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London, Tuesday, April 16.

Railway and Other Development in New Ontario.

We referred yesterday in general terms to the session of the Ontario Legislature just closed. But the importance of the greatest feature of the session justifies additional reference. During the recent session there has been an absence of legislation on ditches and water courses; and in its place railroads and the development and settlement of the northern part of the Province.

Pennsylvania has been called a kingdom in itself, because of its extent, and the greatness of its resources; and it is worth notice that millions of Pennsylvania capital are now being invested in the development of New Ontario.

That these ventures will succeed is the hope of everyone. That the capital of the United States is seeking investment in Canada, is a sign that it cannot find as good investments in the United States, and that after surveying the ground it finds in Canada an opportunity for profit.

The Government are acting wisely, therefore, in assisting, by fair bargains, to open up the great northern country for settlement, and for development; and the railway legislation of the session just closing is its most important feature. The terms made with the Manitoulin and North Shore Railway are advanced terms, that time will test. Their wisdom is beyond dispute; because, even should the ventures fail, the country could not lose. If they succeed, the country benefits in proportion to that success.

More, the country on fair terms may become proprietors of the railway, and if they do not wish to do that, can control its rates.

Old Ontario and New Ontario will both be great gainers by the success of the policy adopted by the Government. The session just closed will be distinguished by that legislation, and its result will be watched with interest and we hope will mean great profit to the people of the Province.

Mr. Blair's Contract for Steel Rails.

The last issue of Canadian Hardware and Metal, an alert trade journal, speaks in terms of commendation of the action of the Hon. Mr. Blair, Minister of Railways and Canals, in making a contract in October last with the Clergue Company, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., whereby the company is to deliver, by a certain time next year, 25,000 tons of steel rails at the wharf, at either Montreal or Levis, the price to be \$22.45 per ton. It has also been agreed to take a like quantity during each of the four following years at the prices that would be ruling in England at the time of delivery. The trade journal quoted points out, speaking in round numbers, Canada's imports of steel rails within the last fifteen years have ranged from 1,500,000 to 3,000,000. Last year the quantity was 2,617,648 cwt., and the value \$2,787,866.

Canadian Hardware and Metal concludes with the following sentence: "We have more often condemned than commended the Government for its actions, but we do not see in the present instance how we can do any other than commend it."

Funeral Pomp.

The proposal to establish a crematory in Montreal, in which to reduce the bodies of dead persons to ashes, is defended by some of its promoters, for two reasons—one that it will be economical, and the other that it will conduce to the public health. Nevertheless, very many persons besides the adherents of the Catholic Church, who object to cremation on principle, will stick by the old system of disposing of the dead, "earth to earth," "dust to dust." Others, and we fear the majority, will object to any scheme for disposing of the dead that has the merit of being economical. For generations—from time immemorial, we believe—the idea has been entertained among large numbers of our population that proper respect is not shown to the dead unless the funeral is on a "grand" scale.

We heard, the other day, of a poor woman who lost her husband. She was left with a young and dependent family, and hardly any means. Her husband belonged to a well-known society, which is in the habit of providing burial for all of its members whose relatives are too poor to easily undertake the duty. The chief of this society called on the bereaved woman, and having ascertained how very poor she was, suggested that the band, usual at the society's funerals, be dispensed with, or at least that it should not be hired to go to her suburban residence, two miles from the church, but should meet the funeral procession there. He offered to have the money so saved handed over to her to aid

In making her lot somewhat more tolerable, now that the breadwinner was gone. The woman's pride was nettled. With some show of indignation, she informed the would-be benefactor that she thought her husband's remains were entitled to the band; that her neighbors would remark on its absence; and that she would much rather go without the money, and have the band, than her far-away suburban home through the city streets! And so the band played, and the little ones of the dead man had to put up with privation that the ostentation might be dispensed.

Is this not a typical, if a somewhat extreme, example of the way in which many persons, who can ill-afford it, foolishly attempt to show respect for their dead?

