

A MATTER FOR REJOICING.

All those who have cast upon their shoulders the responsibility of state affairs, and have an adequate idea of the trust reposed in them, will be exceedingly glad to hear that the life of the Czar of all the Russias has been spared. Since he took his place upon the throne of his fathers, as far as it has been judged by the trend of events, it has been the chief end in life of this young man to maintain the peace of the world. His task, it is reported, has been no easy one, for those high in the affairs of state in that despotic country do not consider themselves responsible for their actions to any earthly authority. It is doubtful if even the ruler himself is a free agent because of the presence at the council board of the nation of men who seem to believe themselves ordained to certain offices just as much as the Czar himself is born to sit upon the throne. Foreign affairs are in their hands, with the love of peace and moderation of the Czar acting as a sort of brake upon the ambition to make the name of Russia something to conjure with in international affairs. But inherited propensities to grab and the training of years in the belief that Russia is destined to dominate the earth are not easily overcome, and in spite of the desire of the monarch that nothing should be done to disturb the peace of the world and that all the energies of the rulers of Russia should be devoted to internal development and the education and uplifting of the people who are still to all intents and purposes serfs, Manchuria is in possession of Russian forces, and in face of all assertions to the contrary it is likely to so remain. The Czar did his best to convince the world that he was more than a mere dreamer by calling together the peace convention at The Hague. He was sincere in his belief that good might come out of such a gathering, but the convention simply proved that while the world has advanced in certain directions the spirit of man now is as it was in the beginning. That which is gained by the sword must be maintained by the sword. There are still a great many points on the surface of the earth that are in weak hands. Although all the strong nations profess that all they desire is the maintenance of the "open door," it sometimes takes a large force of men to keep the entrance clear, and once desirable territory is taken possession of temporarily it is a tremendous strain upon them to give it up. In face of these undeniable facts, it is plain that the Czar is somewhat in advance of the times even of nations that have the reputation of being more civilized than Russia. The day of beating swords into pruning hooks has not yet arrived. There is still a very active demand for implements of war and there is no immediate prospect of its dying out. We are really afraid that the Czar who means so well shall have gone the way of all rulers and potentates before the day of universal peace has dawned. We sincerely hope, however, that he may long be spared to occupy a position for which he is better fitted than the great majority of his predecessors and that he may not be sent out of the world by any such agencies as have ended the careers of a great many of them. It is a matter for regret that his peaceful disposition and his evident anxiety for the welfare of his people are no guarantee against violence to himself.

ORIENTAL VOTES.

The successful application of a naturalized Japanese subject of the Queen for the privileges of the franchise has raised a question which is likely to create a good deal of discussion before it is satisfactorily disposed of. We suppose there is no possibility of controverting the position of those who contend that all those who are permitted to exercise the franchise should at the very least be sufficiently educated to be able to intelligently comprehend in a general way all matters that are placed before the people to pronounce upon. A man brought up in a British community may be technically an illiterate, while at the same time by reason of his daily walk and conversation he may be quite as well qualified to pass judgment upon his rulers as the most diligent student of political matter through the newspapers. It is not necessary to point out that in the case of a foreigner entirely ignorant of the language such a state of affairs is impossible. Not in the lifetime of the majority of Orientals who land upon our shores would it be possible for them to properly qualify for the franchise. The very nature of their occupations and their environment absolutely preclude it. But, according to the judgment of the Chief Justice, at the present time they have the legal right to vote. The law must be amended, that is clear, but it may not be so easy a matter to do that as would appear to the people of the West, who have but one opinion on the subject. We suppose the Oriental Commission which was recently appointed will take cognizance of this new phase of a troublesome question, and that its findings will have some effect in shaping the legislation necessary to finally dispose of the matter.

The Liberal party has had some experience of the abuses which ensue from bestowing the franchise upon people unable to comprehend, and entirely beyond appreciation of the privilege accorded them. It is easy to understand the advantage which unscrupulous politicians are tempted to take of a situation which

admits of a body of men voting solidly one way. The case of the Indians of Ontario who were served with a bogus command from the Queen to vote for Dr. Montague gives an admirable illustration of how the oracle can be worked. The Liberal government has set an example which we trust will have some effect upon the future political history of Canada, although it is clear from the tactics of the Conservative party that it will have to be imbued with a new spirit before anything good can be expected to come out of it.

BRITISH OPINION.

