

The Weekly Ontario

Morton & Herity, Publishers

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1914.

THE BEST YET.

The directors of Belleville Fair have determined to make this year's exhibition "the best yet." Last year the Fair made a great advance over its predecessors both in general excellence and in attendance. This year the board has arranged to hold a three day's exhibition, and have provided for a series of expensive features such as have never before been presented outside the largest cities.

The opening will take place on Monday Sept. 7th. This is Labor Day and a general holiday. This will perhaps be the best day for the citizens to visit and view the exhibits. A monster trade procession will be formed shortly after the noon hour and proceed to the grounds. It is to be hoped that a still larger number of our merchants and business men will avail themselves of this unique method of advertising as well as do their part to help along the Fair. Last year's procession was most creditable. Let this year's procession be more excellent still.

At greater expense than we care to mention, the directors have this year secured as a special attraction Wilson Bros.' I. O. U. Ranch Wild West Show from Oklahoma. It is not necessary for us to dilate upon the many highly interesting features of entertainment this organization will present, for they are mentioned in detail in our advertising columns. It is sufficient to state that this is an exceedingly elaborate exhibition in itself and will merit everybody's patronage. It will be open both afternoons and evenings.

We sometimes wonder if Belleville people really appreciate the importance of their local Fair and the good work the directors are doing in an unostentatious way for the community.

What benefit this and similar fairs have been to the agricultural interests of Ontario can scarcely be estimated. They are visual object lessons for the farmers, and a keen incentive to greater excellence in all the varied processes and products of the farm.

What benefits the farmer benefits you. Get that fact into your head Mr. City Dweller. And this fact holds no matter whether you are a merchant on Front Street, or a retired person on some other street.

Therefore turn out to the Fair. Forget your grouches, forget about the War. Forget all this talk about hard times. Loosen up. It is patriotism of a practical kind, and patriotism that will come back to you again in the shape of dividends. Go up to the grounds on Monday afternoon and take along the whole family. You will feel better after the visiting and so will the family. Then if you go up again on Tuesday and Wednesday, you will meet a lot of your friends from the surrounding districts and you will feel better yet, and the directors will raise no objection about your being in the way.

Help the directors to make the Fair of 1914 "the best yet." Do your part and it becomes an accomplished fact.

WILL THE GERMANS GET PARIS?

Will the German army reach and capture Paris? That is the question that is just now agitating the minds of our amateur strategists. At least one authority in Belleville has it settled that the Germans will not only get Paris, but will overrun Europe, and, finally, by getting command of the sea, menace Canada. If this forecast is correct there may yet be real defensive work for the Home Guard to perform.

This prediction appears to us to be somewhat pessimistic, but there can be no doubt that Paris is seriously menaced at the present time. The Germans are breaking through the last line of defence before the environs of the capital are reached. The onward march may be stayed by some unexpected happenings of war, but the present outlook seems good for the Germans at least to reach the Parisian goal.

Capturing and occupying the city is another matter.

The menace of the Russian colossus on the east, or British pressure along the line of communications, may relieve the pressure on Paris before capitulation takes place, but it does look probable that the great center of gaiety will at least have to undergo the humiliation of a siege.

The marvelous advance made by the German army at these later stages has occasioned world-wide surprise. Owing to the comparatively slow progress in the initial stages of the war, and the decided check received at Liege it

was freely predicted that the German forward movement would collapse in a few days and never reach the Franco-Belgian frontier, let alone getting beyond the first line of defence of the French.

Those who indulged in these optimistic prophecies seriously underestimated the quality and temperament of the German soldier. In the early days of the war some of our bulletin-board strategists appeared to believe the Germans were of much the same class as the old-time warriors in China, and would run from the smell of powder or the sight of a British red-coat.

The German soldiery, from the time that Hermann overthrew the Roman legions under Varus, have been brave, unflinching and formidable fighters. Essentially of the same race as the Anglo-Saxons, they have the British characteristics of bull-dog courage, pertinacity, and that invaluable steadiness which is undismayed by defeat.

It would seem at this distance that even the British War Office had underestimated the quality of the German opposition. There seems to be an unaccountable slowness in pushing to the front an adequate body of English soldiers. If despatches are to the credited, the expeditionary force under Sir John French does not greatly exceed one hundred thousand men. Since the British regular and territorial forces exceed 800,000 men it causes wonder to know why so small a proportion has actually gone to the front, when numbers are so urgently needed.

Is England in this war repeating the initial mistakes of the Crimean war, the war in Egypt which caused the sacrifice of General Gordon, and the more recent experiences in South Africa culminating in the disaster at Colenso.

