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MONTREAL CENTRE.

The candidates for the representation of Montreal Centre in the Dominion House of Commons have been chosen by their respective parties. The Conservative nominee is Sir William Hingston and the choice of the Liberals is Mr. James McShane. The two candidates, as far as personal qualities go, are the antipodes of each other. Sir William Hingston is a gentleman of the old style; dignified, courteous, scholarly and high-principled. It would be straining conventional courtesy to the utmost to characterize Mr. McShane as a "gentleman." He is without a trace of refinement and his political career has shown that he is not overburdened with principle. He is, however, half-fellow-well met with the electors of Montreal Centre, and as has the reputation of being exceedingly good natured. There is in Mr. McShane the making of a powerful political boss. Under favorable conditions he would wield far greater influence in a constituency than many a better and abler man. In St. Ann's ward the conditions are to a large extent favorable, and this is why, no doubt, he has been accepted by the Liberal party in Montreal.

The Montreal Witness, which is Liberal in politics, is strongly opposed to the candidature of Mr. McShane. In an article on "Montreal Centre" the Witness says:

Mr. McShane has forced himself upon the party in that constituency, and though they know that he is not fit to represent them or any other community in parliament, the Liberals have, somewhat unwillingly, it must in justice be said, accepted him because they hope that he may be able to carry the seat against an ordinary candidate. Sir William Hingston, however, is not an ordinary candidate by any means. He is a successful professional man of high standing, who has had a good deal of business experience besides, in which he has proved worthy of confidence, when, for instance, in a financial crisis a run on the City and District Savings Bank was checked owing in part to his announcement in public that the bank doors would be kept open until all who desired had drawn out their money. In both his professional and business character Sir William Hingston has the confidence of the electors of the constituency, as he has long had their respect and esteem personally. His dignity of character is in complete contrast to the indolent, indolent and self-flattering character of Mr. McShane. The Liberal organ has tried to turn the great advantage of Sir William Hingston in this respect into a stumbling block to his acceptance of the candidature. It has, in effect, said to him, How will a man of your character feel if he is defeated by a man like Mr. McShane? It will not, it is needless perhaps to say, be the disparagement of Sir William Hingston, but it will be a disgrace to the Liberal party and the constituency if Mr. McShane is elected.

It is not likely that the opposition of the Witness will do "The People's Jimmy" much harm in Montreal Centre. He is just the man to make capital out of that opposition in every polling division in the district in which the Witness is unpopular, and that, we think, is pretty nearly every one of them. Sir William Hingston will very likely be returned, but Mr. McShane is an opponent, as far as electing ability goes, not by any means to be despised.

CIVIL RULERS.

It is beginning to be seen in Canada and the United States that municipal affairs are not by any means "small potatoes." Men of standing and ability are becoming awake to the fact that a very great deal depends upon the way in which the affairs of cities are managed; that those affairs are well worthy the careful and serious attention of the best men and the ablest administrators in the country. Associations for the good government of cities have been formed in many places and they have done valuable work both in reforming civic administration in directing attention to the importance of having the affairs of cities wisely, purely and economically administered.

A movement of a similar kind has been quietly going on in England. The people are being impressed with the necessity of

good local government, and men of high standing and tried ability are occupying positions in county councils, in city corporations, and even in the humble parish councils. The Earl of Derby, who, as Lord Stanley, occupied the position of Governor-General of Canada, is now Mayor of Liverpool. The Duke of Norfolk, Postmaster-General in the Salisbury Government, is Mayor of Sheffield. Lord Zetland, who was Viceroy of Ireland, has consented to take the position of Mayor of Richmond. The Marquis of Ripon, who was once Secretary of State for the Colonies, presides over the City Council of Ripon. Lord Hothfield does not think it beneath him to act as Mayor of Appleby, and Lord Londale considers himself honored by being elected Mayor of Whitehaven. Mr. W. L. Jackson, who was Chief Secretary for Ireland, is Mayor of Leeds.

