

## London Advertiser.

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Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

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## Anglo-Saxon Vitality.

An American contemporary notes that all the United States peace commissioners in Paris have short, crisp, Anglo-Saxon names—Day, Gray, Reid, Frye, Davis. This is a seemingly trivial coincidence, but there is much significance behind it. It forcibly illustrates the preponderance of the Anglo-Saxon mind in the highest spheres in the United States. The flood of immigration which has rolled over the republic would have unsettled the foundations of a weaker race. The success with which the native American element has assimilated this vast foreign admixture is perhaps the most striking example in history of Anglo-Saxon vitality. Blood less virile must inevitably have been weakened by this infusion from continental Europe and the racial domination of the real Americans been threatened by these alien forces. But the nation remains true to its Anglo-Saxon mould. Anglo-Saxon names are written almost exclusively in the republic's great achievements. Take the roll of the presidents—Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Adams, Jackson, Van Buren, Harrison, Tyler, Polk, Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, Lincoln, Johnson, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley—and it will be seen by their names that all excepting Van Buren and Polk were of British descent. Emigration to the United States is now slackening, and the foreign ingredients of the country will be even more rapidly dissolved in the Anglo-Saxon menstrem.

When it is considered what multitudes of aliens, many of them of the worst type, have been absorbed by the United States without any sign of national disintegration, it is ridiculous that opponents of the Canadian Government should make a fuss because a handful of Galicians have been placed on our vacant lands in the Northwest, especially when the great volume of our immigration continues to come from the British Isles. The proposal to bring some 2,000 Russians—a moral, industrious stock—to the Northwest will no doubt be attacked by the same stupidity. If Canada, with its present small population, were being deluged by alien hordes, it would be a menace to our Canadian nationality, but the Government would allow no such influx. Our immigrants of foreign blood as a rule have made good citizens, and are prospering. They are not numerous enough to be even temporarily troublesome, if they would. It is an insult to our robust race to say it is endangered by a few Galicians or Doukhobors. Our crying need is population, and it is gratifying to know that the tide is coming this way at last. From the first of January to the end of September 25,000 immigrants reached Winnipeg, and before the year is over the number will be 35,000. During the eight months of 1898 ending August, 20,156 emigrants sailed for Canada from British ports—more than went to South Africa and Australia combined.

## The Young People's Opportunity.

The summer has lingered long with us, but we must soon face the winter with its cold days and dark nights. Both seasons have their advantages for the life of the young; in summer, in the long, warm days, recreation is naturally sought outside, in shady woods, or by the inviting stream, while winter evenings furnish appropriate opportunities for social enjoyment and mental improvement. This, we are told, is pre-eminently the young people's age. Every church has its society or guild, the Public Library opens its treasures to them, and various associations try to show that the life of the young need not be limited to the boundaries of any one sect. All this is good, and it is well for our young people to remember that the measure of their privileges is also the measure of their responsibility. If youth is the time for healthy enjoyment, when life is full of varied interests and attractions, it is also the time for improvement, for acquiring a firmer grasp of high principles, and learning to take broad views of life. Then, memory is quick, and perception keen, and it is the time to lay up mental treasure, a reserve of knowledge and of strength to draw upon in after life.

In England, during this season, the South Kensington science and art classes are held in connection with Mechanics' Institutes and other local societies, and in these evening classes thousands of young men and women, who are busy during the day, learn the elements of some science or art, which either fits them for a higher position, or gives them a taste of a broader education.

In Ontario, where the population is not so dense, and high schools so accessible, that particular form of study may not be needed. But in some form it is important that our young people should devote a part of their leisure to the study of subjects which lie outside of the regular day's work. Along this line the various young people's societies may work with good effect. The mutual improvement societies of the last generation, which were sometimes made the butt of thoughtless ridicule and cynical scorn, rendered useful service in lowly ways. It is possible to have societies or clubs which make more pretension and yet do not render more efficient service.

