

The Planet

S. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

A REMARKABLE CHARACTER.

The death of Joseph Cowen, the coal mine owner, member of Parliament and proprietor of the Newcastle Chronicle, has removed one of the most remarkable figures in English life, and one of the most extraordinary men in Europe. His whole life and personality teemed with vivid contrasts. He was a millionaire, yet dressed in shabby clothes, and as brilliant an orator as ever held the House of Commons' breathless attention, yet of small stature and awkward gait, and he spoke with a Northumbrian burr. A supporter of Lord Beaconsfield in his wildest schemes for Imperial expansion, yet Mr. Cowen was the friend of every conspirator from Moscow to Madrid, and financed revolutions from his own pocket as readily as other millionaires buy steam yachts. It was at Mr. Cowen's house that Orsini, who threw a bomb at the carriage of Napoleon III, and was guillotined, spent weeks prior to the perpetration of the deed. With such an intensely democratic tendency Mr. Cowen was naturally a home-ruler, yet none was more potent or more often quoted in argument furnished in favor of the present war, than the sentences penned by Mr. Cowen shortly before his death, when he declared that Great Britain was fighting to "prevent men of British blood from being treated as helots." Many years ago he retired from active politics owing to his independent ideas, devoting his attention to his paper, the Newcastle Chronicle, which wielded almost as much political influence in the north country as Mr. Cowen did when men pointed to him in the House of Commons as the next Liberal Prime Minister. In Northumberland they say Mr. Cowen had gypsy blood and they thus account for all that was erratic in his career.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ON THE SPOT THOUGHT.

A copy of the Diamond Fields Advertiser, a paper published at Kimberley, has come into possession of the Stratford Beacon. It is dated Saturday, October 14th, 1899, and is the last paper published in the Diamond town before the war. It is remarkable as showing the extreme ignorance of "the man on the spot" as to the course events were about to take. An "Imperialist" writes a letter in which he declares that there will be no war and then proceeds to say: "Poor Colley went to one extreme, and under-estimated the Boers; the military authorities of to-day, are going to the other extreme and sending out a formidable army corps. It seems something like employing a steam-hammer to crush a beetle. However, admitting the necessity of practically exhibiting to the Boer the mighty power of England, surely 20,000 troops would have been sufficient. "Presuming Great Britain will send the Transvaal an ultimatum, and presuming that that ultimatum will contain two clauses—a demand that the forts must be demolished, and that the equality of the two languages shall be recognized—it is just possible that the Boers will oppose the advance of the British troops to Pretoria, but that, I maintain, will not necessitate a war—a lengthened campaign—in the ordinary acceptance of the term."

Editorially the paper says that it is extremely doubtful if there will be war, but "if there is it will be a part of British strategy to hurry the pace and that the invasion of the Transvaal if necessary at all, will be a leisurely operation." It says that the Boers would fail for want of proper military organization, the lack of transport, and of efficient commissariat.

Seeing that the people in Cape Colony were generally so ignorant of the Boer resources and strength, there is some excuse for first that one army corps, of 36,000 men, would be sufficient to crush them.

THE GAME THAT QUEBEC POLITICIANS ARE PLAYING.

In the house of commons on Friday, Mr. Desjardins and Mr. Ethier, two supporters of the government, spoke in French, both had spoken in the assembly, condemning the offer of troops, and Mr. Desjardins had said he would vote against any expenditure for this purpose. But both have now concluded to vote for the resolution. They content themselves with speaking against it. Mr. Maréchal, a Quebec Conservative, said that he would vote for the grant, but he believed that parliament should have been called last fall before action was taken. Mr. Monk, another French speaking Conservative, declared that he for one was ready to go among his constituents and justify the offer of troops, and the vote of money for them. He explained the program of the Premier's Quebec followers. When election time came they would go down into the French counties and quote their own speeches and that of Mr. Tarte to show that they were at heart opposed to sending troops to Africa. They would accuse

the Conservatives of the crime of engaging Canada in the foreign wars of Britain, and would thus make the same fight that they made in the Reille campaign in 1885 and 1886, and that they had made in 1896, when they accused Sir Charles Tupper of buying rifles with the intention of sending the French Canadians to fight England's foreign wars. The member for Jacques made a strong and dignified protest against that form of campaign.

