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[Toronto Globe, June 30.]

MR. CAMERON BANQUETTED.

Dinner to the Retiring Manager of The Globe.

A Brilliant Company Assembled.

The Mayor Presides and Proposes "Our Guest."

Mr. Cameron's Response—Progress of The Globe—Kind Words by Mr. Mowat and Many Others.

The complimentary banquet given in honor of Mr. John Cameron on his retirement from the managing directorship of the Globe, and his removal from the city, was in every respect worthy of the man and of the occasion. The assembly was held in the Reform Club on Saturday evening. The large dining-room was fully occupied, and the company represented every class and interest in the community; their presence, no less than the cordial and kindly words spoken, testifying to the great esteem in which Mr. Cameron is held by the people who for the last seven years have been able to claim him as their fellow-citizen.

The duty of presiding at the banquet was properly reserved for the Mayor, who did the honors in a manner which proved that he felt the departure of Mr. Cameron from the city to be a loss of no every-day significance. On the Mayor's right sat the guest of the evening, and on his left the veteran Premier of the Province, Hon. Oliver Mowat. The group at the head table included W. R. Brock, president Empire Printing and Publishing Company; Goldwin Smith, J. D. Edgar, M.P.; Rev. Dr. Dewart, editor Christian Guardian; J. Y. Reid, Buntin, Reid & Co.; Jos. Tait, M.P.P.; Rev. Dr. Stafford, Rev. John Burton, Rev. G. M. Milligan and Dr. Daniel Clarke. The first vice-chair was occupied by ex-Mayor McMurrich, and the second vice-chair by Wm. Christie, of Christie, Brown & Co. The list of guests included the following: William Mulock, M.P.; John I. Davidson, president Board of Trade; Prof. Louden; Henry W. Darling, ex-president Bank of Commerce; Rev. Dr. Matthews, London, Eng.; Sheriff Mowat, Ald. John Hallam, ex-Ald. Hunter, W. T. R. Preston, secretary Reform Association; George Wilson, Port Hope Guide; A. F. Pirie, Dundas Banner; E. E. Sheppard, Saturday Night; R. L. Patterson, Miller & Richard; James Watt, secretary Globe Printing Company; P. J. Slatter, passenger agent, G. T. R.; L. K. Cameron, Queen's printer; George Maclean Rose, Hunter, Rose & Co.; W. Stone, Toronto Lithographing Company; H. H. Dewart, H. A. McIntosh, Thos. Robertson, Robertson Bros.; A. F. Rutter, Warwick & Son; E. Dickie, secretary Reform Club; John F. Taylor, Taylor Bros.; Hugh Miller, H. J. Bohme, F. A. Acland, sub-editor Globe; J. H. Taylor, Stewart Lyon, Joseph Jacques, barrister; John Downey, Mowat, Downey & Langton; Peter Small, R. C. Donald, Henry Swan, F. J. Stewart, Toronto R. E. Investment Company; — Campbell, manager Paper Company; Alex. Wheeler, Wheeler & Bain; A. S. Wigmore, Holmes Protective Company; Homer Pingle, supterintendent C. P. R.'s Telegraph; N. McCrimmon, Dr. Pattullo, W. Houston, librarian Legislative Assembly; E. H. Macklin, cashier, Globe; James Murray, James Murray & Co.; T. C. Irving, superintendent Bradstreet & Co.; J. T. Johnston, Toronto Type Foundry; W. M. Hall, Hall and Kilmer; P. Eckardt, Eckardt, Kyle & Co.; Joseph Tait, M.P.P.; John Taylor, Morse Soap Company; H. R. Rankland, Joseph Oliver, Donogh & Oliver; J. S. Willison, editor Globe; A. C. Campbell, Thomas Langton, Q. C., Mowat Downey & Langton; John Henderson, Lyman Bros. & Co.; C. W. Taylor, business manager Globe; John Y. Reid, Buntin, Reid & Co.; W. C. Mackenzie, Land Security Company; W. D. Gregory, J. D. Kelly, John Irving, Capt. F. F. Manley.

The menu and the service sustained the well-earned reputation of the Reform Club. Out of respect for Mr. Cameron's well-known temperance principles no liquors were provided.

