

## London Advertiser.

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LEADING DAILY IN WESTERN ONTARIO.

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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY (Limited).

LONDON, ONTARIO.

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It will be a convenience, and secure earlier attention, if all communications intended for publication, or on matters relating thereto, are addressed to the EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, The Advertiser, London, Ont.

## Our Coming Royal Visitors.

It need surprise no one to learn that the royal visitors soon to land on our shores view with some misgivings the extent of the journey of sight-seeing which they have set before them. Supposing they were merely to land at Quebec city, and proceed direct across the Dominion to Victoria, British Columbia, they would travel 6,000 miles before they again reached their port of departure on the Atlantic. And if they were to take all the side trips which loyal Canadians everywhere are ready to lay out for them, the Duke and Duchess would not get through with their trip in less than double the brief month which they have assigned to it. We in London, therefore, are specially favored in that their royal highnesses have seen fit to come to see us, and to receive here such loyal addresses from other parts of Western Ontario as residents may be pleased to indite and send to Major Maude.

Compared with the Canada that his father, the King, toured forty years ago, when Prince of Wales, the Dominion of today will be a revelation to the Duke of York. At that time, it was a comparatively easy task for the heir to the throne to see the Maritime Provinces and Upper and Lower Canada. Yet there are old settlers who remember the fact that it was deemed a condescension on the part of the Prince of Wales to go so far west as Sarnia, then regarded as the extreme western part of the country. In those days, what is now the great district of Algoma, was a terra incognita. New Ontario, with its splendid possibilities in agricultural and mineral resources was unknown. Manitoba was known only as a small settlement in a little known region, and the Northwest Territories, now studded with many prosperous farms and possessing dozens of prosperous towns, was as much a "No Man's Land" as the Yukon gold territory was prior to 1897. As for British Columbia, it was known as a gold territory, but it was as difficult of access to Canadians as it could well be. The Duke of York will find all this changed. Instead of Sarnia being the extreme western point of Canada, as it was deemed to be when his father visited this country, he will find that this country extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and that it is bound together, not only by the railway steel band, but by the strongest interests as citizens of a common British country. It is a wonderful transformation, which we are sure the Prince is just as anxious to witness as we are to show it to him.

We would deeply regret, in common with all Canadians, if through any cause the duchess were unable to accompany her husband on his coming tour. While we are all anxious to see and do honor to the heir to the throne, it goes without saying that not a little of the pleasure of welcoming him would be taken away were the populace not also able to do honor to his charming wife. For this reason it is to be hoped that the duchess will be able to accompany her husband, at least during his pilgrimage through Eastern Canada. We are certain that if it is necessary to curtail the more exacting social festivities in order not to overtax the strength of her royal highness, there are few, if any Canadians, who would not gladly urge that these should be cut down to the minimum.

We desire to see and to honor the royal couple with all the enthusiasm that Canadian subjects of His Majesty know well how to display, but we do not wish that these distinguished guests of the nation shall be killed with kindness.

## No Hereditary Titles.

The report comes from Ottawa that it is likely the Duke of York will be authorized, when in the Dominion, to bestow some royal honors on meritorious Canadians. We do not raise any objection, provided the recipients have done some work for the nation that warrants their being marked out for distinction, and provided, further, that any title conferred is not hereditary.

This is no country for conferring honors to be handed down from father to son, no matter how great a failure the last named may be. We have half a dozen persons in Canada today who bear hereditary titles, and we require no more. These are more than enough. Just look at the foolishness of it all. The late Sir Frederick Robinson, who was a clerk in a public office, as his father before him was, had the honor of an hereditary title forced upon him, because his grandfather was a chief justice in the early days of Canada. Through his being drowned, the title goes to a relation who is living in New York, who also has done nothing to warrant its possession as a mark of distinction, and who possibly puts very little value on it. And so it goes in other cases, to the disgust of even those who believe in the conferring of titles where meritorious service to the

state has been performed by the recipient.

We trust that never again will an hereditary title be conferred on a Canadian. The atmosphere is not favorable to it; the people are almost to a man against it.

## The Grand Opera House.

"To hold the mirror up to nature."

London is now to be congratulated upon the possession of an Opera House equal to any in the land. The old Opera House, the one destroyed by fire nearly two years ago was good, but not equal to the one just completed. The stage room was inadequate, and the entrance, by winding stairs, not so convenient or safe as the present one on the ground floor, with its ample exits. The present building has a seating capacity more than a third larger than the old one.

Apart from its uses as an Opera House, we badly need a public hall of sufficient capacity for public meetings. The skating rink is too large, and every other hall too small. The present hall will be exactly suitable for lectures, concerts and public meetings of all kinds.

