

London Advertiser.

(ESTABLISHED BY JOHN CAMERON IN 1853.)

Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

London, Friday, Dec. 30, 1898.

The Gordon Memorial College.

This project of a college at Khartoum possesses a very great interest for the English-speaking population of the British Empire. There are many reasons for this. The chief, however, is the possession of the valley of the Nile and the extension of the commerce of the Empire from Cairo to Cape Town. The English people have had ever since the battle of the Nile a growing commercial interest in Egypt. The commerce of the United Kingdom with Egypt is greater than that of all other European states taken together. France has had an interest in the country ever since its occupation by Napoleon. That interest has been political and sentimental rather than commercial. French savants, at the time of the occupation, began the exploration of Egypt to learn something of its ancient history, and that interest has never diminished. The explorations of Champollion, who first deciphered the hieroglyphics of Egypt, have been of permanent value to literature. There is a French colony in Egypt consisting of several thousand people. The French have established colleges in the country and today nearly every native of eminence is able to speak the French language as well as his own. This has given to France a great influence in Egypt out of proportion to her commercial interest, so that notwithstanding the paramount political control of the English, the French are still a powerful factor.

When Marchand was sent to the Upper Congo to explore the country northward and to take possession of the Bahr-el-Ghazal, the object of France was to link her possessions on the Upper Congo with the Red Sea, and to impose an effective barrier to the possibility of carrying out the views of Lord Rosebery, Mr. Rhodes and others, to connect the English interests in the valley of the Nile with those in Central and South Africa. There can be no doubt that the occupation of Fashoda by Marchand was an unfriendly act. The French were offering the Khalfia their moral support at least, but in his ignorance he treated it with contempt. It matters not whether Marchand was at Fashoda as an ally or an opponent, the English were at war with the Khalfia at the time, and when Omdurman fell, and the conquest of his country was completed, the sovereignty passed to the hands of his conquerors.

General Gordon, distinguished alike for his ability, his humanity and his piety, was brutally butchered at Khartoum in 1885, more than twelve years before. He had immense influence over the Sudanese. His memory is still cherished by tens of thousands; and a wiser movement could not have been made than to establish a college bearing his name, by which his memory may be perpetuated. General Kitchener, a man of extraordinary ability and sagacity, saw that if Great Britain is to establish a permanent hold upon the Eastern Sudan she must make English the official language, and the only way to do this is to establish a college in which the better classes in the country may learn the English tongue. French, as the official language in Egypt, is a formidable barrier to English rule, and Gen. Kitchener was resolved to take immediate steps to strengthen English authority by the introduction of the English language. Upon his return to England he called for £100,000 with which to establish a college and to carry on instruction in English. Ninety thousand pounds of this was subscribed. It is not surprising that a country to which Canadians have gone in the service of the Empire should be supposed to have some interest for Canada, and that our people would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity to promote English sentiment and propagate English opinion among the inhabitants where English arms have been so successful. Canada has, since the jubilee, shown special interest in the unity of the Empire—not a unity brought about by a written constitution, but a unity founded upon a common interest and mutual good-will. It is to be hoped that the call of his Excellency the Governor-General for contributions toward the Gordon College fund will be liberally responded to. His Excellency has asked that contributions be paid into the Bank of Montreal on behalf of this fund, in any sums beyond 25 cents, which people are disposed to give. The minimum sum mentioned is such as will permit every Canadian, no matter what his circumstances may be, to contribute to the fund. It would be regrettable if this call in a matter of such vast political significance should not be universally responded to. It would be a source of satisfaction to British statesmen should Canada voluntarily contribute the sum sufficient to make up the balance of the amount asked for by Gen. Kitchener, and we are certain that no enterprise with which our people could voluntarily associate their names could give to the country a better advertisement or yield to it a richer reward. We have seen already how wise it was on the part of the Canadian Government and Parliament to propose a tariff preference to the people of the United Kingdom, and to other portions of the British Empire. We are sure that contributions on the part of the Can-

adian people towards the Gordon College will be similarly advantageous. It will aid in making Canada still better known than she is, not only in the mother country, but in those portions of continental Europe where the people sympathize most strongly with the United Kingdom, for in many parts of the continent there has been an interest taken in the success of British arms on the upper Nile, scarcely less strong than it is in the center of the United Kingdom itself.