Before the first toast was called, Vice-President McMurrich announced the names of those who would have joined the company in doing honor to Mr. Cameron had they been able to do so. He read first the letter of Mr. Robert Jaffray, president of the Globe Printing Company, which was received with loud applause. The following is the text of Mr. Jaffrey's letter.

TORONTO, June 23, 1890.

Chairman of the banquet to Mr. John Cameron:

DEAR SIR,—On account of my having to leave for Britain, I regret very much my inability to be present with you to pay my tribute of respect and esteem to Mr. Cameron, and to express my regret that Toronto should be losing so estimable and useful a citizen. It has been my good fortune to be very intimately associated with Mr. Cameron during the past seven years while he has occupied the position of General manager of the Globe, and I have pleasure in testifying that, as a director and president of the company, I have found Mr. Cameron an able, honorable and faithful manager, with an earnest desire to do all in his power for the advancement of the interests of the paper. He is leaving it now, I believe, at the highest point it has ever reached in influence and financial strength, with very bright prospects for the future. That its successors may go on extending its power and influence is, I am sure, his earnest desire. I regret his leaving, but in giving up his whole time and energy to the advancement of the LONDON ADVERTISER, of which he is principal owner, he will find scope for his ability and experience, and I have no doubt he will largely extend the sphere of its influence and usefulness. I wish to express my sense of obligation to him and my very hearty thanks for the loyal and faithful manner in which he has given me his assistance and advice in the discharge of my duties as president of the Globe Printing Company.

He and Mrs. Cameron carry with them my heartfelt wishes for their future happiness and success.

Wishing you and all Mr. Cameron's friends a very pleasant evening, I am yours very sincerely,

ROBERT JAFFRAY.

Hon. A. S. Hardy wrote as follows:

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, TORONTO, June 25.

MY DEAR MCMURRICH,—I very much regret indeed that an engagement which takes me into the country on Saturday will prevent my acceptance of the very kind invitation to the complimentary banquet to Mr. Cameron on Saturday evening next. I should have been extremely glad had it been possible to be present to testify my regard and esteem for Mr. Cameron and for his varied talents and many virtues. I trust the banquet may prove a very great success, and also that Mr. Cameron may enter upon a new sphere of usefulness in resuming control of The ADVERTISER.

The following is the letter of Hon. C. F. Fraser, Commissioner of Public Works:

BROCKVILLE, June 25, 1890.

MY DEAR MCMURRICH,—I greatly regret that I will not be able to be present at the banquet to be given on Saturday next to my friend Cameron, of the Globe. It would give me very sincere pleasure to testify by my presence my esteem and appreciation of him both as a friend and a journalist. With the hope that this banquet will in every way be a grand success, I remain, etc.

Rev. Dr. Caven wrote as follows:

Dr. Caven returns thanks for the invitation to be present at the banquet to be given on the evening of the 28th inst. to Mr. John Cameron, on the occasion of his leaving Toronto. As he is unable to accept this kind invitation, Dr. Caven wishes to express feelings of cordial friendship for Mr. Cameron and his sincere desire that he may have a long, honorable and highly useful course in the important profession to which he is devoted.

The following is from Mr. James Somerville, M.P., North Brant:

DEAR SIR,—I desire to acknowledge your kind invitation to be present at the banquet to be given to Mr. Cameron on the 28th inst., and to express regret that I cannot attend. Mr. Cameron is well worthy of the compliment which you purpose paying him, and, had circumstances permitted, I would have been only too happy to have been one of the party to do him all honor for his many excellent qualities, and the services he has rendered to the Liberal party.

Mr. David Creighton, manager of the Empire, wrote as follows:

TORONTO, June 25, 1890.

DEAR SIR,—I very much regret that arrangements made before I was aware of it will prevent me being at the complimentary banquet to Mr. Cameron on the occasion of his leaving Toronto.

Although differing in politics, our friendship, which long antedates his residence in Toronto, has been uninterrupted and our intercourse of the pleasantest kind. While regretting that he is about to leave Toronto, I hope prosperity will attend him where he goes, and I regret that I will not be able on this occasion to be present and personally testify my esteem for him.

Mr. E. W. Thomson, leader writer for the Globe, sent the following letter:

TORONTO, June 26, 1890.