The Ancaster man who, a few years ago, though well able to have it otherwise, insisted on being carried to his grave in a plain deal box, carried on the wagon that had so often conveyed him and his farm products to market, took the extreme view on the other side. But his attitude enforced a lesson in simplicity that was much needed.

Respect for the dead must not, and assuredly does not, call for an exhibition of grandeur on the part of the living that, all too frequently, is made at the expense of those who can ill afford it.

Binder Twine Prices.

The United States Industrial Commission has been investigating the binder twine industry at Washington. It was shown that the United States consumes annually about 30,000 tons of binder twine and 60,000 tons of rope. But all the witnesses found difficulty in naming an average price for the last half dozen years, owing to the phenomenal fluctuations in the price of the raw material, occasioned by the war in the Philippine Islands, short crops from drought, and other causes. It was shown that Manila fibre had advanced in the last four years, from 3½ cents per pound to 14½ cents, though at present the price is considerably lower.

These facts prove how hollow and unfair was the election outcry made against the Minister of Justice, during the last campaign, to the effect that the price of binder twine had been raised beyond a fair market value because the Minister, who has under his control a penitentiary factory that produced only a mere fraction of the 8,000 tons of binder twine consumed in this country, had sold himself to a combine.

The fact was, that no combine existed, and that when the twine was sold to the wholesale dealer it was sold to the highest bidder in open competition, and then sold to the farmer direct, at the lowest price possible, after paying for raw material and working expenses.

Great Britain's Trade Not Easily Wiped Out.

Emil Reich, who hails from London, but whom, from the form of his name, one would judge to be a German, contributes to the International Monthly an article on "England at the Close of the Nineteenth Century," and if his estimate is anything like correct, Britain is certainly in a bad way. According to this writer the close of the nineteenth century witnesses not the ascent of British policy, but the diminution of its power. Her statesmanship has recently been a series of errors; in fact, this gentleman seems to think that it has never been very wise, and her success in empire-building has been the result of happy accidents. But to come to recent times, her first mistake was despising Germany, and not understanding that the "purely academic" attempts of an academic nation were serious and of great significance. But the greatest error of all is the Boer war.

Emil Reich, to prove this, must, of course, give his history of the Boers, and his account of the origin of the war, and we cannot follow him through all that grind again; suffice it to say that he charges the war to the international capitalists of South Africa and Mr. Chamberlain. Then he passes on to the statement which we all accept, that it has been a "war of surprises." Further, the Boers cannot be beaten, and will never settle down; they are determined to have their independence, and will forever be plotting against England. This weakens Great Britain and makes her unable to cope with any great power, so that her days are numbered. She will go on weakening until Germany is ready to crush her, for the war with Germany must come.

"The best portions of the globe are already in firm hands. Germany can acquire some of them only by sheer force. Of great colonial powers, however, there are only three—England, France and Holland; and since any attack on Holland would be considered a casus belli by England, practically only two. It is evident that Germany will long avoid having another war with France, in that such a war, if provoked by Germany, would inevitably involve the latter in war with Russia, France's ally. Now England has, by her geographical configuration, and quite apart from her superior fleet, an immense advantage over Germany. The German merchantmen are bound to run the gauntlet in the English Channel, just as were in former times the Dutch merchantmen. England can, therefore, in case of hostilities, inflict exceedingly grave damage on German trade, both in European

and other waters. Transmarine commerce, however, is indispensable to Germany, as a great power; and the Germans have long proved their aptitude for it. Germany, then, must abandon her ambitions or fight England. The former being impossible, the latter becomes necessary."

There is useful information and some good ideas in this essay, but it dwells too much on one thing, namely, England's weakness and defects, and forgets that other people have weaknesses and defects, and that there are a great many forces working in the world besides England and Germany. We admit that there are elements of danger in the present situation, but we do not think that Germany is likely soon to wipe Britain off the face of the earth; there are many things to be taken into account in dealing with such a complex question.

