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The Exodus.

It is true that Liberal newspapers and politicians had a good deal to say about the exodus in days gone by. The drain on the life blood of the country was felt in every city, town and village in the land, but more especially in the rural districts of the older Provinces. The Conservatives could not ignore it; they could only try to explain it. It was said that the better elements of the population remained, and that those who left could best be spared. As one orator put it, "the winnowed chaff is blown away, but the grain is left behind." This was an insult to every family in which the exodus had made a breach, and there were few families in which it had not. The truth was that those who were leaving Canada were largely young, ambitious men, the class most needed to build up and develop their own Dominion. This efflux of young energy was a matter of painful concern to every well-wisher of his country. We all remember what a thrill of disappointment followed the publication of the last census. It showed the population in the ten years, 1881 to 1891, to have risen from 4,324,810 to 4,833,239, a gain of only 608,429. According to the Government reports one million immigrants had entered Canada in those ten years; but the census discovered that in 1891 the number of foreign-born residents in this country was only 38,044 greater than in 1881. Not only had we failed to hold the natural increase of the native-born population, but the mass of immigrants, on whom the Dominion spent some millions of dollars, had passed over to the United States as well. It would have been surprising if this revelation had not called forth severe criticism of the public policy under which the ruinous movement had been going on.

During the last two or three years Canada has been revelling in a prosperity which is like a new lease of life. The Conservatives cannot deny it; as was the case with the exodus, they can only try to explain it. They attribute it to the retention of their own fiscal policy, but the Liberals take issue with them on that point. Both parties, however, agree that the country is prosperous, and until a short time since they were agreed that as a result of that prosperity the drain on the population of Canada had ceased. The leading Conservative organ, the Toronto Mail, said a few weeks ago:

"It is satisfactory to point out that Canadians are not now going in any number to the United States, but that large numbers of residents of the United States are coming into Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia. The value of settlers' effects brought into Canada during the fiscal year 1898 was \$2,322,000, and the value from all countries \$2,836,000. The exodus is a matter of history."

Lately the Opposition profess to have discovered that the exodus is still in progress. A despatch from the other side reports a large influx from Quebec and the Maritime Provinces into the New England States. The report may or may not be exaggerated, but the Opposition, without waiting to ascertain the facts, are flaunting it in the face of the Government, and through their party organs are trying to create the impression that the calamity which marked their own rule has set in again. The Mail is atoning for its former candor by printing alarmist editorials on the subject of the exodus, while the London Free Press goes into particulars and records the fact that a French-Canadian family "starved out of Canada" have crossed at Windsor in a prairie schooner, bound for Ohio. On Wednesday, by preconcerted arrangement, the question of the exodus was sprung in both the Commons and the Senate by Opposition members, with the very palpable desire of making political capital. Conservatives used to hurl reproaches at the Liberals for alluding to the hegira of young Canadians to the United States, but in those days it was a real danger to which they called attention. There is no excuse for the present course of the Conservative party, because the tide has now turned. Canada is now getting more population from the United States than the United States is getting from Canada. The Liberals challenge the Conservatives to deny this. The United States, like Canada, is enjoying an era of good times, and it is only natural that many Canadians should be attracted to the large American centers by the improved prospects of employment there. Thousands of French-Canadians who work in the factories of the New England States habitually return home when times are dull and go back to the States when things change for the better. If there is a movement of this kind it is evidently confined to Quebec. There is no symptom of an exodus in Ontario, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia are having the biggest boom in their history. A news paragraph, which escaped editorial supervision, appeared in the Mail on Wednesday, relating that Americans were pouring into British Columbia. In face of the plain fact that this is Canada's growing time—that the United States is giving us more population than she is taking from us, and that immigration from Europe to Canada is larger than for years—the Opposition will fail to disturb public complacency by holding the exodus scarecrow up to view. It is the wrong time to decry the country—the country knows what it is well off.

The next decennial census will be held in 1901, and we predict it will tell a far more cheerful story than in 1891.

Loan Corporations Bill.

We believe, in connection with this question, that wherever a general act can be framed just in its provisions towards all, it is better that such an act be passed than that every company should operate under a separate act. There are applications for private acts before the House of Commons this session, and also a general act, relating to loan corporations, which was introduced and passed through the Senate at the last session.

Section 27 of the general act is one of its most important provisions, and defines the powers of such companies. It is not identical with the powers already conferred upon some companies and sought at this session by others. The most important difference appears to be the power to lend on or purchase the stocks of any chartered bank or incorporated company if incorporated by the Parliament of Canada or any of the Provincial Legislatures.

