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JOHN CAMERON, President and
Mng. Dir.
London, Wednesday, Oct. 7, 1896.

Will Britain Join Russia?

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Liberal leader in the British House of Commons, may or may not have conferred with Premier Salisbury before he delivered his recent remarkable speech on affairs in the East. It is not an uncommon thing for an Opposition leader in Great Britain to confer with the Government chief on matters of momentous importance regarding the foreign policy of the country. But, in any case, Sir William's declaration regarding Great Britain's attitude towards Russia cannot but have far-reaching effects. His views, indeed, are those of a large number of Conservatives as well as of the Liberal rank and file. He admitted that the policy of Great Britain, in defending the integrity of Turkey against Russia had failed. Great Britain, he maintained, ought in the future to co-operate with Russia in the East, treating her as an Asiatic neighbor, and not as an enemy. Sir William further declared that it was utterly impossible for Great Britain to effectually operate alone against Turkey. "I do not," said Sir William, with emphasis, "admire a splendid isolation which results only in humiliation and impotence." He preferred to cultivate the friendship of other Powers in a cordial, neighborly spirit. The British were over-much disposed to regard an advantage to other nations as their own loss. It is high time, he said, that they adopted a more amiable temper. They were always claiming a disinterested desire to act in the cause of humanity and civilization. Why not give others credit for the same desire?

It is not surprising that these utterances are regarded in Europe as pregnant with far-reaching effects. If adopted, the proposals would mark a departure from a line of policy which has been pursued by Great Britain for a century with undeviating steadfastness. A British alliance with Russia, offensive and defensive, would mark a new era in the movement of the far East, but it is what we have been expecting, as in the best interests of both countries, for some time past.

Perhaps the pale-faced young Czar, who has just visited his wife's aged grandmother at her Scottish home in Balmoral, is not averse to entering upon such an alliance, not only to secure the better government of Turkey, but to settle many knotty international questions in the far East. If that were so, history would not repeat itself. In 1844, the great-grandfather of the present Russian Czar swept down upon the youthful Queen and her Consort, giving but two days' notice of his prospective visit. Though "the strongest and most robust of men, with a giant will and nerves of steel," the Queen writes of him: "He gave Albert and myself the impression of a man who is not happy, and on whom the burden of his immense power and position weighs heavily and painfully." This was the picture drawn by the Queen of Nicholas I., the last Czar to visit Britain prior to the landing of the second Nicholas on the Scottish shore. Nicholas I. spent ten days in Great Britain. His visit had far more political importance than personal interest. He told the Queen, the Prince Consort, Sir Robert Peel (then Prime Minister), and every statesman with whom he came in contact that his consuming desire was to form an alliance with Great Britain. To Sir Robert Peel, the Czar, when urging an Anglo-Russian alliance, said: "I esteem England highly, but as to what the French say of me, I care not. I spit upon it." He told the Premier that Turkey was "the dying man of Europe," and that the country must be dealt with. "I do not," he explained, "covet one inch of Turkish soil to myself, but neither will I allow anybody else to have one."

Nicholas I. regarded France as most likely to have territorial designs on the East; he remembered the Napoleonic invasion and the destruction of Moscow; and he maintained that the country was the enemy of Russia as well as Great Britain. The newspapers and politicians of France gave color for the view that France was antagonistic to Britain; but both Peel and the Prince Consort argued with his Majesty that Britain could calmly disregard these outbreaks of the French populace so long as the three courts of London, Paris, and Brussels maintained their politico-domestic relations. They even confessed to him that one of the great objects of English policy was "to see that the French throne, upon the death of Louis Philippe, descended without

convulsion to the next legitimate heir of the Orleans dynasty."