As an Opera House, there is no play or opera on the road that London should not be able to get. The stage room is complete and quite adequate for the best. Sir Henry Irving, or Richard Mansfield, or Julia Arthur, with the largest stage requirements, can be accommodated. London has always patronized well a good opera or play, and crowded the house for a good minstrel performance, such as it always got from its favorite minstrel, George Primrose, and his able partner, Lew Dockstader.

The benefits to be derived from a good Opera House are many. We do not mean to deny there are some objectionable features to the theater; but there is nothing human that is perfect, and we may rest assured that the management of the Grand Opera House just completed in this city will do all in their power to maintain the high standard of the old Opera House.

It will be remembered that the late Abraham Lincoln was shot in Ford's Theatre at Washington, near the close of the civil war. He had, during the war, sometimes gone to a theater. Some objected that it was not proper for the president to go to the theater during such times. Lincoln's answer was, "If I don't go to the theater, I'll go crazy." While it is quite true that it falls to the lot of few to have such heavy responsibilities cast upon them as he had, we know that most men often feel the weight almost too heavy; feel the pull a long one; and so, such recreation of any kind, or a good laugh at a good performance, comes as a welcome antidote. An opportunity to go where you do not have to think; to go to some place where care is forgotten, perhaps accounts to a large extent for the fact that the heavier plays are not the most popular.

The theater has always paid much attention to education. It would be well for many of our ministers if they paid more attention to education than they do. Not long ago, in one of our best pulpits, when being supplied by a stranger, a good sermon was spoiled because of the faulty pronunciation of many words. "Caught" was pronounced "cot"; "thought" was "thot"; and every similar word chopped short. All readers and speakers should study Hamlet's advice to the players. Hamlet says: "Speak the speech, I pray you, as I pronounced it to you, trippingly on the tongue; but if you mouth it, as many of you players do, I had as lief the town crier had spoke thy lines. Nor do not saw the air too much—your hand thus; but use all gently; for in the very torrent, and (as I may say) the whirlwind of passion, you must acquire and beget a temperance that may give it smoothness. O, it offends me to the soul, to see a robustious periwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters, to very rags, to split the ears of the groundlings, who for the most part, are capable of nothing but inexplicable dumb shows and noise. I could have such a fellow whipped for o'erdoing termagant; it out-herods Herod; pray you avoid it. 'Be not too tame either, but let your own discretion be your tutor: suit the action to the word; the word to the action; with this special observance that you overstep not the modesty of nature, for anything so overdone is from the purpose of playing, whose end, both at the first and now, was, and is, to hold, as it were, the mirror up to nature; to show virtue her own feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time, his form and pressure. Now this, overdone, or come tardy off, though it make the unskillful laugh, cannot but make the judicious grieve; the censure of the which one must, in your allowance, o'erweigh a whole theater of others. O, there be players, that I have seen play, and heard others praise, and that highly, not to speak it profanely, that neither having the accent of Christians, nor the gait of Christian, pagan, or man, have so strutted and belov'd that I have thought some of nature's journeymen had made men, and not made them well, they imitated humanity so abominably."

Nor need all the instruction be given to the minister, the speaker, or the player. It must not be forgotten that the best elocutionist, the finest reader that ever appeared in London, was a minister, "the Rev. J. M. Bellows," a man of splendid personal appearance. It was a genuine treat to hear him. An incident occurred in the old "Spectator Hall," now the Duffield Block. He was reading "The Glove and the Lions," by Leigh Hunt. The audience

was almost breathless, and when he came to the point,

He threw that glove,  
But not with love,  
Right in the lady's face."

one man in the audience applauded very loudly. The reader stopped and said, "Excuse me, ladies and gentlemen, I will have to read that piece over again," and so he did. The reader educated the audience, and while seldom so abruptly as on that occasion, the listener who uses his own judgment cannot fail to receive instruction from a good play.

It should not be forgotten, either, that there are good plays and better ones from a moral standpoint. All the plays, for instance, played by Sol Smith Russell, "A Poor Relation," "A Pleasant Valley," or "The Old Homestead," played by Denham Thompson; or "Way Down East," with which the opera house is to be opened, are morally beneficial. The ideals they hold up are the very best. In "The Old Homestead" an incident occurs; the scene shown is Broadway, at Trinity Church, after midnight. A tramp accosts for help a man who had himself reformed; at first he feels like refusing, but on second thought hands him out a dollar, saying: "He may be a fraud, but if you win once in a hundred times it's a good investment."