The ideal young people's meeting, we are told, is short, sharp and snappy. It must have nothing slow or tedious about it. We do not claim any special virtue for sleepy slowness, or prosy dullness, but we maintain that what is called liveliness may be bought at too high a price. A meeting in which the members are kept perpetually on the move, has a fussy air about it, and tends towards shallowness. The subject that can be handled in five minutes, or settled in a few sharp sentences, is either not a big subject, or is treated in a superficial fashion. Without being willing to give a little thoughtful attention, we can never learn anything of any importance. A life that consists of a series of short gasps must necessarily be feeble. Youth is the time, also, for learning to listen to anyone who has a real message.

It is also the time for learning to speak; hence the debating night has its uses. There was a time when education consisted too largely in learning to debate, and consequently debating degenerated into quibbling, a perverse ingenuity often exercised upon matters that were either of no use, or altogether beyond the range of human knowledge. There is no need of that in these days, when there are so many questions scientific, historical, literary, or political, which may form the legitimate subject for debate. Of course, in this exercise, the main thing is not to learn new facts, to increase one's store of information, but to gain power of expression, quickness in intellectual fence, skill in asking pertinent questions, and readiness in meeting objections. Some of our greatest debaters gained much of their skill in the unions or societies where young men were not afraid to tackle all kinds of problems.

Seeing that we have come to believe that all life is sacred, there are two subjects of special interest—history and literature. Each church will suggest subjects bearing on its own life and work, and questions of party politics will be better avoided; but these two lines open up spheres of study that are both interesting and useful. History is the politics of the past, and so it enables us to understand the present. An evening each month devoted to epochs of history would give an education which would tend to impart breadth of mind and catholicity of feeling. Wholesome fiction has its place in literature and life, but young people who learn to love the writings of Macaulay, Freeman, Green and Gardiner, Motley, Prescott and Parkman, to mention only a few of the brilliant workers in this department, will come to despise the trashy sensational fiction upon which so many young people waste their precious time. Biography is one branch of this great subject which may be made "as interesting as a novel," and far more profitable. Whether the cynics speak the truth, when they tell us that the race of giants is now extinct, and that henceforth we must be content with mediocrity more or less respectable, is a point we need not debate; but from Bismarck and Gladstone, down into the distant past, there are lives of great men in whom a great epoch was summed up and vocalized—waiting to yield up great lessons to the reverent youthful inquirer. Canadian history and biography would furnish its fair share to a programme of this kind.

Literature, whether we regard it as a criticism of life, or an interpretation of life, is a realm, a part of whose territory we must conquer in youth. If we do not get a taste for Shakespeare, and the great English poets, when we are young, it will not be easily acquired in later life. The young man who has learned to relish good literature will have no difficulty in beguiling the lonely hours; in fact, he will feel that in the rush of life the lonely hours are all too few. This taste may be acquired where young people are voluntarily associated for the study of literature, perhaps better than in the more scholastic study, where the attention is too much diverted from the beauty and inspiration of the piece to technical questions of grammar and philosophy. Tennyson, whose noble life has recently been given to the world, should be a favorite author, not only because of his choice, chaste language, and the artistic perfection of his verse, but also because he reflects so many phases of the century's life. The everlasting struggle between doubt and faith is reflected in his poems in manifold ways, and the great poet "fights his doubts and gathers strength" in a way that is both instinctive and helpful.

The lines that we have indicated are not new. Nothing really great is absolutely new; but they point to the great streams of the life of humanity. What young people need is not new sensations, and shows of a glittering but shallow kind; nor must they be fed on small fads, so that they become confident of their power to comprehend the whole of life in some small sectarian formula. What they need is a broad view of human life, that they may learn how the same great privileges can be manifest in varied forms according to national needs and local circumstances. They will then learn to distinguish between small conventions and great principles, and so combine honesty of conviction and tenacity of purpose with a true tolerance and respect for the rights of others.

