

**London Advertiser.**

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Managing Director **John Cameron**  
and Editor.

London, Wednesday, May 3, 1899.

**The Budget.**

Fielding delivered his budget speech yesterday under circumstances which made the task more agreeable than other finance ministers, have found it for many years. He struck the key-note when he said he had to deal with the most prosperous year in the history of the country. In his address we read a record of progress which should make every Canadian rejoice. Reduced to plain statements, we find that the total revenue for the year ending June 30 next will be \$46,632,398, and the expenditure \$42,026,028, the figures for May and June being estimated on the basis of last year's. This leaves the magnificent surplus of \$4,606,000, which may even be enlarged by the buoyancy of trade. The surplus for last year was \$1,723,713.

The increase of the net debt last year was \$3,417,802 and this year only \$1,700,000, compared with an average increase of \$6,000,000 per year under Conservative rule. With the approaching completion of the canals and the termination of the other large expenditures on railways and various public works, it is hoped that the additions to the debt will henceforth be decreased.

The per capita expenditure on consolidated fund last year was \$7.39—the lowest in fourteen years. If the old tariff of 1896 had been applied to the imports for the last nine months it would have yielded \$21,035,832. The amount actually collected was \$18,711,708, a reduction of \$2,324,124, or equivalent to the removal of \$3,000,000 in taxes for the whole year.

Thus we have lighter taxes and a decreased per capita expenditure going hand in hand with the expansion of trade, with the rapid development of the Canadian Northwest, and with the growth of industry in all parts of the country. The alarming increase of the national debt has almost been checked, while at the same time the Government have been spending large sums on railways, canals and harbors, for the perfecting of our transportation facilities, so that the producing interests may be brought into the most economical relations with their foreign markets.

The consensus of opinion will strongly approve Mr. Fielding's decision in making no changes in the tariff. To reopen that question would precipitate a discussion which would disturb business at a time when stability is above all things necessary to the continued prosperity of the country.

Mr. Fielding's admonition to the commercial community recalls the memorable advice given many years ago by Sir Leonard Tilley, who urged the business men to "clap on all the sail possible." Mr. Fielding, with more prudence, warns them against anything in the nature of a boom, and pleads for a wise and cautious use of present opportunities.

**The Bear's Paw Reaching Out**

One is not astonished to find a determined attempt being made by Russia to get a greater share in the markets of the east than she already possesses. The current report that she has obtained large "concessions" in Persia gives point to a recent article that appeared in the Transcaspian Observer. The writer blames the attitude of Great Britain for the recent energetic advance of Russia in Central Asia, inasmuch as she has blocked the entrance to the Mediterranean, while Russia, with growing population and industries, must find an outlet to a southern sea. "As Turkestan has begun to supply us more and more with raw cotton," says this interesting Russian writer, "so the Caucasus is beginning to develop her natural wealth. Great factories are already building to work up the raw materials of Turkestan. The cotton, silk and wool of Persia likewise present immense material for our exploitation if we cut a railway through Persia and make a more thorough acquaintance with the country. After the Emperor William's trip to Palestine the question of the railway can no longer be postponed. We must be before the Germans on the Persian Gulf. Neither in Persia nor in Mesopotamia must there be any other influence than Russia's."

This is a very decided statement, and there is little reason to doubt that it voices the aspirations of the great mass of the politicians and commercial men of the Russian Empire. The necessity for the course here outlined by this candid Russian authority, it is pointed out, is trade. To attempt to prevent the onward movement, the writer says, would cause war. A conquest of India, he remarks, with apparent complacency, would uproot England economically and reduce her to the level of Holland. As there is believed to be an understanding between Russia and Persia, this new design, in view of past achievements of the Russians, is not

out of the question, though we may expect to have Great Britain taking a hand in the affair before it is settled.

The Russians can no more be blamed for endeavoring to increase their territorial and political influence than can the British, and however disadvantageous it may be to the mother land to have her formidable rival extending her borders, who can deny the right of the Czar to do so, in face of the marvelous achievements in the same direction by the British people in the last century?

Great Britain cannot afford to adopt a dog-in-the-manger policy, though she can, speaking for the progressive and civilized world, well ask that her rivals shall agree to the policy of the "open door," which she herself has adopted—to so open up the derelict portions of the globe as to confer freedom on and promote progress among their inhabitants, while benefiting the human race as a whole.