Mr. H. H. Cook.

Mr. H. H. Cook might say: "I am not happy!—with the Titan's lust I would myself, and I clasp a cloud!"

and Mr. H. H. Cook is not the first man, nor is he likely to be the last, who has found in the end nothing more substantial than a cloud. Many a man has served the public to the best of his ability, and been of substantial use, and yet has lived to regret that he gave so much of his time to public affairs, and so little to himself and his own.

Whether he was justified in breaking with those who were his friends, because they could not secure for him what he thought he was entitled to, it is not necessary to determine. In a case like his, it is almost always so; some favor, some oppose, and in the endeavor to get even with those who oppose, it is necessary to hit those who favored as well. Whether he was justified in doing this or not, it is unnecessary to determine.

The investigation appears to have disclosed that the late Hon. M. C. Cameron was his friend, and anxious that he should be appointed a Senator. The conversations between them, and between Mr. Cook and Mr. Biggs, would seem to indicate that the legality of payment was discussed, and the question asked whether a less sum would suffice. In this, even if it occurred, there is no proof or even suggestion of authority on the late Mr. M. C. Cameron's part. And here we reach a circumstance—Mr. Cameron's death—that ought to have prevented Mr. Cook from speaking. If he could charge no one except one whose voice is silent, he, too, should have remained silent. Had Mr. Cook spoken while Mr. Cameron lived, or had he succeeded in identifying anyone else with the alleged offer, there might have been justification, but none otherwise.

The unfortunate position is reached that Mr. Cook alleges that the late Mr. Cameron made certain proposals, and the latter is not here either to affirm or deny them. Those who knew Mr. Cameron in his life time will not need to be told that he did not lack the ability to defend himself, when living, and with them, the statement will go for nothing. That this is the just course to take is evident, and as no one else has been identified with the matter—as Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright are clearly not in any way connected with it—the whole charges must also go for nothing, and Mr. Cook's name be added to the long list of those who, in every party, in political matters, even though they served their party faithfully, and in their judgment were entitled to be rewarded, failed to secure the reward, and must be satisfied with the recollection of work well done. It adds, too, another proof that ante-election charges should be read with great caution.

PARAGRAPHS ABOUT PEOPLE.

At the medical convocation of Queen's University recently, a scholarship was founded in memory of the services of Dr. Fyfe Fowler, L.R.C.S. (Edinburgh). Dr. Fowler came to Canada in 1854, and shortly after his arrival in Kingston was appointed professor of materia medica and therapeutics in Queen's University. That position he held until 1878 when he was appointed professor of the principles and practices of medicine. From 1876 until 1899 he was appointed dean, and in October of 1900 he retired from active duty. It will thus be seen that Dr. Fowler has given 46 years of service to Queen's and to medical science in Canada, a life-work which is well worthy of being recognized and commended by colleagues and students. Dr. Herald, referring to his work for Queen's medical department said: "Dr. Fowler had the honor of guiding it through dark days, and at great sacrifice. It is to Dr. Fowler that the medical faculty owes its very existence. Little reward did he receive except the knowledge of his doing his duty faithfully and well. Today he sees the reward of his labor, the college on a sound basis, and its prospects bright."

Dr. Fowler is the only one left of the original medical faculty, and was deeply touched by the honor so heartily paid to his name. The secretary, Mr. Herald, made the following statement, as to the church connections of the medical students of Queen's at the present time. The total number last session was 151, as follows: Presbyterians 45, Methodists 48, Anglicans 31, Roman Catholics 26, Congregationalists 3, Baptists 1, Unitarians 1, Salvation Army 1. So far as the make-up of the students is concerned this statement shows that

all the denominations are proportionately represented, and the same is true of the professors. Dr. Fowler is a Presbyterian, and he has worked harmoniously with men of different communions in promoting the extension of medical science, and the welfare of the students.