The press of the United Kingdom is all of one mind apparently in regard to the significance of the great victory of the Liberals at the late elections. From the Times down to the minor papers in the provinces all have had something to say upon a subject which a few years ago would never have been noticed at all except cursorily. The Cardiff Western Mail in its comments says that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is one of the greatest statesmen of the age. "Every man of note on the Conservative side, from Sir Charles Tupper, the octogenarian leader, down, has been defeated at the polls, and the distinguished French-Canadian statesman who has done so much for the Empire is returned to power with an increased majority. It is, perhaps, among the curiosities of British politics that this result should be welcome to both Radicals and Unionists in the Old Country—to Radicals because Sir Wilfrid's party is the Radical party of Canada, and to the Unionists because the leaders of the Canadian Conservatives identified themselves with what we call Little Englandism in this country and has been labelled Little Canadaism in the Dominion. It is one of the happiest and most important accidents of history that Sir Wilfrid Laurier should have been Premier of Canada at the time when the Empire was overtaken by the South African crisis. We prefer not to think of what might have happened had somebody been in power who did not possess the unusual combination of qualities which could unify the two great races of Canada as Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been able to do with such conspicuous success. A Canadian of French extraction, his public speeches have breathed throughout a lofty spirit of splendid Imperialism. This policy would naturally appeal to the British Canadians, who form three-fifths of the population of the Dominion; but it did more; it aroused and developed the ardent patriotism of the other two-fifths who are French in extraction and still French in language—aroused and developed it to such an extent that the Canadian contingent sent to the front comprised a proportion of French-Canadians, and Quebec—the French province—gave Sir Wilfrid Laurier on Wednesday an all but solid phalanx of supporters. This is an enormous and enduring service, and the Empire will be fortunate if Sir Wilfrid Laurier is long spared to complete the task which he alone seems qualified to accomplish, namely, the unification of the two great races which are living side by side in Canada, separated by traditions and language, but joined together by a common patriotism to the Dominion to which they are so proud to belong and which they are so determined to develop.

VICTORIA AROUSED.

The people have decided that Victoria shall no longer occupy a position of "splendid isolation" on the North American continent. It had frequently been remarked that we had reached the parting of the ways. Yesterday the right path was chosen, as we believe the future will demonstrate. A new and more hopeful spirit has already taken possession of the populace. They feel that they are now in as favorable position to do business with their own people and their neighbors to the south as are their competitors on any part of the continent. It can no longer be claimed by any business house or manufacturer that in order to keep up with the times and to get in closer touch with all parts of British Columbia it will be necessary to establish itself on the Mainland. That cry has been set at rest by the action of the C. P. R. in yielding to demands which it was apparent could not be resisted even before the vote of yesterday showed how thoroughly the ratepayers were aroused. But we are sorry to have to say that the people of Victoria have not confidence beyond bounds in the C. P. R., and we do not know that the railway company is altogether irresponsible in connection with this unfortunate lack of confidence. At any rate, it was felt that it would be well not to be at the mercy of the C. P. R. and that it would not be a bad idea to anchor them in their position this time. That has been done effectively, although the transaction will cost a few thousand dollars, which we hope will be returned a hundred fold ere long. It was a case in which we had to go in and help ourselves or be left so far behind in the race as to make the task of catching up in succeeding years a hopeless one. Already some of our lusty young neighbors had begun to sneer at Victoria as a back number, as a city without a future, because she had not energy enough to rise up and subdue the forces that were arrayed against her, to place herself on an equality with her aggressive neighbors. It will not do to say that these sneers were in no way harmful. They have done us great

injury in the past, just as it must necessarily have a baneful effect on any commercial house to have it bruited abroad that it has fallen behind the times. That reproach has been most effectively removed. We have demonstrated in a manner so emphatic as to surprise even ourselves that we are quite willing to put our hands in our pockets for the purpose of placing our city on an equality with all other places. That fact alone will have a wonderful effect on our fortunes. It will prove that the merchants and manufacturers who are enterprising enough to tax themselves for such a purpose must be good men to do business with and that the citizens of Victoria generally have not deserved the reproaches of sleepiness which have been flung at them from some quarters. There are the impressions we want to see gain ground in British Columbia and all over the world. They will have the effect of bringing business here and of inducing people to come and live amongst us. With the finest climate in the world, all our streets like the three which have lately been paved, and unexcelled transportation and business facilities, we should not be surprised if in the course of five years the men who yesterday voted against the ferry by-law will wake up and wonder where they are at.

KEEP RIGHT ON.

The feeling was general in the city yesterday that the ferry by-law would be ratified by the ratepayers by a good majority, but there were very few indeed who expected such an overwhelming vote in its favor. It was no uncommon thing to meet men on the street who were prepared to maintain that the business men of Victoria should confine their operations to their own Island, that it is large enough and wealthy enough to give ample returns for all the efforts we can put forth towards its development. All that might be true if it were possible for us to retain the trade of the Island under present conditions. But we cannot do it. It requires precisely the same business energy and foresight to win and retain the trade of Vancouver Island at the present time as it does to do business in other parts of British Columbia. We are not immune from competition on the Island. The business men of course know all these things, but, strange as it may seem, there were many who cast their ballots yesterday who did not. They would have been content to jog along in the old way, perhaps firm in the belief that Victoria is still the chief city on the coast north of San Francisco, and wondering in their hearts why it was necessary to make such a to-do over a scheme which contemplated the upsetting of a state of affairs under which we have all been able to live, move and have our being. The tide of progress has flowed over the position of these men, and will carry them forward along with it. The people of Victoria will begin the new century with a feeling of buoyancy and hopefulness to which they have been strangers for some years.