DEAR SIR,—Your invitation to the banquet to Mr. Cameron did not reach me till this (Thursday) afternoon, when I had contracted another engagement for Saturday evening. This I regret, as the committee might perhaps have afforded me an opportunity to touch some evidences that the Globe, during Mr. Cameron's management, has done good service to the Dominion, the Province and the Liberal party.

It has long been the custom of many to judge the management of that journal by the success at election of the party to which it is allied. Tested by this standard, Mr. Cameron may well look back with satisfaction. Sir John Macdonald, in the House of Commons, elected in 1882, had a majority ranging between 65 and 94. In the present House, elected since Mr. Cameron became general manager of the Globe, the restrictionists have a regular majority of about 40.

In the Provincial Legislature of 1883 Mr. Mowat began with a majority of nine or ten. He came back from the country in 1886 with a majority of about 26, and was cruel enough to leave his opponents almost as far in the rear by count of party representatives and much farther behind by count of votes polled for his candidates, on the 5th inst. Both these elections occurred during Mr. Cameron's management of the Globe. Throughout the whole period, as during the 40 previous years of the Globe's existence, Sir John Macdonald's journalistic friends, about six days in every week, lamented that the Globe was ruining the Reform cause. But the true criterion of a newspaper management is afforded by inspection of its circulation tables and consideration of the political and business circumstances in which it has operated. Persons familiar with the politics of Canada during the last six years, and with the journalistic situation in Toronto during the last four, will scarcely doubt that the Globe, which easily maintains its lead in circulation and clearly maintains its accustomed influence, must have been conducted with ability and dexterity. Always since Toronto has had daily papers, the competition between them has been keener, perhaps, than in any other city on the continent, but the sharpness or the rivalry during the last four years has surpassed that of any previous time. In the conditions that have prevailed, the Globe, without wise and energetic business and general management, could not have retained the front place in which it was put by the Hon. George Brown, and by the skill of that great editor, Mr. Gordon Brown, with both of whom I had the good fortune to serve as editorial writer.

It will readily appear to anyone who reflects upon political events of late years, that the Globe has had to encounter editorial difficulties extraordinary and unlikely to recur. The main difficulties may be briefly defined as residing in the fact that the Conservative press of the Province forsook the duties proper to journals entitled to call themselves Conservatives—the word being here used not in its Canadian party significance. To conserve the institutions of the country, to allay those prejudices of races and sects, which, if exacerbated, may bring us civil confusion; to invite the attention of the people rather to the many reasons they have for working harmoniously together than to the few for quarrelling and drawing apart; to promote the solidarity and not the disruption of the common wealth—surely this is the first political duty of Conservatives, even as the first political duty of the Reform or Liberal party is to promote beneficial change. But we have seen the Conservative journals of this and other Ontario cities, not only forsaking the duty described, but inciting the races and creeds to mutual hatred and the Provinces to mutual suspicion. We have heard them proclaiming that a third of the people should be dragooned out of the language they love, and that 42 per cent. of the electors should be regarded as the common enemy.

In these strange circumstances the Globe found thrown upon it the duty of endeavoring to prevent the civil hostilities which its opponents seemed desirous to excite. It had to work conservatively against Conservatives turned incendiary, and at the same time to champion those patriotic Liberals who wish to effect changes and improvements within the constitution. Notwithstanding the unique complication and the double task, the Globe, during the past six years, has added, as previously mentioned, in securing two Liberal victories of unprecedented completeness, in reducing Sir John Macdonald's majority by more than one-third, and in sweeping from him a little proportion of the Ontario majority that he obtained in 1882.

Those Globe employes who may be present at the banquet will, doubtless, testify to the considerate and tactful manner in which Mr. Cameron has dealt with all placed under his directions by the Globe Printing Company, joining in all good wishes for his future welfare. I am, etc.

The following is from Mr. Hugh Blain:

TORONTO, 28th June, 1890.

DEAR SIR,—I regret that, owing to absence from the city, I will be compelled to forego the pleasure of attending the complimentary banquet of Mr. John Cameron to-night.

However widely we may differ in our views upon public questions, all parties can cordially unite in expressing their appreciation of Mr. Cameron's valuable services to Toronto, and their admiration of his sterling integrity and personal worth.

At the present juncture we can ill afford to lose the services of citizens who have so thoroughly identified themselves with the city's material progress, and the people of Toronto generally will readily join in sincere expressions of regret at Mr. Cameron's departure.

