

## GLADSTONE'S RESIGNATION.

Rumors Current That he Has  
Already Retired.

## PANIC AMONG HIS FOLLOWERS.

Rosebery Said to Have Declined the  
Premiership, and Spencer to Have  
Accepted the Office. The "Grand  
Old Man" Reported About to  
Undergo an Operation for a Cat-  
aract—Unable Longer to With-  
stand the Shafts of Criticism.

London, Feb. 27.—The subject of Mr. Gladstone's resignation is revived to-day in a way suggesting that there may be some foundation to the report. The Pall Mall Gazette, the St. James' Gazette and the Westminster Gazette publish articles almost identical in substance indicating that Mr. Gladstone will resign at an early day. The reason given in each is that the Premier's eyesight is failing so fast that his vision will become wholly obscured if he does not immediately retire from active political duty.

It is also stated that it was the intention of Mr. Gladstone to allude to his approaching resignation in the House of Commons yesterday, but he was dissuaded by his colleagues from doing so.

## THE COMING LEADERS.

The Manchester Guardian, the York-shire Post, and many other provincial newspapers publish these rumors, and as company them with articles expressing belief that they are well founded. The Chronicle and the Sun claim to have information that Earl Rosebery will be Gladstone's successor, and Sir Wm. Harcourt the Government leader in the House of Commons.

## ALREADY RESIGNED.

The Edinburgh Evening News claims to have been informed upon authority that Mr. Gladstone has already resigned the premiership, but will retain a seat in the cabinet. Upon the same authority the News announces that Mr. Gladstone will have an audience with the Queen to-day, when he will recommend Lord Rosebery as his successor.

## PANIC AMONG HIS FOLLOWERS.

The renewed rumors of Gladstone's retirement from office having been reduced to almost positive statements from well informed sources, Mr. Gladstone's followers have become agitated almost to the verge of a panic, while his political enemies are correspondingly jubilant. Though there are still many doubters, it is significant that it is among the Premier's party and officials that the reports of his almost immediate withdrawal from office find most credence. Writing in to-day's Sun, T. P. O'Connor, M. P., says:—"For some time something like a panic has existed among Gladstone's supporters in the lobbies. Yesterday evening the rumor was current that the Premier's resignation was to be expected during the course of the week. Competent authority gives his eye-sight as the actual reason, but the situation is further aggravated by the position of certain members of the Cabinet with reference to the naval programme. The Premier had to the p. of Mr. Earl Spencer (the First Lord of the Admiralty) resigning. The cataract on the Premier's eye is not yet ripe for operation, but when it occurs he must spend six weeks in darkness. Nobody has the least idea what any day may bring forth, though my own opinion is that Mr. Gladstone will refuse to leave the ship."

## EFFECT OF THE RUMORS.

General discussion on the Stock Exchange connects the unusual rise in con-solidated Egyptian united funds with the persistent rumors, and in many cases firm belief that Mr. Gladstone will resign the Premiership.

## A DENIAL.

The Central News is authority for the statement that the rumor that Gladstone will resign from office is officially denied. The statement is also made in the report that the Premier had any interview with the Queen on the subject of his final resignation or temporary retirement is absolutely without foundation. The interview had by Lord Rosebery with the Queen on Saturday had no political significance whatever.

## CAN'T STAND CRITICISM.

Although the condition of Mr. Gladstone's eyes is regarded as a sufficient reason for his wishing to lay down the cares of office, it is not believed to be the real reason for his resignation, if the persistent reports that he intends to resign are true. Owing to his great age and waning physical power he is unable to withstand the shafts of criticism hurled at him as he was a few years ago, or even a few months ago. Then they would glance from him as from an armor; they now pierce him. It is also true that he has recently been deeply affected by the comments of his political friends on his course in regard to several party measures. These evidences of ingratitude have pained him severely. His course in withdrawing the Employers' Liability Bill, when many of his followers were clamoring for a parliamentary fight against the House of Lords, with the ultimate view of compelling the abolition of the hereditary body, has driven the more radical of his adherents to declare that his democracy has undergone a change, and this accusation they have taken great pains should reach his ears. The private secretary of the Premier will neither affirm nor deny the reports of Mr. Gladstone's resignation. The most he will say is that the positive statement of the Edinburgh Evening News that Mr. Gladstone has resigned is entirely unauthorized. The fact that the Earl of Rosebery, walls on his

## THE HEART



is liable to great functional disturbances through sympathy. Dyspepsia, or indigestion, often causes it to palpitate in a distressing way. Nervous Prostration, Debility and Impoverished Blood, also cause its too rapid pulsations. Many times, Spinal Affections often imagine themselves the victims of organic heart disease.