It is the intention of the Dominion government to take steps looking to and to assist in the opening up of the rich places of the province which are still locked up against the entrance of man for any practical purpose by reason of lack of means of communication and transportation. In this scheme we hope Vancouver Island will not be overlooked. The newspapers of Victoria have urged the building of a line of railway to the north end of the Island, and there is good reason to believe that the Dominion government is inclined to assist in this work. There is no part of Canada which promises more adequate returns upon the necessary outlay. That is the next task to which the people of Victoria must bend their energies in order that they may enjoy to the fullest extent the benefits of the era of expansion.

We are afraid the Scots of Victoria are not alive to their privileges. Yesterday was the day when all men from north of the Tweed are permitted with impunity to sound the loud timbrel to the honor and glory of the Scottish people. Yet at the Driford last evening if there was any horn-blowing done the tooting did not proceed from the vocal organs of the sons of the heather. We are really alarmed for the future of the Scot. Perhaps the climate here is not "dour" enough to bring out his best qualities.

According to the Associated Press, the Americans have sent the U. S. S. Kentucky to Eastern waters for the purpose of drumming up orders for their shipyards. But there is no game the Turks are not familiar with, and with the departure of the ship of war the order which was booked at the mouth of cannon will be cancelled.

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To Deal With Boers

Much Is Expected of Mounted Police Force Now Being Established.

Canadian Officers Think Kitchen Is the Right Man For the Work

Philippine War—Member of Junta Says Native Resources Are Still Great.

(Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 1.—South Africa once more monopolizes attention. The public is aghast at General Dewet's success at Dewetsdorp where he captured the British garrison of 400 men and two guns, as already cabled to the Associated Press in detail. "Is this guerilla warfare?" the Liberal papers ironically inquire. "Why," as stated on all sides, "are these troops coming?" The ovations to the victors strike even those participating in them as hollow compared with the events transpiring at the seat of war. Parliament not being in session, the public is not favored with any insight into the war office's opinions and plans.

A representative of the Associated Press interviewed one of the responsible heads of the department, and elicited the following views: "Undoubtedly

The Situation in South Africa is serious. It resembles in many ways America's trouble with the Filipinos. We cannot expect to crush out opposition for some time to come. We are not withdrawing troops indiscriminately, nor are we indifferent to the gravity of the problem. The Household Cavalry has come home because heavy cavalry is practically useless. The infantry, which is of comparatively small service. We rely upon two things to bring about peace: First, the transformation so far as possible of all the British troops in the disturbed districts into mounted infantry and mounted infantry; second, through the establishment of a police force. Until the latter gets in working order even the cavalry will not be able to accomplish much. The police force should be similar to the Irish constabulary, only all the men will be mounted.

When that body is organized I believe a change will quickly come over the situation.

The Canadian officers, who returned here from South Africa this week, expressed no surprise at the renewal of Boer success. They only wondered that they had not been greater. The Canadians, however, are unanimous in expressing the belief that Lord Kitchener is the right man to deal with the form of opposition now faced by the British in South Africa. Hardly any of the returning officers expressed criticism of Lord Roberts, even in the face of the recent reverses. The general feeling towards the field marshal is well put by the Sun of this city. It says: "Lord Roberts is a brilliant, dashing soldier, and has displayed consummate ability. But, after all, we fear he is

Too Much of a Humanitarian for the work now to be done. Once Kitchener gets to work on the Boers, nothing will stop him."

There is a noticeable incursion of Filipinos into London and Paris. The reports are generally denied. At Agoncillo, Aguinaldo's agent in Europe, was contemplating going to Hongkong to reorganize there the Filipino transport and resupply the Filipinos with munitions of war, has given rise to the belief that the Filipinos in Europe are contemplating a new campaign. A representative of the Associated Press has interviewed one of the most prominent members of the European Junta, who has just returned from Paris and Madrid. He says: "We are planning no new campaign. There is no reason why Agoncillo should go to Hongkong to give the Filipinos a further supply of the munitions of war. The fact that Agoncillo has just leased a home in Paris should show he intends to remain to watch events. The reports of our committees at Kobe, Yokohama, Macao, Batavia, Hongkong and Bangkok show that

They Are All Working Well.