Thus was the last recorded Russian proposal for an Anglo-Russian alliance rejected in 1844. If it had been carried out, as in later years, without the scare of Russian aggrandisement upon them, many people now believe would have been best, the Crimean war might have been avoided; Russia might have been given the southern outlet to the sea which she craved; and her marvelous advance through central Asia, even to the gates of Herat, might not have been undertaken. On the other hand, Great Britain might have obtained undisputed sway in Northern Africa, and the joint control of Egypt with France, with its train of expensive responsibilities, might not have been necessary. Instead of the immense sacrifice of human lives in Turkey in recent years, the country might long ere now have been possessed of a stable government that would at least have preserved inviolate human life and property.

What Great Britain rejected in 1844, and again in 1853, before the Crimean war began, France accepted at the hands of Nicholas II. Before the conference of the Powers, arranged to draw up the terms of peace, had concluded its labors, the unique spectacle was presented of France siding to give the best of the bargain to Russia, though she had poured her legions into the Crimea to thwart the designs of the Czar. Nicholas I. was dead, and his successor had reached the conclusion that it was worth his while to coquette with the happy-go-lucky French.

Today the Eastern question once more presents itself for solution. Again, the French are frantic for alliance with Russia. Has Britain first choice, or will France be preferred? The near future will tell. It may be that Sir William Harcourt's speech is prophetic.

Among the notable events in Quebec Province is the declaration of Mr. J. P. Cooke, Conservative M. P. for Drummondville, against the policy pursued by his leader, Hon. Mr. Flynn. Mr. Cooke appeared at a meeting the other night and declared in favor of Hon. Mr. Marchand, the Liberal leader. This action presages the collapse of the Flynn Administration when it goes to the polls next spring.

Bradstreet's has issued an interesting summary of the business failures in Canada and Newfoundland for the first nine months of 1896 and of the previous year. There was a decided increase in the 1896 period, the number of insolvents being 1,651, against 1,336 in 1895. In Newfoundland the decrease was marked, being from 40 last year to 12 this year. The impression prevails that from now out business will improve in Canada.

NEW BOOKS.

Three very interesting books are this week issued in Macmillan's Colonial Library (paper-cover series). They are: "Plain Tales from the Hills," by Rudyard Kipling. This is the latest work by the English novelist. "Thirty Years in Paris," by Alphonse Daudet's masterpiece. The work is handsomely illustrated. "Modeste Mignon," is another of Balzac's novels, depicting French life and character. It is translated by George Saintsbury.

The Copp, Clark Company, of Toronto, are the Canadian publishers for Macmillan & Co., New York and London.

BLOWS WERE STRUCK.

Inquest in the Case of Thomas Kendry's Death at Chatham.

Chatham, Ont., Oct. 7.—An inquest on the body of Thomas Kendry, the elderly man whose death was supposed to have been caused from a fall from a chair against the corner of his bedstead in his room in the Idlewild Hotel on Saturday, was held in the police court Monday night. Coroner Dr. Bray presiding. Wm. Douglas, Q.C., attended on behalf of the Crown, while S. L. Lewis was also present to watch the proceedings for some of the interested persons.

Capt. W. T. Greenwood admitted striking deceased under provocation, but he was not hurt. Kendry also had a struggle with John Abraham, proprietor of the Idlewild.

Dr. McKough, who attended deceased after he fell, described his condition, and thought it quite possible the injury would be caused by such a fall. Dr. Holmes gave corroborative evidence.

Joseph Jewel was also examined, but his evidence was unimportant. The inquest was adjourned until this evening.

The deceased was a well-known citizen. His son, who is a member of Parliament for West Peterboro, has arrived here to take charge of the remains.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES

Fire in the manufacturing department of Lyman Bros' drug store, Toronto, Tuesday morning, did \$9,000 damage; covered by insurance.

The official board of the Centenary Church, Hamilton, has extended a hearty invitation to Rev. Dr. Smith to remain as pastor for a fourth year.

Francis Simmons, a veteran British soldier, has been called home from Winnipeg to join his regiment in England. Other old soldiers are being summoned.