No doubt these extra powers have been sought by loan companies because of the increasing difficulty to find investments at remunerative rates within the powers hitherto possessed by them, and because in that field they must meet the competition of insurance companies, trust companies and private moneylenders, who are not restricted as they are.

We favor granting all loan companies the powers possessed by some and sought by others, the two principal additions being the power to purchase and invest in and loan upon the securities of bank stocks and other stocks as mentioned, and also the power to act as trust companies. We quite understand the danger of what we advocate, and the possibility of abuse, but the strength of any company depends upon the wisdom of its management, and enlarged powers will give greater opportunity to make money, and if wisely exercised will be profitable. One can understand the case of two loan companies, for instance, both of whom have savings banks and debenture liabilities to the full limit, and where one or both desire to acquire the other, and each buys up a controlling interest in the stock of the other, then the stock and security of one of the companies is gone, and the assets of one or other of the two companies diminished to that extent. It can be seen, too, that this is taking away to the extent of such investments the character of real estate security, which has always been the distinguishing feature of loan companies.

We do not see where the danger is in conferring upon all loan companies the powers of trust companies. It is peculiarly in their line. They have all the machinery. They have the officials necessary at the least expense to give the best attention. One consideration seems conclusive in favor of granting the powers of trust companies upon loan companies—that is, some loan companies now have the power to invest in the stocks of other companies, and could buy up a controlling interest in a trust company, or, for that matter, organize one, and when such a power has been given to one company, it cannot be reasonably or fairly refused to any other company seeking that power by special act—nor does it seem right that any company should be driven to obtain in a roundabout way what should be granted as a matter of course.

There are other considerations of importance in the bill, but these are the two most important. It is reasonable that every power which will make loan companies actual land banks and enable them to act as trustees should be conferred upon them, and that they should be placed in a position to compete with their competitors, the insurance and trust companies, and given at least as large powers as they possess. Our banks have succeeded well with extensive powers. They might not have succeeded so well if restricted, and the loan companies appear to have reached a point where in the interests of all concerned more extensive powers are desirable. We prefer to see these powers conferred by one general act rather than a number of special private acts.

Michigan's Misfortune.

The Grand Rapids Press has an editorial under the rather startling headline, "Our War With Canada." There are no visible signs of the conflict on this side of the border, but Michigan's experience has been disastrous, according to all accounts from that state. The Press says:

"The retaliatory action of the Province of Ontario, due to the lumber schedule of the Dingley law, has practically destroyed the value of investments made by Americans in Canadian forests. It has also practically destroyed a great Michigan industry along the eastern shore and rendered of no value thousands of dollars invested in mills and manufacturing plants. Michigan, in particular, has paid heavily for a law the principal purpose was the enrichment of a comparatively few pine land barons in the south."

The Press is in a position to know the state of affairs in Michigan, but it is not so well informed as to Ontario when it says:

"As American capital cannot continue operations in the Province under the existing conditions, and as the Dingley tariff forbids the profitable employment of Canadian capital in the lumber business, industry is at a standstill. The value of property has depreciated, and the population having no opportunity to labor or traffic, is drifting away."

Ontario can smile at this melancholy picture. Our lumbermen, by their own admission, are doing well, and not at all dependent on American favor. Industry is not at a standstill, property has not depreciated, the population is not drifting away. In fact, Ontario was never so happy and prosperous before. There is no disposition in this Province to gloat over the misfortune of Michigan, though some of the lumber barons of that State are as much responsible for it as the southern pine

owners, by joining in the clamor for a hostile tariff on Canadian lumber. The galled jades are now winning. A redeeming feature is the candor with which the Michigan press throws the blame on the selfishness of American lumber interests. If Congress would view it in the same light, there would soon be an end of the trouble. The people of Canada have no wish to get into a tariff snarl with their neighbors. They only ask fair play.

Times must be good when Italy has a surplus.

The latest American octopus is a horseshoe trust. But it can't corner the market in good luck.

The Opposition's squeal about the exodus is merely a confession that they find it hard work bucking against prosperity.

If the National Policy is still in force, as Sir Charles Tupper claims, why should there be any exodus from Canada?

It isn't the exodus from Canada our Conservative friends are worrying about. It's the exodus from the Conservative party.

The Board of Works needs \$75,000 this year, but will only ask \$39,000. This is a desperate effort to keep down the tax rate, but streets and sidewalks will have to suffer. We owe it to the mismanagement of last year's council.

The Uitlanders of the Transvaal are asking for Canadian sympathy. They deserve our sympathy, because they made the mistake of going to the Transvaal instead of coming to Canada. This country has more gold than all Africa.

