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God s in his heaven, All's right with the world.

If you trust in God and yourself you can surmount every obstacle. Do not yield to restless anxiety. One must not always be asking what may happen to one in life, but one must advance fearlessly and bravely. -[PRINCE BISMARCK.

London, Thursday, Jan 4.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, with its morning and evening editions, covers the ground. With one exception, it is THE ONLY EARLY MORNING DAILY IN ONTARIO, outside of To-

-Only those communications to which the writers are willing to have their names appended in print will be published in these

Hon. David Mills on Constitutional and Parliamentary Reform.

Gerrymandering an Inexcusable Sin Against the People.

The County Boundaries Should Be Maintained.

No Disability on Account of a Man's

Lessons on Both Points From Great Britain.

Liberalism Ever on the Side of Freedom and Equal Rights.

WALLACEBURG, Jan. 3 .- Hon. D. Mills held a meeting here last night in the town hall, which was well filled, there being taken, and is it surprising that they are fully 700 ladies and gentlemen present. Mr. A. McDougall occupied the chair and upon the platform were A. Gordon, Dr. Knight, C. B. Jackson, E. E. Parrott, F. for W. Robinson, Capt. Scott, Rev. Mr. Middleton, Rev. Mr. Franklin and others. Brief addresses were given by the chairman and Mr. Parrott, after which Mr. Mills was

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,-You are aware how widely the two parties are separated from each other upon all questions of trade and taxation. The Liberal party has never supported the doctrine of "protection"; it has always insisted on taxation for revenue only, and it has consistently adhered to the principle that no money should be taken from the people beyond what is required for the actual necessities of government. The Liberal party has also favored an extension of the trade and commerce of the country in whatever direction may be found most profitable to the people, and to this end it has sought to secure to the Canadian people extended information with regard to the requirements of other countries, so suggested to them new and advantageous fields for the disposal of what they may desire to sell. It has also continued to impress upon the public mind the very great mutual advantages which would spring from a freer and more unrestrained trade between the people of Canada and those of the adjoining republic. You have had these questions of difference so frequently brought before you that I feel quite sure, not only the

A GREAT FAILURE, AND A GREAT MISFOR-TUNE; that none of those advantages which the of an immense percentage of our population. That I am not mistaken in this opinion is Conservative party and the Liberal party, United States their instructors and guides. They, no doubt, saw that the commercial depression which then existed in every portant that can come before Parliament, part of Christendom afforded them an

A GOOD PARTY CRY. It was adopted from policy, and not from conviction, and having won by it, they found it was impossible to turn back. They had nothing for it but to persuade themselves and to convince their supporters that the fallacies of "protection"

opportunity of making it

degree beneficial to those against whom it was aimed. It is far easier to deviate from the path which reason and experience has James I. and Charles I., when the crown again; and so, up to this hour, the Ministry has kept in a course which everyone who chooses to reflect upon the subject must see has brought nothing to the country but illfortune. I say I rejoice to see so large a number of the Conservative party disposed to return to those sound principles of trade and finance which for half a century have been accepted by both parties in the United Kingdom. Mr. McCarthy, the most eminent Conservative of this Province, has refused longer to give his countenance and support to the policy of "protection" and to the practice of gerrymandering the constituencies. Upon the first question he stands where his party stood in 1876, and upon the other where it stood in 1872. I rejoice that it is deterioration which he has given expression to opinions from which I strongly dissent, yet I am pleased to find that upon two matters of such great importance he is leading his party into ways which they can take with far greater advantage to the country than those in which for years they have been persuaded to abide. know that the hard school of experience same conclusion. But there are many in to us that they have reached sound conclusions, no matter whether under the guidance of Paul or of Cephas. But I am not going to trouble you further to-night upon that subject, for it is not one upon which the public are likely to be left uninformed. It is my purpose to bring before you some constitutional matters which are of great his popularity that a revolution will bepractical importance, both on political and moral grounds, and which have intensified party bitterness and DESTROYED THE DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN

