### The Advertiser

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JOHN CAMERON, President and Manager

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> God's in his heaven, All's right with the world.

If you trust in God and yoursely you can surmount every obstacle. Do not yield to restless anxiety. One must not always be asking what may happen to one in life, but one must advance fearlessly and bravely. -[PRINCE BISMARCK.

London, Wednesday 'Dec. 27.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, with its mo ing and evening editions, covers the ground. With one exception, at is THE ONLY EARLY MORNING DAILY IN ONTARIO, outside of To-

-Only those communications to which the writers are willing to have their names appended in print will be published in these

The True National Policy for Canadians.

Evolution of Popular Rights in the Old and New Worlds.

What Canadians Owe to British Liberalism.

Striking Object Lesson from New England.

Blight Caused by the Protective Policy.

(Special to the ADVERTISER.) BOTHWELL, Dec. 26.—The Hon. David Mills held a highly successful meeting at the town hall here to-night. The chair was taken by Mr. Colin Reid, and emong the audience were observed Mest s. Laugh. ton, Peacock, Boon, Rev. Haylock, Dr. Pope, Dr. Couse, Dr. Graham, Duncan, Richards, Dillon, McRoberts, Moore, Taylor, Fleming, Johns, and many other

prominent citizens.

The meeting was addressed by Mr. D.
M. Christie, of Chatham, who referred
briefly to the hollowness of the charges
made by the P. P. A. against the Mowat

Government.
Mr. Ferguson, M.P.P. for East Kent, in Mr. Ferguson, M.P.P. for East Kent, in the course of his address referred to the recent election in East Lambton, where the Conservatives by their failure to the Conservatives by their failure to nominate an opponent to the Reform candidate made a practical confession that they had no fault to find with the Mcwat Government. He deprecated the attempts being made in some quarters te arouse religious animosity and referred briefly to the absence of any valid ground of attack upon the Mowat Administration, and congratulated the county upon the acquisition of the Rondeau Park. At the conclusion of his speech he was warmly applauded.

Hon. David Mills.

Hon. David Mills.

of his speech he was warmly applauded.

The Hon. David Mills received an enthusiantic greeting as he sepped forward to deliver the continuents. After a suitable section of the discontinuents. After a suitable section of the suitable section of th

his devotion to the public service. Shake-speare makes Cardinal Wolsey say when he had lost the friendship of the king.

Farewell, a long farewell, to all my great loms, ears his blushing honors thick upon him, iird day comes a frost, a killing frost, when he thinks, good, easy man, full upoly

And then he fails, as 1 do.

But 1 must congratulate myself on the constancy of your friendship and the sympathy which you have always extended to ing to you when I say that it seems to me like returning home whenever I come among you to discuss both questions of public policy and the conduct of public men whose actions you associate with contemporary history. It is, I say then, with the utmost sincerity, with feelings of pleasure, that I speak to you, because I am sure there exists between us feelings of mutual trust and confidence. Let me say that as I purpose holding many meetings it is not my intention at any one of them to deal with more than one or two questions of public interest and importance. I feel that this will be more satisfactory to me and more advantageous to you. It is my desire not te make ng to you when I say that it seems to me more satisfactory to me and more advan-tageous to you. It is my desire not to make simply a vague impression, but to afford you a clear view of the questions upon which the two great parties of the country divide. It is always a matter of pleasure to discuss TOPICS OF GREAT NATIONAL CONCERN in an audience holding onlightened views, even though the opinions of many may

in an audience holding enlightened views, even though the opinions of many may differ from those which I entertain. Because I cannot but be assured that even where there is dissent it will be dissent based upon a rational judgment, and not upon prejudice or passion; and that dissent, I know full well, is perfectly compatible with feelings of most sincere friendship and of high personal regard, let me say to you that I speak to-night, as I have in the past, not as one occupying neutral ground, searching to discover some middle path, in which neither political party are likely to tread, but as the exponent and defender of the opinions and party are likely to tread, but as the exponent and defender of the opinions and platform of the Liberal party, with which I have all my life been identified, which I hope I have done my full share to develop and establish, and which I feel it to be a high public duty to enunciate and defend. Permit me also to say, which I think I may do without offense, that he would indeed be a man of very strong party prejudices who after the experience of the past fifteen years can still believe in the wisdom of the policy which during that time those who are opposed to us have pursued. You will admit that the