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way to visit the Prince and Princess of Wales at Sandringham last Saturday was handed a dispatch at Newmarket and immediately returned to the Foreign Office, while attracting no attention at the time, is now believed to have had a direct bearing on the question which is now causing so much agitation in political circles—Mr. Gladstone's retirement in Lord Rosebery's favor. The excuse given out at the time for Lord Rosebery's sudden return was that he was summoned back for a consultation made necessary by the defeat of the British sailors on the west coast of Africa. It is now said, however, that the reason for the return of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was that it was an important announcement that had been made by Mr. Gladstone, the effect of which is that he intended to resign. Mr. Gladstone was visited to-day by a physician, who remained with him for some time. The Premier attended his official duties during the morning and received several visitors, among whom was the Liberal whip, Ed-ward Majoribanks.

ROSEBERY DECLINES—SPENCER ACCEPTS. The Evening News says, unequivocally, that Mr. Gladstone has resigned, and that his resignation will go into effect at Easter. The paper says that the Premiership was offered to Lord Rosebery, but he declined it. The position was then offered to Earl Spencer, and he accepted it.

His resignation inevitable. Inquiries made by representatives of the United Press tend to confirm the report that Mr. Gladstone's resignation is inevitable within a few weeks. Since his return from Biarritz the cataract which has been forming in his eye has ripened fast, and Dr. Bond, Dr. Grainger and other physicians whom he has consulted consider an early operation advisable. The treatment will necessarily involve selection in a darkened room for a long time, probably three months, with complete cessation of all work attended by brain strain or worry. Mr. Gladstone's colleagues wish him to postpone his resignation of the Premiership until the latest possible moment, and to keep a sabbatical seat in the cabinet, such as by taking the office of Lord Privy Seal. Liberals are divided in opinion as to whether Mr. Gladstone's retirement will be temporary or permanent. Mr. Gladstone himself freely tells that his hearing is going with his eyesight. His health, otherwise, however, is still vigorous. His voice in last night's debate in the House of Commons was full and clear, and his bearing was upright and firm. The Radicals who believe him an obstacle to reform of the House of Lords, hold that Mr. Gladstone's withdrawal from the Ministry will be final.

## WHAT THIS MORNING'S PAPERS SAY.

London, Feb. 28.—The Daily Graphic this morning says that it has received information that the situation as far as Mr. Gladstone is concerned remains exactly the same as when Sir Algernon West sent out his statement from Biarritz on Jan. 31. The Daily News denies that Mr. Gladstone has resigned, and refuses to waste any space in discussing the idle talk of a speedy dissolution of Parliament. In discussing the possibility of his retirement compelling Mr. Gladstone to retire—an event which it hopes is far distant the News says there is no doubt that Lord Rosebery will succeed to the Premiership, and that Sir William Vernon Harcourt will become leader of the House of Commons.

The Standard (Conservative) says there is no doubt that the retirement of Mr. Gladstone cannot be long delayed, and in a kindly way it refers to the personal aspect of the event. It would be deplorable, it says, if anyone in the Opposition should view his retirement with indifference. The Standard predicts that his withdrawal will lead to the disruption of the Liberal party. The Daily Chronicle says:—"The situation has undergone a rapid change in a few days. The situation that was envisaged in the Biarritz despatch no longer exists. The retirement of Mr. Gladstone is a matter of the near future. The man whom the Liberal party would summon to his headship with preponderant preference is Lord Rosebery. Mr. Labouchere is the centre of the opposition to his candidacy, mainly because he is a peer. The Irish would be inclined to support either Lord Rosebery or Lord Spencer, but would certainly claim precedence regarding Home Rule from any successor to Mr. Gladstone before giving their votes." The Times regards the official denial of the reports of Mr. Gladstone's resignation as equivalent to a decision to postpone what has virtually been determined upon. It expresses the opinion that after Mr. Gladstone's retirement nobody will be able to hold together the diverse elements composing the Ministry in the House of Commons. Lord Rosebery would be incessantly intrigued against by Radicals, who would probably receive the support of the Irish.

