# London Adbertiser. Established by John Cameron in 1863.]

Managing Director John Cameron and Editor.

### London, Friday, Jan. 13, 1899.

The Victory in West Elgin. The sober second thought of West Elgin spoke yesterday in a most emphatic manner. Mr. Macnish's majority of 244 represents a gain of that many votes, the result at the general

election being virtually a tie. The Hardy Government by this victory also gains two seats on a division of the House. It has now a majority of 12 members, the parties standing: Liberals, 53; Conservatives, 41. This includes the protested seats, North be hung up in the courts until after the istic creeds are inspired by unselfish Waterloo and South Perth, which will next session. If Dr. Lackner, the Con- altruism, but we think no prescription servative elected in North Waterloo, is for social ills will prove a real remedy unseated, the Liberals will probably if its effect is to stifle or discourage redeem the riding. In South Perth, Mr. the Moscrip, Liberal, was elected by the narrow majority of 4, but should there be another contest, this will be increas- deeply implanted in the Anglo-Saxon ed. The Government, therefore, has nothing to lose in any event.

The Government's majority in an assembly of 94 members is a large one, and assures the Administration a clear course for the progressive and patriotic measures to which it is pledged. The return of Mr. Macnish will be very leagues, who recognize in the member for West Elgin one of their ablest supporters, and a man who edds to the distinction of the House.

#### Canadian Goods Going Every. where.

That aggressive Conservative paper, the Toronto World, has been expatiating on the prosperity of local indus-

It is very gratifying to know that Toronto factories, like our own, are running full blast, many of them overtime. We are also pleased to hear that Toronto factories, like some of our own, find large and growing markets in reign countries.

The World tells us, among other ngs, that the Gurney stove foundry shed to keep up with orders from at Britain. Canadian bicycles ore being shipped to all parts of the th. A World reporter visited Toronland, wheels for Japan, wheels for

rance, wheels for Australia." Our manufacturers are selling their ares abroad in competition with the orld, just as our farmers must sell eir surplus products abroad.

narkets of course need no protection n the home market.

It would not be surprising, therefore, if they became the strongest advocates cheaply by reducing the taxation on the elements of manufacture.

#### The New American Ambassador. The selection of Hon. Joseph Choate as American ambassador to Great Britain is definitely announced.

This accomplished lawyer, scholar and gentleman will no doubt prove a worthy successor to the long line of notable men who have graced this position and honored their country in the eyes of the British people. The United States has invariably paid Great Britain the compliment of sending its most brilliant sons to the court of St. James. Mr. Choate's appointment is no exception to the rule.

It is an anomaly calling for some comment that many of these distinguished representatives had no previous experience in public life in their own country. Mr. Choate has never been an office-holder at home, nor even an active politician; yet he is perhaps better qualified for his new post than any other man in the republic. No European Government, however, would think of sending other than a trained diplomat as ambassador to a foreign power.

Unlike other nations, the United States has had no school of diplomacy. The republic's traditional policy of nonintervention has rendered the duties of its foreign ministers merely perfunctory, as a rule. The success of an American ambasador in Great Britain has been always gauged by his social and intellectual qualities. He had little or no political work to do. But since the United States has said good-bye to its isolation and become a world power, all this must be changed. The republic in its imperial march must enter on the devious diplomatic path which all Europe treads. It is playing a new game, and it must know the cards, or It will be no match for its practiced rivals. It is beginning to awake to this necessity; a step has been taken by the establishment of a school of diplomacy and international jurisprudence

at Washington. Meanwhile, the fact that the republic chooses its typical men to represent it abroad from among those in private life as in the case of Mr. Choate-is not flattering to its political institutions. Does it not indicate that the best elements of the nation avoid domestic politics? Why should men like Choate prefer serving their country abroad to serving it at home? It is not so in Great Britain. The British Parliament people may well ponder on the causes

#### Socialism.

We have received a communication from Mr. Malcolm Westland, of Apple Grove, Westminster, who alludes to a recent editorial in The Advertiser, in which it was pointed out that the German working classes were becoming less enamored of the campaign for theoretical Socialism, and were more disposed to agitate, like their British brethren, for such amelioration as they can obtain under present economic conditions. Our correspondent is inclined to doubt the statement, but we think he cannot disprove it, as we merely cited a fact, which has been widely commented on in British and continental journals. Mr. Westland confines himself to an academic discussion and defense of Socialism, although we made no attack on Socialism at the time. We have no doubt that many of the exponents of Socialspirit of individualism, which the mainspring of human pro-18 gress. This sturdy individualism is character, and has impelled the race to its highest achievements.