Personally I desire to convey my assurances of regret at the loss to his many friends and to the city, and to offer my best wishes for his future welfare. He has largely given direction in the development of a great variety of institutions and interests which depend chiefly on the press and public, and has thus exercised an important influence in molding the character of Toronto during a period of marvelous growth, and I feel assured he will always be able to point with satisfaction to the good work he has done while with us, and for which he is entitled to our lasting gratitude.

J. R. Stratton, M.P.P., Peterboro, wrote to Mr. McMurrich as follows:

PETERBORO, Ont., June 26, 1890.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to attend a complimentary banquet to Mr. John Cameron, but regret that a previous and pressing business engagement prevents me from enjoying the pleasure of its acceptance. I should very much like to be present and personally pay my respects to Mr. Cameron on the occasion and bear testimony to my appreciation of the marked ability and fidelity with which he has in the past filled the position he now vacates.

Letters expressing regret at the inability of the writers to attend were received from the following: H. H. Cook, M.P.; John Donough, W. J. Douglas, the Mail; W. F. Maclean, the World; B. E. Walker, manager Bank of Commerce; John Hoskin, Q.C.; Richard Brown, Toronto; ex-Ald. John McMillan, R. A. E. Kennedy, Hamilton; W. Goulding, Toronto; W. R. Callaway, Canadian Pacific Railway; L. P. Kribbs, the Empire; L. H. Ince, John Bertram, Toronto; Rev. Dr. Kellogg, James Innes, M.P.

The Toast List.

The chairman in a few felicitous words proposed the toast of "The Queen," which was loyally honored by the company.

Rev. Dr. Dewart.

Rev. Dr. Dewart, in proposing "Our Country," said: It was coming to my lips to say that I was glad to be here, but that would not express my meaning. To say so would make me like the old lady who said she was very glad she had heard the farewell sermon of her departing minister. (Laughter.) That is not what I mean to say. I am glad to be present upon an occasion that is designed to do honor to a gentleman whom I hold in so high esteem as Mr. Cameron. (Applause.) I have known Mr. Cameron for a great many years, not alone as a public man in the discharge of important public duties, but in the capacity of a private citizen and in social intercourse. And I am reminded by that fact that we do not know the whole man when we merely know the public man in relation to his public office and his public duties. There is another side to his nature and perhaps we sometimes miss some of the brightest and best traits in his character when we only know him in his official position. This is particularly true in regard to editors of newspapers. There is a side to their character that the world never sees. They are supposed sometimes to be combative. My audience will hardly believe that. (Laughter.) Even so meek-looking and gentle-natured a person as myself has been spoken of as if I had been a man of war from my youth. (Renewed laughter.) You have heard the story of the Quaker who found the man stealing his goods. He could not resist, of course, but he covered the thief with his rifle and said: "Friend, thee had better get out of there; I want to shoot just where thee stands." (Hear, hear, and laughter.) So it is with editors. Sometimes we want to shoot where other people are standing. It is not our fault if they receive the shot they would not receive if they stood elsewhere. You must remember to class the editors with the doctors. They are people who inflict pain unwillingly for the good of the subject upon whom they have to operate. (Laughter.) While I have pleasure in being present on an occasion to do honor to Mr. Cameron, there yet remains a regret that the pleasant friendly intercourse I have had with him for many years is to be broken. I have found him open to conviction, always ready to listen to the reasonable presentation of any matter. In a little club we attended together I have found him with his mind open, and he seemed nearly always to take the right side. That was because he agreed with me, of course. (Laughter.) I feel something of sorrow as well as pleasure on this occasion, and I am sure others here feel the same. I sincerely pray that the greatest blessing and success may follow Mr. Cameron, and that the lives of the members of his family may be lives of great happiness; and this has nothing to do with the toast I have the pleasure of proposing—(cheers and laughter)—but I take pleasure in asking you to honor the toast of "Our Country," coupled with the names of Mr. Goldwin Smith, Hon. Oliver Mowat and Mr. Mulock, M.P.

The toast was received with loud and enthusiastic cheers.

Mr. Goldwin Smith.

