

London Advertiser.

FOUNDED BY JOHN CAMERON IN 1853.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Daily, by mail, per year.....\$3.00
Daily, by mail, for four months.....1.00
Daily, by mail, for one month......25
All subscriptions payable in advance.

IN LONDON.
Morning or Evening Editions (delivered), 10 cents per week.

THE WESTERN ADVERTISER.

By mail, per year.....\$1.00

JOHN CAMERON, President and Manager

ADVERTISING RATES
Made known on application at office. Address all communications to

ADVERTISER PRINTING COMPANY

LONDON - CANADA.

BRANCH OFFICES:
Toronto—G. Rowland Orr, 11 King street West.
Montreal and Maritime Provinces—A. McKim & Co., Montreal, Que.

London, Monday, Oct. 20.

AN ADVENTURER'S EXPOSURE.

R. Moffat Neil has fled the city. The

labored statement which he made to the

members of the First Congregational

Church at its recent meeting could not,

and did not, stand investigation, as re-

sponsible citizens affected by it have al-

ready pointed out.

The fact is that this man was posing

under false colors. He was occupying the

pulpit of a Christian church when he must

have known that his past conduct was such

as should deter him from assuming a po-

sition that requires of a man that he shall

be moral, truthful and upright.

It has been uphill work to secure the ex-

posure of this unworthy man. He came

here in a comparative stranger, but he had a

winning manner and a good deal of ability,

and coming to the city at a time when there

was trouble in the First Congregational

Church, his imposture was probably ren-

dered the more easy. He protested his

innocence of any shortcomings all along,

and was not averse to having it believed

that any opposition to him arose from dis-

saffection growing out of the division in the

congregation.

Taking into consideration the manner in

which he came to the city, and the fact that

he had not been a regularly placed minister

for years before he came here, it would cer-

tainly have been better if the managers of

the church had acted with greater prompti-

tude when it was alleged, and sworn to,

that the man had been living under an

alias. They should have known that re-

sponsible citizens, who had no interest

whatever in their church management, would

not be privy to such an exposure

unless they were in possession of undoubted

proof of the truthfulness of his allegations.

The same remark holds good of the AD-

VERTISER. It is scarcely necessary to say

that in dealing with the matter this journal

has done its duty to the public. It had too

much respect for the Christian religion to be-

lieve that any worthy minister of the Gospel

would find it necessary to suddenly change

his name, and have no better excuse for the

action than that it was a common occur-

rence. This view was not modified when

Neil delivered himself of his extraordinary

declaration on the subject of his being twice

married to the same woman.

That the First Congregational Church

should have been compelled to pass through

such an experience is much to be regretted,

but the trouble will not have been without

one redeeming feature if it renders congre-

gations increasingly careful of the standing of

those whom they place in authority. They

cannot be too careful. It is a mistake to

take anything for granted. A good man

will not object to state his antecedents to

even the humblest member of the flock. It

is better to err on the side of thoroughness

than to be duped as this congregation has

been by a clever adventurer.

COMMERCE OF THE LAKES.

The commerce of the lakes is now assum-

ing proportions which exemplify in a strik-

ing manner the utility of the waters

to the States and Provinces that border

upon them. The trade between the

of the Pacific slope; and as an indication

of their size it may be stated that 21 which

sailed the lakes last year were of more than

11,000 tons each, and 156 between 500 and

1,000 tons.

Three years ago, that is for the year end-

ing June, 1890, there were 31 American

boats built on the lakes, valued at a little

over \$4,000,000, whereas for the year end-

ing June, 1890, the number was 56, valued

at nearly \$8,000,000. In recent years, too,

the tendency has been towards iron and

steel for large ships, ten of which built at

Cleveland in 1889-90 had an aggregate ca-

pacities of 22,989 tons. During the present

year Chicago has begun the building of

steel ships, and the keels of two were laid

in the month of July. And of course great

things are expected of Chicago, for besides

having the largest steel works in America

that city has a courage and an enterprise

which will stop at nothing short of the first

place.

Of the extent of the commerce of the

lakes on the American side some idea may

be formed when it is stated that dur-

ing 234 days of navigation last year

tonnage passed through the Detroit riv-

er to the amount of 10,000,000

tons more than the entries and clearances of

all the seaports in the United States, and

3,000,000 tons more than the combined

foreign and coastwise shipping of Liverpool

and London. How much greater the trade

of all the lakes may be imagined when

account is had of what takes place between

the various ports of Lakes Michigan and

Superior, and of Lakes Erie and Ontario,

not included in the figures of Detroit River

navigation. Another evidence of the ex-

tent of the lake traffic is afforded by the

records of the Sault Ste. Marie canal, which

show that in 234 days of open navigation

vessels passed through having an aggregate

capacity of 7,221,935 tons, or 458,748 tons

more than the traffic of the Suez Canal

which was open all the year round.

These are stupendous figures when we re-

fect that many of the Western com-

munities with which trade is carried on

are not yet half a century old. What they

will reach half a century hence, it would be

folly to try to forecast. But who can doubt

the great share of the Canadian com-

merce in that commerce of the lakes were

it free from the restrictions of tariffs and

navigation laws?

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

—On Wednesday next, the election for

the seat in the Imperial Parliament for

Toronto constituency, will take place. It is a

very recent going it would not surprise us

to see it won by the Liberals.

