

The Planet.

Business Office 53
Editorial Room 102

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SATURDAY, JULY 23.

AMERICAN POLITICS

The Democratic State convention of Missouri, nominated for Governor J. Folk, of St. Louis, who has been mainly instrumental in exposing the "boodling" in the State Legislature and the St. Louis Common Council. Recently threats against his life were made, and his friends fear that the corruptionists will cause his assassination during the campaign. The next worst thing to his murder would be his defeat.—Toronto Globe.

FREAK AT SEA

The Toronto Globe thinks that the seizure of the Malacca in the Red Sea was the act of a Russian madman and that little time will be lost on the part of Russia in making reparation. The Globe says:

If Russia has no intention of creating fresh trouble for herself, and yields to the demand of the British Government for the release of the Malacca, the question in every one's mind will be why such an incident was ever allowed to occur. It is difficult to believe that anyone, still less a sailor, could have had so little knowledge of the comity of nations as to suppose that recent proceedings in the Red Sea would be tolerated. The Admiral who persuaded himself that he could prowl around that virtually British channel, vexing the shipping of the world, and get away with it, should really be examined as to his mental condition. International law has been described as a set of rules which hold good so long as you are able to enforce them. At no time in her history has Russia been able to lay down fancy canons of international law at sea, and never was she in a worse position to do so than now, when her fleet has been irretrievably discredited.

The superficial facts seemed to warrant the conclusion that the purpose of such wanton acts must be to force a quarrel on Britain, for it was difficult to believe that any seaman in his right mind could persuade himself that they would be tamely endured by a powerful and high-spirited nation. Hard upon that conclusion came the query, what earthly object could be served by increasing Russia's foes at this juncture? The convenient reply offered itself that the object was to involve France through the stipulation that she was bound to come to Russia's aid when attacked by more than one power. The reply is not satisfactory, however, for every such obligation must be interpreted in a rational sense. Surely France would not be bound by any deliberate purpose of her ally to bring about the state of things contingent upon her action. If the obligation to aid were capable of being brought into operation by any act of folly of which the captain of a semi-privateer might be guilty, it would have to be deemed that an alliance with Russia was rather a perilous affair.

When we remember, however, that Germany was the first nation to suffer from the unaccountable antics of the volunteer fleet, the probability that a quarrel with Britain was sought is very much weakened, and we are thrown back on the primary supposition that the offending vessels are in charge of some freakish personage who should not be abroad without a guardian. There can be little doubt that his giddy career will be immediately cut short, the Malacca will be released, apologies made, and compensation promised.

THE IMPERIAL ACTION

The Imperial Government has asked Lord Dundonald to return. Unless definite charges have been laid involving his professional conduct, this action seems to make a curious distinction between the position of an Imperial and a Canadian Administration, comments the Toronto News. An officer on half-pay can take whatever political action he chooses in Great Britain. Is his freedom to be restricted when he is in Canada?

The case of Lord Charles Beresford affords an interesting precedent. That officer in 1888, when a captain in the Royal Navy, was one of the Sea-Lords of the Admiralty. The British navy was weak, and the Government was reluctant to spend the money needed to strengthen it. Naval opinion on the subject was intense, but the First Lord—that is, the civilian Minister—overruled the sailors on the Board of Admiralty, and refused to recommend to Parliament the program which they deemed absolutely necessary. Thereupon Lord Charles Beresford resigned, and appended to the general public. An agitation for a stronger navy ensued. The Government bowed to public opinion, receded from its po-

sition and in 1889 passed the Naval Defence Act. The present efficiency of the British navy is due to that action by Lord Charles Beresford.

Lord Charles Beresford took part in an agitation against the Home Government. He laid the state of the country's naval defence before the public. He must have been guided by information gained while on active service, on full pay, and in official employment. Yet the Government and the Admiralty, far from punishing him, almost immediately gave him an appointment, and he has risen steadily in the service. When on half-pay he entered the House of Commons and distinguished himself by qualities other than excessive respect for the Ministry of the day.

Lord Dundonald's case is complicated by disagreeable personal issues. His method of protesting against Mr. Fisher's interference was characterized by an irregularity from which the naval captain of 1888 kept himself free. Nonetheless, he is a half-pay officer, with all the rights of a British subject. He was indiscreet while in office—and he has been dismissed from that office. He can engage in any agitation he desires in Britain. Why may he not engage in politics in Canada? The News is far from being anxious to see him become a figure in our political life. It holds that he can render far more service to the Empire in his profession than in the field of party politics here. But his right to enter public life if he chooses is indisputable.

