaid. It may be a matter of interest to our readers to know that its president, Hon. G. W. Ross; its managing director, Mr. H. Sutherland; its secretary, Mr. James G. Begg; its cashier, Mr. O. P. Dodge; its policy writer, Mr. Gordon J. Begg; its all Middlesex men, who are well and favorably known not only in this county but much more widely. The splendid reports which it publishes from year to year and the personal knowledge that most of our readers have of its executive officers should make it very strong in the confidence of all Middlesex men and of all total abstainers.

A note in The Outlook tells of a movement which is gathering force in Great Britain, and which has already received attention in the United States, looking toward the gathering of an English-speaking, unsectarian religious conference, and for the setting apart of a special day for commemorating the blessings and the responsibilities of the English-speaking race. Among those who have already given hearty approval of the plan are Dr. John Clifford, now the most eminent Baptist leader of Great Britain; Principal Fairbairn, of Oxford; Dr. R. F. Horton, of London; Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, the great Wesleyan preacher; and others equally prominent. Much good might follow the deliberations of a gathering organized for the purpose here indicated. What better time could be chosen than the year of the celebration of the jubilee of Queen Victoria, the best-beloved sovereign of modern times?

The Bida Battle

Details of the Victory Won by British Troops

Over the Overwhelming Forces of Emir of Nupe.

Nelson the Hero of a New and Successful Play.

The Steamer St. Paul Safe in Port—Live Stock Saved From the Anglomani.

TROUBLE IN TRIPOLI.

Tripoli, Feb. 12.—The Turkish officials having withdrawn the guard from the Jewish quarter here, a mob of Mussulmans invaded it, pillaged the synagogue and destroyed the scrolls of the law.

MARINE MATTERS.

London, Feb. 12.—Four hundred and forty-nine sheep and one horse were saved from the British steamer Anglomani, which was wrecked on the Skerries on Feb. 9, while on a voyage from Boston for Liverpool.

The North German Lloyd steamer Trave (Capt. Thalenhorst), from New York, Feb. 2, arrived at Southampton at midnight. She reports a tempestuous voyage, and much delay by fog, which accounted for the extreme length of her voyage.

The anxiety regarding the whereabouts of the steamship St. Paul is now allayed, as the steamer passed Hurst Castle last evening on her way to her dock at Southampton.

SUCCESSFUL NEW PLAY.

London, Feb. 12.—"The Enchanted" produced at the Avenue Theatre last night, is less a play than a series of charming tableaux. The dramatic story has for its subject England's greatest hero, Lord Nelson. The story begins with an intricate existing between Lady Hamilton and Charles Greville; then touches upon the episode of Sir Walter Hamilton's infatuation, and the transference of the protection of the young woman from her father to her uncle. Next follows her relations with Lord Nelson and her influence upon the career of the latter. One of the most effective portions of the action is the first meeting between Nelson and Emma Hart at the door of his study. The play, however, affords little scope for good acting. Patrick Campbell, who assumed the part of Lady Hamilton, was wise and graceful in the most exquisite of gowns. Forbes Robertson, as Lord Nelson, was admirable. The play was well received.

MISCHIEF-MAKERS.

Rome, Feb. 12.—A correspondent cables: I have just seen Archbishop Keane, of Washington, and found him jubilant over the reception given him by the Pope and the dignitaries conferred upon him. Archbishop Keane made this statement: "The Pope said to me: 'I am greatly shocked and grieved by these mischief-makers who are so busy in the American press, making him who would try to put me in the position of disapproving the splendid service of Cardinal Saffold, or publicly disparaging you, never occurred to me. The change in the restoration of the Washington University was submitted to me as a purely pedagogical routine matter. I was astonished and indignant when I learned that these mischief-makers had misrepresented the meaning of my act. I desire to denounce their statements, and give evidence of my love and esteem for you. My answers to your enemies will be a substantial one. The policy of the Holy See in America is unchanged.'" Soon after this conversation Archbishop Keane, making him Bishop of the Throne, Canon of the Cathedral of St. John of Lateran, and visitor to the Propaganda, and Advisor to the College of Sacred Studies.

CABLE NOTES.

Count von Wolkstein-Trosburg, brother of the Austrian ambassador to France, committed suicide in Vienna last evening by shooting himself with a revolver.

It is officially stated at Calcutta that 2,500,000 persons are now employed on the famine relief works in the different districts where the scarcity prevails.

At a meeting of Republicans at Madrid on Friday, the anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic in 1873, there were 4,000 persons present. The leaders urged the necessity of unity of Republicans. Their remarks were frequently interrupted, and the attitude of the crowd was hostile.

EATING RATS.

Awful Famine Felt in the Southern Provinces of Russia.

London, Feb. 12.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from St. Petersburg, gives harrowing accounts of the distress caused by the famine in the provinces of Cherson, Bessarabia, Ekaterin, Astrakhan and other sections of Southern Russia.

The peasants are eating horses and rats, and appealing to the local authorities to save them from starvation. It will require many thousands of roubles to enable the authorities to grant even the miserable allowance of a pound of rye bread daily, necessary for more existence, and undoubtedly many persons will die.

AT BIDA.

Details of the Capture of the Fulah Capital.

London, Feb. 12.—A dispatch from Bida gives additional details concerning the capture of the capital of the Royal Niger Company's expedition against the Emir of Nupe. The fighting around Bida, the Fulah capital, which was stormed by dark on the evening of Jan. 26, was resumed at daylight next morning. Half of the British force, which consisted of 500 troops, 6 Maxim, 26 mounted officers and 900 carriers, were ordered to cross a ravine near the ridge on which the Emir's camp was situated. The company's expedition had been stationed during the night. As they crossed the ravine it was noticed that the Fulah scouts were watching. The troops accordingly formed in a half-square, the guns following. The rear half of the force then closed on the front half, forming a complete square. The British forces advanced steadily, halting every 200 yards for the pur-

pose of allowing the guns to keep pace. The masses of the enemy soon appeared, covering the surrounding slopes, constituting a splendid panorama.