"Then let your effort be  
Struggles to lighten;  
Then let the reckless see  
Their lives you'll brighten,  
And one in a hundred win—  
One in a hundred;  
If this you'll only take,  
Your life you'll happy make,  
And one in a hundred be,  
One in a hundred."

In all these plays the effect is the very best. Sol Smith Russell heads the list of actors of that class of play, and he is always pleasant.

Shakespeare, Lytton, Sheridan and others wrote plays of a different class, but much can be learned from them. The play ought to be made to teach the best principles. What could be better than the well-known lines of Portia: "The quality of mercy is not strained; It droppeth as the gentle dew from heaven, Upon the place beneath; it is twice blessed; It blesses him that gives and him that takes; 'Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes The Throned monarch better than his crown; His scepter shows the force of temporal power, The attribute to law and majesty, Wherewith doth sit the dread and fear of kings; But mercy is above the scepter'd sway; It is enthroned in the hearts of kings, It is an attribute to God himself; And earthly power doth then show likest God's, When mercy seasons justice."

We think London is to be congratulated on its Grand Opera House. We hope it will be the cause of many happy and pleasant hours to London's citizens and those who from time to time may be sojourners in our midst.

## The Potato Crop.

Such a scarcity is experienced in the potato supply this year as has not been felt in many years. The recent crop report issued by the Ontario Government states that "judging by the number of correspondents who report one of the worst years yet for potato bugs, the beetle must have done a lot of injury. This, coupled with the weather prevailing for some time past, has told greatly against the chances of the crop; and while some correspondents speak of a fair and even a good prospect, the bulk of those reporting describe the tubers as small in size and likely to be considerably below the average in yield."

The price of potatoes per bushel, here on the London market, ranges from 60 to 80 cents, according to quality. This is nearly double the price paid last year. It is said that there is a sufficient quantity to supply the local market, but none to ship away. The price, however, is likely to be higher when we take into consideration the inducements for shipping, especially to the United States markets. Potatoes have recently been selling in Chicago for \$1.75 a bushel; a year ago they were 40 cents. In the State of Massachusetts they have been selling as high as \$6 a barrel. Notwithstanding the demands of local markets there is a strong incentive to export.

It needs only a scanty like the present to indicate the extreme importance of the potato-growing industry. The potato is one of the most, if not the most important article of one's daily food. In fact it fills such a place in the daily bill of fare that the loss will be chiefly felt in the attempts to obtain a suitable substitute. As a substitute beans should not be overlooked. Beans at \$2 a bushel are cheaper than potatoes at 50 cents, when it is considered that a bushel of beans will go farther than five or six bushels of potatoes. If the small wage-earner, the class that will suffer most from the potato scarcity, would consider the change of diet, it would doubtless be a matter of saving to him in dollars and cents.

Though woman first tempted man to eat, he seems to have taken to drinking of his own accord.

The mayor of Winnipeg may adopt an Indian blanket as his robe of office in which to welcome the royal visitors to the prairies.

The mayor of Ottawa is providing himself with a robe of office over against the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of York. It is said that the garment is so gorgeous that his worship will prove a whole show in himself. Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like unto what Mayor Morris

promises to be, and it is not to be wondered at that people for miles around are declaring themselves anxious to go to the capital to witness the pageant which he will head.

The saloon-smashing campaign, started by Carrie Nation in Kansas, has spent its force, with no permanent results in the way of suppressing the liquor traffic, and has been superseded by the old-fashioned pledge-signing campaign.

A leading resident of Hamilton writes to the Times that the water supplied to that city is not only unfit for drinking purposes, but positively unfit to bathe in. This alarmist professes to have seen things—surely not snakes!—in the liquid alleged to be water, and he says it is not safe to use except if be boiled, which declaration makes no sense on the assurance of medical men. The police magistrate will have to be exceedingly lenient with Hamilton drunks until such time as the incentive to fall from grace is removed. How thankful we in London ought to be to these warm days, with our splendid supply of pure spring water for domestic purposes!

"Singers too often forget what they are singing about. Forget that you have a voice, speak your words, and think of what you are singing, and the voice will come with the expression of the words." Gounod once gave this bit of advice to Pol Plancon, who is now one of the foremost singers on the stage. How often words are neglected so that it is almost impossible to catch the meaning of a song at all. The following suggestion from Plancon is worth the consideration of all musicians: "In studying a song I always begin with the words, getting the sense of them thoroughly fixed in my mind. The picture must be painted in imagination before you can paint it in tone. Then I sing the music over, and later both music and words, thoughtfully working at each separate phrase until it is finished in a way that I feel I cannot improve upon."