If the British Government has acted purely on its own initiative, we may conceive it to be alarmed at the reports which have reached it of the agitation caused by the Dundonald incident, and to be anxious to bring that incident to an end. It is doubtful whether it has been well-advised in doing so. Its step will not end the agitation. It is far more likely to give rise to the suspicion that the Canadian Government has asked for Lord Dundonald's humiliation. Such a suspicion will intensify the agitation which British public men profess to regard with so much aversion. If unfounded it would be a singularly unlucky complication for the Canadian Government. In any event, its effect will be unfortunate. Apart altogether from this, we may fairly say to the British Government that the Dundonald incident, on its political side at all events, after all, is our own affair. A very large number of Canadians sympathize with Lord Dundonald. They have a perfect right to hear him speak. Action designed to prevent his addressing them seems really to be an interference with a purely domestic affair.

If, then, Mr. Arnold-Foster's announcement represents the unprompted action of Mr. Balfour's Administration, the action of the Government seems to be ill-judged on three counts. It forbids Lord Dundonald from taking in Canada political action which he could take in Great Britain. It interferes in a question which, so far as it is political, is purely Canadian. It is calculated to fan, not to quiet, the agitation in this country.

A MAIN POINT.

Toronto News.
After all the main issue is that the government has used the militia to reward party friends at the expense of the force.

GENERAL FISHER.

Peterboro Review.
A young man called Fighting Syd Fisher
Went meddling with the militia;
When the smoke cleared away,
At the end of the fray,
You were gone, Syd, but nobody'd miss yer.

TWAS EVER THUS.

Hamilton Spectator.
Lord Dundonald has been "injudicious" again. It is most remarkable that whenever that man becomes injudicious he says something very important to the people of Canada, and wins their applause.

JIM KNOWS.

Grimsby Independent.
If the Times has about a dozen route boys who do not average one hundred each, how many papers does it circulate in town?—Hamilton Spectator.
Why, that's easy, less than a dozen hundred.

BOUNDS PUT A MOB TO FLIGHT.
London Daily Mail.
The police of Louvain, Belgium, unable to disperse a violent mob of political demonstrators, last night let loose the great hounds which accompany them on their nightly patrol. The dogs threw themselves upon the crowd, which instantly scattered. Several persons were badly bitten.

EQUALLY APPLICABLE.

Hamilton Herald.
Solicitor-General Lemieux has been telling an English audience that it is best not to define the relations between Canada and the empire, because "they may then be found in the statute book but not in the heart." This seems to be a good argument against formal marriage.

Summer Colds

You should cure that cold at once. It is not only making you feel miserable, but it is doing you harm. Take

Shiloh's Consumption Cure

The Lung Tonic
It is guaranteed to cure you. Your money refunded if it doesn't.
At all druggists, 25c., 50c. and \$1.00 a bottle. 403

Short Stories

Something to Interest the Boys and Girls.

LAWYERS ENOUGH TO GO AROUND.

According to the United States census in 1890 there were 86,830 members of the bar in the United States, or one to every 698 of the population. According to the census of 1900 the total number was 114,703, or one to every 559 of the population. Since 1900 there has been a very considerable addition to the ranks of the profession.

CHILD STORY.

Naomi, aged 3, was greatly interested in a canary that had been given to her mother. The first time she saw the bird asleep she said: "The birdie has gone to sleep with his head inside of him." Her aunt asked: "Do you have your head inside of you when you sleep?" "No," said the child, "but I have my eyes inside of me."

SHE WAS INEXPERIENCED.

A small boy, aged five, had a step-mother who was young and nervous. She had never had experience with children, and the small boy's ailment tortured her into a panic. Croup threatened one day, and the doctor was sent for in wild haste. As the doctor entered the room the child raised his head from his pillow and cried hoarsely, in apology for the hasty summons: "You must excuse her, doctor, this is the first time she's ever been a mother."

A SIMPLE TEST.

An English schoolmaster tells a story which shows that some children manifest a certain business faculty early in life. The lesson had been one on the composition of minerals of different kinds; after it was finished the schoolmaster put a few questions to the class to test how far they had followed his teachings: "Now, children," he said, "can any of you tell me what a diamond is?"

Carbon was the reply that issued from every throat in the class. "Yes," the teacher explained, "a diamond is pure carbon; but you must remember that coal is also carbon. That was taught in our lesson, wasn't it?" "Yes, sir." "Well then. How could you be sure to distinguish between the two kinds of carbon?" "Ask the price!" lustily piped a fellow in the front seat, who will most likely make his mark in business some day.