British complacency and steadiness are fine assets when reverses come, but the semi-contemptuous attitude with which he typical Englishman regards the people of other nations has in the past led him into serious trouble, and caused him so to underestimate his enemies that he has often gone to battle woefully unprepared. And as a result he has occasionally been beautifully trounced as a reward for his indifference.

It required half-a-dozen sharp reverses in South Africa to awaken Englishmen to the fact that the Boers meant business and that they had a real war on their hands.

Are they laboring under similar delusions in the present contest?

THE AGED EMPEROR OF THE AUSTRIAN.

One of the outstanding figures in the present European struggle is Francis Joseph, Emperor of the Austrians. He is was who struck the match which set all Europe ablaze with the fires of war. He is the eldest officer now living who can boast of the distinction of having commanded an army in the field. He received his baptism of fire in the battle of Santa Lucia, prior to his accession to the throne, when barely eighteen years of age, while serving under Field Marshal Radetzky. His advent to the crown only a few months later found Austria in a state of insurrection. Vienna in the hands of the rebels, and the imperial family and court in hiding within the walls of the stronghold of Olmutz. His first task was to recapture Vienna which was only accomplished with a good deal of blood shed, and then he found himself confronted by the revolution of all Hungary, which was crushed with no little difficulty, with the assistance of a Russian army. Four years later his troops occupied the Wallachian principality, and it was his ultimatum to Russia, in December 1855, that compelled Emperor Alexander II. to come to terms and thus bring the Crimean war to a close.

In 1859 Austria was once more at war, this time with France and Italy. After the first Austrian defeat, Francis Joseph hastened to the front, assumed control of the army, and commanded in person at the battle of Solferrino.

In 1864 Austria joined Prussia in a war upon Denmark, to compel the latter to surrender the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein to the father of the present German Emperor, in accordance with the decree of the Germanic Confederation and two years later Emperor Francis Joseph found himself engaged in war against both Prussia and Italy. The last campaign after that, that Austria had to record, until the declaration of the war with Serbia recently, was that which the Emperor had to undertake thirty-four years ago in order to establish his hold upon the Ottoman province of Herzegovina and Bosnia, which had been assigned to his care and administration by the Congress of Berlin of 1878. It was an occupation which was vigorously resisted by both the Moslem and Serb population. The wars of 1859 and 1866 were disastrous to Francis Joseph. For in the first he lost his Italian province of Lombardy, and was compelled to submit to the dethronement of the Hapsburg dynasty in the Grandduchy of Tuscany, and the annexation of the latter to the kingdom of Italy, while the war of 1866 cost him the city and province of Venetia, which although he had defeated Italy at sea and on land, he was obliged by Prussia, which had vanquished Austria at the battle of Sandowia, to abandon to the late King Victor Emmanuel.

Strangely enough in these days of fickleness neither defeats nor loss of territory have ever interfered in the slightest degree with the affection of the Austrians for their Emperor. Indeed the popular manifestations of loyalty have been most pronounced when the Austrians felt that their Emperor had been subjected to some great sorrow or distress. Napoleon III. one day commenting on this phase of Austrian character, said that Francis Joseph was the only monarch in Europe who did not risk losing his crown through the defeat of his arms, and who could afford to return to his capital after suffering military disaster assured of a more affectionate welcome than ever from his subjects. When Napoleon III. was defeated at Sedan in 1870, his people, especially the inhabitants of Paris overwhelmed him with exuberant and promptly proclaimed the downfall of his throne, the exile of his dynasty and the establishment of the present Republic. It is probably well for Francis Joseph that his people hold this characteristic, for, with events moving with the rapidity of the last few days, it is more than likely that the subjects of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy will be called upon to accustom themselves to another taste of defeat, rather than to victory for which they hoped.

THE WAR—AMERICA'S VIEWPOINT.

What chiefly surprises one who reads the English newspapers, now at hand, published during the week ending August 5, is the extent and intensity of the feeling against going to war with Germany. There was, of course, an active war party. In the press it was led by the London Times and the Daily Mail. And naval men, it is evident, were hot for striking now that the hour for which they had been watching had come. But there was a powerful anti-war party. Its moderate exponent was the Westminster Gazette, a newspaper which has long shown that it stands closer to the Liberal Government than any other. It was all for caution and restraint, and, till the last moment, anxious to keep England out of the war and to find some means of coming to terms with Germany.

But the impassioned champion of peace, through all the time when the issues hung in the balance, was the Manchester Guardian. This able newspaper—thought by many to be the most influential in England, outside London it certainly is—made a most gallant fight against the war. Day after day it made most powerful appeals, arguing that neither English honor required the nation to fling herself into the gulf of a European war.