ELATFORM OF THE LIBERAL PARTY
is a broad one. It sembraces many important principles, yet, with but one exception, there is not a proposition put forward which has not been called for to correct some abuse that has arisen since 1878. The indiding of the elections, the Franchise Act, the law relating to the redistribution of seats, the policy in respect to local expenditures, and a score of other matters with which political abuses are associated, are all the progeny of the past fifteen years. We are not called upon, then, to deal with the evils which form a part of an ancient constitution, but with those of modern growth. In old countries like the United Kingdom, there are evils which have grown out of the altered state of society, which will be corrected by the adjustment of old institutions to new conditions. Those with which we have to deal to carry the country backward into a region which the friends of good government had good reason to hope had been passed by forever. When you look at the progress of constitutional reform in the United Kingdom you find the popular wave seldom recedes. There is rest, there is progress, but where has there been retrogression? Public opinion slowly moulds itself into aw, but when it does so the law is respected. Both parties acquiesce in its provisions; both bow to it as the expression of the national will. For the past 80 years there has been a constant enlargement of the pale of the constitution. The influence of the people in Parliament has been jinereased, and the political authority of those classes who were, at one time, well nigh the sole depositaries of power, has diminished. The repeal of the Corn Laws, the abolition of a State Church in Ireland, and the abolition of church rates in England, all attest the triumph of Liberal opinions, and the broadening of the basis of the great social pyramid. All these measures were ones over which party contests area. The one party leaders had called them into existence. And when the reform was obtained, and the change became an

measures with pride. Although we reside outside of the British Islands, we claim to share in the historic fortunes of the Liberal party of the motherland and to participate in. the glory which these achievements bring. But the Liberal party in Canada is

NOT WITHOUT A HISTORY.

nor have those who have now the honor to belong to it any reason to be ashamed of what it has accomplished. (Applause.) It has brought across the Atlantic the spirit and principles which have animated the Reform party of the motherland. It has applied those principles with judgment and with care to the new circumstances in which it is placed. It has ever been the enemy of class legislation. It has labored to prevent the law from being made the instrument of oppression. It has removed disabilities, it has repaired defects, corrected old abuses, and placed upon a footing of equality before the law, her Majesty's subjects in this country, irrespective of nationality or of creed. It puts implicit confidence in the power of freedom and open discussion, to overcame every contemplated attack upon free institutions. implicit confidence in the power of freedom and open discussion, to overcame every contemplated attack upon free institutions, and fair dealing. We hold that no precaution, no step taken, can give to our constitution and to our institutions the same security, the same permanency, which they derive from open discussion, from impartial justice and strict equality before the law. And 100 years of government in the United Kingdom attest the soundness of this view. I say, then, that it is with pleasure that I have come here to-night, to address myself especially to the Young Liberals of this place. Youth is the time for improvement. It is the time when our cares and responsibilities are

to the Young Liberals of this place. Youth is the fime for improvement. It is the time when our cares and responsibilities are fewest; when adverse circumstances make impressions which are seldom more than temporary; when the blows received wound the least, and most readily heal. Youth, too, is the time when hope triumphs over discouragement and our faith in the dreams of the day is the strongest. And so I think it augurs well for the Reform party when the young men in its ranks are both active and numerous. A party has a social and an organic life. It is called into existence by the political necessities of the State. Its principles have their origin in the struggles which arise and in the ovents which transpire, and also in the character of the men to whom the fortunes of the party are, for the time being, committed. They grow; they are not made. There is one thing I wish to impress upon the young men of the Liberal party. They must take care and not become a wholly separate body, nor aim at a separate existence. The interests of a party require the long experience, the extended observation, the caution, of those who are advanced in years, no less than the arder, the energy, and the activity of