#### A Warning.

The editor of Appleton's Popular Science Monthly preaches a practical sermon in the January issue on what gratifying to Mr. Hardy and his col- he calls "An Example of Social Decadence." The voice that calls for peace has sounded from Russia, but from that quarter other voices come which are not quite so pleasant. Although the Russian Government is a despotism, and the American a free republic, the editor is of opinion that the one country may learn important lessons from the other, in this case, lessons of warning. With this in view, he commends to the "students of social science the study of the condition of the inhabitants of the black-earth region of Russia." It is a case of "the frightful havoc wrought by the abridgement of individual freedom and the seizure of private property in the form of taxes for public purposes."

One may say that is a thing that is always happening, and without which there could be no social life. Exactly! But he must remember that it has its limits, and it may be carried so far as to take away the incentives to indcycle factories, and saw "wheels for dustry, and then it not only degrades the people, it also defeats itself. The article on "The Principles of Taxation," written for the same magazine by the late Hon. David A. Wells, is instructive, not only in this but in many other particulars. But we must Those who have proved their ability not leave the concrete case before us. compete successfully in the open It appears that this black-earth region is one of the richest and most productive in the world, and yet, according to the testimony of Count Tolstoi, the people there are in a state of chronic of a still lower tariff, which would starvation The explanation is that enable them to produce even more they are robbed by the Government, and beaten by Government officials until they come to say: "Why should we trouble ourselves? We shan't get fat! If we can only keep alive!" When it comes to this the mischief is done and there sets in decadence of family and religious life until these wretched creatures regarded drinking and smoking as the only things worth living trade were not changed for sentiment, for. The only thing that rouses them is when they come into contact with "a sect of dissenters." Then their spirits rise and they make one more effort to improve their material condition.

What a damning indictment against political and ecclesiastical slavery! One would think that all this is very remote from the life of the American people, but Mr. Youmans, speaking of the only remedy, an enlargement of individual freedom, an uplifting of manhood, says: "It is to apply to them the same remedy that must be applied in the United States to save the American people, now so heavily taxed and so oppressed by countless laws, from the same social decadence that afflicts Russia." Along with this we must take the statement from another part of the same article: "It makes no difference either whether taxation is imposed by an imperial edict or by a legislate vote. The citizens that have to bear it against their will contribute money for purposes that some one else only approves of. The only difference between Russia and the United States is that this kind of despotism has been carried to much greater lengths in one country than in the other. If, therefore, we can find out what the effect has been in Russia we will be able to predict what the effect will be in the United States."

Either the editor is the victim of imaginary fears or there is something here for serious-minded Americans to consider very carefully.

The mayor and aldermen of Brecon, Wales, will attend Patti's wedding in their official robes. This is a very gracious concession to Patti's love of stage properties.

The Canadian and American lumbermen have laid their views before the International Commission, and, as was expected, they cannot agree. If the commission could only hear the consumers of lumber, the result would be different. But consumers play second fiddle to private interests.

The Cheese and Butter Association of Western Ontario holds its 32nd anattracts the intellect and character of | nual convention at Guelph on Jan. 17, the United Kingdom. The American 18 and 19. A capital array of speakers, including Hon. Sydney Fisher, Hon. which separate its greatest men from John Dryden, and several noted American dairymen, will furnish instruc-

tion. The list of subjects embraces every phase of Canada's great in-

If General Miles and Commissary-General Egan were Frenchmen or Hungarians, they would have a silly duel. Being sensible Americans, they will let the newspapers fight it out for them.