**Following Canada's Footsteps.**

If an economic federation of the British Empire ever becomes a reality, Canada will be recognized as the pioneer. The agent-general of Tasmania is authority for the statement that three of the Australian colonies contemplate following Canada's example by granting a tariff preference to Great Britain. The Australian colonies, excepting New South Wales, impose protective tariffs not only against the outside world but against each other. Like Canada, they find their best market in Great Britain, and sound commercial instinct as well as sentiment and gratitude, should inspire a generous treatment of the mother country. When the Australian colonies become federated their tariffs will be made uniform, and it remains to be seen whether the preferential feature will be incorporated into their new fiscal policy. Should this prove to be the case the movement toward imperial federation on the basis of a customs union will be strengthened in Great Britain. But it must come of the mother country's own volition. If the priceless advantage of a preference in the British market is ever obtained it will be by convincing the British people of the good will and patriotic unselfishness of the colonies. These are the motives underlying Canada's preferential tariff and the British give us credit for them. We should spoil the splendid impression we have made by unduly urging a reciprocal favor. Our exceeding great reward is already apparent in the large impulse given British-Canadian trade.

Has "the bear that walks like a man" decided to act like a man?

The kindness of the European powers to China seems to be confined to making preparations for the funeral.

Everybody, especially every young man, should read the selected article, "Ask No Questions," in this issue.

The Hon. Joe Choate tells the British benchers that litigation is cheaper in the United States than in Great Britain. Perhaps he is right. The southern whites often save the expense of judge, jury and counsel in dealing with the negroes.

If our local contemporary, the Free Press, will turn up its files of three or four months ago it will find an editorial strongly reprobating the idea of prison labor competing in the open market. Now it abuses the Dominion Government for not slaughtering the binder-twine market with the prison-made article.

The Prince of Wales has lately become a great student of civil government, and is at present giving much attention to that of this country. — Cleveland Plaindealer.

That explains why the Prince became acquainted with Mr. Croker, of New York. Mr. Croker is thoroughly posted on American methods of government.

Rev. Eber Crummy, former dean of the Methodist University at Tokio, Japan, is the latest critic of our school system. The burden of his complaint is that the system "did not develop the intellect to a degree sufficient to induce young people to be interested enough to listen to a sermon." Is that the fault of the preacher or the pupil?

Gen. Booth seems to have decided on the place for his colony which is to relieve the pressure on the submerged tenth of London. At a banquet given in his honor by the Mayor of Perth, Western Australia, he announced his intention of establishing an industrial farm of 15,000 acres in the Collier district of that country. The terms are said to be \$100,000 down and \$50,000 a year on the balance.

The Filipinos seem to be at the end of their tether, and the Americans can safely be congratulated on their hard-earned triumph. A prolonged campaign would have damaged American military prestige, which now stands high in Europe. From a British standpoint, this would be deplorable, because the continent of Europe has come to regard the British and the Americans as of one blood and one race. The moral effect of this is of incalculable benefit to both nations.

The Winnipeg Free Press has issued a handsome illustrated supplement, devoted largely to the gold mining interests of Northwestern Ontario. It is a very interesting survey of the mining region of the Province, and contains a vast amount of information concerning its development. The leading properties are described in detail, with very effective pictorial aids. The present active operations promise

great results. Our contemporary is to be congratulated on its enterprise and generosity. It has rendered a service to the new Ontario by setting forth its magnificent resources.

American papers are quoting from the Conservative press of this country to the effect that there is a wholesale exodus to the United States. The only exodus apparent in Ontario is to be found in the columns of the Opposition papers. The latter must be highly pleased at their jeremiads being echoed across the line. It may help to check the genuine exodus from the United States into the Canadian Northwest. On the principle of "anything to hit Sifton," this is good political tactics.

Our esteemed contemporary, the St. Thomas Times, works itself into an eloquent tantrum against the Globe for its "small, contemptible and studied insult" against Sir Charles Tupper in omitting from its columns on the 27th ult., "all reference to the bestowal of the honorary degree" on the gentleman referred to. For this conduct the editor of the Globe is denominated "a mere whipper-snapper of the Canadian press," and sundry other things. There seems to be one slight defect in the premises upon which our St. Thomas contemporary builds its obnoxious edifice. If the Times will glance at the Globe of the 26th ult., it will find a full and generous report of the very proceedings which it says were purposely omitted.