a party require the long experience, the extended observation, the caution, of those who are advanced in years, no less than the ardor, the energy, and the activity of youth. The organization of a party, in this respect, is like the organization of society—the old and the young are intermingled. One generation does not pass out of the world before the next enters upon the stage of existence. Here upon the shore of time we march across the stage together. Mighty multitudes of all ages are constantly disappearing, but they are superceded by others, who continue the work which they have left unfinished. And so we shall find, upon close examination, that men of every age, as well as of every calling, are necessary to round off and to perfect the life of a great political party. The more closely we examine the subject the more necessary shall we find it to the perfection of a party organization that in its deliberations it should be represented by the mature judgment and conservative ism of age, as well as by the buoyancy and progressive impulses of youth. This, too, I may say, that I believe, in this country, the future of the Liberal partybids fair to be even better than its past, though of that past no honest Reformer can have any reason to be ashamed. (Applause.) There are many.

NEW FORCES COMING INTO EXISTENCE, which will not be without their value. In every science, we recognize progress and improvement. The surgery of to-day didres from the surgery of three centuries ago, when the barber and the surgeon were of one profession. And so in political science, those who are chosen as representatives, if they are men of industry, are capable of utilizing a much more wide and varied experience than the men in former times, each of whom was obliged to grope his way in the darkness, with no other aid than that which his limited observation afforded him. Economic science, and the principles of our parliamentary system, principles of our parliamentary system including both the law and the convention including both the law and the conventions of our constitution are now being made the subject of academic study. Those who are so trained are, in many cases, connecting themselves with the press. Even where the political problems may not be understood, they bring to their work habits of investigation and study, to which those who have not had like advantages are for investigation and study, to which those who have not had like advantages are for the most part strangers. They have different conceptions of their duty to their profession and of their responsibilities to the public, and I have no doubt, on the whole, they will entertain too high a regard for their calling to become a body of literary highwaymen, ready to bludgeon or bespatter those of an opposite political faith. The newspaper of to-day shows a tendency to become rather the mere vehicle of news than the expositor of great principles concerning the well-being of the State. This is itself an indication of the tendencies of men's minds. They prefer information to education. There is, therefore, danger that the State may be assigned far too subordinate a place in men's thoughts. The newspaper should possess both features. It must not be permitted to lose its expository character. It must not cease to explain and defend great

collect, and the conclusions at which they are ive, are not confined to them; they are diffused into every nook and corner of society; they raise the common standard of attainment; what was at the outset the special possession of a few becomes in a short time the common property of the rich and the poor of every calling and oi every vocation. The man who has become largely limbused with this information in the pursuit of his trade, or in the cultivation of his fields, has presented to him new instances for the application of the principles which he has imbibed and which he has mastered and made his own. And we shall find when we take that generous view which an enlightened opinion and a healthy public spirit suggests, we have

NO SUCH DIVISION OF SOCIETY into envious classes, having conflicting interests, utterly incapable of reconciliation, and struggling with each other for the mastery. Once such notions obtain a foothold you have a dominant class seeking to make all others tributary and you have at the base of this system of political oppression the Anarchists aiming at the destruction of society itself, blindly making war, by reason of their perverted energies applied to problems which they know nothow to solve. You have but to look at this region where selfishness has taken control of the State and it logically leads to a condition from which both law and order are excluded. One measures with pride. Although we re-side outside of the British Islands, we claim arrive, are not confined to them; they are

. Where eldest night And chaos, encestors of nature, hold, Eternal Anarchy, amidst the noise Of endless wars, and by confusion stan

Eternal Anarchy, amidst the noise Of endless wars, and by confusion stand.

It would be, indies and gentlemen, an interesting theme for me to discuss the effect of a protective tariff upon the industrial pursuits and social life of the people in North America. I could point out to you its disintegrating tendeucies. I could show you how greatly it has modified the social and industrial life and character of the people as well as their occupations. Those of you who have read the history of the New England States prior to 1880 know that they were on the whole the most perfect representation of democratic government that the world has ever seen. They were a thrifty and well-informed people, prudent without being parsimonious, (Continued on page 5.)



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