The Afrikaner Bond is threatening a South African Dutch revolution if Great Britain will not agree to peace on the basis of Transvaal independence. Hang the Afrikaner Bond.

No news from Roberts is usually followed by good news. No news from Buller, as a rule, is succeeded by, "I regret to have to inform you," etc. That is the difference between the two.

The population of Windsor does not exceed that of Chatham by 2,000, yet Windsor spent on its public schools last year \$25,964.75 against Chatham's \$14,664.70. These figures look as if Chatham were either spending too little or Windsor too much. Perhaps both may be at fault, one erring to meanness, and the other to extravagance.

Politicians seem to have a convenient way of adjusting matters out west. It is announced that an arrangement has been made whereby Mr. Ennis, Liberal member for Beautiful Plains, in the local legislature, is to resign "for business reasons," and Hon. Jas. Davidson, the Conservative provincial secretary, is to be allowed to go in by acclamation. It would be interesting to know the details of the business reasons.

When the news was published of the battle of Colenso many people wondered why Gen. Buller did not help Gen. Buller by making a sortie from Ladysmith. The Standard correspondent in the beleaguered town now answers the question. It was, he says, not known in Ladysmith that Gen. Buller contemplated attacking until the 17th of December, whereas the battle, it will be remembered, was fought on the 15th.

It looks as if our Canadian boys were sacrificed to Gen. Smith-Dorrien's old-fashioned ideas of warfare. It seems impossible for some officers to realize that a position held by a determined enemy, with modern weapons, cannot be rushed as could a Kaffir kraal. The fact that the attack failed, and that Lord Roberts refused to allow it to be renewed when he arrived, looks as if he thought it both unwise and unnecessary.

After a long debate the senate of South Carolina has, says an American exchange, by a vote of more than two to one, passed what is known as the "Broad Tire" bill. Under this bill the sale of narrow-tire wagons is prohibited after January, 1901, but the use of the latter may continue until January 1901, when broad tires must be used. In the meantime, persons who use the broad tire are to be exempted from road duty and commutation tax. A penalty of \$5 to \$15 or 30 days' imprisonment is provided for violation. The argument was effectively used, supported by the testimony of experts, that the public roads sustain much less damage from the use of broad tire-wagons than from those with narrow tires. It is thought the bill will pass the house and be signed by the governor.

WESTERN ONTARIO WIDELY AFFECTED.

Windsor Record. It is curious to note how many points in the west are touched by the casualties at the Modder River engagement on Sunday. Windsor, Chatham, London, Hamilton, Toronto, and other places all mourn boys either dead or wounded.

KRUGER'S TEN COMMANDMENTS.

- 1. Thou shalt have no other President but me.
2. Thou shalt not take unto thyself any Britisher; not on my lands, or under any lands, or by the waters above. I am a jealous man, but they hate me, and I shall show no mercy unto the thousands that surround me, and keep not my command.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of Oom Paul Kruger in vain; for I am a jealous and upright man.
4. Remember to keep open the Sabbath day, by going to church; and take thy Bible with thee; even though thou dost all manner of work after thou, thy son, thy daughter, nor thy Kaffir. Lord help a Britisher hanging around my gate; for this is my country, and I harrowed it!
5. Honor Oom Paul Kruger, pay your taxes and see that the Britisher pays his, that thy days may be long upon the Transvaal, that I give thee.
6. Thou shalt do no murder, to thine own people—but if a Britisher crosses thy path, take your little Bible in one hand, and your sword in the other.
7. Thou shalt not commit thyself by any degree of malice or hatred, only when you show the whiter gear.
8. Thou shalt not steal amongst thine own people—but when strangers come within our borders take all you can, for my sake and the government's.
9. Thou shalt bear false witness against thy neighbor.
10. Thou shalt covet thy neighbor's house, also his land, his mines, his ox or his ass—or anything he has, if he is a Britisher.