THE COMING OF THE BIRDS.

There is no more wonderful thing in all the cycle of the seasons than the return of the birds with the vernal tide. Their flight is one of those admirably-regulated phenomena which Mother Nature, to suit her purposes, veils with the mantle of mystery. Audubon sought to fathom it, and failed. No one who has examined the cleverly-woven nest of the Baltimore Oriole but has marvelled at it. Nowhere else in bird architecture is there to be found the equal of it in strength, symmetry and warmth; but who ever saw the builder at work with his trowel? The most faithful observer of birds has never recorded having witnessed the oriole in the act of building his nest, yet there it hangs suspended from the largest bough of yonder elm tree, perfect in every particular.

But the coming of the birds is a more mysterious matter still. On some bright, warm morning in March, while the snow yet lies in deep ridges in the thick woods, you are startled by the clear, familiar piping of Robin. At sunset, perhaps, you see him again, perched on the topmost limb of a maple, swelling his plain, russet breast with the simple strain that all the nightingales in Europe cannot imitate. How was the miracle wrought? Yesterday the wind was sweeping out of the north, bringing with it the sting of leagues of ice and snow. Not a feathered thing would you have discovered had you hunted through all the woods of Middlesex, unless, perchance, some hardy little chickadee. Today, here is Robin, with his old, sanguine song of greeting!

The bluebird is not much later. Indeed, in the rural districts, the children, trudging to school on a warm, bright morning, hear his plaintive, homesick warble, and note the flash of his blue wings before the robin has made his appearance. The bluebird, with all his domestic predilection for a box in the garden for nesting purposes, is a shy bird; and there is reason to believe that his arrival north occurs long before it is heralded in the country papers. There is something reassuring about his presence, and one may safely begin to search for the hepatica and the dog-tooth when he is reliably reported.

Once the robin and the bluebird have arrived, the woods seem to fill with birds as if by magic. By what strange necromancy you are unable to determine, the bush acres are colonized by hosts of birds. There is a fine far-rago of songs, through which you trace the note of the wood-thrush, the song-sparrow and the yellow-hammer, and the loud, cheerful humming of the red-headed woodpecker. How was this long voyage from the south accomplished? The wren, for whom the length of the garden, seems a long flight, could never have done it on one pull. The whistling must have made the journey from the southern rice fields by easy stages, yet neither he nor the wren were late.

The birds have their well-defined seasons of migration. You need not look for the gaily-attired oriole until May; and the scarlet tanager and cuckoo are seldom seen until June. There is in this particular a curious analogy between the birds and the flowers. There is a gaudiness about the later arrivals that is lacking in the attire of the first-comers. One expects to find the gorgeous fringed gentian and the flaming tanager in sultry July or August, but never in May. Spring is a young maiden, full of sudden surprises, graceful, though mutable, whose freshness is enhanced by the delicate hues of her raiment. Summer is a florid matron, whose vulgar robustness is heightened by the gaudy colors she affects. Spring, like youth, has its mysteries; summer, like old age, has only the remembrance of them.

H. L. H.

Hippocrates' grave was discovered in the course of recent excavations at Larissa, in Thessaly.

THE RUNIANS-GRAY CO
Table Linen

We are constantly being complimented on our Table Linen values, and justly so. This week we are showing two extra special bargains:

No. 1—Special line pure Irish Damask Table Linen, good width, extra weight. This is worth regularly 40c and 45c. Our price this week..... 29c

No. 2—Special line pure Irish Damask Table Linen, fine, heavy texture, worth regularly 50c. Our special price this week..... 35c

Towels and Toweling

Every thread Linen and worth 33½ per cent more than the price we are selling them at.

