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A FRIEND OF CANADA. It is observing to observe that some of Canada's best and most appreciative friends are Englishmen who have lived long enough in this Dominion to know its people and to estimate its resources.

A SMALL BUSINESS. The grit penny whistles are doing their little best to alarm the country by looking about the immensity of Mr. Cookburn's expenses for Canada at the World's Fair.

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Lorne, Indiana, are satisfied with their own country, their own form of government, and if they desire any change in their relations with Great Britain it is that these relations may be closer than they are now and more mutually beneficial.

"They are," as Lord Lorne says, a little further on in the article we are considering in "alliance with, not in dependence on, the old country. They have themselves proved their own patriotism and are giving a place among the nations of the world. They make their own commercial arrangements in concert with the Imperial Government, and they have a position unique as it is enviable. In art, in industry, in literature, and in national life, whether shown by their success in great public works or by the ordered advance of their towns and country populations, they have made immense progress since they united in the Dominion. They have triple signs of success in the variety of their territories. There are the Eastern forests and farms; the Central prairies, rich, healthy and full of coal; the Western slope with its alps and woods, minerals and wondrously beautiful seaboard. What wonder if they see with equanimity that others do not grasp the ideas they have realized in the possession of so much good. They can afford to labor and to wait, for each decade makes hope grow into assurance and dispenses doubt amongst themselves."

It is a good thing for Canadians to be reminded of their advantages, their opportunities and the splendid future that awaits them, for if they listened to the walling of the school of dismal prophets that has risen up among them they would lose heart and cease to develop the magnificent resources which they possess.

Lord Lorne is by no means a bigoted free trader; he sees the utility of trying to persuade the inhabitants of a new and rich country that they should not attempt to foster their infant native industries. "Whether defensible or not by a purely philosophic argument, there is no doubt that every rising nation will naturally proceed to such imposts on goods not made at home, but which may be produced at home. A young country tries as soon as possible to be represented in all departments of national existence, and to have home-made articles in preference to those made out of the country. There is, therefore, little use in arguing the point." So far, indeed, from being an out-and-out free trader Lord Lorne evidently favors a commercial union between the mother country and the different parts of the Empire, under which all the parties to it will discriminate in trade in favor of each other, as against the nations outside the British Empire. In this he thinks that it would be wise for Great Britain, at least to a certain extent, to follow the example of the United States. What Lord Lorne says on this subject is significant: "They in Canada, in Australia and in the Cape stretch hands to the old mother and cry: 'Treat us as your children, and give our goods some advantage in your market, and we will fight for you.' As yet England is deaf to their cry. Perhaps some day she may find that the most purchase her distant children's goods is to support at a higher price than she would be obliged to now. To such fears it is needless to point out the foreigner like the Englishman thinks only of what is best for himself. His duties are as high and only as high as he thinks it will be profitable to himself to have them. The only way to raise such all-round self-interest to a sense of the necessity of union is to show that persistence in extreme dogma must bring isolation in times of danger as well as in times of peace."

"A SMALL BUSINESS." The grit penny whistles are doing their little best to alarm the country by looking about the immensity of Mr. Cookburn's expenses for Canada at the World's Fair. He received no salary for his services. The Dominion paid his expenses. It can easily be understood that the expenses of a man in such a position could not be small. He represented Canada among the representatives of many countries and it might be expected that he would worthily fill the position. The expenses amounted to \$4,425. Mr. Cookburn like an honest man accounted to the Government for every cent of the money. The grit small politicians, after they had examined the bills, set up a terrible clamor about paying for blocking the Commissioner's shoes, for washing his shirts, for the hire of horses, for meat and drink, etc., etc. It seemed a dreadful thing to them that the people of Canada should pay the expenses of the gentleman who represented them at the Chicago Exhibition. The people of the Province of Ontario paid Mr. Nicholas Awrey, who is no doubt a good fellow, \$6,378 for serving them in the same capacity as Mr. Cookburn served the people of the whole Dominion, yet the Conservative papers of the Province did not raise an outcry about the money paid for blocking Mr. Awrey's shoes and for washing Mr. Awrey's shirts. They knew that the man who represented so large a Province as Ontario at the World's Fair must be contentedly putting his hand in his pocket. Mr. Cookburn says the four thousand odd dollars was not nearly all that he, as Commissioner, was required to spend at the exhibition. His mission in the service of the people of the Dominion cost him some three thousand dollars besides. The Montreal Gazette says quietly but contentedly that the reason that the Opposition press did not raise an uproar about Mr. Awrey's expenses was that the Opposition in Ontario is Conservative, and adds: "Mr. Awrey must appreciate the fact that he has gentlemen for his opponents."

