

London Advertiser.

(Established by JOHN CAMERON, in 1853.)

THE LEADING DAILY IN WESTERN ONTARIO

SWORN CIRCULATION.

MONTREAL AGENCY. - A. McKim & Co.
LONDON (ENG.) AGENCY. - H. FREEMAN
86 Fleet street, London, Eng.

Advertising and subscription rates furnished on application.

Address all communications -
THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY
(Limited),
LONDON, ONTARIO.

London, Tuesday, Jan. 22.

Advance in Astronomy, Too.

Astronomy is an ancient science. It is truly the Celestial Empire among the sciences; some of the sciences are new-born creatures of yesterday, and some branches of astronomy are quite new, but the beginning and center of this important branch of learning is very old. Thoughtful men of an observing turn of mind have always felt a wonderful fascination in the study of the stars; in fact, it has been to many a religion as well as a science. While the old fables of astrology have passed away, the advance of astronomical science has shown the influence of the heavenly bodies upon the life of earth is much more subtle and varied than was supposed. Sir Joseph Norman Lockyer, K.C.B., in beginning his review in the New York Sun, says: "In looking back over a century's work in the oldest of the sciences, one is struck not only by the enormous advance that has been made in those branches of the science dealing with the heavenly bodies which were cultivated at least 8,000 years ago by early dwellers in the Valley of the Nile, Tigris and Euphrates, but with the fact that during the century that is passing away a perfectly new science of astronomy has arisen by annexing physics and chemistry. Astronomers now study the motions of the particles of which all celestial bodies are composed; a new molecular astronomy has now been established side by side with the old molar astronomy, which formerly alone occupied the thoughts of star gazers." He then begins with the work of W. Herschel in 1776, and its gift to the beginning of the nineteenth century, and from that point traces the rapid and large advance that has been made.

As we read this review, we see that men of various nations have taken part in the movement, and like every other great line of progress, it has been the outcome of much unselfish, and we might even say heroic, effort. Much of this article, though as popular as such a contribution can be made, with the subjects, "Celestial Photography," "Catalogues of Stars," "Some Achievements of Mathematical Analysis," "Stellar Evolution," "The Connection Between Solar and Terrestrial Weather," etc., show that the nineteenth century has done much. However, we are thankful to say that there is in these spheres also something left for the twentieth century. One such point is mentioned, namely, the strange marking seen in Mars and other planets. Mr. Percival Lowell does not hesitate to proclaim himself in favor of their being due in Mars to an intelligent system of irrigation. Signor Cerrull claims that wherever seen they are mere optical defects. We may well be content to leave to a later date a general agreement on this interesting subject.

Speaking about the first quarter of the century, the writer says: "England, which was at one time the exclusive seat of the manufacture of refracting telescopes, was now completely outstripped by both Germany and France, and for this we have to thank the short-sighted policy of the Government, which had placed an exorbitant duty on the manufacture of refracting glass." Thus we see that there was a close relation between science and political economy, and exorbitant duties were as stupid then as now. But England has learned much in the realm of economics since then. When we came to the beginning of the third quarter of the century, we are told, "The long supremacy of Germany in the matter of refractors was broken down ultimately by the famous English optician and engineer, Thos. Cook, of York. His first considerable instrument, one of seven inches aperture, was finished in 1851, and in 1855, a year before his lamented death, he completed the first of our present giant refractors, one of 25 inches aperture, for Mr. Newall, of Gateshead." Thus we see that the Englishman, though some times slow, does not easily give up the race. Another interesting point is the investigation into the causes of the Indian famines, of which we have heard so much of late. There seems to be a connection between things so distant as famines in India, and spots on the sun, so we are not surprised at any such coincidences as the following: "Famines in India are generally years of low flood in Egypt." We hope, however, that from such investigations results will flow that may lead to preparing for the periodical emergency.

Astronomy also has its sensations. "Uranus, a planet unknown to the ancients, was discovered by its movement among the stars, by William Herschel, in 1781. It was not until 1846 that another major planet was added to the solar system, and this discovery was one of the sensations of the century." The story of the independent discovery of Neptune by Adams and Le Verrier, who were both driven to the conclusion that certain apparent irregularities in the motion of Uranus were due to the attraction of another body tra-

veiling on an orbit outside it, has often been told. The subsequent discovery of the external body not far from the place at which their mathematical analysis had led them to believe it would be seen, will forever be regarded as a fine triumph of the human intellect.

The Senate.

If the vacancies to the Senate are from time to time properly filled; if as great care is taken with reference to the qualifications of those appointed to the Senate as is taken with reference to those appointed to the bench, then the Senate will become a body of able men to whom it will be properly esteemed a high honor to belong, and good would be sure to result to the country.