If this kind of education does not offer any immediate pay, in the shape of what the world calls success, it will tend to uplift the ideal of manhood, and so strengthen the life of a free, intelligent people. Let our young people, then, grasp their golden opportunity, and remember that the life and honor of their native land depends upon them. The past gives them a noble heritage. The future expects a faithful service.

## Ominous Rumbling!

Grave Situation in Europe--Marchand's Report Awaited With Intense Anxiety--Britain Will Not Abandon Her Claims.

John Bull Never Better Prepared to Carry on a Successful War--France Has Lost Her Way--Criticism of the Twenty-First Lancers' Charge--Unfounded--Cost of the Kaiser's Tour--Busch's Book on Bismarck Condemned--Germans Feast ing on Dog Meat.

London, Oct. 17.—Last week opened with an ominous rattling over Fashoda and ended with the rumbling of a revolutionary volcano in Paris. The situation arising out of the question between Great Britain and France as to the right of occupying Fashoda is extremely grave. Everything hinges on the nature of the report of Major Marchand, the French commander at Fashoda, which is now on its way from Khartoum to Paris, thanks to the courtesy of the British Government in permitting Marchand's officers to use the British lines of communication. The evacuation of Fashoda by the French must, however, take place if war between Great Britain and France is to be averted, as the Marquis of Salisbury has nailed his colors to the mast and cannot recede from the position he has taken and in which he has received the unanimous support of the Liberal leaders, Lord Rosebery and Mr. Asquith, coming at this critical moment, were very important, in that they demonstrated to the world that the Liberal party is solidly with the government in the matter of the latter's taking on the Sudan question.

## BRITAIN WILL NOT BACK DOWN.

The Speaker, the organ of the Liberal party, refers plainly to the impossibility of relinquishing the British claims, and points out that if it comes to war it will not be merely for Fashoda, but for the maintenance of Great Britain's place in the world, plus her undoubted rights. The Speaker adds: "If we abandon our claims, Englishmen would not only lose their own self-respect, but would be dragged in the mire." These emphatic declarations of the English press and public men have already had a certain influence across the channel, and the inspired statements of the French press belittling the importance of Fashoda and shift the ground to an undefined claim on the province of Bah-el-Ghazal and a port on the Nile.

## FRANCE PREPARING TO ABANDON FASHODA.

The mouthpiece of the French foreign office is preparing France for the abandonment of Fashoda by asserting that Major Marchand overshoot his goal and that instead of going to Fashoda, he ought to have stopped at the confluence of the Bah-el-Ghazal. Many British publicists, however, scout the idea that France will be permitted to install herself on the "paying reef" of the Sudan. All the rest of the French press, however, is full of the "paying reef" of the Sudan. All the rest of the French press, however, is full of the "paying reef" of the Sudan. All the rest of the French press, however, is full of the "paying reef" of the Sudan.

## STIRRING UP STRIFE.

The Chauvinist Paris papers are denouncing Great Britain, and are doing their utmost to excite French feeling in the matter. Other French papers are making bitter complaints of Russia's inactivity. The Gaulois declares the time for Russia to pay the service which France lent her in the far east by helping against Great Britain while the Patrie, after declaring France had been betrayed by the Brissot cabinet, demands the dispatch of an ambassador to King Menelik of Abyssinia, "for the purpose of seeking an alliance with his 300,000 valiant, faithful warriors, who will co-operate with us in the event of hostilities at Fashoda."

The moderate thinking section of the French press is earnestly urging a peaceful arrangement of the affair. These papers candidly admit that France is no match for Great Britain in the event of war.

## WAR TALK.

There has been a great deal of talk here about the possibility of war with France, and various preparations upon the part of the British Government

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are reported to have been made. For instance, it is announced that a leading small arms firm at Birmingham was asked this week whether it was prepared to turn out 1,000 magazine rifles weekly. The significance of this is pointed out by the British Government works alone are capable of turning out 4,000 magazine rifles weekly.