OBSESSED AND OBSESS-PLAYERS. The international match just concluded between this city and San Francisco seems likely to give a fillip to the practice of "thinking games" on the Pacific Coast generally. These delighted souls at yet innocent of its keen delights are apt to ask what manner of game can this be that keeps twelve "good men and true" fixed at a

table of checkered boards from sunset to sunrise, intently absorbed in their calculation, in plot and counterplot. Their surprise deepens at hearing that all this mental struggle, this display of wariness and circumspection, of fierce attack and stubborn defence, involves in the end no greater prize than the honor of winning. It was to enjoy "the earthquake shout of victory" that so many enthusiasts, forgetting alike domesticated personal fatigue, engaged in the intellectual and enthralling struggle. Can we not boast of reviving the glory of the ancient days when, like the simple wreath of wild olive, the victor in these modern Olympic games claims as his quarry nothing beyond the joy of hearing that the foe "resigns"?

As to the game itself, volumes have been written on its advantages as a means of mental discipline, by many authors in many lands, but the subject is apparently as far from exhaustion as its theory and practice. That in its antiquity no less than in its form, the pastime is unique, none may deny. The list of illustrious men and women who have partaken of its delights is in itself formidable. Setting aside the more or less apocryphal instances of Charlemagne and Timur, or to whom learned men are not agreed, chess can undoubtedly number amongst its devotees such brilliant examples as Philip II of Spain, Charles V of Germany, Catherine de Medici, Pope Leo X, Henry IV of France, Elizabeth, James I, Charles I of England, William of Orange, Cardinal Richelieu, Charles XII of Sweden, and the Son of Thunder, Napoleon Bonaparte!

"Age cannot wither it nor custom stale its infinite variety." As fresh and sparkling to day as when before the Christian Era the philosophers of the East were amusing themselves with what we moderns term Problems and End-games! In an ancient Persian manuscript preserved in the British Museum Chess is described as "the nourishment of the mind, the solace of the spirit, the polish of intelligence and the bright sun of understanding."

A CHEERFUL OUTLOOK. The address of Sir Donald A. Smith, President of the Bank of Montreal, at the annual bank meeting, which took place on the 3rd inst., contains some passages which throw a little light on matters about which there was some rather warm controversy in this city a short time ago. The tone of the President's address is cheerful and hopeful. He, perhaps better than anyone in Canada, is in a position to view the financial state of the country in its true light, and the great institution to which he belongs has a deep and a direct interest in the general welfare. It is not the habit of bank authorities to paint too bright a picture of the future. They are not given to over-statements in that direction. On the contrary, their advice to the public is invariably to be prepared for the "rainy days"—to be prudent and cautious in the conduct of business. Through the President and the General Manager of the Bank of Montreal do not this year depart from the traditional policy of their office, when they say is calculated to encourage and not to depress the business men of the country.

Sir Donald A. Smith believes, as most thinking men do, that the country has passed through a hard and a trying time, but, perhaps, than might have been expected. He said: "You will observe from the report just read that the net profits of the Bank during the past year show a decline of \$108,000 in round numbers, or less than 1 per cent upon capital, compared with the statement of the preceding year. While we could have desired a better result, under all the circumstances which which the Bank has had to contend, we consider it very satisfactory that the year has closed with a profit. The losses which have produced this result will be given more in detail by the General Manager. I would, however, anticipate his remarks with the observation that the year has been marked by quiet trade at home and by dull trade abroad, by declining prices, by keen competition among traders of the continent, and by difficulty in finding remunerative employment for capital, or in other words, by a continued prevalence of singularly low rates of interest. The period through which we have passed has not been remarkable in new events. A wide spread prostration of trade has occurred for many years past, and looking back on the traces upon the path of industry, commerce and finance made by that adverse wave we are glad to believe that they will be found less deep in Canada than in most countries."