Mr. Goldwin Smith, in responding, said: The gentlemen whose names are coupled with mine in responding to this toast, and whom I unworthily precede, are connected with the country in its most important aspect, occupying a place in the management of public affairs. I am connected with it only as a private citizen, or in the comparatively humble aspect of a literary man and a journalist. We have done our best, some of us, to give the country that important feature of national greatness, literary journalism, and if the efforts have not been so successful as we could desire, it is to be remembered that they have been made under rather adverse circumstances, for the truth is that to the literary men of Toronto the country is Ontario. Our little wares do not get beyond the Province. I am sorry, very sorry, that Toronto should lose Mr. Cameron—a man who, I believe, in his capacity as a journalist, has strived to tread the path of honor and to uphold the profession. (Cheers.) I am glad, however, that London will gain by his removal. It is a disadvantage to a country—as we see in the case of the United States—not to have a literary center. But, on the other hand, it is not well to have the literary influence too much centralized. We must have a strong local press, and Mr. Cameron is one of the men who will give it to us. Ever since I came to this country I have found Mr. Cameron a warm and true friend. Therefore my best wishes follow him to his new sphere of usefulness, where I hope he will repeat, and, if possible, increase the service he has rendered in his present sphere. (Loud applause.)

Hon. Oliver Mowat.

Hon. Oliver Mowat on rising was received with great applause. He said: Mr. Mayor and gentlemen, I wanted to hear Mr. Smith speak first, because I like to hear what he says and to read what he puts in print, though I would sometimes rather he said something else. (Laughter and applause.) I desire to say one word to yourself, Mr. Mayor, I congratulate you that for the first time in your life, you have presided at a banquet in a Reform club and in honor of a Reformer.

Mayor Clarke—There is some hope for the club then. (Laughter.)

Mr. Mowat—And still greater hope for the Mayor. ("Hear, hear" and renewed laughter.) It is all the more gratifying to me to see you preside on this occasion, because we are just at the close of a very fierce battle, in the course of which Mr. Cameron has been giving pretty hard knocks, in fact, he has never spared his foes from anything that journalistic cannon ball or sword or bayonet could accomplish. I am glad that his foes have been so generous that a representation of them are here to-night to do him honor. I congratulate him upon the estimation in which he is held, not by political friends only, but by political foes also. I have had the good fortune in the course of my long political life to have some marks of popular favor, but Mr. Cameron has won one which I have never yet been able to claim. I never had you, Mr. Mayor, preside at a banquet in my honor or Mr. Meredith either, or Sir John Macdonald or any political leader on your side. It is true that lately I have had the pleasure of reading some very civil words that Sir John Macdonald said of me at a non-political banquet in my native city of Kingston. (Cheers.) Very kind words they were and I do not know that it would be out of place if I should reciprocate the kind things he said. (Loud cheers and laughter.) All Reformers will agree with me if I say of him that he has had distinguished success as a public man and that that success has been owing to his political ability, his tact, his courage and his geniality. (Loud applause.) At the same time I suppose I may say, without offense to you, sir—so far you will agree with me, but you probably will not agree with what I am about to say—that I wish those qualities had been employed in a better cause. (Great applause and laughter.) I must not venture to occupy any more time than to give my congratulations to Mr. Cameron on the general esteem in which he is evidently held in this city. (Applause.)

Vice-Chancellor Mulock, M.P.