A SYSTEM IN BUSINESS.

Cheap Theatre Tickets and the Modern Plan of Remembering Things.

In the private office the head of the firm was clogged with the most important out-of-town customer, who had found that some matter of dis-count or error in statement or correction of list price or some other picturesque detail of the higher finance made it imperative on him to visit the city even though it was the holiday season. That New York in holiday times is worth any man's seeing is wide of the question. It must be the business of the utmost importance, for even the minutest stenographer had been dismissed. Whatever it may have been, there was at least the evidence of cigars and hearty laughter to prove that it had been transacted to the satisfaction of both. After that had been settled the head of the firm broached the subject of entertainment. The customer was perfectly willing to take in a show that very evening and all the rest of the good things that might come his way, and it was the privilege of the resident business man to send out to the nearest seat.

"I'll show you a wrinkle that may be new to you," he said with commercial pride. "You don't suppose that we pay box-office prices or speculators' premiums when it is possible to get just as good seats as there are in the house at fifty off. Just you wait while I jot down a memorandum on this subject. Just you watch me. I'll find the man in just a minute. That's the advantage of carrying system into everything you do. Just look at this arrangement. I guess it's got in it pretty nearly everything I want to know. Suppose we have an idea come to me. Well, I jot down a memorandum on any piece of paper that comes handy and when I have leisure I file it away under its proper head in this system. Then when I want to use that idea all I have to do is to turn right to it here and find it at once along with a great many other ideas that I have jotted down in the encyclopedia. There, I've got just the man I want, telephone number and all, and I can promise you the tickets will be here as soon as we get back from lunch. That's where system comes in. You be 'That's all very fine,' replied the customer, "and I won't dispute the value of having a system. But I'll be hanged if I can understand why you turn up the 'Dres' in order to find out where to scarp the theatres. Those letters are not the beginning of a man's name, but they are just called, and they do not smell anything that will make you think of the elbow. Why 'Dres'?" "Why, man alive, that's just where the beauty and the simplicity of the scheme comes in. I was without paying too much for the tickets, so I lock up the compartment 'Dresmaker' in this arrangement and find the information immediately."

"But why dressmaker? What has that to do with the subject?" "See here, you're mighty particular seeing it's my system and not yours, but I don't mind showing you that the old man is right after all. The way I first got on to this shrewd scheme was this, my wife told me that her dressmaker told her that she knew a clear dealer who always had good seats to dispose of for a reasonable discount. Got that straight and plain. Now, you don't suppose I'd put that under 'W' just because my wife told me. A man's wife tells him so many things that if he was to start a system of this kind storage on them the 'W' would be the whole thing and there wouldn't be any room for all the rest of the alphabet. So I skip the wife and nail the dressmaker as coming next. Then all I have to do is to think of a dressmaker and there the whole story is told. But the more I use this system the more I wonder how we ever did business when a man had to remember things just any old way, indeed I do."

Dan Rice's First Circus Tumble. "Did you ever hear of the joke which got Dan Rice, the most famous of circus clowns, his first job under the canvas?" asked an old-timer. "No—what was it?" "Dan, while still in his teens, applied to a circus manager for a position. "What salary do you want?" asked the manager. "Eight hundred dollars a night," replied Dan. "Tell you what I'll do," said the manager. "We'll speak quick," returned Dan, "I'm losing time." "I'll give you \$4 a week." "All right," said Dan, "it's a go."

An Economical Duke.