The Royal Niger troops continued to advance slowly until they reached a ridge commanding Bida. They then took up a strong position on the reverse of the slope and continued to reconnoiter throughout the day. Their forces were constantly harassed by the Fulah sharpshooters, who daringly advanced within 100 yards of the square. Swarms of the enemy's cavalry charged on the Royal Niger forces, but they were badly shattered owing to the effective use of the Maxim guns. At 10:30 the artillery began bombarding the town, six Maxim guns playing on the gradually retreating masses of the enemy. At noon the advance company of the troops entered Bida, which is a town three miles square. Bombarding of a portion of the town was resumed, however, lasting until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when one-half of the Hausa troops took possession. Only fifteen of the Hausa troops were wounded. The losses of the Fulah forces were enormous. The brother of the Emir of Nupe, and many of the princes were severely wounded by a shell, which exploded among the members of the staff of the Emir, killing two men who were standing within a foot of him at the time. All of the Fulah princes fled in the direction of Sokoto.

A Romantic Career

Had Brave Capt. McGiffin Who Suicided.

Distinguished in Many Instances for Personal Bravery—Thanked by Cabinet Officer.

New York, Feb. 12.—Capt. Philo M. McGiffin, a former officer of the Chinese navy, who was in command of the battleship Suifu at the battle of Yalu, committed suicide Thursday morning in the Post-Graduate Hospital by shooting himself through the head. He was 34 years old.

Capt. McGiffin had a romantic career. He was born in Washington, Pa., in 1862. He was a son of Capt. Norton McGiffin, who served in the Mexican war with distinction and who was colonel of the Eighty-Eighth Pennsylvania volunteers during the war of the rebellion. Philo McGiffin graduated from the Naval Academy at Annapolis with high honors in 1882.

The personal bravery of Capt. McGiffin won admiration long before the battle of the Yalu. He was thrown by accident of travel into the midst of the great railroad strike in Pittsburgh in 1892, and he braved the services to the city. They were accepted, and during the strike he displayed his personal bravery by running an engine single-handed through a mob of strikers to rescue a passenger train. He was awarded a gold medal and a vote of thanks by the city.

While he was a cadet in the naval academy McGiffin received the thanks of the Secretary of the Navy for rescuing two children from a burning building.

Two years later McGiffin was complimented by general order from the Secretary of the Navy for an act of personal bravery for going aloft to secure a flag on the Constitution during a hurricane, when the sailors would not venture into the rigging.

As a graduate of the naval academy he was honorably discharged in 1884, owing to a reduction in the number of midshipmen. He entered the service of China during the Franco-Chinese war, and was given the rank of lieutenant. He sent the England to superintend the construction of ironclads, and at the same time he was in command of the Chinese squadron.

He took part in the battle of the Yalu, well known, and although it was a defeat for the Chinese fleet, it accomplished its end in preventing the landing of a Japanese force in the rear of the Chinese army.

BULL AND STALLION FIGHT.

The Bull Is Dead and the Horse in the Care of a Veterinary Surgeon.

Wolcott, Feb. 12.—The other morning a fight took place at the farm of Byron Worthing, about three miles southeast of Wolcott. Mr. Worthing is a well-known horse breeder, and his Clydesdale stallion, and also of a large registered Jersey bull.

Mr. Worthing's little son, Herbert, aged 11 years, went to the barn for the purpose of doing the morning chores in some manner the boy undid the fastenings of the box stall in which the stallion is kept, and, not noticing it, he went about his work in another part of the barn. The horse immediately made his way out into the barnyard, where the bull was with the other cattle. Herbert had made his appearance when he was attacked in a savage manner by the bull. As soon as he discovered the two animals fighting he attempted to separate them, and in so doing came near losing his life. He was picked up by the horse. He managed to regain his feet and make his escape to the house and notify his father.

When Mr. Worthing arrived upon the scene a terrific battle was in progress. The bull trying to force the horse, while the horse was kicking and striking with all fours. Mr. Worthing recognized the futility of any attempt to separate the combatants, and could only watch the battle from a safe distance. Mad and furious, raging the conflict, first one infuriated animal having a seeming advantage and then the other. Finally the bull succeeded in forcing the stallion severely in the flank, and just as the enraged animal was about to charge again, the stallion wheeled and kicked the bull, shattering his shoulder blade. This partly disabled the bull, but, mad with pain, he succeeded in rallying, and with his head down charged directly at the stallion from behind. The horse gathering himself to meet the charge, and kicking with both feet, struck the bull a terrific blow squarely in the head, breaking his skull. The bull staggered for a moment, and then rolled over and died.

The stallion then turned and attacked his former antagonist, the boy, biting and striking him with great fury. Mr. Worthing, with the aid of a neighbor, finally succeeded in driving the stallion into the barn. The horse is suffering from numerous gashes and cuts sustained in the fray. A veterinary surgeon was immediately called and dressed the wounds of the horse.

Next morning it was found necessary to summon a physician for the boy, Herbert, who is now thought to be in a precarious condition.

Kur-a-Kof, for Coughs and Colds, 25 cents at Anderson & Nelles' drug store.

THE ADVANCE AGENT OF HEALTH

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S

SAFE CURE

WARNER'S