And this opinion found very wide support throughout the country. A Neutrality League was formed. It at once gained numerous adherents. It spread its protests broadside. And a host of enlightened Englishmen hastened to array themselves against the war party. Amongst them was the editor of the Economist, still the chief financial guide of England, with clergymen, professors, philanthropists and honorable women not a few. One begins to understand why John Morley, veteran Liberal and friend of learning and progress, should have been so moved by all this demonstration that he resigned from the Cabinet rather than put his name to a declaration of war. One of the most striking documents put out was an "Appeal to Scholars," signed by Oxford and Cambridge professors. Those who have lightly maintained that all Englishmen were mad to strike a death-blow at Germany, should at least be given pause by such a passage as the following from this university appeal:

We regard Germany as a nation leading the way in the arts and science, and we have learned and are learning from German scholars. War upon her in the interests of Serbia and Russia will be a sin against civilization. If by reason of honorable obligations we be unhappily involved in war, patriotism might still our mouths, but at this juncture we consider ourselves justified in protesting against the struggle with a nation so near akin to our own, and with whom we have so much in common.

What is it, then, that swept away all this opposition to war with Germany? What finally broke down English patience? It was unquestionably the German invasion of Belgium. This tearing up of a solemn international treaty, guaranteeing the neutrality of Belgium and regarded for 85 years by all the Powers as a part, in Prof. Westlake's words, of "the permanent system of Europe," could not but frustrate the efforts of the peace party. Early in the discussion, the Manchester Guardian had admitted that a violation by Germany of Belgian neutrality would not be tolerated, and when this was done and the die cast, it could only bow its head in grief and say: "Now there is nothing for Englishmen to do but stand together and help by every means in their power to the attainment of our common object—an early and decisive victory over Germany."

Sir Edward Grey put the case in a way to which every Englishman could not fail to respond: "If it is a case that Belgium's neutrality is gone, no matter what might have been offered to her in return, then her independence is gone; and the moment her independence goes, that of

Holland will follow." This statement, declared Prof. J. H. Morgan, is one to which "every student of international law will subscribe." He pointed out by how many binding agreements Germany was estopped from setting foot on Belgian territory. It was not merely a case of the treaty of London. This was carefully observed by Germany in 1870, when Bismark was in charge of German diplomacy.

After Sedan, Germany thought of transporting her wounded home through Belgian territory, and asked permission to do so. Belgium objected, and Germany acquiesced. Later she took upon herself a still more sacred obligation never to do what she has now done in Belgium. The Hague convention of 1907 contained this explicit provision: "Belligerents are forbidden to move troops or convoys of either munitions of war across the territory of a neutral power." To that convention Germany was a signatory!

If no doubt remained that it was Germany's disregard of her treaties, and ruthless invasion of Belgium, that threw away her last chance of retaining, we will not say the friendship, but the neutrality of England, it would be dispelled by Sir Edward Grey's speech in the House of Commons, the full text of which has now reached us. He reviewed the whole matter of the relations of England to France, and of the earnest and unceasing efforts of the English Government to prevent the Austrian clash with Serbia from drawing the other nations into war.

He had no word of animosity to Germany. But he solemnly pointed out the inevitable consequences of violating the neutrality of either Holland or Belgium, both of the States which had no desire except to be left alone and independent, quoting the words of Mr. Gladstone, that a wanton disregard of the international guarantee of Belgium's independence would be "the direct crime that ever stained the pages of history."

But, of course, none of these things moved the German General staff. It had its military plans all made for striking at the heart of France through Belgium, and nothing must be allowed to stay their execution. But the plans themselves have already failed, and in bringing England against Germany have a thousand times outweighed any immediate military advantage that might have been gained. It was a colossal blunder. Germany might well make her own to-day the historic warning sent by the French military attaché in Berlin to the war office in Paris: "Beware of the German General Staff."—New York Evening Post.

Canada has fifteen regiments composed of French Canadians. All the members of these battalions speak the French language and are descendants of Frenchmen. Now that Great Britain has officially declared war upon Germany and is marching side by side with France in resisting the invader, why should not the Canadian Government obtain the extraordinary privilege of offering these battalions for direct service in France? Would it not be a splendid spectacle for the whole world to see French Canada, this ancient colony of France, now living happy and prosperous under the protection of England, offer its arms for the protection of its former mother country? Can a better or a more striking example be found of the entente cordiale and can it not be hoped that it would result in immeasurable good for our own country from the union of the two races which compose the Dominion?—La Patrie, Montreal.

A WAR POEM.

Thou careless, awake!
Thou peacemaker, fight!
Stand England for honor
And God guard the right.

Thy mirth lay aside,
Thy cavil and play,
The foe is upon the
And grave is the day.

The monarch's ambition
Has harnessed his slaves,
But the folk of the ocean,
Are free as the waves.

For Peace thou art armed,
Thy freedom to hold,
Thy courage as iron,
Thy good faith as gold.