It will be pleasing indeed to see the people of London in this matter doing their full duty. We understand contributions from other places are likely to be generous, not so much on account of the large donations from individuals, but on account of the large number of persons who desire to show their good-will. Gen. Kitchener, no doubt, looks to this country hopefully, and we hope he will not be disappointed, nor the well wishers of Canada mortified by failure. Do you value the connection? Then make this plain by meeting the hopes of those who have taken the country at its word.

Montreal's Export Trade.

A very interesting pamphlet, containing full particulars of the export trade of Montreal for the present year, has been compiled by the commercial department of the Montreal Gazette. The trade of the metropolis is a gauge of the trade of the whole Dominion, hence the figures are of interest to all.

The season of navigation just closed has been generally satisfactory. In 1897 there entered the port 479 ocean vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 1,054,225; this year there arrived 518 vessels with the magnificent tonnage of 1,212,747. The coastwise trade also shows a substantial increase. In 1897 there arrived 300 vessels and this season 330, the increase in tonnage being 28,000 tons. It will be good news to all shippers to learn that the water has been higher this year than last, the Montreal gauge on Nov. 1, 1898 registering 28 feet 4 inches, as compared with 26 feet 10 inches in Nov. 1, 1897.

The customs receipts from May 1 to the close of navigation last year were \$3,795,345 46. In the same period this year they were \$4,842,695 35, an increase of over \$1,000,000 in less than seven months.

All the leading steamship lines running to the port have increased their freight business this year. The passenger traffic fell off somewhat owing to the war, which kept many Americans at home. The Allan, Dominion, Thomson, Donaldson, Elder-Dempster and other great steamship companies are adding new steamers to the Montreal line to meet the growing trade. A feature is the increased cold storage facilities they are providing.

Some profitable lessons are drawn from the export figures. The quantity of cheese shipments fell from 2,102,986 boxes in 1897 to 1,900,000 this year, the decrease in value being about \$2,000,000. It is a question whether cheese-making in Canada has not been carried to the danger point of over-production. Dairy-men are advised to pay more attention to butter-making. Canadian butter is making good progress in the English market, and is taking rank with the finest. Shipments from Montreal increased from 220,200 to 270,000 boxes this year, the revenue being \$3,307,500, an increase of over \$60,000, compared with 1897.

This season 101,236 head of cattle were shipped from Montreal and Quebec, a decrease of 20,139. The decrease is due to large purchases of Canadian cattle by American buyers, and to heavy shipments of Canadian stock through United States ports. The exports of sheep and horses also greatly decreased. Iceland sheep demoralized the British market, and Canadian and American horses were shipped in such large quantities last winter that only the choicest stock was saleable in Great Britain this summer.

In grain exports, wheat, as compared with 1897, decreased from 9,874,548 to 8,392,110 bushels; corn increased from 9,354,422 to 19,180,633 bushels—a phenomenal record; peas decreased from 1,882,578 to 1,529,315, and oats increased from 5,018,155 to 7,040,392. Barley, rye and flaxseed showed great gains and buckwheat fell off a little.

A substantial advance is shown in the exports of flour, the volume of business being almost doubled. The increase, however, came from the American mills. Canadian millers could not compete for foreign trade, as the Canadian farmers held their grain for larger prices.

Timber exports rose from 300,420,069 feet in 1897 to 317,233,593 feet this year. Canadian eggs are gaining in favor in Great Britain, though we contribute a mere bagatelle to British consumption. British egg imports are \$4,356,799, of which Canada only receives £193,998.

This year 436,236 barrels of apples were exported from Montreal, compared with 174,580 in 1897. Exports in 1898 were 725,016.

Canadian hog products find increasing sales. Exports this year rose to \$6,911,980 pounds, valued at \$3,092,930, an increase of over 82 per cent since 1896. Canadian bacon in many cases fetches a higher price than Danish.

The pamphlet also remarks on the bright outlook for Canadian poultry in Great Britain. Rules for the proper fattening of poultry are given.

A Hint to Electors.