Henry Labouchere's Truth says:—"It would be childish to ignore the fact that the withdrawal of Mr. Gladstone may come at any moment. It behooves us, therefore, to consider his successor. The successor of Mr. Gladstone must be a people's minister. On this depends the question whether the Radicals, who have a majority in a constitutional sense, are to be ruled or ruled by. Mr. Gladstone's successor must be a commoner. A lordly premiership would very soon break up the Liberal party. Moreover, at the present moment, for the Liberal party to go to battle under a peer, would be the chaos of absurdity. Provided he be a sound Radical, and a commoner, we care little who succeeds Mr. Gladstone."

## SANG "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

Lord Aberdeen Supplies an Orchestral Band to the Queen.

Montreal, Feb. 27.—Lord and Lady Aberdeen occupied boxes at the Patri concert last night, and after the first act, went behind the scenes and congratulated the singer. At the close the orchestra did not play "God Save the Queen." Then the audience, emboldened, stood in silence for a few seconds, when Lord Aberdeen himself sang "God Save the Queen," in which he was joined by the audience, which afterwards dispersed with cheers. Lord Aberdeen went behind and remonstrated with Mrs. Thomas, who manages the Academy of Music, and the latter apologized, stating that the omission had occurred probably because the orchestra was an American one.

Before the performance there was a row at the gallery door owing to the management demanding \$2 a seat while they had been advertised at \$1. The students formed and barricaded the doors for a time, preventing anyone from getting at the entrance. Groans and hisses were given for the management.

THE PINE FORESTS.—The pine forests yield up their healing virtues for the cure of coughs, colds, asthma, bronchitis and sore throat in the pleasant preparation known as Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup 25 and 50 cents at druggists.

## NOTES OF THE LEGISLATURE

## A LITTLE BREEZE IN THE HOUSE YESTERDAY.

Why Should the Province Pay for Publishing Mr. Ross' Book?—Weekly Sessions of Superior Court Judges to be Held at London and Ottawa—A Girl Member who Does not Like the Patrons.

Special from our own Correspondent.

Toronto, Feb. 27.—The order paper was cleared off in a very short time to-day, but after the usual motion to adjourn there arose a little breeze in connection with usurpation on the part of the Government, who assume to run the affairs of the country, and to incur expenditures without the authority of the House.

Mr. Meredith brought it on by criticising the publication of Mr. Ross' book on the German and English schools, referred to the other day. No authority had been given for its being printed.

Mr. Ross made a reply that was nothing but talking around the subject, the burden of it being that the Opposition complained of the departmental reports were not early laid before the House, and now they were complaining because they had been so laid.

Mr. Meredith knocked this on the head in a double sense, for he showed that he was not speaking of the departmental reports at all, but of a book issued by the Minister of Education that was in no sense a report. Moreover, some years ago the Opposition had moved for the distribution of the reports before the opening of the House, and this had been voted down by the Government and its supporters.

Mr. Wood (Hastings) rubbed it in by showing that in the report of the Registry Inspector there is a long piece of special pleading, designed as an apology for the creation of two registrars, and which should not be printed in a formal report.

Mr. Clancy also poured some hot shot into Mr. Ross and the Government generally, citing cases where campaign literature had been printed at the expense of the Province without the sanction of the House.

Two other important matters were on the order paper. Mr. Martineau moved his resolution to do away with the maintenance of the Government House, as did Dr. Ryerson, to move his bill to amend the Public School Act, but both stood over at the request of the Premier and Mr. Ross, respectively.

Mr. Hammett, the member for Cardwell, was called upon unexpectedly in the evening by reason of the sudden death of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Wm. Robinson, of Trafalgar township.

Mr. Clark, the newly-elected member for South Lanark, was introduced this afternoon.

Among the petitions to day were one by Mr. McGill from the pressman of Elgin, asking for changes in the law of libel, and one by Mr. McKenzie from the village of Point Edward asking that tax-alien be levied on land values only.