## Well Content.

[Victoria Times.] It is extremely probable that Canadians will prefer to trudge along the path which has already been mapped out. It has the advantage of being free from pitfalls and it promises to lead to even greater prosperity than we have experienced since we set forth upon it. Even now there is no country in the world in which the sum of human comfort is greater.

## Bachelors, Get a Move On.

[Toronto World.] While we in Ontario grumble at Quebec's outlook in gain of population, this very marriage question may be brought into notice in that connection. The French-Canadians marry more freely than the English-speaking people, and more new homes are established. It is out to rub salt in the fact is there, that a country's population depends largely on the homes built up, and a steady natural increase of home-born people is the surest and best indication of a thriving nation.

## What Is the Duty For?

[New York Journal.] The American people were taxed a cent and a half a pound to establish a tin plate industry for the benefit of American labor. Then the manufacturers brought over Welsh workmen to make the tin plate, on the ground that American workmen did not know how. Now the Welsh workmen are out on strike, the mills are closed, and the tin plate trust, which has absorbed the tin plate industry in the United States, is importing tin plates from Wales to fill its orders. Is it not about time for that duty to come off?

## Protection Partly to Blame.

[Ottawa Journal.] From 1871 to 1881, a period of low revenue tariff as compared with what followed the population grew at double the rate it does now. Years of commercial stagnation and distress, of bankruptcies and failed schemes were included in that decade, leading the people to turn out of power a Liberal government, and to substitute a government which offered a fourth of a panacea for commercial and industrial ills. Yet during that partially distressed decade the rate of increase in Canada's population was 18 per cent, much larger than it has been since. In the following ten years the policy of protection being in force the increase in people was 12 per cent. Now for ten years, under the fuller fruition of protection, the rate drops to 10 1/2 per cent.

## The Union.

[Goldwin Smith in Weekly Sun.] It is too true that there is matter for a grave indictment of the trade unions. Their guidance has too often fallen into the hands of the restless and malevolent ambition which thrives by industrial war. They have too often been swayed by the votes of the young, unmarried and less responsible members. They have too often had recourse to lawless and violent methods which would have destroyed the freedom of labor and put the law in force, and sometimes to take up arms. On the loss and suffering caused by strikes to the community, and often in a special degree to industries wholly unconcerned in the quarrel, it is needless to dwell. But combination was necessary to protect the rights of the working man and enable him to make his bargain with capital on anything like equal terms. The employers were really, if not formally, combined. How ruthless a tyrant capital can be was shown with fearful vividness by the reports upon which the British factory and mining acts were founded. The harshly despotic rule of the unions have raised the condition of the working man. A notable case was that of the farm laborers in England, who were a truly pitiable class, with an insufficiency of bare bread, by the unionist movement under Joseph Arch. Nor has anything but a unionist policy saved the more odious or more subversive of commercial freedom than the means taken by some colossal trusts to kill the minor concerns. A better way, it is to be hoped, will in time be found than industrial war, or war of any kind; but in the meantime let justice be done to the cause of the working man.

## The Runians, Carson, McKee Co.

## Special Linen Bargains

You know you'll need them. Your Linen stock will want replenishing for exhibition time. We are in a position to supply you. Our values have earned for us an enviable position in the Linen trade. Notwithstanding our excellent values at regular prices, we offer for sale on Saturday some lines to clear at great reductions. Some are slightly soiled, a few are manufacturers' seconds, but the greater number are perfect goods. This will be a great chance for those in need of Table Linens.

Special line Unbleached Linen Damask, 54 inches wide, good weight; worth regularly 35c, at, per yard ..... 25c

Special line Half-Bleached Linen Table Damask, 60 inches wide, extra heavy; worth regularly 50c, at, per yard ..... 35c

Special line Full Bleached Damask Table Linen, 62 inches wide, extra weight; worth regularly 40c, at, per yard ..... 30c

Special line Full Bleached Damask Table Linen, 64 inches wide, extra weight; worth regularly 65c, at, per yard ..... 45c

Special line Full Bleached Linen Table Damask, 72 inches wide, fine quality; worth regularly 75c, at, per yard ..... 55c

Special line Full Bleached Double Damask Table Linen, 72 inches wide, extra heavy, fine quality, plain center, with wide floral border; worth regularly \$1.25, at, per yard ..... 85c

Special line Bleached Linen Damask Table Covers, border all around, slightly soiled; worth \$1 and \$1.25, 8-4 size, at ..... 85c

Special line Bleached Linen Damask Table Covers, border all around, slightly soiled; worth \$1.60 and \$1.75, extra weight, 8-4 size, at ..... \$1.25

Special line Bleached Linen Damask Table Covers, border all around, 10-4 size; worth \$2, at ..... \$1.40, at ..... \$1.00

Special line Bleached Linen Table Covers, border all around, slightly soiled, 8-4 and 12-4 size; worth \$2.50 and \$3, at ..... \$2.00

## Chinese Matting Reductions

For Saturday we offer at prices to clear some extra special lines in Chinese Matting.

