



Vol. XI { 9th Year of Publication. }  
No. 10

OTTAWA, ONT., CANADA, JUNE, 1896.

\$1.00 A Year  
Single Copies 5 Cents.

### The Political Field.

#### Englishmen Seeking Re-Election.

The Montreal *Star* of May the 30th, in commenting upon the political situation, speaking of Bro. Col. Hon. E. G. Prior's return for Victoria, B.C., says: Col. Prior is a very genial gentleman, and a good business man; he is the youngest member of the government, and will make a particularly good parliamentarian. A fierce battle is now being fought for the seat for Victoria, but the chances are in favor of Col. Prior. . . . He has taken a great interest in the militia of British Columbia. He is lieutenant-colonel in the B. C. Brigade Garrison Artillery, and he holds a certificate of qualification from the Royal School of Artillery. He commanded the Canadian Bisley team of 1890.

J. W. London, Supreme Grand President, Belleville, has been appointed financial agent to Bro. H. Corby, who is a candidate in his old constituency, the West Riding of Hastings.

Bro. W. B. Northrup's friends are doing a vigorous canvass in the East Riding of Hastings, and they predict a larger majority than ever.

The Belleville representatives are esteemed both in Parliament and in unofficial life. They are known as staunch Englishmen.

Bro. R. Tyrwhitt is sure of his return for the South Riding of Simcoe, a constituency he has represented in parliament for twenty-one years. Col. Tyrwhitt would be seriously missed by the S. O. E. from the House. He has always been ready to assist in any undertaking calling for his attention.

Bro. E. Coatsworth, of East Toronto, was in Ottawa last week, and in spite of the agitation going on in opposition to his return, feels confident he will be elected by a large majority.

Bro. Thos. D. Craig will be returned for the East Riding of Durham with a large majority. We remember some seven years ago attending the Grand Lodge meeting at Port Hope. Bro. Craig was at that time a member of the Ontario House. At the banquet given by the brethren of Durham lodge he made a characteristic speech, which has been remembered since by the hundreds who heard him.

Dr. R. C. Weldon is meeting with grand success in Albert County, N.S., and his election is assured. The Yorkshire men would feel they had no representative without Dr. Weldon.

### Personel and General.

Bros. Reynolds, Hoar and Crompton, of St. Thomas, Ont., were present at the S. O. E., service in Aylmer, Ont.

A deputation of the Sons of England of Aylmer attended divine service of the St. Thomas lodges on the 24th May.

The annual church service of Prince Albert lodge, Aylmer, Ont., took place to Trinity church, where Bro. Rev. J. W. S. Andrew preached a discourse eloquent and loyal, which was listened to attentively by a large audience.

Bro. Rev. R. F. Taylor, Dominion District Deputy, was in Ottawa last week in connection with church mission work. He attended Stanley lodge

on Thursday last and delivered a rousing address.

The Ottawa lodges in conjunction with Lodge Seven of Arnprior, and the Independent Band of that town, held a picnic on the 25th. The whole affair and arrangements were extremely satisfactory. It is expected about \$250 will be divided between the combination.

The 21st annual report has reached us through the Supreme Grand Secretary. The report gives a synopsis of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge meeting at Peterborough, also statistical matter of the order. The report is a valuable document, but its contents are abridged too much to be understood without a lot of reference to the constitution.

The Supreme Grand Secretary's report has been circulated to the lodges. It is noted that there is no desire among the members to peruse the contents. We have always held it was a waste of money to issue a dry matter-of-fact-year-behind-date document of statistical matter. It has no individual interest to the ordinary member. It is eventually consigned to the bottom of the lodge chest, from there to be, in the course of time, thrown away. What is most advisable for the Executive to do to give prestige and weight to its efforts, is to do some legitimate advertising of the Order—not wait for something to result from their present efforts.

#### Aims and Objects.

The Supreme Executive have issued in a more readable form the Aims and Objects of the Order. They contain in a condensed form the pith of our object in uniting and forming as an English society. They should be widely scattered, and if judiciously used by Executive officers, D.D.'s and members, it should be one of the chief factors in bringing the Order up to the 20,000 mark by March 1897. The beneficiary is receiving a large share of space in the leaflet, but, if the Board's wisdom is such that they are going to use such a cheap means of advertising that important branch of the society's work—its development and popularity will be slow.

#### What we Lack.

There is no doubt but the Order is lacking in leadership. The supreme heads are only figurative, when they should be practical and monarchical. The business portion of the Order is sound, but the Sons of England require more than facts for consideration! THE ANGLO-SAXON has suggested, and still believes, that the Supreme Grand President in assuming office should outline the course he intends to pursue, not from a laudatory point of view, but what he thinks is essential to the welfare of the Order and our nationality.

Englishmen are growing in numbers in every province, until we number to-day over 600,000 Englishmen in the Dominion—yet the S. O. E. are stationary at about 12,000 members! We cannot but attribute this state of affairs to the lack of executive ability. The motto in use seems to be: "Nothing to the Purpose."

Our aims appeal both to the wealthy and the poor, also to the social-political ambitions of human nature. Why should we not be 50,000 strong? Is it not the want of a more intelligent grasp of the aims of our Order and less intriguing individualism?

### Why Englishmen Should Support the Government

The Advocates of British Connection—Englishmen and the School Question.

Editor ANGLO-SAXON:

The class of English people who emigrate, or who have become immigrants within our boundaries within the last decade is very different from that which prevailed in earlier years.