Sir Donald A. thus directs attention to the soundness of Canada's financial condition: "In this connection let me draw your attention to the high rank which Canadian securities have maintained throughout the year. A leading English authority, writing recently on the appreciation of high class securities, remarked that 'Taken all round it will be seen that as compared with fifteen years ago the yield upon first class securities generally has declined upon an average of about 25 per cent, or in other words that capital values have risen to a corresponding extent, for one fact merely implies the other.' In the table supplied by this authority it appears that Canadian 4 per cent securities have risen 21 1/2 per cent since 1880, a higher rate than that of the bonds of any other British colony. The suggestion arises that, while as they will be found less deep in Canada, properly like the Bank of Montreal is owned, practically and exclusively in Canada, a comparison upon the lines indicated would not be without interest, and it will be satisfactory to the shareholders to learn that while since 1880 the value of the shares of the Bank of England has risen 25 1/2 per cent, of the London and County Bank 24 1/2 per cent, of the London and Westminster Bank 22 per cent, and of other principal British banks somewhat less, the value of the stock of the Bank of Montreal has advanced since 1880 by 50 per cent."

The President addresses evidence to show that trade is reviving in England, in the United States and in Canada. With regard to Canada he said: "It is, however, more particularly to the reasons which seem to warrant a hopeful outlook in our own country that I would draw your attention, because after all our prosperity as a people must mainly rest upon the trade conditions in Canada. These reasons

are neither few nor unimportant. If, for instance, we look at the clearing house returns of this city of Montreal during the past month of May, it will be found that the aggregate amount of the clearings has been \$27,142,200 as compared with \$23,294,200 in the corresponding month last year, and \$54,325,000 in May of 1893, the figures showing an undoubted improvement in business even as compared with two years ago. Then as to railway earnings you are doubtless aware that our two principal arteries of traffic have suffered a serious diminution in earnings since the continental depression set in, although as compared with United States railways, those in Canada cannot be said to have done badly. The point upon which we have to congratulate ourselves, however, is that since the beginning of the present year the profits of the Canadian Pacific railway show an improvement up to the close of April over those of the like period last year, the gain for the month of April alone being \$88,840, and that in the case of the Grand Trunk railway the receipts have risen from \$1,626,500 in 1894, to \$1,851,500 in the five weeks ending with May 25. From 1893 to 1894, therefore, we have, I think, fairly good reason to infer that the turn in the tide of business has come, in which view some confirmation may be found in the rising scale of prices both here and abroad.

The flourishing condition of the growing crop gives a good ground of hope that when the revival in trade is assured, this Dominion will be in a position to take advantage of it. Canada's resources are, as a speaker said, abundant, and he pointed to indications which show that the volume of the country's trade is bound to increase, even if there is a falling off here and there in some particular product.

The abundance of Canadian resources finds exemplification in trade exports, which show a value of \$38,895,600 of domestic products sent abroad from July 1, 1894, to May 1, 1895, as compared with an export of \$32,283,000 of Canadian products in the corresponding period of the preceding year, thus showing an increase in the value of the goods which have been able to find their way abroad of some \$6,612,600. It is to be observed that the President of the Bank of Montreal is of the opinion that an increase of exports, independently of every other consideration, is an encouraging sign.