Special line All-Linen Crash Toweling, 18 inches wide, heavy weight, worth regularly 10c. Our special price, per yard, 7½c

Special line All-Linen Huck Toweling, extra heavy, 18 inches wide, worth regularly 10c. Our special price, per yard..... 7½c

Special line All-Linen Bleached Damask Towels, knotted fringed ends, size 23x45, worth regularly 37½c. Our special price, each..... 25c

Special line All-Linen Huck Towels, red border, extra heavy, size 23x46, worth regularly 20c. Our special price, each..... 15c

Special line All-Linen Huck Towels, size 18x36, fine quality, hemmed ends. Our special price each..... 12½c

Special line Heavy Bath Towels, size 21x50. These are worth regularly 62½c. Our special price, each..... 45c

White Cotton Special

We place on sale tomorrow 1,200 yards of Bleached Cotton, in mill ends of from 5 to 10 yards each, 36 inches wide, worth regularly 6c and 7c.

Our Special Price, 4c Per Yard.

GENUINE WINTER WEATHER IN COLORADO

Wyoming, Too, Experiencing a Great Blizzard—Stock Suffer Severely—Railway Travel Impeded.

Denver, Col., April 16.—Reports from Northern Colorado are to the effect that another storm has prevailed on the prairies for the past 24 hours and still continues. It began with a misty rain, and developed into a veritable blizzard. The loss of stock will be great, as they have become greatly weakened by exposure to the storms of the past two weeks and lack of sufficient food. The snow is drifting badly, and railroad traffic is delayed. In the vicinity of Denver and on the plains the storm is described as "the worst for years."

Cheyenne, Wyo., April 16.—In the blizzard now raging railroad traffic has not yet been impeded, but as the snow is drifting blockades are likely to occur. W. D. Werner, a Star Route mail carrier between Wheatland and Phillips, Wyoming, became lost in the storm on the plains a week ago, and wandered for three days without food. When found he was snow-blind and almost famished.

John Gillespie, who carries the mail from Cheyenne to Horse Creek, Wyo., became lost a week ago last Thursday and did not return to Cheyenne for seven days. He was obliged to abandon his mail car and horse, and

for two days and nights wandered aimlessly about the Plains until found by some sheep herders.

CREATED CONFUSION

Rev. R. R. Stevens Opposed the Rules and Usages of Chicago Presbytery.

Chicago, April 16.—The Chicago Presbytery was thrown into confusion by a direct denial of its authority or jurisdiction over its members. The Rev. Rollo R. Stevens resigned after the presbytery had taken a vote refusing him permission to retire from the ministry. He later withdrew his resignation to await judicial action. Pointed speeches were made on both sides. Rev. Mr. Stevens contended that a man had the right at any time to leave the ministry, such action Dr. Herrick Johnson characterized as "most extraordinary." He recalled the rule of early days, that only crime or death released a minister from his calling. Mr. Stevens left the ministry without consulting the presbytery to accept a position with an insurance company. The judicial committee, to whom the matter was referred, will report next Monday.

PECULIARITIES.

"What kind of a man is your employer?" asked one young man. "Oh, he's peculiar," answered the other. "He thinks that simply because he has satisfied his customers and made money he knows more about how his business ought to be run than I do."

New Dress Goods and Silks

Repeat orders just to hand of scarce shades in Dress Goods and Silks.

Taffeta Silks at 50c, 65c, 75c, 85c and \$1, in old rose, pastel blue and green, chocolate brown, dark navy, stone blue and turquoise.

Satin Mery, and Britannia Silk at 75c, 85c and \$1, in brown, navy, bluet, corn flower, sky, turquoise, castor and pastel green.

Black Taffeta Silk, 36-inch; per yard, \$1 25 (note the width). Black Taffeta, 23-inch, per yard \$1 and \$1 25. Guaranteed.

Black Taffeta Silks, 20 and 23-inch, per yard 50c, 65c, 75c and 85c.

Special Blouse Silk, 35c

About 20 pieces of Fancy Waist Silks, in Taffeta and English Foulard, stripes, checks and fancies; regular 50c and 55c, to clear, per yard 35c.