A community of Germans in the United States thinks of locating in Canada. Our German settlers have proved splendid citizens, but if any more of them come now they will be denounced by some Conservative papers as "nasty people." Anything to hit Sifton is the

The Ameer of Afghanistan is thought to be dying, and there are prospects of a first-class row over the succession to his throne. Britain or Russia may be compelled by "elevated philanthropy" to step in and save the Afghans from themselves. But once in will Britain or Russia step out? Ask history.

### WHAT OTHERS SAY.

## An Unpunished Crime.

[Chicago Record.] A number of women have been arrested lately for sending poisoned candy through the mails, but so far no woman has been punished for the brand of cigars she presented to her husband openly and above board at Christmas.

### Usual Order Reversed.

[Ottawa Journal.] In the case of the Liberal leadership in the Imperial House of Commons, the office appears to be looking for the man pretty hard.

#### Do Away With the Necessity. [Omaha World-Herald.]

The New York Herald boasts that New Yorkers spent \$26,000,000 in charity during 1898. Laying aside the question of why such a tremendous outlay was necessary in the midst of such boasted prosperity, we come to the question, When will some great city boast that it did not find it necessary to spend a dollar for charity? While we are congratulating ourselves that charity is provided in abundance let us not forget that it is our duty to strive for that condition when charity will not be needed.

#### The Way Our Tariff Works. [Hamilton Times.]

The Chicago Canadian-American has been looking into the working of the preferential tariff, and it finds that the facts do nos bear out the Tory contention that Canada's purchases from the United States have under it disproportionately increased. It says: have increased in volume, but so have all Canada's imports, while the latter from the United States have fallen off in percentage since the last tariff reduction favoring Britain went into effect. In 1896 United States exports to or the five months were 53 per cent; in 1897, 55 per cent. At this rate the increase in exports for 1898 should have been \$7,000,000, instead of \$5,000,-000; so Canada's purchases have been curtailed and not extended."

# An American Free Trader.

[New York Commercial Advertiser.] Time is coming when we shall copy the present navigation laws of Great Britain, as we shall copy her present tariff laws, as we are now using both tariff and navigation copied from those of the British before changed conditions caused them to be discarded for the present. British laws concerning but from practical gain. That which illuminated her mediaeval darkness was enlightened self-interest. We are as keen to see this as the British, and when it shines on us in the same way we shall change our policy. begin to see it as to the tariff and are becoming ready to discard protection as superfluous. Great Britain discarded it because the interests it helped were less important than those it hurt. It is not hurtful to us in any but the few cases where it increases cost of raw material of manufactures, since we do not import food; but it is rapidly becoming useless.

# LIGHT AND SHADE.

Sagacity.

Jaggs-My dear, you are getting better looking as you grow older. Your beauty appears to have doubled. Mrs. Jaggs-That will do, Mr. Jaggs. You've been drinking again!-Chicago News.

# Followed Him.

Jenkins-Why don't you have Dr. Equills any more for your physician?
Digby—Because when Dr. Squills was ill himself, I noticed he had Dr. Pills. Which showed he had more confidence in Dr. Pills than in himself. So now I have Dr. Pills, too.—Harper's Bazar.

#### Content. Then let us cheerfu' acquiesce Nor mak' our scanty pleasures less,

By pining at out state; And, even should misfortunes come-I, here wha sit, hae met wi' some, An's thankfu' for them yet-They gie the wit of age to youth; They let us ken oursel';

They mak' us see the naked truth, The real guid and ill: Though losses an' crosses Be lessons right severe There's wit there, ye'll get there, Ye'll find nae other where.

### -From Burns' "Epistle to Davie." Never.

"My dear," said a gentleman to his "our club is going to have all the home comforts." "Indeed," replied she, 'and when is our home going to have all the club comforts?"-Exchange.

#### The Uninformed Goat. 'Oh, my dear daughter (to a little girl of six) you should not be frightened and run from the goat. Don't you know you are a Christian Scientist?" "But, mamma (excitedly) the billy goat don't know it."-Saturday Evening

To be entirely relieved of the aches pains of rheumatism means a deal, and Hood's Sarsaparilla

Harkness' Bronchial Syrup cures coughs and cr'As

The Rights of the Workman Discused by Prof. Bascom.

He Should Insist on a Reasonable Standard of Life.

