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JOHN CAMERON, President and
Managing Dir.
God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.
—Browning.

London, Friday, June 4, 1897.

London and the New Railway
Deal.

The meaning of the new arrangement for bringing the Wabash trains over the Grand Trunk Railway is that a large quantity of through traffic hitherto carried by the Vanderbilt lines—the Michigan Central and the South Shore—will be conveyed by the Grand Trunk. Mr. Hays, the general manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, was formerly the ruling spirit on the Wabash, which, under his supervision, became one of the most enterprising of western railways. When Mr. Hays took hold of the Grand Trunk, the impression gained quickly that the confidence which the Wabash directors had in him would influence them to seek closer business relations with the great system of which he is the head. And so it has come about. The result will be the speediest possible passenger service over the Grand Trunk consistent with safety, as the timetable printed in yesterday's Advertiser indicates, and an ever-increasing augmentation in the freight business of the two roads.

The Wabash system has an equipment of 409 locomotives, and 12,933 cars. It extends from Detroit and Toledo to Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, Des Moines, Quincy, Ill., Keokuk and Council Bluffs. As has been pointed out by the Detroit News, the Wabash has long been one of the best feeders of roads running from Toledo and Buffalo east. Extending through the rich farming districts of the Mississippi and Missouri Valley, it has brought to the eastern roads hundreds of thousands of tons of freight annually. In April last it transferred to the Vanderbilt lines at Toledo 20,000 tons. The passenger business delivered from the west has been proportionately profitable. The west-bound freight not being anywhere so great as the east-bound, the Vanderbilt lines have been able to give the Wabash but a small percentage of the tonnage for the west that it received from it for the east. The advantages which the Wabash and Grand Trunk will get out of the arrangement are understood to be mutual. In the way of track rental, the Grand Trunk will get more from the Wabash than it has heretofore received as *ligro-rata* for freight and traffic that came to it in the ordinary course from the Wabash. The latter will get the benefits of hauling all of its east-bound passenger and freight a considerably greater number of miles, for which it will collect the rates direct, less the mileage it pays to the Grand Trunk from Detroit to Buffalo through Canada than by delivering to a Vanderbilt line at Toledo.

London will reap those benefits from the increased traffic which its position as a railway and commercial center, interested in fast travel and a fast freight service, command. There will be the further incidental advantage accruing of increased receipts from the business done, which ought to add to the prosperity of the company, and its men, and react favorably on the community having constant business relations with them.

The Edmonton, N. W. T. Bulletin chronicles the arrival in that town of Sir W. A. Fraser and a party of six oil-borers from Petrolia. These experts will immediately resume boring for oil in that region. The machinery used at Athabasca Landing will be moved to Pelican Rapids, about eight miles further down the Athabasca, and fresh operations will begin there. A section of the party will make borings at Victoria, on the Saskatchewan. There is speculation as to whether oil will be found. If it is there the Petrolia men will find it. Whether in Ontario, Austria, Russia, India, Burma, Java or any other portion of the world, Petrolia experts have been able to find oil if anyone could. It will be a great strike for the far west if they are able to tap a few flowing wells in the region where so many promising indications exist.

Ontario's Lumber Wealth.

The Ontario Government has taken a very important step in appointing a forestry commission to examine and report on the wood wealth of the province. The members of the commission are: E. Rathburn, the great lumber man, of Deseronto; John Bertram, manufacturer, Toronto; Alex. Kirkwood, chief clerk of the Crown Lands Department; J. B. McWilliams, superintendent of forest rangers, Peterboro, and Thomas Southworth, clerk of forestry. The latter has been appointed secretary of the commission. It will be the duty of the commission to make thorough inquiry as to the condition of the forests of the province, to advise as to the best means of protecting the tree wealth, and of securing the reafforestation of areas cleared, or which may be better adapted for wood growth than for any other product.