[Hamilton Herald.]

Better elect untried men than men who have been tried and found wanting. The untried men may prove trustworthy, but you know that you can't depend upon the other fellows.

A Politician and a Preacher.

The output of biographical literature has been very great during the past year or two. Some of the lives commemorated were of the highest significance and some of the books produced have taken a first place in the literature of the season. Recently there has appeared in England the life of the Rev. Dr. Dale, who for so many years held a prominent position in the life of Birmingham. He did not value the "Rev." and he was not specially desirous of being called "Doctor," but there was no minister of his time more worthy of reverence, and he was, without doubt, one of the real "doctors" or teachers of the church in the nineteenth century. He was a thorough scholar, a trained theologian, a powerful speaker, an able writer, and a man well versed in all the leading questions of the day. He was a plain, "Dis-senting minister," but by a well-rounded life he commanded the respect of all sections of the church. He was an ornament of the Congregational Church, but was not hampered by any small sectarianism. In fact, he was a fine example of the union of great learning and fervent piety.

In addition to all this, Dr. Dale was an active politician. In England, as elsewhere, there is great difference of opinion as to the part a minister should take in politics, and the share of service they shall render in public life. Men like Dr. Dale, Dr. Guinness Rogers, and others, felt that the existence of a state church drove them into politics, as, in their view, full religious liberty was not attained. But they were not mere "political dissenters." Questions of church and state did not determine all their political activity. Movements for reform, education, etc., they took an active interest in, on purely humanitarian principles, because these things were "the poor man's cause." Without drifting into a discussion of the minister's relation to politics, we may note this fact, that in England, in almost every kind of public body, such as school boards, guardians of the poor, county councils, etc., there are ministers of various denominations, freely giving their service to the commonwealth. As a rule, these are elected, not because they are ministers, but because of their aptitudes in various directions. This is not regulated by any staid theory, but varies according to circumstances, and, on the whole, tends to the enrichment and uplifting of public life. Keeping to the subject in hand we note simply one illustration of how a really able man could exert great influence in the political sphere without tarnishing his good name or lessening his ministerial influence. It was once scornfully said to Mr. Chamberlain that he represented "a dissenting parson," and, to the credit of that statesman, he it said, he stated with characteristic clearness and courage that Mr. Dale was the kind of parson any man might be proud to represent, and explained that the minister's influence was on account of his great ability and sterling character. Other incidents might be given of the man's great and far-reaching influence, but we are certain the tribute which Dr. Dale himself would have appreciated most highly is this, that he was "an able minister of the New Testament."

One of the old Scotch Liberals—a great friend of George Brown's—died in Toronto the other day, in the person of Mr. Hugh Miller, J.P., at one time known far and wide as a prominent druggist. Ald. Hallam, of Toronto, himself one of the best aldermen any city ever had—writes respecting Mr. Hugh Miller, in Thursday's Globe:

"I have in my possession a book entitled 'The Torontoist,' published in 1850, and written by the Hon. James Spencer Lidstone, 'great orator of the west.' I find the following notice on page 15, about the late lamented Hugh Miller, which I thought might be of interest to your readers:

"HUGH MILLER,
"Medical Hall, No. 118, King street east.
"During all my sojourn in the east, I never found one so thoroughly acquainted with the mixture of medicines and their uses as he.
"Lady Hester Stanhope's Letters.
"Direct, my muse, from every shore
"The people unto Mr. Miller's store.
"Pure patent medicines of every sort,
"And English chemicals he doth import.
"Oils, paints, brushes, stuffs for dye,
"All kinds of varnish and perfumery.
"Prescriptions here are faithfully prepared,
"And best of seeds he sells, that ever
"gardener reard."

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

Conjugation.

[Philadelphia Telegram.]

One hundred years from now, when the newspapers are chronicling the death of the oldest inhabitant, the paragraph will be headed "She Kissed Hobson."

The Transvaal Trouble.

[Toronto News.]

Mr. Chamberlain will now in all probability, in response to the recent Uitlander petition, give Kruger to understand that the disabilities under which the English-speaking population of the Transvaal are laboring must be removed without delay. In the event of refusing there will be no alternative but to employ force. But Kruger will recognize the inevitable, and refrain from driving matters to such a pass.