Speaker Balfour gave the second of his official discourses this evening. The only new member present was Mr. Clancy, who is a Patron of Industry, but he has lost his love for the order, and does not hesitate to express himself freely regarding their action. It seems the Patrons have put a candidate in the field in opposition to Mr. Balfour, who declares his intention of running in any event, though he believes that such a course would result in the election of a Conservative. "Why," he never supposed the Patrons were after "power." It is the old man at Ottawa we are after." This is what Mr. Balfour says was said to him by Mr. Clancy, of Stratford, while in Peterborough. On the whole Mr. Balfour is very sore on the Patrons generally. This language was even more emphatic than here presented and was freely uttered.

After the House adjourned a deputation of active citizens went to Mr. Clancy to receive his answer as to the decentralization of the courts, and the proposition to hold weekly sittings at Ottawa and London. The deputation was composed of the following gentlemen: Messrs. John Idington, Q. C., Stratford; E. Sydney Smith, Q. C., Stratford; J. P. Mabey, Stratford; Matthew Wilson, Q. C., Chatham; F. H. Chrysler, Q. C., Ottawa; Wm. Wyld, Ottawa; W. D. Hogg, Q. C., Ottawa; F. H. Lachford, Ottawa; J. H. Plock, Q. C., London; I. F. H. Smith, London; James Magee, Q. C., London; P. M. Macdonald, and T. H. Purdon, London. Mr. Idington, Q. C., presented the case to the Attorney-General, who in reply, said that the sittings asked for at London and Ottawa would be granted, to apply absolutely in all cases arising in the House and Carleton respectively. An agency book will be kept at Ottawa and London, in which will be entered the names of all solicitors agreeing to have the cases disposed of at London and Ottawa. The reason of this departure from what was asked by the western and more active days. The game is confined to no nationality. Although originating in Scotland the love for curling has spread, and it is now played in every country on the face of the globe where ice can be found. The game, as now played, is very different from that of fifteen or twenty years ago. In those days the young men did very little curling, and it was looked upon as an "old man's game." Then the whole game was a draw from beginning to end, and the team who could do the best dragging could always win. But the game has changed; the discovery has been made that by allowing an opposing skip to draw the "house" full of stones a "big end" is very likely to drop in, and a "big end" will wind up a man's chances of victory about as fast as any. Now, however, when an opponent's "house" is filled up, a few fast shots are sent down the ice, and then a scattering takes place. An end without a stone in the "house" at the finish is no longer a curiosity, but one with ten or twelve within the ring is. On the icy level there are drawn together the dignity of student and the policeman off duty, a practising physician and a chap who sweeps out his office; professors of science and a janitor of a school building; who skips his distinguished colleagues to victory, and "roasts" them without fear or favor when they fail to play the game according to his standard. It is said that there are no class distinctions in America, and that one man is as good as another. The latter is doubtless true, but the former is far from the truth. It may be asserted positively, however, that there is no curling in the world except in so far as one man curls better than another. The latter gets all the honor, and is the man of the moment, even though after the game he may resume his position on a day and his opponent the general manager's post in a big manufacturing or wholesale concern.

Mr. Ryerson is inquiring of the Government what Protestant hospitals and charities are receiving Government aid, what general non-sectarian hospitals and non-sectarian charities are receiving Government aid, and what Roman Catholic hospitals and charities are aided by the Government.

Just think of it—you can relieve the twinges of rheumatism, or the most painful attack of neuritis, you can check a cough and remove a broken skin, with a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, costing only twenty-five cents.

One Man Killed; Three Injured. Philadelphia, Feb. 27.—By an explosion of gas at the Point Breeze Gas Works early this morning, one man was killed and three were dangerously injured.

For coated tongue and yellow complexion, give the child a dose of Miller's Worm Powders.

## THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

## EUROPEAN.

The French Senate adopted the Corn Tax Bill to-day.

Emperor Francis Joseph left Vienna to-day for Montecarlo.

The Paris Anarchist Marpeaux was sentenced to-day to penal servitude for life for murdering Police Inspector Colson in November last.

A report which has been circulating in London that U. S. Ambassador Thomas F. Bayard intends to resign has been promptly and emphatically denied by Mr. Bayard himself.

## CANADIAN.

J. O. Rykert, Jr., of the city of Rykert, British Columbia, is a candidate for Parliamentary honors. Mr. Rykert is the son of Mr. Chas. Rykert, ex-M. P. for Lincoln county.