This commission ought to be productive of important results to the province. There can be very little division of opinion as to the propriety from time to time of drawing on our forest wealth to provide funds for sustaining the Government of the province, for maintaining our asylums and benevolent institutions, and for aiding in providing a good education for the youth of the land.

What our rulers must do is to see that means are provided for continuing our timber supply, for effectively protecting that now growing, and for encouraging the planting of trees on every bit of vacant land unoccupied by other crops.

Our opinion is that the time has come for the Government to give the most effective encouragement to the planting and care of trees in every part of the province. There are thousands of acres now vacant, and scarcely fitted for any other crop, that could be planted with trees, and steadily augmented in value.

The forestry commission cannot too soon get to work.

Premier Laurier is a plain, unassuming man, who is most comfortable when he is living the simple life of a Canadian citizen. But when he is in the British metropolises, the guest of her Majesty, no such simplicity will be permitted. The London Canadian Gazette informs us that when the visiting premiers reach the British metropolis they will be met in every case by Right Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, on behalf of her Majesty, on the steps of the Hotel Cecil, the magnificent establishment on the Thames Embankment, near the Parliament buildings, which has been specially set apart for their accommodation. The premier will be driven in Queen's carriages, and Queen's liveried servants will wait upon them during their month's stay. Special stabling has been taken in Covent Garden for a large number of horses and carriages, the latter exactly similar to those used by the court, for their convenience.

Britain's Response.

That is a striking editorial reference to Canada and the empire which appears in the London, England, Times. Says this great leader in the representation of public opinion:

"It has been the merit and privilege of Canada during this happy jubilee year to remind us by a great practical legislative measure that the empire may be united more closely upon commercial lines. This achievement and the spirit in which it has been performed will assuredly be borne in mind when Mr. Laurier arrives."

The trade between the motherland and Canada is certain to increase by leaps and bounds under the new and better order of things.

This is the month of brides, roses, jubilee celebrations, church gatherings, baseball crackling and college graduates. All aid in engrossing the attention of one section or another of the great Public.

In Toronto the school children will have jubilee medals to burn. The committees have just given orders for the production of 22,000 of them, at 3 1/2 cents each. They come high, but they must have them!

Who Will Lead?

No matter how the war between Greece and Turkey is ended, it is made evident that the close of conflict will not end the struggle for the mastery between the forces of Occidentalism and Orientalism. Who, in this tussle, is to lead, who is to champion, who is to represent Occidentalism, in this inevitable combat? This is what Prof. Wheeler, in the last number of the Atlantic Monthly, calls the "Greater Eastern Question." While he is willing to wait for the coming century to answer this question, he is ready to hazard a guess. One of two powers he thinks destined to lead in this unavoidable conflict—for reasons sufficiently apparent—England or Russia. But which? This is Prof. Wheeler's guess:

"The world is arraying itself into two great camps. Russia spans the north from China to France, and guiding the foreign policy of Germany, rules, in the last decisions, Northern Asia and all Europe, except England and Italy. England spans the seas and

holds in a mysterious bond of common interest and guaranteed justice the diverse elements of her world-empire. It is possible that Russia's strength has been greatly over-estimated. The bonds which hold her empire together might weaken under the testing of adversity. Those which bind the British Empire together would strengthen. The financial difficulties Russia would have to face in the event of a great struggle, are an element of weakness in her situation. England's resources are unlimited, infinitely varied, and self-supplied. The power of the British Empire as it is now organized, has never been called to the test. I believe it to be enormously under-rated."

These well-put reasons for regarding Great Britain as by far the stronger of the great European powers, and the most likely to mold the future of the East, are from the pen of an experienced United States observer. This gives them great force. The next few years will be fraught with history-making of momentous importance.

Canada's export trade is being vigorously promoted. Negotiations are now in progress for placing on an improved footing Canada's lumber trade with Australia. Salmon-trout have been sent to the Australian market from Canada, realizing a profit. The experiment will be repeated next spring on an enlarged scale.