The population of Boston is classified as follows: Irish, 220,000; old Americans, 80,000; Scotch, 35,000; Jews, 30,000; Germans, not Jews, 30,000; Italians, 20,000; French, 10,000; Scandinavians, 10,000; negroes, 10,000; Portuguese, 4,000; Chinese, 1,000; various, 17,000. Americans must feel lonesome there.

The Toronto News ingeniously suggests that the United States might get rid of its race problem by shipping the colored folks to the Philippines. The Philippines are already thickly populated, but as the natives are being killed off rapidly there may be room for the American negroes by and bye. But would the browns and the blacks assimilate more readily than the blacks and the whites?

Observations.

A citizen who has given much attention to the subject, writes me as follows:

"I am glad to notice, from a recent issue of your paper, that some of the philanthropically disposed people of our city are becoming aroused to the pernicious effects of the deadly cigarette. On the evidence of a reputable gentleman of this city, who has kept his eyes open, and watched the boys who congregate in Queen's Park every evening, as well as on Saturdays and Sundays, not more than one boy in twelve is free from this vice."

"If this is true, then it is time for parents and citizens generally to arouse themselves. Who are these boys? They must be the boys in attendance at our day schools and Sunday schools—the sons of our church members—the boys we are wont to look upon as our best boys, and above any vice of this character."

"It may be that many parents look upon this habit as comparatively harmless. Just see what a medical man—a member of the board of education in a neighboring city says: 'I say deliberately that cigarette smoking is as bad as opium smoking. A cigarette fiend will lie and steal, just as a morphine or opium fiend will.'"

"Everybody knows how the mental and moral faculties of the opium eater are distorted, and it would seem that the effects of the cigarette are similar."

"A merchant in this city employed in his office a lad fresh from school, the son of one of our best families. In the course of a few days he found that he was incapable of applying himself to his work for any length of time. On questioning him, he ascertained that he was a cigarette smoker, and was endeavoring to quit it, but found it impossible. After ten minutes close application, his hands would tremble, his face become ashy gray, and a cold perspiration break out on his face. The merchant tried to help and encourage him, but was eventually obliged to dismiss him."

"A school inspector says: 'It is the universal testimony of teachers in the public schools that those of the pupils who are in the habit of smoking cigarettes are invariably sluggish, languid and unreliable, mentally, and often, incapable of applying themselves to study, and without exception the poorest students of the school.'"

"Of course I know that this condition of affairs will be deplored by parents who read this, and that mentally they will thank God that their boys are not tainted. But, in the name of goodness, whose boys are they? They must belong to somebody!"

"Not long ago a lady was deploring the prevalence of this vice, and related a number of instances as detailed to her by her own boy—of boys whom no one would suspect of the habit, as being confirmed smokers. A few days later this same boy was found in a neighboring yard, encouraging the feeble efforts of a little fellow barely out of his kilts to smoke, and in time it was found that this same boy was considered by the other boys as one of the most accomplished smokers in the neighborhood."

"With such evidence as this, whose boy is safe?"

Yes, I have had considerable experience with cigarette smokers, and my conviction is that there is not much hope for a boy after he once forms the habit. The prohibition of

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Boots and Shoes

Saturday will be another record-breaker in our boot and shoe department. Never before in the history of this business have so many strictly first-class shoes found their way from our shelves to the feet of delighted customers. Our styles are correct. Our prices are winning us many new friends. This is what you expect. This business grows. Our methods are modern. Our values appreciated. The keenest buyers buy here.

Saturday Specials.

150 pairs Women's Dongola, machine sewed, tipped, laced and button boots; very special, for Saturday 95c
45 Women's Glazed Dongola, M. S. kid tipped, button boots; Saturday \$1.25
We invite careful inspection of our specially selected lines of women's vicid kid, kid tipped, turn soles, made on new, stylish lasts, every pair fully guaranteed, laced and button boots, \$2, \$2.50 and \$2.75
We are selling a beautiful chocolate Dongola, two-button Trilby shoe, kid tipped, and turn soles, at \$1.25

Our Women's Oxford Shoes, at 75c, 95c, \$1, \$1.25 to \$2.50, are masterpieces of the shoemaker's art at the price.

Extra Special for Saturday.