RIGHT AND WRONG in dealing with public questions. I think I may affirm, without dissent, that no healthful relation can be retained between the two great parties of the State, either in or out of Parliament, if either party feels that the other, on account of its numerical superiority in Parliament, has taken advantage of its numbers to so alter the basis of representation that no matter what may be the state of popular feeling, it can nevertheless maintain its parliamentary ascendancy and retain control of the executive government. It does not require an elaborate argument to show that when either party has abused its authority in this way it has, by doing so, debased the political sentiment of the country, and placed both the House of Commons and the electorate on a lower moral level than they before occupied. When a Minister of the Crown proposes a measure in Parliament, not to make Parliament more sensitive to the public touch, not te secure a fairer representation, not to give to public opinion its due influence, but to secure a permanent party advantage, he will if he obtains the support of his party representatives induce them to take a line which every conviction of conscience, and every sentiment of honor, tells them is wrong. Their moral relation to every public question is altered. They have weakened their capacity for self-government; they have blunted their sense of the right; and they have entered upon the road, every step of which when taken, will give them less concern in con sidering the moral side of public questions than they had before. But the evil with them does not stop with their assent to the support of that which they feel to be unfair. They know they are not doing to others as they would that others should do unto them, and having made up their minds to this, having screwed their courage up, they cannot stop at this point. They have awakened feelings of indignation and resentment in the minds of those who are opposed to them from a consciousness of wrongs inflicted, of an unfair advantage attacked with all the vehemence, with all the bitterness, that a sense of such a wrong can inspire? The moral side of such a discussion, is an uncomfortable one

THE AUTHORS OF THE OUTRAGE and on this account plain speaking excites resentment. The more the wrong is seen to wound the more do they ridicule and jeer those who oppose it that the injustice may be the more keenly felt. Constituencies are broken down, boundaries are changed, municipal boundaries are disregarded, and adversaries are hived. Is it surprising that the victims of such a measure threaten retaliation, threaten that the day of victory shall be a day of vengeance, when their adversaries shall be made to bite the dust? And so the feeling is engendered, that when the opportunity comes it shall be employed not to re-establish justice, but to take vengeance on an adversary who disregards every rule of right and does violence to the constitution to promote his own temporary advantage. But the mischief does not stop here; it extends still further. If the friends of the Administration are not prepared to go into opposition on account of this they are driven into dethat the producers of Canada may have fending it, and accordingly the misconduct of one man becomes a moral contagion that poisons the mind of every supporter. A narrow-minded man may be so hedged in by his prejudices as to be incapable of seeing clearly what is fair or just; he may be incapable of seeing that his political adversary has any rights that he is bound to respect; and that if he invades them he has become the political highwayman of his party; nor does it for a moment occur to him that he does any wrong in robbing his whole Liberal party, but also an opponents of the standing and influence the immense number of the Conservative party country is prepared to bestow. The light country is prepared to bestow. The light a representative would be greatly diminhave become convinced that our views upon of heaven's truth never reaches his under- ished. A wrong would be done both to him taxation and trade are sound, and that the standing, for the passages for its admission and to the public. This view is undoubtexperiment of "Protection," which has are narrow and devious, and so he is edly sound. It is equally incapable of receiving the truth or of exercising a fair judgment. His prejudices are so strong that they obscure his moral vision; every appeal to him to judge | They are inseparable from its organic life. people were assured would follow from its fairly but increases their strength, and he adoption have been enjoyed; that it has in- becomes the more blind. One so unforjured the farmer, depreciated the value of tunately constituted is not injured morally, his property, restricted his markets, pro- like the man who sees clearly the right and woked retaliation by the Congress of the wrong, but who will not insist that the United States, and led to the expatriation | right course shall be taken and the wrong shunned; he will not insist that his leaders shall retrace their steps, and uphold shown by the large amount of sympathy justice in the interest of the State, that has been extended by the Conserva- rather than injustice in the interest of a tives to Mr. McCarthy. Prior to 1876, the party. He may hesitate for the moment, but once he acquiesces in the wrong, which on questions of taxation and trade, were his leader proposes to do, he will be driven agreed. They both looked to the economists | to take the next step and to defend it, and of England as their guides on these ques- to give his influence to reconciling the tions. It was not until then that the great mass of his party to the outrage leaders of the Conservative party resolved which he has not had the moral courage to to make the protectionists school of the resist. And in this way the moral element is eliminated from the consideration of constitutional questions-the most im-

severeignty of the State reposes. GREAT BRITAIN'S EXAMPLE. Nothing is more remarkable than the history of the United Kingdom in this particular. No matter how strongly party violence has grown, no prominent public man since the revolution has undertaken to were the deductions of science, and that abuse his authority by using it in such a class legislation would prove in the highest | way as to exclude from power thereafter

because they affect the moral and political

complexion of that body with which the

marked out for us than to return to it claimed the right to create a constituency, and to summons it to return a member to the House of Commons each did this to strengthen herself or himself in that House; each sought additional representation from that section of the kingdom most friendly to the sovereign. But this state of things was put an end to when it was denied that the crown had any longer the prerogative to create a constituency. No Minister in the United Kingdom has ventured to strengthen himself by analogous methods; and I am of opinion that no Minister there has possessed such a degree of influence as to enable him to give effect to such a policy if he had been so disposed to misuse his trust. There can be no doubt that such a step is a mark of moral so, for though upon many public questions THREATENS THE SAFETY OF FREE INSTI-