Mr. Clouston, the General Manager of the Bank of Montreal, an able and an experienced man of business, is of opinion that Canada has ridden out the commercial storm bravely and with but little damage to any of her interests. He, too, looks to the immediate future hopefully. He said: "Though the past year has not been a prosperous one it should be a source of great satisfaction to Canadians that the business community in Canada has come so well through the ordeal, and that we have escaped without serious disaster. In that we compare favorably with any other country. Indeed, it has been a great surprise to me how well we have stood it. It is too soon to say we are out of the woods, but in the United States there seems to be no doubt that the corner has been turned, and as Canada must always be affected in no small measure by the condition of affairs in that country, it is reasonable to suppose that here, too, the depression has spent its force. There is undoubtedly a more hopeful feeling, and though the improvement may be to a certain extent temporary, many must have benefited by the rise in staples, which—with the exception of butter and cheese—has been general. Still, much depends on the coming year, and until it is assured the danger is not over."

When men of wide and long business experience and of acknowledged ability like the President and the General Manager of the Bank of Montreal take a cheerful view of the present financial condition of the country and speak hopefully and encouragingly of the future, it is safe to pay but little attention to the croakings and the dismal predictions of men whose ability is small, whose outlook is narrow and whose experience is exceedingly limited.

GLOWING REPORTS. The crop report of the Manitoba Free Press is most encouraging. Its evening edition of the 7th inst. contains reports of the condition of the crops from the vast region lying between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains. "The verdict is unanimous," says the Free Press, "that the crops were never so far advanced at this date in any previous year and the prospects for an early and an abundant harvest prevail throughout the whole of Manitoba and the Territories where cereals are grown." The "early harvest" signifies a great deal to the inhabitants of this great wheat growing region, for it means that their crops will escape the "early frosts," which are the dread of the farmer in all parts of the Northwest. Here are a few specimens of the reports: "PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.—The crops throughout the plains never looked better than at present. The earliest of the crop that was sipped by frost in recovering nicely. The farms are very jubilant, and the prospect is bright. CABREY.—Crops here are looking first class and growing rapidly. It is said they have been days ahead of this time last year. Plenty of rain and everything favorable. Recent frosts did no harm."

MOOSMIN.—Farmers say that the prospects for a good crop in this district were never better than at present. The recent frost has done no harm. QU'APPELLE.—The crops in this vicinity are far more promising than they have been at this stage of the season for years. The total average under crop is 19,074, according to the assessment roll, an increase of 3,000 acres over last year. EDMONTON.—Crops are looking splendid in this district and are much further advanced than at this time last year. About a third more wheat than last year has been sown, and double the quantity of oats. Very little damage is reported to have been done by the frosts of last week. SOUTH.—The grain in this district is from three to four weeks ahead of the crops of the West. The prospects could not be brighter. CARBONATE.—Farmers say that grain of all kinds is one month ahead of last year,

and expect a heavy yield. No damage by frost. The territory over which these settlements extend is very extensive, yet the reports are very much alike, and all encourage. If the weather continues favorable, 1895 will be a glorious year for the whole of the Northwest. A SURE INDICATION. One of the most pleasant indications of the revival of business in the United States is the voluntary increase of wages given to employes by manufacturing and other business concerns. The New York Times, which has been collecting information and publishing reports since the beginning of April, says that up to the 5th of the present month the number of companies which have increased the wages of employes is 278, and the number of workers benefited is 184,000. The concerns are of many kinds and some of them are very large. The Consolidated Steel and Wire Company, Chicago, having increased in many places, give an increase of 10 per cent to 8,000 men. The increase which the Cambria Iron Co., Johnstown, Penn., accord to their 3,000 employes is 10 per cent, which is in addition to their pay roll of \$20,000. Among these prosperous concerns are woolen companies, manufacturers of cotton goods, foundries, rolling mills, an elevated railway company, mining companies, etc. The rate of increase is generally 10 per cent. The resumption of work in factories and other industrial concerns which had been for some time idle is another sign of the advent of good times. Bradstreet's shows that since the beginning of April work has been resumed in 227 industrial plants where it had been discontinued, and that by such resumption employment has been given to 53,400 persons. Nearly all the increases were voluntary on the part of the employers. "The strength and extent of the voluntary increase of wages," says Bradstreet's, "is indeed a most encouraging exhibition of the force of the underlying conditions of improvement of general trade throughout the country." The improvement in business, of which these voluntary increases of wages are the most convincing evidence, has reached Canada, and will no doubt extend before very long to every part of it.