—They are not all fire-eaters in Toronto,

and it is not fair to judge of that city by the

boys who are said to have hissed the Ameri-

can flag at one of the public schools on a

recent occasion. The meetings of the As-

sociation for the Advancement of Women

were held in the evenings at the hall of the

Agricultural Gardens, a building owned by

the city. The wall at the rear of the plat-

form of this hall was draped with three or

four British flags, but high above them was

suspended a handsome American flag, bear-

ing the stars and stripes. It does not appear

that any one objected to the United States

flag in this public place, and its appearance

of any kind. Nobody thinks it worth while

to telegraph the fact to the newspapers of

New York or Chicago, and yet as an evi-

dence of kindly feeling towards our neigh-

bors it is of far greater importance than the

hisses of a few schoolboys.

THE MANISTEE SMASH.

Far-reaching Results of the Peters

Failure—Liabilities Estimated at

\$5,500,000.

MANISTEE, Mich., Oct. 20.—No official

Liverpool for this continent on the Teutonic

on Nov. 11 in company with his wife, his

mother-in-law, Mrs. Tennant, and his

wife's cousin, the author of "Doctor

Bill." His first public act in this country

will be the giving of a lecture in the Metro-

politan Opera House, New York, on

Nov. 11 in behalf of the Summit Con-

vention. His subject will be "The

Recess of Rinn Pasha, the Forest, Pigeon

and March Across Africa." After this he

will go on a long lecture tour throughout

the United States and Canada, including this

city. Major Pond, who is acting as business

manager, says that Mr. Stanley is in ex-

cellent health, and that he is quite strong

enough to make his voice heard in the largest

hall. Mr. Stanley has written to Major Pond

saying that he expects the trip across the

ocean will completely restore him to good

health. Mrs. Stanley writes that she hopes

her husband will be able to rest in this

country when he is not engaged in lectur-

ing. The invitations to receptions in

Europe which he received were much in the

nature of commands, which he did not

think it advisable to disobey.

EAST YORK REFORMERS.

Meet Officers, Discuss Reciprocity and

Indorse Hon. Alex. Mackenzie and

Mr. G. B. Smith.

UNIONVILLE, Oct. 20.—The annual meet-

ing of the Reform Association of the East

Riding of York was held here Saturday

afternoon with a good attendance. The

election of officers resulted in the return of

the following gentlemen: President, J. C.

Clarke; vice-president, Walter Scott; se-

cretary treasurer, A. Foster (re-elected).

Business being over, speeches were de-

livered by the more prominent members on

the political outlook of the present time.

Mr. G. B. Smith, M. P. for the riding, made

an able address, in which he advo-

cated unrestricted reciprocity.

Mr. O'Brien, who followed, spoke of the

fight of his honored member, Mr. Mac-

kenzie, for free trade. In 1878 he had

been less firm in refusing concessions to the

manufacturers he might have remained in

power. But possibly it was as well. It

took Israel a long time to get out of Egypt.

There was a plague of flies and lice and

such things before they were allowed to go

free. Canada with protection was in very

much the same position. He then moved,

seconded by Mr. MacKinnon.

That the meeting expressed the utmost

confidence in its representatives for the riding, the

Hon. Alex. Mackenzie and Mr. G. B. Smith,

both of whom were present, watched the

interest of the riding—the veteran grand old

man who has so carefully and successfully

guarded the interests of his constituents and so

ably rendered assistance to our model Lib-

eralism, of which the Hon. Oliver Mowat

is Premier.

In seconding the motion, which was

enthusiastically received and adopted, Mr.

Mackenzie, who was present, spoke of the

country were for Reform. He referred in

eloquent terms to the great things done

Canada by the Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, a

grand old man who should be treated with

increasing honor.

THE MANISTEE SMASH.

Far-reaching Results of the Peters

Failure—Liabilities Estimated at

\$5,500,000.

MANISTEE, Mich., Oct. 20.—No official

statement of the liabilities and assets has

yet been filed with the assignee of the R.

G. Peters, who is in charge of the R. G. Peters

individual property, and any

statement as to liabilities and assets is mere

conjecture, but parties well informed place

the liabilities at upwards of \$2,500,000.

The R. G. Peters, who is in charge of the

business his personal attention.

Mr. Peters' intimate friends have been ap-

prehensive of financial disaster for the past

three years, and have sought him in the

seclusion of the lakes, but he was in the

habit of pulling through each one and held on

until he went down. He has been active in

politics, contributing largely of time and

money to the support of his friend, Gen. Cut-

cheon. His charitable acts, both of a private and public nature,

have been almost unbounded. He has sup-

ported and sustained families who were nee-

ded, educated young people and not a church in

the city has been built but what he has con-

tributed hundreds of dollars. He, at an ex-

pense of \$20,000, built the Union Hall and

donated the same to the W. C. T. U., and

built Evelyn Hall at Bay View. He donated

\$30,000 to the Oberlin College Theological

Seminary at Evanston and Olivet College

at Dundas, and has been interested with

Mr. Peters, and is probably involved to the

extent of \$100,000. The bank promptly

met all claims with dollar for dollar. Presi-

dent Dunham terminated his resignation, and

Vice-President James D. Robinson was