Mr. Mulock—The speeches of those who have preceded me in this toast remind me of a great address delivered by Artemus Ward on the subject of the "Babes in the Wood." I listened to the speech with the utmost interest, but I failed to find any reference to the unfortunate children. (Laughter.) The toast is "Our Country," and I shall not depart from the precedent set by the other speakers by attempting to address myself to the subject. The introducer of this toast brought before us a most important institution when he mentioned the press of Canada. I have been a reader of the press with more or less interest, if not (on some occasions) with particular pleasure. There is one feature of the press that I desire to pay tribute to—that is its complete regard for strict accuracy on all occasions. (Loud applause and laughter.) It would not be proper to allow the remarks of the mover of this toast to pass unamended in this respect, and I was told that the applicant for the editorship of a religious journal once was told that the first condition was that he must discharge his duties with the utmost conscientiousness. He said he would have no difficulty in doing that, as he entered upon his duties with a brand-new conscience that he had never used at all. (Laughter.) I do not know if that is the case with Canadian editors, but I am sure it is not the case with the honored guest of the evening, Mr. Cameron. I indorse, I will not say the kind words, for they are strictly accurate and not exaggerated, that have been spoken of Mr. Cameron and his work in Toronto. He has rendered good service not merely to the party to which he belongs, but to the city in which he has lived. He leaves here carrying with him the best wishes of those who knew him best, and I am sure he goes back to a place where he will find many warm friends to meet him, those he left and many more. But he is not lost to the cause of Liberalism or to the country. We will need him, we will see him still—he is not lost to us or to his country. He is still pursuing his profession of a journalist, and I am sure we shall continue to hear him, and I trust we shall often see him amongst us. I have been struck with many circumstances connected with his life, but one in particular, and that was the utmost loyalty he displayed at all times to the institution which he represented. (Hear, hear.) Unknown to the public, unknown to those outside, Mr. Cameron throughout his whole connection with that great paper was devoted in loyalty to the great concern, and no man could have a higher regard of his duty as an honest man—and that duty I understand was discharged at all times—than our honored guest this evening. (Applause.) As I said before it would be out of order for me to refer to the toast of "Our Country," but this I will venture to say, that knowing the great possibilities of Canada and having hope and confidence in its future, I believe that this country will occupy one of the foremost places upon earth, and when the time comes when we may perhaps set up a separate institution for ourselves, not unwisely or too soon, for that might result in bankruptcy, just as a man finds when he starts in trade with too little capital, but when the time, possibly distant yet, arrives when we may have to take upon ourselves the full responsibilities of a country, with the elements of greatness that Canada possesses—a country with such representatives as are gathered round here—is destined to be one of the greatest countries upon earth. (Cheers.) I look forward to the time when Europe will be effete and when power will rest with the Western Hemisphere—("No, no")—and when Canada will take the foremost place in this hemisphere. (A voice "Annexation.") My friend does not concur in that—he believes that even Imperial Federation is necessary—but I believe that gentleman will agree with me in saying what I have ventured to prophesy of the future is but a limited description of what her greatness may amount to. I will not trespass further upon your time, but will simply say I indorse the kind remarks that have been made about Mr. Cameron, and I hope he will on many occasions again honor us with his presence. (Cheers.)

Our Guests.

The Mayor rose amid great applause to propose the toast of the evening, "Our Guest." He said: Gentlemen, the next toast on the list is that of our esteemed guest, Mr. John Cameron. The Hon. Mr. Mowat has referred to the fact that I occupy a somewhat peculiar position here tonight, but I can assure him I feel quite at home here. (Applause and laughter.) It is not the first time I have had the honor of partaking of the hospitality of the gentlemen of the Reform Club in this room. I am very proud of the concurrence of the committee to be able to occupy the position we do here to night. It affords me peculiar pleasure to add my tribute to the honor of our esteemed friend, Mr. John Cameron. I made the acquaintance of the Globe in 1864 and served my time there and learned my trade. (Cheers.) I made the acquaintance of Mr. Cameron in 1873, I think, and from that time until the present I admired, respected and esteemed the man. (Applause.) I have been called upon to preside over gatherings on many occasions and for different purposes since I occupied the position of chief magistrate of the city of Toronto; but when my term of office expires, I think I will be able to look back upon this gathering as one of the grandest and one of happiest meetings of a festive character that I have ever taken part in. (Cheers.) I never failed to recognize the worth of one who has done such service to the Reform cause. We who have been politically opposed to Mr. Cameron can appreciate his worth, because we have felt the force and effect of the blows he has delivered. (Cheers.) We can join with those for whom he has done such noble work in wishing him "godspeed" in the new sphere of labor to which he is going. I am sure I voice the sentiments of hundreds of thousands of Conservatives outside this clubroom to-night, when I say that for Mr. Cameron we have nothing but the best wishes. (Cheers.) Mr. Cameron knows that from the bottom of my heart I wish him "godspeed" and success. Mr. Cameron knows that I have always regarded him as a warm personal friend of my own. I say more, I think as Mayor of the city of Toronto, our city is losing one of its best citizens when it loses him. We are reconciled, however, sir, on the reflection that what is a loss to the city of Toronto, will be a gain to your native city, the city of London. I ask you, gentlemen, to join in wishing Mr. Cameron long life and the greatest prosperity. (Cheers.)

The toast was received with the greatest enthusiasm.

Mr. Cameron's Reply.