Several men out of employment were down at the Toronto City Hall yesterday. Some of them crowded the Mayor's office and demanded that something should be done immediately for their relief, either in the provision of work or in the distribution of the relief fund.

A Winnipeg despatch says:—No trains are running over the Great North-west Central Railway. Receiver Forrest says the road will be reopened in the spring. No grain is moving at present, while the amount of freight received by the company did not warrant them in keeping the road open.

There have been 21 deaths from scarlet fever in Montreal within the past three weeks, and the authorities are now thoroughly aroused. The health and finance committee will meet to take measures to prevent the spread of the epidemic. The news of the Notre Dame Hospital are to be put in charge of the Civil Hospital, while the General Hospital is endeavoring to secure a building on the outskirts of the city for scarlet fever patients.

Rev. W. J. Maxwell, pastor of the Elm Street Methodist Church, Toronto, died at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. Deceased was well known throughout the Province. His first charge was in Watford. He went afterwards to Parkhill, then successively to Guelph, St. Catharines, Brantford, Hamilton, and four years ago to Toronto, his first charge there being the Bloor Street Methodist Church. He has been ill for some months, his general system having broken down.

## AMERICAN.

W. N. White, a prominent contractor of Seattle, Wash., Monday evening fired three bullets from a revolver into James S. Holt, formerly his foreman, and a few minutes later shot himself through the heart. Holt will probably die. White charged Holt with being too intimate with his wife.

Some of the 22 hat factories at Danbury Conn., that have started are already working on full time, and report that trade is improving daily. Of the 4,000 operatives that were out of work a few weeks ago, fully 3,000 are back in old places and more are being taken on daily. It is now believed every hatter in town will soon be at work.

A special from Chicago says: Last week a benefit was given at Hooley's Theatre by Steele Mackaye's professional friends. By this \$10,000 were realized. Mrs. Mackaye, who lives at Shirley, Mass., will undoubtedly claim the money. Holt's wife, who was with Mackaye when he died, and who lived at the Roccioni all summer as his wife, will also lay claim to it, as well as his other personal property. A clash seems inevitable.

## THE GAME OF CURLING.

The Grand Old Sport and the Secrets of Its Popularity.

"What makes curlers so enthusiastic?" is the question asked repeatedly by many Londoners, and particularly those uninitiated in the charms of the game. There is a fascination in the grand old game which those who have never taken a hand in it cannot understand. For these curling has no attraction whatever, but let those people be once introduced into the circle and feel the magic touch to which all curlers respond, and the influence of the game over them never wanes. Other sports come and go, having a season of popularity, and become the fad of the time, but lose the interest of their quondam votaries and are dropped for the time, if not entirely forgotten. Not so, however, with curling. It is always the same. Always popular and first in the hearts of those who have experienced its magic influence. What is the secret of this? Many have tried to explain it, but few have answered the question in the same way. Some claim that it is because the game is not confined to any age. Old and young alike can join in this royal sport. Men have been known to curl for forty seasons, and have a stronger love for the game at the end of that time than they ever had in their younger and more active days. The game is confined to no nationality. Although originating in Scotland the love for curling has spread, and it is now played in every country on the face of the globe where ice can be found. The game, as now played, is very different from that of fifteen or twenty years ago. In those days the young men did very little curling, and it was looked upon as an "old man's game." Then the whole game was a draw from beginning to end, and the team who could do the best dragging could always win. But the game has changed; the discovery has been made that by allowing an opposing skip to draw the "house" full of stones a "big end" is very likely to drop in, and a "big end" will wind up a man's chances of victory about as fast as any. Now, however, when an opponent's "house" is filled up, a few fast shots are sent down the ice, and then a scattering takes place. An end without a stone in the "house" at the finish is no longer a curiosity, but one with ten or twelve within the ring is. On the icy level there are drawn together the dignity of student and the policeman off duty, a practising physician and a chap who sweeps out his office; professors of science and a janitor of a school building; who skips his distinguished colleagues to victory, and "roasts" them without fear or favor when they fail to play the game according to his standard. It is said that there are no class distinctions in America, and that one man is as good as another. The latter is doubtless true, but the former is far from the truth. It may be asserted positively, however, that there is no curling in the world except in so far as one man curls better than another. The latter gets all the honor, and is the man of the moment, even though after the game he may resume his position on a day and his opponent the general manager's post in a big manufacturing or wholesale concern.

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