THE HONEST TRUTH. Mr. Hugh John Macdonald said to an interviewer in Montreal: "There can be no doubt the law (the school law of 1890) was brought in force in a most brutal manner, and for purely political purposes. Those who kept themselves in power by their appeals in favor of national schools cared very little about the matter, yet they knew that by raising such a cry they would draw the public mind away from the shortcomings of the Government and its policy." Mr. Macdonald has the reputation of being the frankest and most candid of men. He is too outspoken and too little of a partisan to make a good party politician. What he says, therefore, about the spirit in which the Manitoba school law was passed and enforced may be regarded as an accurate description of matters as they existed in Manitoba. What Mr. Macdonald said of Manitoba is true of every country in which matters involving questions of religion are dragged into politics. Men who have no religious convictions worthy the name, and who do not care a straw for the matter to be decided upon, affect the most ardent zeal for the side which they take. These men are the most bitter and the most unscrupulous of controversialists. They use language which rarely conscientious and earnest men would not think of uttering, and they resort to arguments which are as unfair as they are offensive to those with whom they differ. Those who have witnessed such contests will admit that Mr. Macdonald has used the right word, "brutal." No other so effectively describes the means resorted to by the mercenaries of both sides. If only the honest man—those who are fully convinced in their own minds—took part in the contest, it would be conducted with moderation and decency; but when such subjects as this Manitoba school question agitate the public mind they are taken hold of by a number of scheming politicians whose only thought is how they can best make them serve their personal ambitions and their party purposes. The surest way to encourage and to develop hypocrisy in a community is to drag religion into politics.

A MINING JOURNAL. TO THE EDITOR.—I was pleased to see that there is some probability of a mining journal being published. This is a matter I have often thought of and wondered why something of the sort has not been started before. Of course starting a journal of this kind is rather a risky undertaking in a pecuniary way, as the number of subscribers would be somewhat small. My idea is that the government should help along such an enterprise, not merely subsidizing it, but by agreeing to take a large number of copies, and that these should be placed on the tables of the smoking or reading rooms of the principal clubs and fashionable hotels in London, Liverpool and Glasgow, and perhaps New York. But a journal like this must be a trustworthy and reliable one, such for instance as "South Africa," which one meets with everywhere. This publication gives an account of all the mines and what they are doing in Africa. Our mines in the upper country, if we are to believe half what we are told, are very rich; but unfortunately there is a great want of capital to open them up. I know of no better method of drawing attention to them than by circulating a reliable record of them, and also by some able lecturer describing them before some of the prominent institutions of Great Britain, and look at the millions of capital which have been put into South African mines during the last six months. GOLD QUARTZ. A healthy appetite, with perfect digestion and assimilation, may be secured by the use of Ayer's Pills, which cleanse and strengthen the whole alimentary canal and remove all obstructions to the natural functions of either sex, without any unpleasant effects.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD.

The Statue of the Father of Confederation Unveiled in Montreal.

A Demonstration of Heartfelt Esteem—Speech by the Governor-General.

(From the Montreal Star, June 6.) The sad sixth of June, already memorable as the day on which Canada lost the chief architect of her greatness, will henceforth be doubly memorable to Montrealers as the day upon which we of the Royal city did durable honor to the "loyal subject."

Amid the salutes of artillery reverberating from the slopes of old Mount Royal—and down the valley of the St. Lawrence; amid the shouts and huzzas of thousands of loyal and grateful Canadians assembled to do honor to the memory of the illustrious dead; surrounded by the military strength of an empire, as encircled in the guard of honor composed of the Canadian militia and cadets; and honored by the presence of perhaps the most representative gathering of prominent men and women ever assembled in the Dominion—Montreal's monument to the memory of the "old chief," the first Prime Minister of our young country, the "architect" of the "mother flag of Old England," the British institutions and the British system of government—Sir John Macdonald—was unveiled this afternoon by His Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, Governor-General of Canada.