Special Blouse Silks, 50c

About 25 ends of Waist and Dress Silks, in Foulards and Taffeta, stripes, checks and floral designs, regular 75c, 85c and \$1, to clear, per yard 50c.

Silk Grenadines

New Silk Grenadines, Black: 44-inch, large check designs 75c 44-inch, plain iron frame \$1 00 44-inch, floral designs 75c and \$1 00 44-inch, stripes and checks \$1 00 and \$1 25 House Dress Patterns in New Silk Grenadines, in wave stripes, satin stripes and silk crepon stripes (exclusive dresses), at \$9, \$10 and \$12 50.

Black Crepe de Chene

Exclusive Dresses in Silk Crepe de Chene, at \$12 to \$15 per dress length.

Black Suitings, 75c

48-inch Harris suitings, all wool, excellent finish, special per yard 75c.

Black Harris Cheviot, \$1 25

56-inch All-Wool Cheviots, special weight and finish, for spring suits, per yard \$1 50, \$1 65, \$1 75, \$2, \$2 50 and \$3.

Black Broadcloth, \$1 50

Satin-Finish Broadcloth, 56-inch, light and medium weight, for spring suits, per yard \$1 50, \$1 65, \$1 75, \$2, \$2 50 and \$3.

WHY HE CAN'T INSURE. "I thought McKimley would insure his life." "He can't." "Why?" "No one can make out his policy."—Harvard Lampoon.

OUR "EXTRA" BRAND OAK BELTING FOR QUALITY.

J. C. McLAREN BELTING CO. MONTREAL AND TORONTO.

When Spring Time Comes Again Use

Sweet Home Soap

Good at all times for easy washing. All grocers sell Sweet Home Soap and give more for the money than any other line. Save the wrappers for the premiums.

THE LONDON SOAP CO.

EPPS'S COCOA

GRAPEFUL COMFORTING Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavor, Superior Quality, and Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in 1½ lb tins, labeled JAMES EPPS & Co., Limited, Homoeopathic Chemists, London.

BREAKFAST SUPPER EPPS'S COCOA

DOAN'S PILLS

BACKACHES ARE BEING CURED

GUARANTEED TO

by Doan's Pills. When you get a backache it means that the kidneys are weak and should be attended to. If you do not attend to them they may cause you years of misery by producing Urinary Troubles, Rheumatism, Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Dropsy, etc.

The following statements prove positively that Doan's Pills will cure backache:

Mrs. H. HINCHLIFFE, Wingham, Ont., writes:

I was troubled with a terrible backache for some time, but after taking two boxes of Doan's Pills I am completely cured.

Mr. H. JOHNSTON, London, Ont., writes:

I have used Doan's Pills for my kidneys, and find them a quick and sure relief for pains in the small of the back and urinary troubles.

Mr. HENRY ELLIS, Parry Sound, Ont., writes:

I believe Doan's Pills to be an excellent remedy for the kidneys. I was troubled with backache, but one box of the pills effected a cure, and I can recommend them very highly to others.

CURE ALL

DOAN KIDNEY PILL CO., PROPRIETORS, TORONTO, ONT.

KIDNEY ILLS.

ELLA E. VAN TASSELL, Tiverton, N.S., writes:

I was subject to a lame back, until I procured a box of Doan's Pills. The one box cured me and I have not been bothered since.

Mrs. A. SMITH, Montreal, Que., writes:

I was afflicted with backache, headaches and urinary troubles, but since using two boxes of Doan's Pills I can truthfully say I am cured. I simply cannot express my gratitude towards Doan's Pills. They are a boon to women.

Mr. CHARLES BROWN, Devises, Ont., writes:

I was greatly troubled with backache, so procured a box of Doan's Pills. They did all that is claimed for them, and cured me. I would advise any person who is troubled with backache to give them a trial. I am sure they will do them good.