TUTIONS. Let me say here that this one feature makes a marked distinction between the English Parliament and the representative bodies in the Spanish-American Republics. These republics claim to possess free institutions. I have watched with not a little interest the proceedings under the representative constitutions of those has led a great many Conservatives to the republics. You see a candidate popular in the republic elected to the doubt who will listen to leaders of their office of President. He is there, in the own party who may not give heed to what first instance, by popular favor and popuwe say; and it is a matter of gratification | lar support. He is, in every sense, at the outset, constitutional President. But the moment he is installed in office he undertakes to use all the powers of which he is possessed to secure himself in that position for a future term, no matter whether he retains the public confidence or not; and the chances are if he ceases to retain come necessary to displace him. A respect for law ceases when law becomes a mere instrument of intrigue to further the ends of personal or party ambition. When men do whatever their numbers will enable them to perform in their own interests, regardless of justice, they have gone a long way to put an end to those habits of forbearance and that respect for the spirit of the constitution which are essential to preserve the reality of representative govern-

THE UNITED STATES for the first half century of its existence in the distribution of representation paid a due regard to municipal boundaries, but the time came when these were disregarded and each State was carved into electoral districts after every census in the interest of the party which was for the moment dominant. Everyonere cognizes the lasting mischief which has been done in this wav to representative institutions. It was begun by one party, it has long been practiced by both. Each found it easier to make the most of its opportunities than to act fairly towards its opponents. Neither was willing to give its opponent the advantage of fair dealing in one State, while it labored under the disadvantage of unfair dealing by its adversary in another State, and the whole community has acquiesced in a practice so unjust that, in a healthier state of public opinion, it might have

PROVOKED CIVIL WAR. An American consul at one of my meetings in which I had pointed out the outrageous character of the Gerrymander Act of 1882, expressed to me his surprise, after the meeting was over, at the importance which I attached to fair representation. "Why," "we think nothing of a measure of that sort; we think it a legitimate party advantage—as much so as patronage. And my party endure it where we are beaten and wait our opportunity to take revenge. We think it legitimate to prevent our adversaries returning a candidate where by manipulating the electoral districts we can do so." I believe our discussion of the subject in Canada has not been without its influence upon our neighbors, and the courts in some of the States have by their decisions put an end to that system, which has blunted the moral sense of the people and degraded the State legislatures. It is shown very clearly by what has happened in the neighboring republic that it is easier to imitate than to reform; and that when one party enters reform; and that when one party enters upon the road of political degradation that the chances of its being followed by the other is much greater than the probability of its own return to a more just and a more enlightened course. Under some of the State constitutions it is provided that the various counties shall be divided into electoral districts, as near as may be of equal population, and the State courts have held that under such a constitutional pro-

COUNTY BOUNDARIES CANNOT BE DISRE-

GARDED, and where this has been done the law is ultra vires, and that the representation must be given to the State without violating its municipal divisions. In 1871, when the first Redistribution Act was introduced, Sir John Macdonald, who was then Prime Minister, declared in favor of the English system of respecting county boundaries. On that occasion he in effect said that it was most desirable that people should not be brought together for the election of representatives who were not in the habit of co-operating for any other public purpose. That it sometimes happened that a man served as reeve or warden, or member of the Local Legislature, or in some other public capacity, and enjoyed the public confidence, but if the township or village in which he resided was taken away from the county to which it belonged, and was put into an electoral division with municipalities from another county, to whose inhabitants he was a stranger, and with whom he had no previous associations, his chances for becoming

A CALAMITY TO THE COUNTRY that it was not adhered to. The political divisions of a nation must be respected. (Continued on page 5.)

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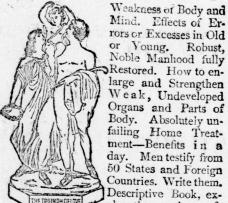
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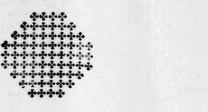
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The Popular Drygoods House. Bargains in Every Department for Spot Cash. Buyers Read the List and Shop Early.

JAN. 5

1st-Boys' Wool Underwear, for small boys, Shirts and Drawers, 15c each or

2nd—Men's Black Persian Lamb Caps, sizes, 62 and 64, worth \$5 and \$6 each to-day your choice only \$3 50. 3rd-Men's Cardigan Jackets, all at 1-4 less than regular price; \$2 for \$1 50. \$1 for 75c, and so on.

4th-Men's Heavy Home Made Scoks, worth 50c a pair, to-day 3 pair 5th-Men's Sealette Caps, best quality, to-day 50c each.