12 1/2c Matting, for, per yard ..... 9c  
15c Matting, for, per yard ..... 11c  
15c Matting, for, per yard ..... 13c  
25c Matting, for, per yard ..... 20c  
35c Matting, for, per yard ..... 28c  
45c Matting, for, per yard ..... 35c

## Remnant Sale of Dress Goods

300 remnants of Dress Goods, ends of this season's selling, in lengths of from 1 1/2 to 6 yards. These are marked at one-quarter and one-half the regular price. A rare chance to secure children's school dresses, odd skirt lengths, etc., at go-as-you-please prices. It will pay you to visit our Dress Goods Section and see these bargains.

## Remnant Sale Staple Dept.

400 REMNANTS.

After a heavy season's selling we find in this section a large quantity of remnants. They embrace in the lot, Prints, Fancy Muslins, Gingham, Shirting, Sheetings, Cottonades, Table Linens, Towelings, Art Muslins, Lawns, Flannelettes, Wrappettes, etc., and are in ends of from one to eight yards and are marked at one-quarter, and in some cases, one-half the regular price.

These are on sale in the Staple Section, on the long west counter.

## The Runians, Carson, McKee Co.

208, 210, 210 1/2 and 212 Dundas Street.

## CANADA'S TIME IS TO COME!

A Friendly Comment On the Census Returns by the Detroit News.

The census of the Dominion of Canada, just completed, certainly makes a disappointing showing, with its total increase of population of only 500,000. There are many facts which go to prove that it is more disappointing than discouraging. During seven years of the decade for which the record stands, the larger opportunities, the commercial and industrial activities have been in the United States. There have been in that time three principal streams of emigration from the Dominion into this country. Probably the largest has been that of French-Canadians from Quebec and the other eastern provinces into the New England states, where they have practically overrun the factory towns and the mill villages. The abandoned farms, of which so much has been heard since 1880 or thereabouts.

The second has been drawn almost entirely from Ontario, and its strength is no secret to the people of Detroit, as their city forms one of the several mouths which compose its delta. Buffalo is another mouth, Port Huron a third, and Ohio lake cities constitute a fourth. The third stream carries a constant current of agricultural settlers out of Manitoba and adjacent provinces into the north-western states of our own country, and ultimately drains into the booming Puget Sound territory.

Ontario furnishes not only practically all of the Canadian population that abounds in our lake ports, but a large proportion of those who cross the border to the west and drift to the Pacific states; and she has sent thousands of her sons and daughters to the Yukon district since the discovery of gold there. Her low birth rate, which has been a subject of frequent comment of late, is not so much an additional explanation of her apparent lack of gain as it is a consequence of the steady outflow of her young men and women into the newer portions of the Dominion, and into the promising fields of endeavor which the states hold out before their eyes.

But a change has already begun, and in another decade it will show remarkable results, both as to Ontario and Western Quebec. Across our own border, at Sault Ste. Marie, we have a striking example of a condition that is coming into existence at scores of points in Canada. There an immense group of industries is being built up by American capital, which has only recently begun to seek those immense natural resources of which the Dominion offers so many. The full development of the manifold industries being established at that point means an immense increase in the population of the surrounding territory, and a large part of it is sure to come from the states. At Collingwood the Cramps are about starting a steel plant expected to ultimately have thousands of men in its direct employ, and to require or furnish opportunity for accessory enterprises that will make a thriving city on the southern shore of Georgian Bay. On the five principal south-flowing tributaries of the St. Lawrence, in Ontario and Quebec, the juxtaposition of water powers and forests is resulting in the rapid development of pulp mills and other enterprises, largely backed by Yankee money, which will shortly be in a strong position to attract, and will, also, provide such opportunities as will stay in large measure, the departure of native workmen, which has been so constant in the past.

The utilization of the immense resources which lie between the Saguenay and Lake Winnipeg has, practically speaking, been going within the past five years. It is going forward now at a surprising rate, and the evidences of it will be notably evident in the next decennial enumeration.

STORM WARNING.—A severe storm may be expected every day of the week in all domestic circles where HUDSON'S SOAP is not in regular daily use. A packet will prevent it.

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Gurney-Oxford Stove Store, F.G. BRENTON, Manager, 382 Richmond St., London.

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