The anti-combine clause in the new tariff passed the Dominion House of Commons yesterday, despite the frantic efforts of the Opposition. The tariff will not be permitted to shield those who do not treat the public with justice.

CERTAINLY NOT.

Kingston Whig.
Mr. Laurier, at Stratford, in 1895, said he favored the taking of a plebiscite free from other considerations. But that did not mean a freedom from considerations as to the effect of the plebiscite and prohibition.

THESE ARE THE STUFF.

Montreal Gazette.
Next to collateral, confidence is the best thing for greasing the business situation's wheels.

KIPLING REVISED.

Kingdom Review.
"The gates are mine to open,
And the gates are mine to close.
Save when I strike a toll-gate."
Said Our Lady of the Snows

HE WAS TOO SHY.

Life.
Miss Mary, I don't approve of your entertaining your young man in the kitchen.
"Well, mum, he is too shy to come in the parlor."

AN EXCEPTION.

Home Queen.
I like to watch my wife when she's Crocheting.
Or when she's tatting mysteries.
I often note complacently Her snoring.
Nor does her snoring prompt in me Denouncing.
But I am spurred, I must allow, To quitting.
When she her alabaster brow Is knitting.

BRITAIN UNDER VICTORIA.

Timely Comments on a Recent Symposium.
Toronto Globe.

Nothing, we should have said, had the query of The London Advertiser been put to us, "strikes us more in glancing back over the 60 years of the history and progress of the British Empire under Queen Victoria," than the growth of the press. Here is an instance at hand. Our contemporary sends out a question to the leading men in Canada, and within a few hours of the receipt of the replies the public is made aware of a trifling outlay of the drift of sentiment in our highest intellectual and moral centers. The influence of such an event is incalculable. All modern mechanical inventions are, of course, implicated in the result, but they are ancillary.

It is extremely interesting to note the characteristic responses to The Advertiser's question. Prof. Goldie Smith penetrated with the historic sense, views events as phases in the world's history, and remarks upon the progress of humanity, "not to be measured by the years or inscribed with the designation of any particular reign."

Senator Sanford, with true utilitarianism, professes himself struck with "the improved social condition of the people."

Mr. Pardoe, with the idea of empire in his mind, expands into the growth of the "United Kingdom." "Today," he says, "we own more than a quarter of the earth, a full third of the population, and probably a third of the wealth."

Dr. Daniel Clark is impressed with the advancement in knowledge in the departments of science and art, while the Hon. J. D. Edgar, Speaker of the House of Commons, rests his convictions upon the political progress of Canada, with its trend toward consolidation with England rather than with the neighboring republic.

The Rev. William Clark, of Trinity University, remarks upon the brilliancy of the Victorian age in literature and its still greater effulgence in science. Mr. F. H. Torrington, director of the Toronto College of music, specifies his admiration of the development in the application of natural forces, such as steam and electricity.

Mr. Sanford Fleming has the same view, but, curiously, particularizes and pays a just tribute to man's humble friend, the India rubber tree. "Doubtless," he says, "this particular gum has done much to promote human comfort and prolong life." Mr. John Charlton, M.P., inevitably turns to ethics. He is impressed with the purity of the Queen's character, and the influence that from it have ramified throughout the British social sphere.

The Rev. W. H. Withrow's opinions are multiple and embrace all forms of progress. He mentions what no other does, the advancement in medical and surgical sciences by the use of chloroform and antiseptics, and the announcement of the germ theory of disease. While Sir James Grant, on the other hand, grows sentimental, and cites the love and attachment of her Majesty's subjects so charminly ex-

pressed in the lines of "The Cotter's Saturday Night," etc.
Dr. Bourinot, clerk of the House of Commons, quite naturally refers to the development of constitutional ideas, and gratulates on the spread of the best literature accessible form. The Rev. Dr. Dewar is also stirred to poetry, and on behalf of the rise of labor grates "by the voice of honest labor has become a voice of power."