HE COULDN'T BE BLUFFED.

"Sir," said the landlord of the summer hotel to a new arrival, who looked like a chronic kicker, "let me say to you before you are assigned a room that we have mosquitoes here." "I presume so," was the careless reply. "And there is no fishing." "I don't want any." "And you are quite certain to get malaria." "I can cure that with quinine." "Sir," continued the landlord, "there are no gorgeous sunsets." "Well?" "No hunting, no bathing, no sailing." "That suits me down to the ground." "One thing more, sir, I do not claim to set a good table."

"I was in hopes you didn't, as I am a dyspeptic. As for the rest of the drawbacks, I've just got away from my wife for two weeks for the first time in ten years and nothing here can make me kick."—Ex.

DYSPEPSIA CURED

By my Cure or I Give Back Your Money.



If you have been a sufferer for years with a diseased stomach, my Dyspepsia Cure will positively cure you. Don't fail to get a twenty-five cent vial of these valuable little pellets from your druggist. If you do not receive an absolute cure I will refund your money. —Munyon. 108

Humor and Philosophy

By DUNCAN M. SMITH

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OF COURSE.

His new umbrella wasn't where he knew he put it yesterday; he said he'd searched with greatest care. But it had simply got away.

He questioned every one at hand and asked the boys which one had sneaked. His pet umbrella from the stand. The last time that the skies had leaked.

Within a closet, dark, remote, a place where many things he hung. He stepped to get his overcoat, and there his lost umbrella hung.

He gazed with unbelieving eyes; amazement o'er his visage spread. He took it down in shamed surprise. "Now, what'd you think of that?" he said.

"But won't the fellows question now, when out I this umbrella bring. And ask me when and where and how? I wish I hadn't found the thing."

Wanted Him on the String.

"Miss Blinks," said the impatient young man, "for three months I have waited for an answer, and you still keep putting me off."

"Are you certain you love me, Freddie?"

"Love you? I could die for you!" "And should I tell you that there was an obstacle in the way of our marriage could you wait for ten or fifteen years, though without a definite promise to marry you at the end of that time?"

"With the possibilities of winning you I could wait forever if I were to receive the faintest ray of hope."

"All right, Freddie. You just wait around, and if I don't land something better I will probably marry you as a last resort."

Not Up With the Times.

"Do you want to hire a circulation liar?" "No, sir; we tell the truth about our circulation." "I thought perhaps you might like to adopt modern methods."

Which Takes?

In one small instance, just to show how words are warped and cracked. We say we take the cars, although the cars take us in fact.

Open For Business.

"My record," said the senator, addressing his constituents, "is an open book."

"Yes," said one of his hearers softly, who was on the inside; "it is an open pocketbook."

Got It Honestly.

"What is the matter with the baby?" "Nothing." "But it howls all of the time." "It is just amusing itself. Its father is a baseball roofer, and it takes after him."

Discounted.

He knuckled down and cried "Enough!" Said that would do this time. But when he asked for quarter, He only got a dime.

Violated the Rules.

"Be careful of that girl, my son. She is an unnatural woman." "What is wrong with her?" "I saw her throw a stone at a dog and hit him."

Had George Best.

"He thinks he is a smarter man than Washington." "He is. Washington had his limitations. You know, he could not tell a lie."

FERT PARAGRAPHS.

Bargain hunters are apt themselves to be a little shopworn.

A fable is a sort of picturesque literary club that takes a whack at you when your back is turned.

The unwritten moral of some of our current fiction is the only moral thing about it.

A word to the wise has to be sufficient, for that is all that they will permit.

The year before marriage is one of surmises, the year after one of surprises.



Cupid is apt to get a black eye when the hash is burned and the coffee is not what it should be.

Every girl knows that any bait will catch a sucker.

When a man's credit is good, he is easily taken in.

The man who said figures won't lie probably never critically inspected the human form divine as turned out by a fashionable tailor.



The Politician

Though his duties in Parliament cause a great strain. He is able to keep both his body and brain in the best of condition, the whole session through; He takes Abbey's Salt and commends it to you.

Brain workers know the penalty of ill-health. Let the bowels become clogged—the liver sluggish—the stomach upset—the blood impure—and that "tired, overworked" feeling steals over the brain.

ABBEY'S SALT clears the brain by cleansing the system. It sets stomach, liver and bowels to do natural work in nature's own way. It is the ideal blood purifier—the perfect stomachic—the unfailing liver regulator.

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