When eminent men who have been considered fit to occupy seats in the British Cabinet, and who have administered—and successfully administered—the affairs of Great Britain's most important dependencies, consider that they are well and worthily occupied in presiding over the councils of cities, men of less ability and of less exalted station should not consider it unworthy of them to take an active part in administering the affairs of the city in which they live, and in the good government of which the comfort and, to a great extent, the welfare of themselves, their families and their fellow-citizens depends.

The importance of the intelligent and efficient regulation of local affairs was insisted upon by no less a personage than the Lord Chief Justice, at the reception of the Lord Mayor of London. His Lordship said:

In these days, probably beyond all others, the importance of local government is recognized as it has never been recognized before. It would be, indeed, a sad sign of decadence in public spirit if the foremost men in the community were not ready to come forward and take upon themselves the cares and burdens of municipal office. It is, in my opinion, a healthy sign, in these days, that men of high title and distinguished rank who might live their lives in ease—men, for example, like the Marquis of Ripon and the Earl of Derby, and many others that can be mentioned—should come forward and recognize the importance of municipal government by displaying their readiness to take a share of the burdens.

If the best men in this and other Canadian cities would take an active part in the management of their affairs, which they could do without any very great loss of time and no loss whatever of social standing, the people would not have to complain of the bungling way in which the business of the city is done, and the loss, the inconveniences and the discomfort which they are in consequence compelled to suffer.

A BONANZA.

The famous Bythe case has been settled at last. Thomas Bythe died intestate in 1883, leaving an estate which is now valued at \$5,000,000. A great many persons claimed to be Bythe's heirs, among others Florence Bythe, his natural daughter. It seems that Bythe, who was known in England by the name of Williams, acknowledged the child Florence to be his. The question was whether the acknowledgment was genuine and whether it was sufficient, as under the laws of California, to legitimize her.

After a very long trial the case was decided in favor of the child. The litigation did not end with the first decision. There were appeals without number. The case has been before the courts since 1889. The first trial lasted nine months. Two hundred and eight witnesses were examined and one hundred and thirty-nine depositions were read.

The case, as may be well imagined, was a bonanza for the lawyers. W. H. H. Hart managed the case for the claimant, Florence Bythe, and he secured distinguished counsel promising to pay them very large amounts. It was established that Samuel J. Tilden's denunciation of contingent fees as disreputable does not apply to California. Hart, it is said, gets \$225,000; Garber, Bishop, Bolt, McAlister and Bergen \$416,000 each, and W. W. Foote and Kowalski \$100,000. This gives the lawyers \$3,130,000. We are very far from vouching for the correctness of these figures. We take them from a San Francisco daily.

A CORRECT ESTIMATE.

Mr. Laurier's political career and this is the estimate he then formed of the character and capacity of the man who is to-day his leader:

Mr. Laurier has commenced his electoral tour. He will probably have an opponent and will probably say all the untruthful things that he considers useful in his own defence. Mr. Laurier is a man not wanting in polish. He is without large ideas. The fact is that he has not yet pronounced a single discourse of a nature to manifest in him a man of serious worth. His polished manners, his extensiveness, a certain ability in concealing his principles—not far removed from hypocrisy—have won for him his popularity in the country. "He will not be faithful to what he does not possess—principles, sound convictions, or patriotism." There are, we believe, a great many in this country—Liberals as well as Conservatives—who must be constrained to admit that Mr. Tarte formed a just estimate of Mr. Laurier as a public man and a speaker. Mr. Laurier has made too many speeches for his own good. Others besides Mr. Tarte see that they are pretty but not solid—polished but superficial. The knack he has of concealing his thoughts and confusing his subject no longer deceives the sensible men of even his own party. Like Mr. Tarte they have found him out, and see that he is neither profound nor original.

Nearly all women have good hair, though many are gray, and few are bald. Hall's Hair Renewer restores the natural color, and thickens the growth of the hair.

BRITAIN AND VENEZUELA.