48 pairs Women's Glazed Dongola, turn soles, tipped and fancy facing, pointed toe, Oxford, regular \$1.75; Saturday \$1.00
Misses' Dongola, M. S. flexible soles, patent tip, button boots, regular \$1.25; Saturday 90c
Our Men's Department is now replete in new, stylish footwear, for present wear.
Saturday we will sell Men's Boston calf, whole foxed, standard screw Bals, and Congress, regular \$1.50, for \$1.10
We are showing a very complete range of Men's Boots at \$3 and \$5.50, all new styles, in black box calf, tan calf, tan and black vicid kid, all made on modern lasts, and with Goodyear welt sole; no better value anywhere, at \$3 and \$3.50

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Five Dozen Men's Fine Black Fur Felt Fedora Hats, Silk Bands and Binding, Leather Perspiration Band, etc., regular \$1.50, extra special for Saturday at \$1.00

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the manufacture and importation seems the only remedy.

The Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, Congregationalist, pastor of the celebrated City Temple Church, London, Eng., is perhaps the ablest and most versatile living preacher who today employs the English tongue. His recent somewhat sensational sermon has been telegraphed to the ends of the earth. It may be wise to wait the full report of the address, so as to note the exact language, and the setting, before passing judgment. Since Beecher, there has been no speaker whose utterances are so thickly studded with thoughts or so versatile in form. He is thoroughly democratic; a man of the people; the self-made son of a stone mason; in his 69th year; fearless as a lion.

A constant reader is of the opinion that there is nowadays too much clamor for moral reform by legislation, instead of by education. The latter must always be the foundation for the former. The work of education is never superfluous, seeing that new generations are constantly arising who need just as much instruction as the generation preceding. Who is doing this work?

"Yes," said a well known expert on the subject, "the rate of interest has made a big drop within the last ten years, and the rate will not again be high in a hurry."

What Others Say.

Nothing New.

[Peterboro Times.]

After all, what is wireless telegraphy but a later phase of the old habit of having words over nothing?

What Canada is Missing.

[Boston Herald.]

It is sad to see Canada placing undue burdens on American drummers. She thus deprives herself not only of good bargains, but of most of the latest and newest stories.

A Sure Sign.

[Hamilton Herald.]

Boss Croker proposes that the States shall "swap the Philippines for Canada or a part of Canada." And now we must believe the Republican papers when they say that Tammany's boss is a very ignorant man.

Standing Up for Coghlan.

[New York Journal.]

We love Capt. Coghlan for his bravery and his manliness, and our German neighbors might as well understand that there is no disposition here to draw and quarter him for so slight an indiscretion.

Great Britain's Industrial Greatness.

[Monetary Times.]

In many branches of the iron trade, the Americans have unquestionably become formidable competitors with Eng-

land; but on this side of the Atlantic the force of that competition is sometimes grossly exaggerated, as if it portended the near eclipse of Great Britain's industrial greatness, of which no real signs are visible. There are men in Toronto in the iron trades who have been offered good wages and a three years' engagement to go to England.

Light and Shade.

Reticence in One Thing.

There are people who can do all fine and heroic things but one—keep from telling their happinesses to the unhappy.—Fudd'nhead Wilson.

Poor Adam.

A Sunday school teacher not long ago gave her class a rather graphic description of how Eve was created from the rib of Adam. "Mamma," said the youngest member of the class, "that same evening, pressing his hand to his side, 'I'm afraid I'm going to have a wife.'"

Dinner for Three.

The great composer, Handel, was an enormous eater. It is said that at a tavern he always ordered dinner for three. "Dinner is quite ready, sir, when the company come," said a waiter to him one day. "Den bring up de dinner," said the Anglicized German. "I am de gompany!"—Chicago Journal.

Compensation.

For everything you have missed you have gained something else; and for everything you gain, you lose something.—Emerson.

Knew What She Wanted.

He (rich but frugal)—What shall we have to drink, Jenny—beer, ginger ale, champagne cider—? She—Oh, yes! I love champagne; never mind the cider!—Harlem Life.

ITCHING PILES. . .

Positively and Permanently Cured by Dr. A. W. Chase's Ointment.

Dr. A. W. Chase's Ointment is an absolute cure for piles, and has never been known to fail to cure the worst forms of this disease which has baffled medical skill for ages.

This statement may seem rather strong to persons who do not know the superior merits of Dr. A. W. Chase's Ointment, but it is perfectly true, and is heartily indorsed by the grateful testimony of thousands of men and women who have been cured by it after years of suffering, and after trying many preparations and consulting the best doctors.

Mr. H. Bull, Belleville, Ont., says: "I take pleasure in stating that after thirty years of suffering with Itching Piles, Dr. Chase's Ointment has completely cured me. I tried every remedy that was advertised, with little or no benefit, but as I have told different persons affected as I was, Dr. Chase's Ointment made a perfect cure."

Dr. Chase's Ointment has a record of cures unparalleled in the history of medicine. It is guaranteed to cure any case of piles. For sale by all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

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