The Duke of Cambridge is not famous for his liberality. They say that he is not in the habit of spending two pence where a penny will do. One wet day long ago he had to go to Pall Mall and had the drive driven to Victoria station. Arrived in due course at the terminus, the Duke handed the driver a shilling. The cabby looked at the shilling and then looked down at the Duke. "Er, what's this?" shouted the cabby. "Can't yer make it another tanner?" "Certainly not," replied the Duke, "and what is more, you came the wrong way. What made you go right round Hyde Park corner and Grosvenor place?" The cabby saw he had no chance, but boldly replied: "Cos St. James's Park is closed, sir." "Closed?" queried the Duke. "St. James's Park closed? Why, how's that?" "Oh," bawled the cabby, sarcastically, "whipping up his horse, 'they say as 'ow the Dook o' Cambridge lost a three-penny bit a-comin' 'cross the park last night, and the park's closed as a result and they had to go'."

South Africa and the Boer-British War Book. First Part has been Edited by J. Castell Hopkins—Second Part by Murat Haistead. It is the only authentic History of the Dark Continent and is profusely illustrated with many half tones and eight at War Scenes made especially for this work. GIVE YOUR ORDER TO THE CANTASSERS OR LEAVE IT AT THE PLANET OFFICE. This volume contains 500 large quarto pages printed from new plates on special paper, about 100 illustrations and will be sold at the following low prices: Bound in fine English Cloth, emblematic design, in gold and colors \$1.75; Substantial Half Morocco 2.50; Full Morocco 3.25. MEMORIAL LIFE AND WORKS OF DWIGHT L. MOODY BY J. W. HANSON, A. M., D. D. Velum Cloth \$1.50; Half Morocco 2.00; Full Morocco 2.50. A canvasser will call upon you or you can leave your order at the PLANET OFFICE where samples of both books can be seen.

Notice to Contractors.

Sealed, separate or bulk tenders will be received by the undersigned, marked tender, until Thursday, March 1st, 1900, for the erection of a frame summer residence to be erected at Erie Eau. The plans and specifications can be seen at the office of T. J. Rutley, Archt. The lowest nor any tender not necessarily accepted. GEORGE T. McKEOUGH, M.D., 53 71-d Chatham, Ont.

Notice to Contractors.

Sealed, separate or bulk tenders will be received by the undersigned, marked tender, until noon Thursday, March 1st, 1900, for the erection of a brick residence, having stone foundation, slate roof, hot air heating, plumbing, etc., to be erected in the Township of Raleigh. Plans and specifications can be seen at the office of T. J. Rutley, Architect. The lowest nor any tender not necessarily accepted. GEORGE JORDAN, 42-2th-2e-2aw Chatham, Ont.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed, separate or bulk tenders will be received by the undersigned and addressed to John McKay, marked tender, and left at the office of the Architect, on or before noon of Saturday, March the 10th, 1900, for the erection of a brick residence, stone foundation, hot air heating, etc. The building to be erected in the Township of Chatham. Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of T. J. Rutley, Architect. The lowest nor any tender not necessarily accepted. JOHN MCKAY, mckaw td

Tenders Wanted.

Whole tenders for the erection and completion of the House of Refuge of the County of Essex, will be received until including Saturday, March 17th, 1900, by Mr. Geo. F. Cronk, chairman of building committee at Leamington. Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of A. G. Baker, Leamington, Ont., and at the office of H. J. Powell, Stratford, Ont. Separate tenders both for steam and hot water will be required. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. A marked cheque for 2 1/2 per cent. of the amount of the contract must accompany each tender, such cheque will be returned to the unsuccessful tenderer. Successful tenderer will be required to give good and sufficient bonds for the due performance of the work. H. J. Powell, Architect. 21-23-26-28-2-5

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From Bared Plymouth Rocks, and Black Minoras, all from the best selected stock, good healthy birds. Received first prize at the Poultry Exhibition for Leavest egg. Price for setting of 13 eggs \$1. special. Price for large quantities. All orders promptly filled. W. W. Eversitt, Maple C. V. Dairy