On Him Depends the Consumption and Production of a Community-Highest Production Demands a Minimum

[Prof. John Bascom, LL.D., in the New York Independent.]

The first distinctive expression of a vigorous trade-union is collective pargaining. By this means the equilibrium is partially restored between the employer and employe in making the contract of labor. A manager who hires a thousand men and deals with them singly has a power, a personal liberty, out of all proportion to that of any one of these men in framing the agreement between them.

This want of balance is partially rectified by a contract which includes the entire thousand. Two parties, of proximate equality, confront each other in this most vital social relation, the giving and receiving wages.

The second distinctive measure of a ich has been but trade-union-one slowly ripened out to a protracted and painful experience—is that of a minimum wage. It is a measure, like coliective bargaining, that cannot exist aside from a firm combination among workmen. A minimum wage means that a trade-union under no circumstances will accept for its members, or for any one of them, a wage insufficient to meet the standard of life current with them. That standard is to be maintained at all hazards. One who cannot find employment on these accepted terms must be supported from the common fund until he can secure the minimum wage. The fact, more than any other, which has forced this conclusion on workmen, is the impossibility of any other terms of resisting an indefinite depression of wages on the occasion of the least depression in the labor market. Set aside these two principles, and the losses of every failure in production are sure to be visited, first of all, on laborers; while the recovery from them is very slow with the return of prosperity. The ground lost is regained, if regained at all, with utmost difficulty.

Under the single contract the most negligent and improvident workmen, not the most thrifty and intelligent, determine the common status.
Whatever the first class are willing to

accept, the second class are shortly compelled to take. The thriftless workman becomes the fulcrum across which the prosperity of the better man is pried at and tumbled over. The poor workman need not retain the place he for the moment won; indeed, he is not likely to retain it, having once been used to reduce the price of labor. Cast out of employment, he is only the more serviceable when the process is

to be repeated a second time. Nor is collective bargaining alone sufficient to remedy the inherent weak ness of workmen as compared with managers. If the current wage can be indefinitely reduced when times are hard, the first blow of every disaster made to fall on the workmen. Their relative weakness again betrays them scent becomes easy, inevitable; the ascent perplexing and painful. The minimum wage is a protection furnished the workman by simple volition, when the power of reasonable resist-ence fails him. Let us look at the principle in the various lights in which t is to be judged.

The minimum wage is not likely to be excessive. The standard of life which defines it is not the wishes or caprices of men, but what has been actually won under average conditions. This standard if adhered to in unprosperous periods, can be slowly advanced in prosperous ones. The doctrine of the minimum wage operates as a ratchet to hold fast all that is once gained. Certainly this is well, if no evils are develooped which counterbalance the gains.

The attitude of the workman under a minimum wage is precisely that, only higher in the scale of civilization, economists have so freely as signed him lower in the scale. It has been a favorite doctrine that the mini-mum wage, to which the laborer was constantly gravitating, was the remuneration neccessary for a bare exist-ence. This limit being reached wages could sink no lower, no matter what the state of production. Now the workman simply says this minimum shall be a tolerable instead of an itolerable existence, a rational instead of an irrational one. We will insist in stopping before we reach the bottom. If production can proceed with us at a standstill at the bottom, it can proceed with us at a standstill somewhat higher up.

Is he not only quite logical but also wise in this conclusion? A reasonable standard of life supplies him, as a producing agent, with adequate physical strength, adequate intellectual culture, and the strongest social motives. Ev ery step down from a favorable standard of life is one that weakens him as a productive term in society. The folly of it is exactly the folly of underfeeding a draft animal. The wretchedness of it is the wretchedness treating a man worse than a brute. Highest production demands a minimum

But, it may be said, is not the underlying economic law of supply and demand against this doctrine? If we insist on higher wages, when lower wages alone are remunerative we exhaust our strength, and so prepare the way for a still greater fall. In the first place, the tendency of wages in any given occupation to sink is due to over-production in that department. Reduce wages and the same over-production can be carried still further with a further fall. Check production and prices rally. A more fundamental response is that the steady growth of production must depend on a corresponding growth in consumption.