Mr. Rodolphe Lemieux voices the feelings of many of his race, and of all Canadians in saying, "The name of Victoria will always be dear to the hearts of French-Canadians, because it is from the accession of this illustrious woman to the throne of Great Britain that our constitutional liberties date."

Cannibalism.

Fearful Practice Still Exists in Some of the Pacific Islands.

Head of a Chief Who Was Killed and Eaten by Members of His Mother Tribe in Evidence.

Dr. George Imrie, governor of the Marshall Islands and other islands in the Pacific Ocean, sailed for Bremen recently on the North German Lloyd steamship Traveller, after paying a brief visit to this city, says the New York Journal. He is returning to his native land in response to a call from the Emperor of Germany, issued last February, and the governor has been in transit nearly ever since. He thinks he might have reached home in a balloon more quickly.

His route—the only route, in fact—was by sailing vessel from Valait, the principal town in the Marshall Islands, where he lives, to Panope, Cayenne Islands, a Spanish province. Thence the imperial governor found his way to Manassan by steamer. In Manila the usual rebellion was in progress, and it was some days before could proceed to Hong Kong. From the latter port he was shipped to Shanghai, and after dropping off at various ports in Japan finally landed in Yokohama, where he took a Pacific Mail steamship to San Francisco via Honolulu.

Hale and hearty and bronzed by tropical suns, Gov. Imrie arrived in New York and has been staying at the Union Square Hotel.

TOLD GRIEWOMES TALES.
It was his desire to pass through America unnoticed, so far as the general public is concerned, but when informed that his name was known by the governor concerned to talk of his tropical home and told some gruesome but interesting facts about those spots in the far-away Pacific. He declares that cannibalism not only has been practiced on the islands in that locality, but exists to-day on some of them. He will not admit that it is confined to the provinces over which he rules, but in New Guinea, New Britain, and the Solomon Islands, he asserts, men still eat one another.

"This knowledge," said the governor, "I gained from a recent visit to New Guinea and New Britain. A white man, and the chief was ordered by the German authorities in control to be brought in a prisoner. The chief of another tribe, after a short time, brought to the city the head of the offending chief."

"What did you do with the body?" I queried.

"We eat him," was the complacent reply.

BARGAINED FOR THE HEAD.
The governor requested permission to have the head of the offending chief carried to his hotel, and after a short dicker traded for it a gift band which had adorned his cap. The native chief, who is now wearing apparel, slipped the band around his waist and stalked away, happy and contented.

The governor has the skull with him now, and will present it to Dr. Verchow, the famous German phrenologist.

"My wife accompanied me on the journey," continued Gov. Imrie, "and once, while in Russia, my British little girl came running up to her and asked to be taken away.
"Where is your father?" asked my wife.
"They eat him," was the brief response.

"It is a mistake, however, to think that these cannibals eat white persons. The only white man who has been captured it is from the black, Chinese or Japanese people. They consider the flesh of the white man repulsive and will have none of it. Furthermore, they will not devour a body found dead any more than we will the carcass of a deer found dead from natural causes."

BODIES ROASTED WITH STONES.
"It is customary to fill the body with hot stones and keep it buried beneath the ground for six or seven hours before serving it to these human wolves."

"On Marshall Island, which is just south of the equator, in the Western Pacific, the late King, the former King of Samoa, with twelve of his chiefs, was in exile."

"We are the best of friends, however," said Gov. Imrie, "and drink frequently out of the same cocoanut shell, which is one of the highest marks of respect these Kanakas can extend. He is a splendid specimen of manhood, physically, and every inch a King. His character is ambitious and truthful, and once he had given me his word that he would make no effort to escape or incite rebellion, I was satisfied. I will remember his reply when I touched upon the subject. Drawing himself proudly to his full height—6 1/2 feet—he shook his gray hair, and said:

"He is a most devout Catholic, and attends service twice daily."

One cannot get out of his place without usurping somebody else's.

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