The Question Arouses Interest and Excitement at Washington—Salisbury's Note.

Great Britain Demands Sixty Thousand Dollars Indemnity—To Defend Venezuelan Territory.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—As the President is absent on a hunting trip, there is no probability that the reply of Lord Salisbury to Secretary Olney's note regarding the Venezuelan boundary dispute, which in congress is so deeply interested, will be sent to the house this week. The absence of the President on a duck hunting excursion just at this juncture excites no little comment among both friends and opponents of the administration, both of whom agree that the President could hardly have chosen a more inopportune time for leaving Washington than on the eve of what promises to be a serious crisis in diplomatic affairs.

The Venezuelan question divides with the committee on appointments the interest in the house to-day. A lively talk was created by a statement of Mr. Livingston, Georgia, who thought congress should not be kept waiting until President Cleveland returns to be informed of the contents of Lord Salisbury's reply, and that he would introduce a resolution for the Secretary of State to discontinue all sorts of complications for Great Britain on account of his appearance with the staff of General Valdez, the Spanish commander. In an interview Lady Chamberlain said her son was taking an active part in the campaign, but that he was merely in Cuba on leave of absence. Continuing, Lady Chamberlain said that the lieutenant-governor of the British West Indies, an officer in the rifle corps of the British army, was present at the battle of La Princesa, in the province of Puerto Principe, in creating much interest among his friends here, and the newspapers are reporting all sorts of complications for Great Britain on account of his appearance with the staff of General Valdez, the Spanish commander. In an interview Lady Chamberlain said her son was taking an active part in the campaign, but that he was merely in Cuba on leave of absence. Continuing, Lady Chamberlain said that the lieutenant-governor of the British West Indies, an officer in the rifle corps of the British army, was present at the battle of La Princesa, in the province of Puerto Principe, in creating much interest among his friends here, and the newspapers are reporting all sorts of complications for Great Britain on account of his appearance with the staff of General Valdez, the Spanish commander.

But she explained, he was there merely as a spectator, and was expected to be back in London on January 1. The wildest scenes of excitement and disorder marked the passing of the first day's polling at Dublin for the election of a successor to Rt. Hon. David R. Puckett, conservative, as member for Dublin university, who has been elevated to the peerage. William E. H. Lecky, Liberal Unionist, the distinguished historian, was the nominee of the professors, and consequently he was universally opposed by the undergraduates, who assembled in crowds at the entrance to the polls and assailed every voter suspected of favoring Mr. Lecky. They also barred the college doors and caused scenes of riotousness. The police quailed the disturbances.

Cuntz von Eulenberg, a favorite of the Emperor William of Germany, has arrived at Windsor castle from Berlin in order to express the Emperor's sympathy at the death of General Sir Henry Ponsonby, G. C. B., for many years private secretary of Queen Victoria and keeper of the privy purse, and present in the Emperor's entourage, also to arrange His Majesty's visit at the time of the marriage of Princess Maude of Wales to Prince Charles of Denmark. The King and Queen of Italy are also expected to be present on the occasion. Some time in January the Prince of Wales will go to the Riviera, and his yacht, the Britannia, is now being prepared for winter sailing in the Mediterranean.

Rt. Hon. Mr. Gladstone has definitely settled upon Biarritz as the place where he will spend a portion of his winter holidays. He will start shortly after Christmas, which will be usual for him at Hawarden. The first fancy dress ball of the present season was given in Covent Garden last Wednesday evening, and came as a relief to the jaded young men about town. A few years ago at one of these balls Mrs. Langtry and party, in one of the upper boxes, created the greatest excitement. An old quiet-looking man was seen to be sitting in the midst of her gay party. From time to time the old gentleman was subjected to all sorts of practical jokes, and he was thrown in his face, and finally, amid cries of horror from the people below, he was thrown, after an apparent struggle with one of the men, to the floor, where he public meeting was held at which subscriptions were opened for the purpose of purchasing a torpedo boat for the defence of the harbor. At the city of Bolivia another subscription being raised by the Central Bank from citizens of all parties, the public to contribute stated sums weekly. At Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, a convention will be held, probably this month, to consider the question of defence. In a big street parade, which will be a feature of the meeting, each state delegation will carry the coat of arms of state, and at the head of the parade the coat of arms of Venezuela will be borne.