6th-Black and Gray Goat Robes, your choice to-day \$5 50; large size, worth \$7 and \$8.

7th-Farmers' Knit Home-Made Socks only 15c a pair. 8th-Top Shirts, fer boys, gray and navy blue, worth 50c, for 25c.

9th-Our stock of Gents' 25c Neckwear, to-day your choice 2 for 35c. 10th-Our stock of Gents' 50c Neckwear, your choice to-day 35c or 3 for \$1.

11th-For Men and Boys, Astrachan and Plush Caps only 20c. 12th-Gents' Unlaundered Shirts, 3 for \$1 25. 13th-Gents' White, Laundered Dress Shirts, worth \$1 50 anywhere, our

regular price \$1 25, Bargain Day 88c. 14th-An assortment of Children's Bonnets, to-day Half Frice. 15th-Birds and Wings, worth 50c, 65c and 75c, to-day 25c.

16th-A table of assorted Felt Hats, worth 75c and \$1, for 25c. 17th-Ladies' Felt Flops, worth 75c, to-day 80c.

18th-Any Trimmed Hat or Bonnet in the stock to-day at Half Price. Al. marked in plain figures. 19th-Ladies' and Children's Beaver Hats, regular price \$1 50 and \$1 75, today your choice for \$1.

20th-Ladies' Cashmere Gloves, fissey lined, regular price 25c, to-day only 19c

21st-Ladies' Cashmere Gloves. 20e, for 15c. 22nd-Ladies' Ribbed Wool Hose, 50c, to-day 38c. 23rd-Plain Wool Hose, worth 25e, to day 21c.

24th-Ladies' Kid Gloves, tan and black, 62c to-day. 25th-Wool Shoulder Shawls, \$1 quality for 69c, \$1 25 for 78c. 26th-A few left, Children's Gray Lamb Caps, worth \$3, to-day only \$1 50. 27th-Black Fur Muffs, worth \$2, for \$1 25.

28th-Children's White Wool Boas, worth 25c, for 15c. 29th-Misses' Gray Opossum Capes, worth \$10, to day only \$6 50.

30th-Ladies' Black Fur Capes, worth \$5, to-day only \$3 25. 31st-Your choice of our stock of Boys' Tweed and Worsted Overcoats, with

and without Capes, to-day for \$3 50. 32nd-Your choice of our stock of Youths' Overcoats to-day for \$4 75. 33rd-Your choice of 100 Men's Overcoats, to-day only \$5 50.

34th-5 pieces Jersey Flannel, for children's jackets, worth 50c to-day 29c. 35th-2 dozen Imported Sanitary Blankets, only 50c each to-day. 36th-1 piece Bleached Twilled Sheeting, worth 35c, to-day 28c; 72 inch e

37th-Unbleached Twilled Sheeting, 72 inches wide, worth 25c, for 20c Bar gain Day.

38th-All Wool Fancy Flannel, 25c, for 20c. 39th-All-Wool Molleton Flannel, fine goods, worth 38c for 25c. 40th-10 pieces Tweed Suitings, 14 yards for \$1.

41st-10 pieces Fancy Skirting, with borders, the entire skirt only 45c. 42nd-3 dozen Large Size White Quilts, worth \$1 35, to day \$1 08. 43rd-10 pieces Flannelette, worth 13c, to-day 10c yard.

44th-6 pieces Ceylon Flannel, 36 inches wide, worth 25c, for 14c. 45th-3 pieces Oxford Stripe Wash Goods, worth 18c, for 10c. 46th-5 pieces Shot Velveteen, worth 75c. 50-day 25c.

47th-3 pieces Heavy Wool Diagonal Dress Goods, worth 75c, for one half price, 38c. 48th-9 pieces 54 inch Heavy All Wool Diagonal Serge, worth \$1, for 69c. 49th-19 pieces Serge, Bengaline and Whipcord Dress Goods, worth 50c

to-day 25c. 5Cth-11 pieces Persian Cord Dress Goods, worth 15c, to-day 6c. 51st-23 pieces Heavy All Wool Bengaline, wave serges and fancy crepch worth 75c, for 47c.

52nd-19 pieces German Flannel, suitable for tea gowns and wrappers, regular 50c and 60c goods, your choice to day for 25c.

53rd—11 pieces Sile ienne Silk, evening shades, regular price 75c, now 47c. 54th-A great sale of Lace Curtains to day; see the values offered at 99c, \$1 21, \$1 44 and \$2, all great barga ns.

55th—Ladies' Mantles. We clear two lots to day, one table at \$5 and one at \$7 50. Man les worth double the money are among these lots. See them on the GROUND FLOOR.

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