Mr. Cameron on rising was received with loud and prolonged applause. He said: Mr. Chairman,—One would not be so unemotional as to contemplate without feeling the approaching close of a period of seven and a half years of one's life, or of severing personal relationships which had grown into pleasant habit. But it is far from disagreeable, after all, to receive so spontaneous and splendid an expression of the good-will of friends and neighbors, and especially those with whom I have been associated in kindred pursuits. I take it, too, as a distinct enhancement of the compliment that the Mayor of the City of Toronto—an old Globe boy, by the way, though not now seeing eye to eye with the Globe in matters political—should be to-night in the chair; and that we should also be favored with the presence of Mr. W. R. Brock, president of the Empire Printing Company. (Applause.) It all indicates a happy tendency to modify and sweeten the personal side of political differences. I sincerely regret one circumstance, namely, the unavoidable absence from our number of Mr. Robert Jaffray, at this moment on the Atlantic, on his way to England. It has been my lot to be much thrown into contact with Mr. Jaffray and to know him intimately. A man firm in friendship, shrewd and large in judgment, wide in sympathies, fearless and energetic, the Globe Printing Company is to be congratulated on having for its president one of the ablest men of Canada. (Cheers.) The history of the Globe, of which I have for seven or eight years been general manager and chief editor, is the history of the most formative period of Canadian history. In two or three years the Globe will be entitled to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Half a century is a considerable time in the history of a country or of a newspaper. During the earlier years of its founder, George Brown fought through the columns of the Globe many a battle for civil and religious liberty and equality. Later on, he and the Globe were the chief instruments, certainly on one side, in bringing the confederation of the provinces within the range of practical politics. George Brown early gave the Globe the first place in Canadian journalism—a place it apparently has no intention of allowing itself to lose. (Hear, hear.) The death of George Brown naturally brought changes in its train—among others bringing myself to the position of general manager and chief editor of the Globe. As is known to many, I had not sought the position. It was no light hazard to take up work laid down by George and Gordon Brown. It was the more difficult in view of the fact that most of the great questions which had "made" the Globe originally were now regarded as settled. And it was the more difficult, too, in view of the displacement of many political alliances and friendships by the new motives created by tariff and other questions appealing to the self-interest of individuals. The path of the Globe was likewise beset from time to time by the competition of journalistic enterprises established from considerations other than those of ordinary profit and loss. Yet against every obstacle the Globe has come to the front as the leading exponent of Canadian thought and feeling. (Hear, hear.) I say Canadian thought and feeling, because it was at one time occasionally thrown up to the Globe that the fact of the Nelsons, of Edinburgh, being considerable stockholders, debarred it from calling itself truly Canadian. The Nelsons' connection with the Globe was of the most natural kind,—the members of the eminent and wealthy family named coming in, after the death of the Hon. George Brown, solely in the interest of their sister, Mrs. George Brown. The Nelsons throughout acted in a manner not only honorable but delicate, never interfering in the remotest way during my time with either the editorial management or with the opinions of the paper, I may add that the Nelson stock has recently been sold out entirely to Canadians, so that the Globe to-day is absolutely Canadian in ownership as it is Canadian in sentiment and sympathy. (Applause.) I am happy to say that during the seven and a half years which have gone by, the Globe has improved its position financially, increased its circulation, put its shoulder to the wheel of every good cause and moral reform, and is now in the act of settling itself in the most complete newspaper premises in the Dominion, and girding its loins to surpass its best efforts of the past. Nor is there any reason why it should not do so. A more capable staff of young and energetic men than those connected with the Globe in its several departments it would be difficult to find. Mr. C. W. Taylor, the business manager, is a host in himself—(applause)—alert, energetic, inventive, popular; and he is ably seconded by Mr. James Watt, the secretary-treasurer, and by the whole business staff. I will not speak in detail of the editorial staff, past and present, though you will naturally expect a word of reference to Mr. J. S. Willison—(cheers)—who, as sub-editor, has given to myself and to the Globe services of the greatest value, not alone during the last few months, but previously, and particularly in the Ottawa Parliamentary gallery, of which, by the way, he was elected president during the last session of the Dominion Legislature. Mr. Willison's versatility, temper and executive ability, his acquaintance with politics and public men, fit him for the responsibilities which lie before him in the immediate future, and in which I most cordially wish him every success. I would like here to record my acknowledgments to Mr. Willison's predecessor in the sub-editorship, Mr. Avern Pardoe, an able, energetic, upright man. I must mention Mr. E. W. Thomson, who in my opinion has no superior in Canada as a powerful and interesting editorial writer; not forgetting a younger editorial writer, able, promising and modest, Mr. John Lewis.