After the arrival of the Governor-General, Sir Donald Smith made a few introductory remarks and called upon His Excellency to perform the ceremony of unveiling. As the large canopy dropped to the ground, an immense cheer went up from the vast assemblage. It was the spontaneous outburst of Liberal and Conservative alike to one whom all had recognized as the "Father of his Country," and who had been lovingly called Sir John by each and every one.

LORD ABERDEEN'S SPEECH. His Excellency said: "The memorial is now before you, and this solemn day will long be eloquent in commemorating a great career and in inspiring to high aims of patriotism and effort. This is a notable occasion, but even this great occasion and these imposing surroundings would not be truly adequate in relation to that which has brought us together unless this assemblage were not only numerous, but also representative and comprehensive. For this memorial, erected by citizens of Montreal, now belongs to the whole city, and not only to the whole city, but in no small sense to the whole Dominion, reminding us that those who truly serve their country deserve the gratitude and the esteem of all; and that those who may have differed from them on questions of policy and methods may justly unite as they do to-day in celebrating their fame. (Cheers.)

When Lord Rosebery unveiled the memorial to Sir John Macdonald in Westminster Abbey, he said—after alluding to the life and example of a patriotism which his life had been a lesson to us: "Let us be the shrine of this signal Statesman's resolve, that come what may, we too will remember his responsibility and not fall or flinch from it."

TO BE STARTED OUT. LONDON, June 10.—The special correspondent of the Associated Press in Armenia writes from Djeddah as follows: "The Turkish government, it is claimed, has just taken the preliminary steps in what may result in the massacre of Nestorian Christians in the mountains between the Taurus and the Persian frontier. The orders to starve out the independent tribes of Nestorians in the mountain region immediately west of Gawar, which may be described as lying about midway between Mosul and Lakevan, about fifty miles west of the Persian frontier. The orders, it is stated, are that no food supplies of any kind shall be allowed for the tribes, and that the independent tribes, and measures are said to have been taken to enforce these orders to the letter. This action is apparently taken as a means of compelling the independent tribes to submit to Turkish authority and to pay the taxes demanded by the Turkish government, and is regarded as the first serious attempt that the Turkish government has made to exert force from the independent tribes. From the earliest days of the history of the Ottoman empire these tribes have been independent of Turkish rule. They have paid no taxes and have acknowledged no allegiance to the Turkish government. The fact that the independent tribes have looked upon by the opponents of the Porte as merely a plausible excuse for the governments action. The Sultan has plenty of opportunity for knowing that the independent tribes are too poor to pay taxes, and that many of them make a living by going down to the villages of their less wretchedly poor fellow countrymen for the purpose of selling their produce. These poor creatures are to be starved because they will not share with the Sultan of Turkey the scraps of bread, the refuse bits of meat, and the odds and ends which they obtain by scavenging. Their homes are in a wilderness, mountain peaks and narrow, rocky valleys, where nothing will grow except a tuft of broom corn here and there in the crevices on the rocks of the mountain sides, and a few stocks of millet in a casual square yard of soil in the valleys. It is not difficult to forecast the probable result of the starvation of this race of beggars should the independent tribes not be correct. Drive desperate by hunger, the people will endeavor to obtain food from Gawar and other outside districts, and there will be fights with the Turkish troops, the villages will be attacked and some of the wretched people will be killed, and no man can prophesy where the persecution will end. "I have just returned," says the correspondent, "from a rapid journey to the Kurdish mountains for the purpose of investigating the report that fourteen villages had been attacked and devastated by a raid of Kurds last week. The original rumor had it that the Kurds had massacred many Christians and had carried off women and girls to the mountains. After riding day and night to reach the scene of the raid, I at length arrived at the Margeriv valley, which lies like the bottom of a boat between huge mountains covered from base to summit with almost unbroken expanses of snow. It was in this valley that the raid took place. It is said a band of Kurds from the mountains had indeed raided fourteen villages in this valley, but the raid was directed against other Kurds, and not against Christians. There were a few Nestorian Christians living in the valley, but they were not molested in any way."

Steamer Maude came in yesterday morning from Nanaimo with coal.