The moment started by the central society for the defence of Venezuelan territory has apparently secured official approval, as the members of President Crespo's cabinet and governors of the several states of Venezuela have given it full endorsement. The minister of the interior, one Of President Crespo's cabinet, has written a letter congratulating the promoters of the movement on their patriotism, adding that there should be calmness and wisdom in any steps taken.

The President of the State of Carabobo, J. E. Mora, writes from Valencia as follows: "There is sincerest approval of the patriotic motives of this movement. As Governor of this State I will be honored to receive a delegation and afford every legal aid in the realization of the noble ideas incorporated in its program." The President of the State of Bolivar, Manuel Gonzalez Gil, writes from Caracas: "It is with special satisfaction that the inauguration of this patriotic movement is noted. The President felicitates those whose inspired this movement of showing the interest of our people for the republic of Venezuela. Doubtless this will be the nucleus for inspiring to action those many patriots who entertain the same feeling for the ends in view."

The Secretary of State for the State of Falcon, Manuel Garcia, writes from Caracas as follows: "I take satisfaction in giving assurances of approval of the laudable and patriotic aims of this movement." The President of Maracaibo, Jesus Murec Tebar, writes: "As head of the executive of this State, I deeply appreciate the patriotic purposes of this organization, which cannot fail to excite general approval of the laudable end it has in view."

Aver's Pills, being composed of the essential virtues of the best vegetable aperients, without any of the woody or fibrous material which renders the result of their use so many more effective and valuable than any other cathartics. The best family physic.

HALIFAX, Dec. 9.—Joseph A. Chisholm, the defeated Conservative candidate in the Antigonish by-election, has again been nominated for that constituency.

CABLE NEWS.

Chamberlain's Star in the Ascendant—Marks of Royal Favor—Excitement in Dublin.

Lord Randolph Churchill's Son as a Spectator of Military Operations in Cuba

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The great addition to his political power which the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, has attained, is bordering his zenith considerably. Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain are now visiting some of the exclusive homes in England, and the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire are to visit them at Highbury. The frequent visits which Mr. Chamberlain has recently made to Windsor are exciting the politicians. Two visits to the Queen in a week are conferred, as a rule, only upon a premier. One newspaper explains this mark of favor as due to Mr. Chamberlain's having control of all the terms of the Ashantee expedition, and it is also said that it was he who made it possible for Prince Henry to take part in the expedition. The news that Lieut. Winston L. Churchill, an officer in the rifle corps of the British army, was present at the battle of La Princesa, in the province of Puerto Principe, is creating much interest among his friends here, and the newspapers are reporting all sorts of complications for Great Britain on account of his appearance with the staff of General Valdez, the Spanish commander. In an interview Lady Chamberlain said her son was taking an active part in the campaign, but that he was merely in Cuba on leave of absence. Continuing, Lady Chamberlain said that the lieutenant-governor of the British West Indies, an officer in the rifle corps of the British army, was present at the battle of La Princesa, in the province of Puerto Principe, in creating much interest among his friends here, and the newspapers are reporting all sorts of complications for Great Britain on account of his appearance with the staff of General Valdez, the Spanish commander.