**Observations.**

Some time ago The Advertiser reprinted from the London Spectator an interesting letter from Principal Grant, of Queen's University, favoring a tunnel between Scotland and Ireland. The editor of the Tuam Herald also reprinted the Spectator's note, which called forth an additional letter from Dr. Grant to the Herald. I am glad to believe it will be of interest:

Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, March 8, 1899.

My Dear Sir,—You paper of Feb. 27 received. Allow me to put before you the facts which seemed to me so significant that I wrote to the Spectator the letters to which you refer.

Learning last summer that Mr. Reid had built a trans-insular railway across Newfoundland, from a point 40 miles distant from Canada to the capital—St. John's—I visited the great and long-neglected island, crossing the 90 miles of water in six or seven hours, and then going by rail with the first mail and passenger train to St. John's. It is a point on the railway about 40 miles from the east coast of Newfoundland, where experts tell me there are excellent harbors, I noted in a river a vessel taking on freight for Britain. At this point I could see by the map that I was only about 1,700 miles distant from Galway. There is fact No. 1.

Fact No. 2 is that the number of passengers passing from this continent to the old world, especially between the months of April and December, is increasing, and will increase at an enormous rate. The feelings of affection for the home of their ancestors, now stirring the minds of millions in the United States will make every man and woman who can spare the money anxious to visit the old land. A great majority of these people dread seasickness. They travel in spite of that; but every steamer takes them past Ireland to Great Britain, or if they stop in Ireland, they know that they will have to endure seasickness again in crossing the channel to England. These are the data. It follows from them, that, given a tunnel between Ireland and Scotland, the great current of travel from this continent would no longer pass Ireland by, but would take the route by which the ocean voyager is cut in two, and then stay in Ireland for a time, enriching it, conscious that no sea voyage intervened between Ireland and Britain.

Now, why not do your part? The one thing needful is a survey to ascertain what the cost of a tunnel would be. That ascertained by the Imperial Government, private enterprise would soon construct it, and Ireland would become one of the great playgrounds of two worlds. Surely this is a matter on which Irishmen of all shades may agree. Have no questions in the House of Commons about the dead body of the Mahdi. Couldn't they ask questions about living issues? They can worry chief secretaries into granting big concessions. Couldn't they worry them or him to promise this little thing? Has Galway or the west of Ireland no member out of the 103 which Ireland has in the Imperial Parliament?

The tunnel is, of course, only one link of the chain, but it is an indispensable link. Given that and the rest will follow. The trouble I suppose is that this is a question which does not stir racial or religious animosities. It is one on which all Irishmen can agree. Therefore it excites no interest.

I am interested in it as a Canadian. I wish to see the enriching stream to which I have referred flow through Canada. We have constructed our railways to our eastern verge. We are holding out hands to you. We think that you should "get a move on."

Yours truly,  
G. M. GRANT.

**What Others Say.**

**Croker's Easy Job.**  
[New York World.]  
New York is certainly the easiest city in the world to govern. One man does it all and finds time to take a trip to England every summer.

**Dare Not Punish Them.**  
[Louisville Courier-Journal.]  
The negro hose was mutilated and burned in broad daylight, and many of the mob were recognized by reputable witnesses, including an ex-governor, and yet does anybody believe that Georgia will do anything to relieve herself of this stain by bringing a single member of the mob to justice? Or that any other state in Georgia's place would do anything?

**William's Bosh.**  
[Bobcaygeon Independent.]  
Germany feels hurt over Capt. Coghlan's after-dinner remarks in New York, about Dewey's message to Von Diederichs. The remarks were certainly not in good taste, but Divine Right William should not forget that he has himself made some after-dinner speeches, that as huge monuments of