Through fire, air and water
Thy trial must be,
But they that love life best
Die gladly for thee.

The love of their mother
Is strong to command,
The fame of their father
Is might to their hand.

Much suffering shall cleanse thee,
But thou through the flood
Shall win to salvation
To beauty through blood.

Up, careless! Awake!
Ye peacemakers, fight!
England stands for honor,
God defend the right.

The worm which seems to be turning in Europe may be the army worm.

CHINA'S NEUTRALITY VIOLATED.

PEKING, Sept. 2.—Japan has landed about 10,000 cavalry and 50,000 troops from transports at Lung Kow a newly opened depot about 100 miles north of Tientsin. This is declared to have been done in violation of China's neutrality.

BRITISH AND FRENCH RETIRING.

Paris, Sept. 2.—An official statement issued by the war office this afternoon says we are slowly advancing in the region of the Vosges in Lorraine where a regular siege of the entrance to the German position is in progress. For two days we have been slowly driving the Germans back. We suffered partial checks in the Neu-fchatou Falisuel district which obliged us to withdraw to the lines near the Meuse where a general engagement began and now continues. The British French wing has been attacked by a greatly superior force in the Chateau-Cambay district and consequently it retired to the southward to prevent being overwhelmed or cut off.

Our forces drove the Prussian guards and the tenth German army corps back at Meuse with heavy losses but because of the progress of the Germans right we were unable to follow up this advantage and were compelled to retire. The allied lines hold fast every where. At no point have the Germans been able to break through and our general movement continues along the lines exactly as planned.

PARIS QUIET IN FACE OF GERMAN ATTACK.

London, Sept. 2.—With the German so near there has not been a day in the last month when Paris presented the appearance of such complete calm says the Chronicle's Paris correspondent. All shops are open and rows of chairs have appeared before the chief cafes. The possibility of a German raid is very slight. Solitary fortresses may be unmasked but the attempt to cut down the Oise valley towards Paris except as a trivial raid without first routing the masses of the army is madness. We may assume therefore that if the Germans have faced eastward and turned their backs on the British and other forces gathering in Picardy they must either win an immediate victory or risk being caught between the hammer and the anvil. If they win they will still have to meet other armies including the large garrison armies.

GERMANS SAID TO HAVE SHOT WOUNDED.

London, Sept. 2.—The Ostend correspondent quotes Leo Harp, senator of Hainaut, as testifying that the Germans killed their own severely wounded on the battlefield, only sending those who would soon recover. There are many similar to the despatches that the Germans suffered heavily at Mons. Returning remnants of those who were in the fight spoke approvingly of British courage. One force of 2000 British it is stated must have accounted for thousands of Germans.

ADDRESS OF SOLDIER BOYS CHANGED.

Letters to members of the Fifteenth regiment now in camp at Valcartier, Que., you will please take note that the address has been changed from

John Jones, (volunteer from the Fifteenth regiment), Eighth Battalion, Second Brigade, Valcartier, Que.

To—
John Jones, (volunteer from the Fifteenth regiment), Eleventh Battalion, Third Brigade, Valcartier, Que.

AT OSCOBE HALL.

Before Falconbridge, C. J. Tucker v. Titus F. Hillmuth, K.C., and A. Abbott, (Trenton), for plaintiff, E. G. Forten, E.C., and E. H. White, (Belleville), for defendant. Action to set aside notice of exercising power of sale under mortgage, for an injunction restraining sale etc, and for costs Judgment. I have no hesitation in accepting plaintiff's version of the facts in declaring that he has been made the victim of a gross and cruel fraud, whereby, he traded his good farm for the property in Trenton of less value and in addition gave a mortgage on the latter for \$600. There will be judgment for plaintiff, as prayed in paragraphs two, three and four of prayer of claim, with costs. Thirty days stay.

Titus v. Tucker—E. G. Porter K.C. and F. H. White, since deceased (Belleville), for plaintiff, I. E. Hellmuth and A. Abbott, (Trenton), for defendant. Action to recover possession of land, and counter claim by defendant for \$8000 damages for alleged deceit and misrepresentation. Judgment. There will be judgment for defendant on his defence and counter claim for \$7000 and costs, i. e. balance in favor of defendant of \$100 after liquidation of plaintiff's claim on mortgage on which interest is declared never to have accrued.

PILES CURED AT HOME BY NEW ABSORPTION METHOD.

If you suffer from bleeding, itching, blind or protruding Piles, send your address, and I will tell you how to cure yourself at home by the new absorption treatment; and will also send some of this home treatment free for trial, with references from your own locality if requested. Immediate relief and permanent cure assured. Send no money, but tell others of this offer. Write today to Mrs. M. Summers, Box 1, 87, Windsor, Ont.

Offer
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Large lot
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