This is also evinced by the fact that ten thousand rifles were smuggled into Manila last month. The war is no nearer an end than ever. The Filipinos' resources are still great, as can be judged by the fact that Aguinaldo is continuing to keep and feed 3,000 prisoners. We are deeply disappointed with the result of the election of Mr. McKinley. Although our agent in the United States never led us to believe Mr. Bryan would actively help us, yet we relied upon the strength of the anti-imperialists in the United States. We are still anxious to come to an understanding, and there are indications that Mr. McKinley favors a compromise. It is clear that Judge Taft goes beyond his instructions, and that Mr. McKinley is prepared to give greater concessions than Judge Taft. It is true that a large number of Filipinos are flocking to European countries. At least sixty are now in London, but not with the idea of a renewed propaganda. The Junta is content to wait till the Americans are

Tired of Losing Officers and Men by death from sickness. We hope and believe that better times are in store." Sir Thomas Lipton lately has been considering the proposal to send Shamrock II. into American waters for a series of trial races with Shamrock II. However, while he is anxious to give the new yacht every chance, he feels pledged to the Glasgow exhibition committee to race the older boat in the international races which the committee has arranged to take place on the Clyde, and he has decided to leave the decision to Mr. Geo. L. Watson, who has designed the new challenger for the America's



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Capture Imminent

Knox is Engaged in Big Fight With Dewet Near Rouxville.

Pilcher is Also Reported to Have Been in Touch With Wily Leader.

Lord Mayor and Corporation of London Entertain Members of Canadian Regiment.

(Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 1.—The Evening Standard reports that a great fight is in progress between General Knox and General Dewet near Rouxville in the southern extremity of the Orange River Colony, and that the capture of General Dewet is considered imminent.

Two Days' Fighting. London, Dec. 1.—The first dispatch from General Kitchener in his capacity of commander-in-chief of the British forces in South Africa, dated Bloemfontein, November 30th, confirms the reports of fighting between General Pilcher and General Dewet as cabled on November 29th, and adds the latest reports regarding General Knox being in touch with General Dewet's force.

General Kitchener also reports that General Paget was fighting on November 28th and 29th with the Villjoen and Erasmus commandos, and that he drove them to a position in the vicinity of Reifouten.

The British casualties were heavy. Colonel Lloyd and five other officers were wounded, five men were killed and fifty were wounded.

Lord Mayor and Canadians. London, Dec. 1.—During a course of sightseeing in the metropolis to-day the members of the Royal Canadian contingent troops were received at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor and corporation. His Lordship expressed the high honor he felt entertaining a regiment, "Whose service to the Empire were so great that they had been acknowledged by the Queen's own lips, the highest honor which could be bestowed on returning troops."

Lieut.-Col. Buchan gracefully acknowledged the heartiness of the reception of the Canadians everywhere in England.

Kruger's Departure. Paris, Dec. 1.—Mr. Kruger left the Hotel Scribe at 1.10 p. m. to-day in a closed carriage, surrounded by a squadron of mounted municipal guards. The Boer statesman was cheered as he drove away. The Boer committee which accompanied Mr. Kruger to the station will go as far as the French border. The special train with Mr. Kruger on board started for Cologne at 1.40 p. m.

The Journal Official this morning promulgates the conventions of the Hague peace conference signed July 29th, 1899. Several papers note the significance of the publication at this moment. The Journal says: "It appears to us of great importance that these conventions, published on the morning of Mr. Kruger's departure, after declaring that he is ready to accept arbitration, and has indeed come to Europe to seek mediation, is not this indication a sort of reminder to him that he should not lose the hopes which were raised by the final acts of the conference." The Matin comments in a similar strain.

CANCER CURED PERMANENTLY.

Cases Cured Five, Six and Nine Ago by the New Method of Treatment and the Disease Shows No Sign of Returning.

People who have been operated on and have had the cancer come back on them again with increased severity; those who have had the cancerous lump drawn out by plaster or eaten away by a paste, and who find themselves worse than before; cancer sufferers who have spent hundreds of dollars on all sorts of remedies, seeking a permanent cure in vain, very properly are anxious to know if the constitutional treatment of cancer and tumor will cure so that the cure will be a permanent one. We answer yes, and so there may be no doubt about it, we give cases in our new book, "Cancer, Its Cause and Cure," where the persons were cured many years ago, and up to the present time the disease shows no signs of returning. One lady was cured of cancer of the breast six years ago and is perfectly well to-day. Another lady was cured of an obstinate tumor in 1896 and has never had any return of it since. A case of cancer of the nose that was cured in 1894 shows no signs of coming back. Thus we might go on multiplying instances of permanent cures. Those who desire further information about this permanent and painless treatment for cancers and tumors should send 2 stamps to Messrs. STOTT & JURY, Bowmanville, Ont.