The House of Commons is the elective chamber, and it is today regarded as preferable to be a member of the House of Commons than of the Senate; but we believe that view of the matter could be considerably changed by making the best available appointments.

There are always a number of men in the House of Commons who, though elected, have no aptitude for the work of such a position, and many who sit only a term, and who never in reality enter into the work of legislation. The work on both sides of the house is done by a few. A man is not long a member of the house before being weighed by his fellow members and assigned his place.

At a recent banquet there was some discussion with reference to the fact that the leading lawyers today had not entered politics, and the names of Christopher Robinson, B. B. Osler and others were mentioned. The idea might be extended. The leading men in other professional callings, the leading business men, the leading bankers, the leading men in every walk of life might do much good if they entered public life. But there are many first-class men who will never seek election to any position, and who could not be induced to enter into a political contest.

The Senate is supposed to act as a sort of check on any tendency towards undue rashness on the part of the House of Commons. It does not often originate legislation. There are in the Senate today first-class men, such as the leader, the Hon. David Mills, the Hon. R. W. Scott, Senator Gowan, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Sir John Carling and others, all with much experience. It cannot be denied, too, that there are some too old to be there, and as the total number to be appointed is not large, great care should be taken that those appointed are well qualified to assist in perfecting the work of the House of Commons—men who will realize the responsibility of their task and discharge their duties with fidelity.

Not to deal with London names, Mr. A. T. Wood, ex-M.P. for Hamilton, has been mentioned for the vacancy caused by the death of Senator McInnes, and he has all the qualifications. In Toronto such names as Robert Jaffray, George Gooderham, Thomas Long, Christopher Robinson, the Hon. S. H. Blake, B. B. Osler and many others have been mentioned.

What we wish to emphasize is that the Senate may become not less important in its place than the House of Commons if every appointment to it is made with care. If the House of Commons knows its work is to be carefully scrutinized by a capable Senate it will be more careful in its work, and through the Senate the country might get the benefit of the work of some of its best men not likely to seek election to the House of Commons.

The Senate today would possibly be the better place to develop a young man, i. e., if a supporter of the views of the Government; because in the House of Commons there is very little a young man can do if a supporter of the Government and not a member of the cabinet. If he is a member of the Opposition he may, of course, slash away; the road is open to him, and in all probability he will come to the front. But there would be work for him in the Senate that would be likely to develop the statesman rather than the politician. Let none but the best appointments be made to the Senate. And let it be ascertained in advance whether one intends to regard it as obligatory to be present at the sessions, or whether he proposes to regard the Senate as merely a pleasant occasional club. Guard its seats as sacredly as a seat on the bench is now guarded.

Owing to the Queen's illness, the Guelph banquet to Mr. Guthrie, M. P., and the Brantford dinner to Premier Ross, have been respectively postponed.

PARAGRAPHS ABOUT PEOPLE.

The Mail and Empire staff in all its departments held its annual dinner on Saturday night last. Its chief incident was the presentation to Mr. W. J. Douglas, general manager of the newspaper, with a fine oil portrait of himself, as an expression of the loyalty and affection of the whole institution to its head. An illuminated address accompanied the portrait. Mr. Douglas has been connected with his paper, boy and man, for something like a quarter of a century. His ability as a general manager goes well in double harness with his urbanity of disposition. The Advertiser wishes Mr. Douglas many additional years of increasing success.

The Rev. Dr. Thompson, of Sarnia, is at present delivering a series of lectures on "Pastoral Theology," at Queen's College. The minister of St. Andrew's, Sarnia, has always taken a warm interest in Queen's, and has shown it by contributing both his time and money. If many lecturers had the ability and disposition of Dr. Thompson in this matter, it might be possible

to carry on college work without aid of governments or appeals to the people. However, that is not possible. The ordinary professor must live, and he cannot live on air, or even on appreciation, which is sometimes quite as thin. All the more does Dr. Thompson's action deserve public recognition, when, as a minister who has served one congregation faithfully for 35 years, he enters the academic arena to give the candidates for the ministry the benefit of his experience. The practical side of the minister's life is of great importance.

EVENTS IN THE QUEEN'S HISTORY.

The Coronation of the Young Princess.

Her Marriage to the Object of Her Early Affection, Prince Albert—Her Later Responsibilities, Joys and Sorrows.

