



Vol. II.

Home Journal Publishing Co.  
GLOBE BUILDING, TORONTO.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1897.

No. 10.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00.  
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Queen could have abdicated ten years ago with less protest from her subjects than would be made now.

It may be due to their pride in her length of reign, or to the rapid growth of the Imperial idea during the past decade, but certainly an intense appreciation of their Monarch both as Woman and Regnant is the dominant characteristics of Britishers of to-day.

Her reign is defined upon the darker background of earlier British history like a magnificent cameo, which the chisel of each added year serves to make more clear. And these latest days have brought before the British nation vistas of such wondrous empiric possibilities and the beginnings of such splendid empiric realizations, that the least of her subjects grows to larger manhood by the contemplation of them.

To dissociate the Queen from the great things of her reign were impossible; and it is with deeper understanding of what nationhood and monarchy may mean, that her millions of subjects in this sixtieth year protest against her abdication, exalt their aged ruler, and exult in every fresh utterance of "God Save our Queen."

How shall we fully celebrate this The Queen's Year, as *Punch* has so aptly termed it? In every kingdom and colony, in every city and town, all over our great world-girdling Empire, there is the stir of preparation.

But whatever may be done in the coming months, whatever of good or gayety shall be bestowed, nothing shall surpass the magnificent empiric celebration of January 11th, most notable day of this year, of many years, it may be most notable day in the history of two nations.

Could anything be finer or more fitting, than that in this Queen's Year, a treaty of General Arbitration should be signed between the two great Anglo-Saxon nations.

It has come so quickly, it has passed so quietly, that many of us fail to gauge its value or note its full significance. Yet it marks an epoch not merely in the history of two nations, but of the world. For however experimental it may be in this its earliest stage, yet this treaty lifts upon the world's horizon the first lighting of millennial dawn.

That statesman was correct who said that the signing of this treaty is a matter for thanksgiving, national and religious, rather than political. It is a movement rising above politics into Providence.

ONE happy method of duly celebrating the Queen's Year in two colonies would be by bringing Newfoundland into Confederation.

England's oldest colony should not stand away from her close-lying sister colonies any longer. She needs Canada for development, for fraternity, for the strength that exists in union, for the community of imperial interests and sympathy. More especially is this the case now that her completed railway from east to west island coast will be our connecting link in the first Atlantic trip.

Confederation with the Dominion will open an era of development and prosperity in Newfoundland. It would be welcomed by Canada

as a consummation of her territorial bounds, and mark most fitly the year we celebrate.

THERE is yet another large and imperial way by which we may commemorate this Queen's Year.

While we have plenty and are in health India is starving from famine and stricken with a mortal plague.

Surely in toil or fray, under an alien sky,  
Comfort it is to say, "Of no mean city am I."

Thus Kipling sings of Bombay. Yet now this beautiful city is a place of desolation. Streets are deserted, bazaars are closed, dirges incessant and cemeteries filled. The country places are full of refugees, who fleeing the plague, are dying of starvation because they have nothing to support them.

The Queen's Year should be a bounty year. India is a sister colony, part of us empirically. Therefore, rather than money spent in flags and flowers, let it go to supply the wants of the suffering thousands, and ease them as far as may be, of their pain.

Canada's past great wheat harvests—the full yield of her young prairies—is it not given for this? The most acceptable Queen's Year offering to Her Majesty to-day would be a generous portion in grain and money for her India—our India also.

THE publication of the British blue book shows us that Lord Salisbury and his government have been far from inactive during the past few months, concerning the condition of Armenia.

It was late action, too late indeed, to prevent most fearful deeds, yet we may surely conclude that it has been effective.

The Czar's impressive message forwarded in early January to the Sultan appears to have had restraining effect upon the Turkish monarch. The Czar's good advice, couched in a velvet speech, but capable of iron interpretation, recommended the latter monarch to "seriously consider" the remonstrances of the great powers, regarding reforms in the Turkish Empire, or otherwise be exposed to "the gravest consequences."

If Czar and British Prime Minister, are to gether sufficient to hold the Sultan in check, it appears criminal indeed that their interference should have been so long delayed.

THE action of the editor of one of the London dailies in sending staff commissioners to all the chief British colonies to write upon their resources and circumstances with a view of making them more widely known, is heartily commendable, and one that might be followed with advantage by the large colonial dailies.

The peoples of Great Britain require introducing to each other, or being introduced, they need a closer acquaintanceship. Such a commissioner would write from his own point of view, which would be that of the people among whom he dwells, hence the desirability of each colony having its own.

The action referred to is that of an Imperialist. The strength of the Imperial idea is in its broadening and uplifting of national ideals.

ONE of the New York police magistrates, who speaks out of a wide experience, answers thus in reply to a question concerning the chief cause of drunkenness.

"The chief cause in this country is, without the slightest doubt, the custom of treating. That custom has produced more drunkards, ruined more homes, blasted more lives, and sent more men to drunkards' graves than any other custom that the mind of man ever conceived. There is probably more liquor, of one kind or another, drunk per capita in Germany than in any other country on the globe, and yet the percentage of drunkenness is far and away less than it is in this country. In Germany treating is unknown. The result is that a man drinks at any one time only as much as he really wants. When a number of men come together in a drinking place in this country most of them drink not only more than they need, but more than any one of the party wants. When it shall come to be considered in this country a mark of good fellowship and good breeding for each member of a drinking party to pay for what he himself drinks, and no more, then you will see much less public intoxication than now."

### IN CANADA.

THIS last decade of the century is not an age of petty politics, but of large national and international problems, of which Canada has her share.

There is not a small problem before Canada to-day, but there are great ones, with great issues.

In connection with England comes the question of Imperial unity in all its phases; with the United States is the matter of tariff adjustment, and the Deep Waterways—a most important international project. Within our own borders there is the issue between Church and State in Quebec, the mining revelations, the colonial trade possibilities, immigration, new railways with their opening of undiscovered lands, the fast Atlantic service,—these are large issues to be dealt with not in any petty fashion, from the standpoint of personal or party gain, but from a broad national standpoint, that of the statesman.

IN view of this, it is good that the man standing at the head of Canadian affairs is a statesman, one capable of taking the large view and of abiding by it.

However varied opinions may be of the rights or wrongs of the Manitoba school question, there can be but one view concerning the liberty that belongs to Canadians, both Catholic and Protestant, to vote and speak as they will.

The clergy of Quebec by their futile attempts at despotism are alienating the sympathies of both Catholics and Protestants. It is too late to-day, to intimidate Canadians of either faith.

THE circular sent out by the so called Patriotic Vigilance Committee in early January, was a bag a bov intended to frighten the timid and inflate the fillibuster. To make it the subject of lengthy editorials, and a cause of recrimination between the two political parties, was doing it to much honor—yet our big party dailies made this mistake. A few brief lines at the most, among the locals, should have dismissed it from public consideration.

The "maintenance of the honor of the British Flag" does not rest in the hands of "a few citizens"—especially such citizens. Let us be thankful for it.

It was probably a second imaginative Jacobite