A Johnstown, Pa., dispatch says: It was announced last night that practically every department of the Cambrian Iron Works will close down tomorrow for an indefinite period. Three thousand men will be affected.

The Grand Trunk station at Deseronto Junction was broken into early Sunday morning, and \$19 in cash, together with a number of tickets, were stolen. The robbery is supposed to have been the work of tramps.

Worms cause feverishness, moaning and restlessness during sleep. Mother Graves' Worm Expeller is pleasant, sure and effectual. If your druggist has none in stock, get him to

Western Ontario.

Iron Ore Discovered in Southeastern Malahide.

An Elma Township Farmer Killed—An Aymer Man's Close Call.

The Seaforth Association Football Club defeated the Detroiters at the latter city on Saturday by 3 to 2. C. Kehoe, of Stratford, received severe injuries by falling off a building at Atwood on Saturday. One of his arms was broken, and his head was injured.

Mr. William Hannah, an Elma township farmer, was thrown from his rig, while the horse ran away, and received terrible injuries from which he died in a few minutes.

Mr. Otto J. Klotz, astronomer, Department of the Interior, has arrived at Fort Stanley for the purpose of establishing an astronomic station in connection with the Geodetic survey.

Mr. Wm. Hare, an Aymer butcher, was struck by an M. C. R. express train while driving across the track. The horse was killed, but Mr. Hare escaped with few injuries.

Mrs. Minnie M. Trotter, of Amherstburg, has received her commission from the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., as district deputy grand master of Pansy Lodge, D. of R., for district No. 1.

Thomas Patterson, assessor, Galt, has made out the roll for 1897. In real estate the increase has been \$27,715, while the population increase is over a hundred. The figures for population are 7,480.

In Ridgeway on Thursday, J. T. Barry, formerly a lumber merchant at Chatham, was committed for trial upon the charge of receiving from the mail and retaining a letter addressed to Kerby Gregory, hotelkeeper. Bail was allowed.

During the semi-annual meeting of the board of management of the Woman's Auxiliary Missionary Association at Sarnia, Bishop Baldwin presented Mrs. T. R. Davis, on behalf of the Sarnia branch of the W. A. M. A., a life membership of the W. A. M. A., and a purse containing \$25 in gold.

Monday morning, Wm. Henderson, who is employed by John Copland, building bridges in Sarnia township, was working at dring piles, when the large driver of the hammer descended on his hand, and crushed the last three fingers of his right hand. Half of each injured member had to be amputated. It was the first operation performed at Sarnia's new general hospital. Dr. Morrison, assisted by Dr. Logie, performed the operation.

An Aymer correspondent writes: A shipment of several cars of "bog" iron ore is being made this week to the Hamilton smelting works. The ore is found on the Larn farm, near Mount Salem, and is said to be in considerable quantity. The field experiment prove profitable, a number of other locations in southeastern Malahide will be opened up and worked, as considerable deposits of the ore exist in that section.

Two lads, Lorne Black and Lawrence Fulton, were involved in a fatal accident on Saturday. The former is the 14-year-old son of A. N. C. Black, proprietor of the Hutchinson House, St. Thomas. The other boy is the 12-year-old son of Dr. Fulton, of Kansas City, but who has been living with his aunt, Mrs. John Histon, St. Thomas, for some years. The boys were standing on the bridge at Lyndhurst watching a pigeon shooting match, when one of the marksmen shot too low, and struck the boys. Fulton was wounded in the face and leg, and he may lose the sight of one eye. Lorne Black had one of his ears split, and also received a couple of shots in the head. His injuries, though, are not serious.

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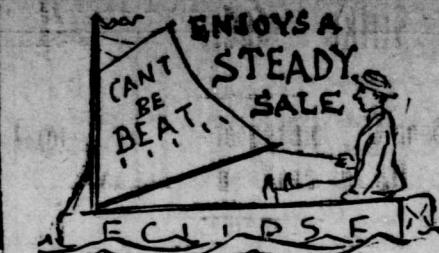
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