Victoria Alexandrina, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, was born at Kensington Palace, May 24, 1819. She was the sixth sovereign of the House of Hanover, and the only child of Edward, Duke of Kent, who was the fourth son of George III., and the Princess Victoria Mary Louisa of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld, relict of the hereditary Prince of Leiningen. Her father died in 1820. Neither George IV., nor his brothers having living legitimate issue, Victoria became heir-presumptive to the throne in 1830 on the accession of her uncle, William IV. Her governess was Baroness Lehzen, daughter of a Hanoverian clergyman, who took general charge of Victoria's education from the age of 5 years. The Rev. George Davys was also her regular instructor, and specialists were employed to teach certain branches. She became proficient in music and in drawing, and it is said that at the age of 11 years she could speak French, Italian and German, and had made a good beginning in Latin and Greek. At this early age, too, she commenced a systematic study of the British constitution. She was also directed into an unusually thorough knowledge of general history. In the meantime, her physical training was not neglected. She had plenty of exercise and play and became an admirable horseback rider. The young princess entered court life at the age of 18, when she made her appearance there as heir-apparent to the throne. At this age she had attained her legal majority, and was soon to be called upon to fill the role of sovereign of that aggregate of nations called the British Empire.

THE CORONATION OF THE YOUNG PRINCESS

was probably the first great event of her life. The summons came in a dramatic manner. At half-past two o'clock on the morning of June 20, 1837, King William died. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Conyngham started for Kensington Palace. They arrived at early dawn, and after knocking at the gates for some time, aroused the servant and requested to see "The Queen" immediately on business of state. Soon after, the young Queen entered, clad in a dressing-gown and shawl, and with slippers on her feet. It is recorded that when the archbishop made the formal announcement of her accession to the throne, her first words were, "I ask your prayers on my behalf."

Following the death of King William, a meeting of the privy council was called for 11 o'clock on June 21, 1837. One hundred and six lords, peers and court dignitaries formed this body, few of whom had seen the young Queen, who was to control the destinies of a great empire.

The young princess entered this room with dignified tread, bowed to the assemblage, took her seat, and read her declaration. Members of the council were sworn to allegiance, kneeling, and kissing her hand. She afterwards received the foreign ambassadors, who were presented to her one by one.

Greville speaks of this scene as follows: "Never was there anything like the first impression she produced, or the chorus of praise and admiration which was raised about her manner and behavior, and certainly not without justice. It was extraordinary, and something far beyond what was looked for. Her extreme youth and inexperience naturally excited intense curiosity to see how she would act on this trying occasion, and there was a considerable assemblage at the palace, notwithstanding the short notice which was given."

She bowed to the lords, took her seat, and then read her speech in a clear, distinct and audible voice, and without any appearance of fear or embarrassment. She was quite plainly dressed, and in mourning. After she had read her speech and taken and signed the oath for the security of the Church of Scotland, the privy councillors were sworn, the two royal dukes first by themselves; and as these two old men, her uncles, knelt before her, swearing allegiance and kissing her hand, I saw her blush up to the eyes, as if she felt the contrast between their civil and natural relations, and that she was the only sign of emotion which she evinced. Her manner to them was graceful and engaging. She kissed them both and rose from the chair and moved toward the Duke of Sussex, who was old and infirm. She seemed rather bewildered at the multitude of men who were sworn, and who came, one after another, to kiss her hand, but she did not speak to anybody, nor did she make the slightest difference in her manner or show any in her countenance, to any individual of any rank, station, or party."

"She went through the whole ceremony with perfect calmness and self-possession, but at the same time with a graceful modesty and propriety particularly interesting and ingratiating." The ceremonies and splendor attending the coronation of the young Queen have seldom been approached in modern history. The dawn of June 28 found London in a fervor of anticipation. The royal procession was the cynosure of the occasion. In addition to the troops were twelve royal carriages, each with two women and two men, drawn by six horses. Then came the Queen's state coach, drawn by eight cream-colored animals, with flowing manes and tails, attended by a yeoman at each wheel and a footman at each door. The elder James Gordon Bennett, writing as an eyewitness, says of the scenes at Westminster Abbey:

"But of all the sights in the Abbey the entrance of the young Queen was the most beautiful and splendid. There she was, walking up the steps leading to the royal platform, where stood the holy St. Edward's chair, the throne, etc. She looked quite short in stature, but, nevertheless, she bore herself with much dignity. On her fair brow she wore a dazzling circlet of gold and precious stones."

"Her crimson train, ten or twelve yards in length, was borne by eight young ladies of the highest rank. These eight train-bearers were tall and majestic, and also beautiful. Their head-dresses were adorned with lofty white plumes. It was really quite interesting to see the little girl bearing herself so well. In that part of the building, where the ladies expressed a deep interest on her appearance. 'Poor thing, they will smother her!' 'Sweet little girl, they will kill her with grandeur!'"