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| Colored Dimities, white grounds, in spots, stripes and bias checks, elegant designs, for waists and dresses, 32 inches wide..... | White Piques, small and large cords, spots and fancy effects.....                              | French Cambrics, a special line in pink stripes and spots; regular 25c, for.....   |
| .....20c   | .....20c, 25c, 29c, 35c, 39c, 45c, 50c   | .....15c   |
| White Organzies, in French and Swiss, beautiful sheer goods.....   | White Ducks.....   | English Cambrics, light grounds, in wide, medium and narrow stripes, black and white, navy and white, cardinal and white, blue and white, green and white..... |
| .....20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c   | .....10c, 12½c, 15c, 20c, 25c  | .....12½c  |
| White Swiss Spotted Muslins, in small and medium spots, also floral effects.....   | White and Colored Satin Drills.....  | Fancy Cambrics, a special line, light grounds, wide width, stylish goods, regular value 12½c, for.....   |
| .....15c to 65c  | .....18c, 20c  | .....8½c   |
| White Lawns, 44 inches wide, very special at.....  | Fine English Galateas in navy, medium and light blue, plain and striped.....                   | Colored Chambrays, very special in pink and blue, plain and striped.....   |
| .....10c, 12½c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c   | .....15c, 20c, 25c   | .....12½c  |
|  | Mercerised Sateens, for waists and linings, plain, in black, cardinal, navy, royal, etc.,..... | Colored Ducks and Reversible Prints, a very substantial line, regular 12½c, for.....   |
|  | .....30c, 35c, 39c, 40c, 45c   | .....8½c   |

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"Girls, Harry Hawkins is just lovely."  
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**Simplify.**  
Life might be much easier and simple than we make it; the world might be a happier place than it is; there is no need of struggles, convulsions, despairs, of the wringing of hands and gnashing of teeth. We miscreate our own evils.—Emerson.

**Purely Control.**  
"Would you call Uncle Amos a stingy man?"  
"No; I should say he had all his generous impulses under perfect control."—Chicago Record.

**On Speculation.**  
There are two times in a man's life when he should not speculate: when he can't afford it, and when he can.—Pudd'nhead Wilson.

**THE STRIKES IN TORONTO**

Situation Generally Unchanged—Oligarch Makers Seem Nearest a Settlement.

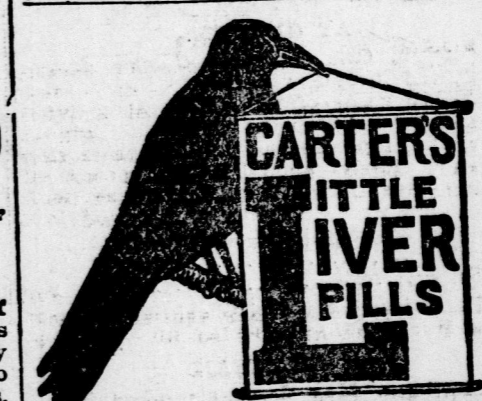
Toronto, May 3.—The condition of affairs in regard to the four strikes begun on Monday has not materially changed. The bricklayers have had no further negotiations with the builders, and are now out for 40 cents an hour. The molders are still unable to come to a settlement with their employers, although there have been hints at a compromise. The employers, it is said, are willing to sign the agreement as a body, while the men say they will accept this provided the names of the firms appear on the paper. The matter is still, however, unsettled.

The cigarmakers are the nearest to a settlement of any of the strikers. Nine of the fifteen shops have now agreed to the men's request, leaving six shops yet to settle with. Milligan & Co., of Yonge street, one of the largest firms, signed the new schedule, and asked for fifteen extra men, besides the forty they formerly employed.

The secretary of the strike committee of the Stonecutters' Union issues the following statement:  
"The differences between the Builders' Exchange and our association are on the question of an agreement. The Stonecutters' Association demand an agreement on the basis of 43 cents per hour, as has existed since June 2, 1896. The Builders' Exchange take issue and

refuse so far to make an agreement on the terms submitted by our association. We are therefore forced, in order to maintain our position, to cease operations until such time as a settlement has been arrived at."  
The following letter was received by Mayor Shaw from Controller Woods, and the contents were also made known to the men who are on strike: "As all bricklayers employed on city work are compelled to join their co-workers, who are out on strike at the present time, and as all city work is consequently at a standstill, I would ask you, as chairman of the board of control, to communicate with Controllers Burns and Lynd, and endeavor to secure their consent to the men returning to work at once, on the understanding that the city pay the amount asked, viz., 40 cents per hour, until such time as an amicable settlement has been arrived at between the bosses and the men, after such time adjustments to be made on the same basis as that arrived at between the employers and the workmen."

**FIGHT WITH INDIANS.**  
Victoria, B. C., May 3.—News of an exciting encounter between whites and Indians on the trail to Kluckwan and Boulder Creek, Alaska, is reported. Haines' trail committee, which had started to open a summer trail to Kluckwan and then to Boulder Creek, was attacked by two hundred strong and well-armed Indians. The United States authorities were appealed to, and the result that two chiefs and several bucks are now prisoners. They have been locked up pending Judge Seibreg's action in the matter.



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