London, Dec. 9.—In spite of the smallness of the detachments supplied to the Ashantee expeditionary corps by the various regiments, there has been a good deal of difficulty in finding the men needed, and in some cases bandmen, signal corpsmen and even officers' servants have been taken. The unpopularity of the expedition is due to the fact that there is such a mixture of the forces, and that they are commanded by officers whom they have not seen, much less served under. It is admitted that there is not a single battalion in England really fit for this service, and therefore the Second battalion of the Yorkshire regiment, now on its way home from Aden, is to be transhipped to Cape Coast Castle for Ashantee, in spite of the fact that they have been away from England for about fifteen years. The whole

hours of labor per day the waitresses were paid the sum of twelve shillings per month, and were glad to get it. The many Canadians who have passed the old church of St. Mary-le-Grand will learn with interest that the church will be completely renovated and restored shortly after the New Year. It was in front of this edifice that the first stand for hockey was in London was established. Earlier still the original Maypole was here erected and Popsy mentions that once he saw Nell Gwynn standing there watching the dancing on May day. To this church came on June 13, 1790, a young clerk named John Dickens from the neighboring Somerset house, and was married to Elizabeth Barrow. This was the father of the great novelist, and it is interesting to note in the church register that Rev. William Ellis, who performed the ceremony, spelt the name of the young bridegroom "Dickins," a mistake that would scarcely have occurred a quarter of a century later when "Pickwick Papers" had been printed.

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MONTREAL MATTERS. MONTREAL, Dec. 9.—(Special)—President Van Horne has admitted publicly that he will retire from the presidency of the Canadian Pacific railway. Mr. T. G. Shaughnessy will probably succeed him. Hon. Mr. Laurier will assist Hon. James McShane's candidature in Montreal Centre.

trouble seems to be due to the short service system. The Bathurst, with Prince Victor of Schleswig Holstein on board, is already well on the way to the coast, as is the Argolis, which carried the first contingent of troops. The Landa has also sailed with stores and some officers and the field hospital corps. Over 500 tons of war material and provisions, including thirteen tons of cartridges and any amount of ammunition for the mountain and Maxim guns, together with a large supply of war rockets, are already on their way to the Gold Coast. The troops are to be armed almost exclusively with the Martini-Henry carbine, and the men forming the British or composite battalion have been selected with a special view to sending out the healthiest men procurable, the best shots and the best marchers in the army. Not more than 600 British troops proper, however, will be engaged, and it is believed that the entire expedition should not number more than 1,500 men. The court newsmen have continued booming the departure of Prince Henry of Battenberg, the husband of Princess Beatrice, for the Gold Coast of Africa in order to take part in the Ashantee "picnic," so-called. The newspapers have been printing details of the alleged special equipment and of the luxuries which were to mark the Prince's journey. All this called for a good deal of ridicule from the radicals and others, until finally a semi-official statement was issued last night that the Prince is going to the Gold Coast simply in the same capacity as the other officers of the British army who are to take part in the expedition.

Colic, Cramps and Cholera, Morbus, Diarrhoea, Dysentery and Summer Complaints, Cuts, Burns, and Bruises, Bites, Stings, and Sunburn can all be promptly relieved by PERRY DAVIS' Pain Killer. ONE THING IS CERTAIN, PAIN KILLER KILLS PAIN. Dose—One teaspoonful in a half glass of water or milk (warm if convenient).

Advertisement for Perry Davis' Pain Killer, featuring a circular logo with the text 'ONE THING IS CERTAIN, PAIN KILLER KILLS PAIN' and a list of ailments it treats.

Advertisement for B. Williams & Co., featuring the text 'HOLIDAY SALE NOW ON' and 'Big Reductions on all Lines. Bargains in Christmas Goods.' The store is located at 97 Johnson Street.

Advertisement for The Occidental Hotel, located at the corner of Wharf and Johnson Streets, Victoria. The ad mentions that the hotel was re-opened on November 15, 1895, and offers a full line of shelf and heavy hardware.

Advertisement for E. G. Prior & Co., Ltd. featuring 'Hardware Specialties' such as Enterprise Raisin Seeders, Meat Cutters, Enamelled and Tinned, and various tools and traps. The company is located in Victoria, Vancouver, and Kamloops.

Large advertisement for White Star Baking Powder, featuring the text '12 oz. Cans 25c. Diplomas Awarded 1895' and 'Best in the World'. The ad includes a list of awards and a testimonial about the product's quality.