On Feb. 10, 1840, Queen Victoria married her cousin, Prince Albert. The wedding ceremony took place in the royal chapel of St. James' Palace. When Queen Victoria came to the

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An opportunity such as this occurs but very seldom. Of course there are sales and sales. The great majority, however, only touch particular lines, unseasonable goods and out-of-date articles.

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throne in 1837 the royal family had dwindled to meagre proportions. The Queen's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren living today number 73, and she has lived to see the third generation of direct heirs to the British crown. Her majesty's four sons and five daughters are: Empress Frederick, the Prince of Wales, Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse, Duke Alfred of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Princess Christian, Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne, Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Albany, and Princess Henry of Battenberg.

The Queen has not escaped the human lot of sorrow. In 1862 her beloved husband died. The fine lines of the late poet laureate, concerning the death of the Prince Consort, will be recalled, now that the sands of her life have run low:

Break not, O woman's-heart, but still endure;
Break not, for thou art Royal, but endure.
Remembering all the beauty of that state,
Which shone so close beside Thee that ye made
One light together, but has past and leaves
The crown a lonely splendor.

May all love,
His love, unseen but felt, o'ershadow Thee.
The love of all Thy sons encompass Thee.
The love of all Thy daughters cherish Thee.
The love of all Thy people comfort Thee.
Till God's love sets Thee at his side again!

She has not only felt the anguish that arises from the death of relatives and friends, but the nation's sorrows have been hers as well. Of all the years of her long reign, the time when the flower of the British army seemed to wither on the South African veldt, appeared to bring her more grief. She was a woman of broad sympathies and tender feelings, and her paramount position as sovereign was no barrier to the performance of acts of kindness to the suffering and needy. The succession of Queen Victoria has formed a

NEW EPOCH IN BRITISH HISTORY.

It is true thirty-seven years of last century had elapsed when Queen Victoria was crowned, but they were years which meant little of the fulfillment of time allotted to her rule. "The Victorian era" has been accepted by all the world as a term representative of the fullest of the nineteenth century. Wars have altered the map of the world, states have risen up, lived their brief lives and gone down, carrying governments and rulers with them. Through it all the British government has stood intact, except as it has developed into an empire upon which the sun never sets.

During her reign there have been eleven lord chancellors, five archbishops of Canterbury, and six of York; Canada has had ten governor-generals; in the United States there have been seventeen presidents; France has had one king, one emperor and six presidents; the throne of Prussia has been occupied by five kings, and Russia has had three emperors. During her reign also she has witnessed the statesmanship of ten prime ministers. She has probably seen a greater panorama of men and events than has any other personage.

There have been
WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS during her reign. These have been inseparable from the maintenance of the integrity of so vast an empire. While the results of these conflicts are of var-

ious degrees of importance, the Union Jack has become a terror to all wrong-doers, and a protection for all who seek justice, and are willing to extend that freedom and liberty to others which they enjoy.

Should Be Careful.

[Buffalo News.]

Aguiñaldo has been dead for a week this time. He should be careful. He will stay dead one of these times.

Not Catching.

[Philadelphia Times.]

These Boer intrusions in the Transvaal are taking on the character of epidemics, but Kitchener's troops can't catch any of them.

How Is This, Umpire?

[Dominion Presbyterian.]

Instead of approaching the legislature to secure the use of the Bible in public schools as a text book, might it not be as well to secure the reading of that book in the home before the pupil is sent off to the school?

City's Own Electric Lighting.

[Review in New York Outlook.]

Success has followed the policy of permitting cities to supply their own electric lighting. In Detroit, where the lowest bid offered by a private company in 1888 was \$130 per light per year on a one year's contract, and \$102 on a ten year's contract, the cost under public ownership, including interest on capital invested and depreciation, is now but \$68 per light.

How Are Your Nerves?

If they are weak and you feel nervous and easily "frustrated," can't sleep, and rise in the morning unfreshed, your blood is poor. Strong nerves depend upon rich, nourishing blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes the nerves strong by enriching and vitalizing the blood. It gives sweet, refreshing sleep and completely cures nervous troubles. Begin taking it today. Nausea, indigestion are cured by Hood's Pills.

The exports of Great Britain are practically at a standstill.

Pale sickly children should use Mother Graves' Worm Expeller. Worms are one of the principal causes of suffering in children and should be expelled from the system.

Children Cry for
CASTORIA.
CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

Children Cry for
CASTORIA.

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CASTORIA.