It is no longer, alone, the scheming, adventurer in hard-luck, the black sheep, or possibly the scape goat of the family, who seeks to hide himself, or make a living by beating his unsophisticated neighbors, that gives a shadow of color to the character with which some Canadians invest their English fellow subjects even yet. On the contrary, much of our imported population consists of families recruited from the industrial classes in the British Isles. Fathers and mothers, with ever increasing pledges of conjugal unity, exhort themselves, and tear under the ties which so strongly bind them to kith and kin, for the future benefit of their offspring, present and prospective.

Few indeed of such immigrants but bring with them at least sufficient funds to prevent them at any time being a charge on the community, within whose pale they seek admittance. Politics with many of the heads of such families has never, hitherto, been a subject of much more general interest than that a man was a Conservative or Liberal, in the Old Land, because his father was one before him, or because he was not, or that he liked the candidate representing one party better than the man who represented the other, and voted accordingly. But in this Dominion—the most important of all the great Anglo-Saxon groups of territory which have already gone far into forging themselves into one mass to be known as the

CONFEDERATED BRITISH EMPIRE—one and indivisible, or it must quickly become evident to the intelligent head of a family who has come to the country to stay, and in all probability to found a permanent home for future generations bearing his name, that he must so far take a hand in politics that he can use his voting power with discretion and to the end, that in Federal matters, at least, the consolidation of the Empire should be the one grand and fundamental, and objective principle to be held in view. To support, therefore, which ever of the political parties into which the suffragists of the Dominion are divided; the party which can show the most persistent efforts in this direction, becomes the duty of every settler of British origin, no matter what may have been his previous views, formed under very different conditions in his native land.

THE ADVOCATES OF BRITISH CONNECTION.

It now becomes the ungracious task of the writer to point out which of the two parties has been the most continuous and persistent advocate of British connection since the various provinces of the Dominion were first confederated. It is true the master minds amongst the leaders of the Liberal party were at one with those of the Conservative in recognising the desirability of confederating the Provinces, but it was only in a cautious and half-hearted way that they were willing to set about doing so.

It required the power of originality of thought possessed by the late Sir John A. Macdonald to consolidate the conflicting elements sufficiently to bring about the consummation of the first efforts in this direction. British Columbia held aloof; she was contented in her isolation. At that day, the idea of a railroad through Canadian territory, from ocean to ocean, appeared to almost every mind, but one, the unsubstantial vision of a dream. That one, needless to say, was the leader of the Conservative party, the late Sir John A. Macdonald. With confidence in their leader, the Conservative party gave adherence to the scheme, and British Columbia being assured of the completion of

the C. P. R. within ten years, agreed to confederacy.

It is with regret that it has to be recorded that the whole efforts of the Liberal party of Canada were devoting their efforts to prevent the construction of the road, and to hamper and embarrass the Conservative government.

No better proof is needed than that when the Liberal party came into power in '78, they for their whole term made no effort to fulfil the pledges of their predecessors in matters connected with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Disgusted with their vacillating policy in 1878, the country relegated them again to the cold shades of opposition, and from within its fastness a guerrilla warfare has been carried on ever since against everything in the shape of developing the resources of this great Dominion further west than the Province of Ontario.

#### BRINGING THE TIES TOGETHER.

On the contrary, the Conservative party in the Federal arena, has persistently devoted itself to binding the ties with the British Empire from year to year, closer and closer, and that from no ulterior dream of universal British Domination, but from the business point of view that our fortunate congenial relations with the people of the greatest nation upon earth, must in future, if we fulfil our business pledges honorably, lead to our taking the highest position in the world of commerce.

To-day, Canada, with a Conservative government at the head of affairs, can place her securities on the money markets of the world, and obtain accommodation on terms at least equally favorable with those obtained by great and powerful nations.

Englishmen, you who have come to this country to stay, you who are building a future home for your children and descendants, read, mark, and inwardly digest the few leading statements in this article, and let no argument, however specious or alluring, deceive you as to the objects of those who are at this issue striving to put out of power the only government for Canada, which can by any possibility give form to the grand idea of a united and confederated British Empire.

Let all settled in the great North West remember, that local issues such as the "school question," are of little moment compared with the certain completion of a more direct route to the sea, and ocean communication with Great Britain entirely within our own territory. That the Liberal party have, from the day Manitoba was formed into a Province, done everything possible to hamper its development, especially when by so doing, there was any possibility of "embarrassing the Conservative government."

WINNIPEG FREE LANCE.  
Winnipeg, Man., May 16, 1896.

#### A New Publication.

As we go to press word has reached our office that an attempt is to be made by a few members of the Sons of England of Toronto, whose scheme was rejected at Peterborough, to publish a monthly leaflet! We hope for the sake of the Order, that it will fare better than its predecessors published under such auspices in the Queen city. It, no doubt, will be the aim of the promoters to make it a general paper, but members of the Order, who do not happen to be in the ring or clique, will fail to see the necessity of such an effort. From the information at hand it seems to be an officers' paper—i.e. one to flatter their own personal efforts; to keep, if possible, the powers that be, still at the helm—they having the weakness to imagine that unless they dictate the course by which the ship shall sail it will capsize—it is now water-logged. The permanent skipper requires to go through a course of training. Their efforts are calculated to mislead, and it cannot be contended the paper is to be published for the good of the Order or Englishmen.

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