Speaking now for a moment of myself, I had always intended to return at some time to the London ADVERTISER—the well-known journal founded by myself and of which I am the principal owner—and having to a considerable extent succeeded in what I came to Toronto to do, it seemed to me the entrance of the Globe into a new building, the complete Canadianization of its stock, and for the third time during my residence in Toronto the entrance of a new term of power by Oliver Mowat, would constitute the rounding of an epoch with the consummation of which I might reasonably and honorably retire from the Toronto Globe and return to the London ADVERTISER. In that thickly-populated and smiling section of Canada known as Western Ontario, of which London is the attractive and prosperous capital, spreads out an ample field—and I need hardly say the London ADVERTISER has never been, and proposes never to be, merely local in either its utterances, aims, sympathies or circulation. One can not deny that Toronto is a pleasant place of residence—next to London, no place more so. (Laughter and applause.) But Toronto has the advantage of being not far from London, and I hope often to see many of you and to keep note of the progress and public spirit of your splendid city. In looking back I can hardly realize, so fast and happily runs the time of a busy man, that I have been connected with Canadian journalism for over a quarter of a century; and yet I am but 47 years of age, and as keenly interested in Canada and all that concerns my native land as ever I was in my life. But the secret may be that I was caught young, as Dr. Sam Johnson might put it, having started the London ADVERTISER, at first about the size of a good copy book, at 21 years of age, immediately on completing my apprenticeship. My early Benjamin Franklin experience of getting up at 5 o'clock in the morning, winter and summer, to carry "a round of papers" to subscribers; my recollections of the old hand presses, with the finger-blackening "rollers," and of assisting to get out small "extras," or slip sheets, containing news by the ocean steamers telegraphed from New York or Quebec—that was all before the Atlantic cable—these things come back to me with peculiar interest and pleasure.

So much for the past. As to the future, there is plenty of high and honest work before the journalists of the Dominion. That part of the earth's geography known as Canada has within it every element necessary to a great future—be the exact form of that future whatever Providence may decree—and the future of Canadian journalism will be great also. I contend, indeed, that Canadian journalism as a whole, and without regard to political distinctions, has no reason even already to be ashamed of its record for enterprise and ability, when its field—numerically and as to accumulated wealth—is compared with those of Great Britain and the United States. (Applause.) Canadian journalism largely can and largely will mold the sentiment of the Dominion. (Hear, hear.) Quite unique is the position occupied by Canada as a sort of connecting link between the two great English-speaking powers—Great Britain and the United States. Canadians have as many ties of relationship with one country as with the other. Stretching out hands of friendliness as we do to each great nation, I can conceive of nothing loftier, nothing more pregnant with happiness to mankind, than determination on the part of the journalists of Canada to use their high responsibilities in such spirit as to bind together forever Great Britain, the United States and Canada. (Applause.)

Little remains but to thank all here this night for the compliment of their presence. Particularly would I take this opportunity of expressing my good-will to those with whom I have been associated as a worker in the journalistic field—whether as fellow-directors or as members of a common staff. From them I have had nothing but courtesy and consideration; and it is with no insincere words that as general manager I bid them a kindly farewell, with good wishes for each and all, and most emphatically with good wishes for the safe and prosperous sailing through future seas of the staunch old journalistic ship which for now nearly half a century, its flag streaming against the wind, has braved breeze and storm—the old ship in the management of which, during perhaps the most difficult years of its long career, it has been my lot to take some responsible share. (Prolonged applause.)

Municipal Institutions.

Mr. McMurrich, who proposed "Our Municipal Institutions," said: Mr. Mayor and gentlemen,—We all know the benefit that municipal institutions are to this country; and I am sure that there are not very many carpers and growlers at the way our municipal institutions are carried on in Toronto. (A voice, "The taxes." Laughter.) As an ex-mayor I may be permitted to say that while I think the success of Toronto has been phenomenal, as regards

(Continued on page 3.)

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