It is also rumored that war insurances have been effected at Lloyd's during the last few days, but they appear to have been more in the character of bets than trading.

## THE FRENCH CRISIS.

Authorities on French politics say the life of the Brisson ministry is not worth a month's purchase when the chambers meet. This and other considerations have led the British ministry earnestly to seek and devise some plan which may save France and help her to an honorable retreat. There are several possible plans under consideration. One is to treat Marchand as an explorer, and encourage him to continue his explorations in the direction of Darfur or the sources of Bah-el-Ghazal, Gen. Kitchener helping him with supplies. Another is to find a high place of promotion for him in French West Africa; and a third is to induce the czar to intervene at Paris in the cause of peace. This might be made to appear to the French as fresh evidence of the immovable attitude of Russia to France. But the first is the most likely, and may fit in with the past policy of the British cabinet in Africa.

## A NEW DEPARTURE.

Another correspondent, writing on the Fashoda affair, says: The London press is filled day after day with portentous articles on the Fashoda affair, but the monetary exchanges of Europe are not disturbed by the breath of suspicion that war is possible between England and France. The main point in the diplomatic correspondence has escaped observation. It is a fact that Lord Salisbury has changed his ground, neither Lord Rosebery nor Mr. Asquith referred to it in discussing the subject publicly, and the London writers fail to emphasize it. Lord Salisbury's protest against the French occupation of Fashoda is now based on the fact that England and Egypt have conquered the khafila and succeeded to the rights of the dominion enjoyed by him. This is a different plea from that advanced by the Rosebery Government three years ago, to the effect that the Sudan was an Egyptian empire. Lord Salisbury prefers to regard it as the joint conquest of England and Egypt by virtue of the final defeat of the dervishes before Khartoum.

## IN EARNEST.

Whatever may be the purpose of this alteration of phrasing, on which all the diplomats are commenting, it is evident that no change in England's attitude is possible. The presence of Major Marchand at Fashoda is regarded as an unfriendly act that is cause enough for war, and the French expedition will have to retire. There would be signs of panic on every stock exchange if the conviction was not general that Major Marchand will withdraw his force in the course of a few weeks, or otherwise the London market would be in a state of confusion. His plans for the disarmament conference, nor would the German emperor be on his way to Palestine as a new crusader, for his eyes wide open for every chance for enlarging German trade in the east.

## BRITAIN READY.

It is well understood by those best able to judge that if a war with France must come, it could not happen at a better time for the English navy than the present. "Two years hence," says an authority in these matters, "if the ships now on French paper are then really floating in French waters, we may have a tough job, but today the game is in our own hands. But," he added, with a smile, "we might as well wait till the promised French yellow book is published before taking seriously the challenge of the French yellow press."

## TOOK BACK THE ASPERSION.

The German military attaché's unfavorable criticisms of the famous charge of the 21st Lancers and the general conduct of the action at Omdurman were withdrawn somewhat late in the day, it is believed, in obedience to a timely hint from Berlin. It was pointed out at the time that the critic's experience in desert warfare was lamentably small, and now Col. Martin, who himself led the lancers in the charge, shows that the attaché was not there in person, and had no knowledge of the actual situation. It is rare that an English officer condescends to answer in print attacks on his own efficiency in action, but this answer has a value all its own. Col. Martin shows clearly that the object of the charge was to head the enemy off from Omdurman, and this he did so successfully that the dervishes were driven first under battery and then under infantry fire. The evidence which came first from the Sudan tended to exhibit the charge as a needless show of splendid courage, this reputation by one of England's best cavalry officers cannot be too widely circulated.

## LORD ROSEBERY'S SPEECH.

Lord Rosebery has, by his speech on Fashoda, forced himself once again into the front of the British political arena. In supporting Salisbury's policy towards France in its whole-hearted way, Lord Rosebery only follows out his long-cherished belief that foreign affairs should be kept outside of party wrangles. Mr. Asquith's speech on the same lines shows how powerful Lord Rosebery's influence still is.