The workmen are the great majority of men. Consumption cannot advance with a steady loss on their part of purchasing power. Their standard of life must define the consumption of the community, and so its production. A favorabe standard will not only imply increased purchases, it will also bring with it that thrifty temper which results in forecasting the future and providing for it. This means a growth of capital. Our great misake has been in supposing that prosperity could be partial and at the same time progressive. It can only be steadily nourished under the wildest action and reaction. We want, not fewer men, but more men in direct and adequate ministration to each other. The larger the market the safer the market.

The doctrine of a minimum wage is just in its relation to the manager.

It is not just that he should begin
at once to shift every disaster he may have occasioned on the workman, himself bearing only what he cannot Montreal, Toronto

transfer. If wages were a fixed term he would adjust his business to that fact, and that fact would often teach him prudence. It would not be possible for him to be imprudent and recoup his losses by dropping the wages of his employes. As the manager alone has the power of guidance, the embarrassments incident to his mis-takes should fall primarily on him, and only secondarily on the workman, not as now, primarily on them, he accepting only the unavoidable remainder. This doctrine is much like that involved in the prior lien granted to the workman who has built a house, on that house. The product of labor cannot be diverted from the payment of labor cannot be diverted from the payment of labor. bor to make whole some other claim-The laborer is worthy of his hire, and first worthy of it.

This doctrine also favors, in a high We are condegree, social worth. stantly complaining that those whom we would aid are incapable of receiving id-have in themselves no recuperative power. This is not the case with those who set up, and cling to, a reasonable standard of life. They show exactly that self-assertion we are in search of They hold fast all that is given to They strugle hard to turn one into two talents. No greater talent into two talents. heroism has anywhere shown than in some miners' strikes in the impoverished workmen and their impoverished families refusing to return to work at an adequate wage. No man is more sublime than when he faces evil with the firm as-sertion, "I will resist it unto death." Such men will live.

The one surprising thing is that we do not all recognize the nobility of the noble and with joy in our hearts exclaim: "These are the ones whom we have sought and God has sent."

Nor have we the slightest ground to fear that a minimum wage will favor idleness. The doctrine grew out of the determination to win by labor; to make labor properly productive. A body of men with whom this is the ruling principle will constrain every member of it to his utmost exertion. The impulse has in it the inexhaustible energy enterprise. The indolent man is the discouraged man who puts no proper value on labor; who is willing to work for nothing.

#### Late Literary News.

To write an article for maids and mothers, and then to make it so interesting that it will rivet the attention of the fathers of maids and husbands of wives, is a guarantee of very wide reading. Prof. Thurston Peck, of Columbia University, has succeeded in doing this in the paper which he devotes to women in the January Cosmopolitan. Prof. Peck has a keenly analytical mind, and he weighs the pros and cons ver carefully. His conclusions are tender and compassionate, but nevertheless very emphatic. It is a valuable contribution to "New Woman" litera-

ture. A very curious presentation of the number of Irishmen, of the stamp of Wolseley in England, the Duke of Tetuan in Spain, General O'Brutscheff in Russia, Viscount Taafe in Hungary, who are leaders in many nations, is given in the January Cosmopolitan under the title "Irish Leaders in Many Nations." It will be found interesting to all who have even a drop of Irish blood in their veins. "The Jews in Jerusalem" is another article in the same number possessing interest for a large class.

## To Our Readers.

The editor desires to inform his readers that he is authorized, through the courtesy of N. C. Polson & Co., Kingin the same way as when they act sin-gly, though in a less degree. The de-from catarrh, fetid breath, bronchitis, etc., a sample outfit of Catarrhozone. Catarrhozone is a liquid which, when inhaled, reaches every diseased spot, cleansing and invariably curing catarrh and all nasal and throat diseases. For a short time these samples will be given free. It never fails to cure. So write at once to the above address.

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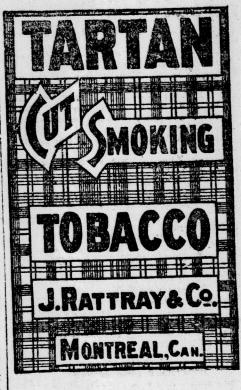
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