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Mortgage Sale

Of Valuable Real Estate, in the City of Chatham, in the County of Kent, under Power of Sale contained in a certain registered Mortgage made by James Lamont to the Vendors, will be sold by Public Auction by A. Thompson, Jr., Auctioneer, at the Garner House, in the City of Chatham, on Friday the Second day of March, 1900, at 2 o'clock p. m., the following freehold property, namely:—FIRSTLY, Those parts of Lots numbers Four and Five, in Block "C" on the North side of King Street, in the said City of Chatham, known and described as follows, Commencing at a point on King Street in said Lot number Five, distant seventy-five feet from Third Street and butting on land sold to John McDowell, Thence Easterly along King Street a distance of One hundred and three feet Five, thence at right angles from King Street to the River Thames, thence down the stream to the limit of that portion of Lot number Five purchased by John McDowell, thence in a line at right angles to King Street to the place of beginning, being the two parcels of land heretofore conveyed by instrument Number 13584 and number 11096 respectively.

SECONDLY, The one undivided part or share in part of Lot Eighty-five, on the Southern side of King Street, in the said City of Chatham, particularly described in a certain deed dated Sixth of October, 1886, to one Charles Northwood, from the Canadian Bank of Commerce and Joseph Northwood and duly registered, save and except that part thereof heretofore conveyed by registered deed to Edwin C. Radley.

THIRDLY, Part of Lot number Fourteen, on the corner of King and William Streets, in the said City of Chatham, as described in said deed to said Charles Northwood, fifty feet more or less on William Street by Seventy-five feet more or less on King Street.

FOURTHLY, Lots numbers One Hundred and Nineteen, on the North side of King Street, in the said City of Chatham.

FIFTHLY, Lots numbers Ninety-nine and Fifty-seven, Northwood's Survey, in subdivision of park Lots One and Two, on the West side of the Gravel Road in the said City of Chatham.

SIXTHLY, The southerly part of Lot One Hundred and twenty-two, in the Government Survey of the said City of Chatham, described as follows, Commencing at a point on the South East side of King Street, Fifty six feet South of the angle of King Street, formed by said Lot at the North West angle of said Lot, then South Easterly parallel to the South Westerly boundary of Lots One hundred and twenty-one and One hundred and twenty-two, thence South Easterly along said boundary Eighty-three feet, more or less, to the South Westerly boundary of said Lot number One hundred and twenty-two, then North Westerly along said boundary One hundred and fourteen feet six inches more or less to King Street, On Parcel No. 1 there is a large three story brick block 48x65 feet, all in good order. There is also frame warehouse 36x65.

On Parcel No. 2—Two brick stores three stories, having a frontage on King Street about 34 feet, one being occupied by G. O. Scott (Dry Goods) and the other by J. W. McLaren (Drugs), this is in the best locality in the city and all in good repair.

On Parcel No. 3—This is a desirable corner near the C. P. R. Station. The buildings are a frame shop and brick dwelling. On Parcel No. 4—The buildings are a double frame dwelling and a single frame dwelling in an excellent locality and will always rent being inside property. On Parcel No. 5—There is a frame dwelling, one and one-half stories and also a frame stable. This property is in a good locality lying just south of the G. T. R. station. On Parcel No. 6—There is a large two story frame dwelling in good order, and only a three minute walk from the Post Office. Terms and conditions—One tenth of the purchase money to be paid down. Further particulars will be made known at time of sale or may be ascertained on application to ALBERT O. JEFFERY, Vendor's Solicitor, London, Ont. A. THOMPSON, Auctioneer. d-14-17-30-34-28 Ask for Murard's and take no other.

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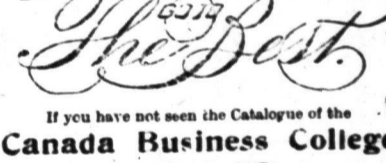
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