## A PRUSSIAN REGENCY.

Berlin, Oct. 17.—Emperor William's

departure for the Orient has started a discussion as to the advisability of the establishment of a regency. The Freisinnige Zeitung says: "When the Emperor and King of Prussia leaves the country for any length of time, as in the present instance, a duly empowered person ought in the meanwhile to seize the reins of government." It urges that the matter be brought before the reichstag. A number of the leading papers support the regency proposition, while several of the Conservative papers scout this view. The constitution of the empire does not appear to provide for a regency. The presidency of the German bund is vested in the King of Prussia, but nothing is said to legalize the transfer of this dignity to a regent of Prussia. In the meanwhile the emperor's brother, Prince Henry of Prussia, who would naturally be regent, is absent in China. The next prince available would be Frederick Leopold, son of the late Prince Charles of Prussia, eldest brother of Emperor William I., the grandfather of the present emperor.

## THE KAISER'S COSTLY TRIP.

The whole matter of the emperor's trip to the Holy Land will be thrashed out early during the coming session of the reichstag. In government circles the opinion is expressed that it is not fair to expect the emperor to bear the entire expense of the journey. It is said that the cost of his majesty's trip, exclusive of presents and liberal bakshisht, will amount to at least 5,000,000 marks. The costly gifts to the Sultan of Turkey and to his harem, etc., also figure up from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 marks. Therefore, it is suggested that the voyage is expected to rebound to Germany's greater glory and advantage, that parliament ought to grant a credit to cover the main expenses, more especially so as otherwise the emperor will have to run into debt.

## BUSCH'S BOOK CONDEMNED.

In an interview on the subject of Herr Moritz Busch's book on Prince Bismarck, Dr. Schweniger, the physician of the deceased statesman, said: "I voice the feelings of the Bismarck family, when I say they are all indignant at Herr Busch's book. It is not only full of glaring errors and misrepresentations, but it does grave injury to the memory of Herr Busch's benefactor. Besides, Herr Busch violated his sworn duty in the capacity of a pensioned, ex-state official, not to reveal state secrets, and not to publish documents. Moreover, his description of the prince's private habits is utterly imaginative."

## A DIET OF DOG.

The inadequate meat supply of Germany, owing to the barriers erected against foreign cattle, hogs and meat, continues. From Austria solely some 8,000 head of cattle have been admitted, and Russia supplied about 80,000 pigs. These imports are quite insufficient to cope with the requirements, and the home supply fails to meet. Prices have risen steadily for months past, and they are now 20 per cent above those of 1897. The slaughtering of horses for food has greatly increased, and dog flesh is openly advertised. In the Chemnitz Neueste Nachrichten "fat young dogs" forms a standing advertisement.

## IMPROVED LIFEBOAT.

Director Schlemm, of the North German Lloyd Ship Company, has invented a new style of lifeboat, whose mechanism, while very simple, allows of the boat being easily launched without the use of davits. The new lifeboats can also be lowered in a high sea, and they drop into the water at some distance from the vessel, thus lessening the danger in the cases of shipwreck or fire. The Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse is now being fitted with these boats. The new Hamburg-American liner now in course of construction will also be equipped with them.

## NOTES.

Influenza has again broken out in Berlin, and many fashionable people are prostrated.

The government has now definitely decided to appoint permanently a naval attaché at Washington, who will reach his post in January.

It is now said that Emperor William intends to become a neighbor of Queen Victoria in the Highlands of Scotland. He has been inquiring for a purchasable sporting estate in Scotland, providing salmon fishing and grouse and deer shooting.

A national English movement is being attempted in support of the Czar's disarmament rescript. Meetings are to be held all over the land, following them up by sympathetic resolutions passed by such bodies as trades unions, congresses and congregational unions.



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