Common Sense Trade.

[Detroit News.]

The fact that the United States has a great many things that Canada needs, and that Canada has many products which are necessary to the United States, coupled with the convenience of transportation each way, ought to be convincing to the lawmakers of both countries. It is better for the farmer and the mechanic living side by side to exchange their products direct at market rates, than for each to deliver the product of his

toil in the distant town, and often buy at a price which includes a dealer's profit. These are about the conditions between the Americans and the Canadians. For the sake of favoring a few lumbermen, like the Blodgetts of Michigan, the government at Washington obstructs a natural and profitable commerce between near neighbors.

Protection Doomed.

[New York Commercial Advertiser.]

Time is coming when we shall copy the present navigation laws of Great Britain, as we shall copy her present tariff laws, as we are now using both tariff and navigation copied from those of the British before changed conditions caused them to be discarded for the present. British laws concerning trade were not changed from sentiment, but from practical gain. That which illuminated her mediæval darkness was enlightened self-interest. We are as keen to see this as the British, and when it shines on us in the same way we shall change our policy. We begin to see it as to the tariff and are becoming ready to discard protection as superfluous. Great Britain discarded it because the interests it helped were less important than that it hurt. It is not hurtful to us in any but the few cases where it increases cost of raw material of manufactures, since we do not import food; but it is rapidly becoming useless.

No Need to Worry.

[London Times.]

There is in these days a liking for what may be called cosmic scares; apprehensions large, vague and depressing; predictions of evil to come to our planet and to much outside it. Our ancestors were prone to believe in the approaching end of the world; their descendants are as eager to believe in the extinction of the conditions which make life possible or tolerable. At the beginning of the century there was anxiety as to the overcrowding of the world by reason of the rapid growth of population; at the close of the century statisticians in most countries are lamenting falling birth rates and the rise of the average age of marriage. Not long ago there were apprehensions as to our stock of coal being exhausted—apprehensions which are now dismissed as too remote to be heeded. Sir William Crookes has gloomy forebodings as to the supply of wheat. Authorities no less eminent tell us to be of good cheer. There always comes some consoling consideration—now derived from free trade, now from free nitrogen, now from improved chemical knowledge, now from better farming. The scare does us no harm, and the calamity does not come.

LIGHT AND SHADE.

Reflective.

Lady—Do you really think men have more brains than women?
Man—Some men, madam.
Lady—Some! What men, pray?
Man—Single men.—Pick-Me-Up.

Unanswerable.

The Missus—Estelle, the girl we had before you used to get her washing out at least an hour earlier than you do.
Estelle—Maybe she did, but I always likes to wash things clean, whether folks appreciate it or not. It's my nature.—Indianapolis Journal.

Consistency.

Friend after friend has left my side,
Departing never to return—
And some of those for whom I yearn
Were by the tenderest ties allied.
From some the cruel hand of fate
In early youth did separate,
And others since that day have gone
Their different ways into the world;
And, like a leaf in winter whirled,
And I forever hurried on
Toward the cold and cheerless crypt.
One friend alone that from me goes
Always returns if I inclose
A postage stamp—my manuscript.
—Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly.

Willing to Oblige.

During the revolution a little American privateer once stole up on the British line battleship in a fog mistaking her for an East Indian merchant, and ordered her to strike. When the seventy-four ran out her guns and threatened to blow her puny assailant out of the water the Yankee skipper stepped to the gangway and, taking off his hat, said politely, "Oh, very well, sir, if you won't surrnder I will."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

THE GUN FOOLED HIM

Chicago Saloonist the Victim of His Own Joke.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Edward Kelly, a well-known saloon-keeper of this city, accidentally shot and killed himself. The tragedy, which occurred in the victim's saloon, was the result of a joke, and was witnessed by several of Kelly's friends. James S. Savage, a friend, laid a revolver on the bar. Kelly picked it up. Savage warned him that it was loaded.

"The gun fooled me," he cried as he fell, and he uttered unconscious. The bullet had entered the left eye. Kelly died within a few minutes without regaining consciousness.

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Chas. H. Fletcher.

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