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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY
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London, Monday, Dec. 10.

The Close of the Century.

The end of the year is in any case regarded as a time for retrospect and review, a time for balancing accounts, for reckoning up the past and preparing for the future. This is a business method, and it will apply well to the moral and social life of men. Whether wise resolutions and reformed methods grow out of this or not, depends very much upon ourselves, but no one denies that it is good to sum up the past and try to understand its meaning and its bearing on the future. This year we are at the close of a century, and so our retrospect will take a large sweep. Much time and strength has been spent upon arguing the question when the century really ends. If we accept a corrected chronology of the Christian era, we may say that we are already four years or so advanced into the twentieth century. But, not to put too fine a point upon it, even according to the present reckoning, we must admit that the coming year brings us into the new century, if we are not already in it. If anyone says it began a year ago, or two years ago, we are not prepared to dispute the matter. There are some questions upon which opponents may be both right and both wrong, according to the point from which the matter is viewed. All that we are contending for now is that this is an appropriate time to review the nineteenth century, and we propose soon to set ourselves to that task. It is a big subject, and might well fill the pages of a large

journal week by week for a long time. But in this case the old motto is appropriate—"Divide and conquer." We shall attack only one subject at a time, as we have no desire either to overstrain our strength or weary the gentle reader. When we view our present social and political condition, we see that there is room for improvement; but if we look back upon what has been accomplished in many departments, it will be seen that there is room for gratitude and hope. In that spirit we shall conduct our reviews, trying to keep close to fact, but to get also the ideas that lie behind the facts.

Our Municipal Policy—XIV.

14. The river banks should be secured for parks and walks, wherever practicable, and beautified.

Speaking generally, we are in favor of keeping everything in common that can be. Every one is more or less, in the large sense, a socialist. The world was never made to be monopolized by anyone to the exclusion of his fellow men. The conveniences of society have caused the state of affairs that exists; but because convenience may have made such a course necessary, is no reason why everything that can reasonably be kept in common should not be so kept.

Take, for instance, the seashore, or ocean shore. It is all in common between what is called high water and low water. The beach is common property. In some parts, on our lake shores, so many feet from the water's edge is reserved as a roadway, and in others the patent goes to the water's edge. It was argued, many years ago, in one case that the title to the land bordering on Lake Erie went to the middle of the lake; but this view was rejected by the court. Then take our rivers. On some the owner owns to the water's edge; on others, to the middle of the stream; and on others there is a reservation of a certain number of feet; and on some, for the purposes of a tow-path. We think there is such a reservation in regard to the Thames. No doubt, for a long time, it was expected the Thames would be made navigable up to London, and such reservations should be read in the light of the days in which they were made.

Our contention now is that the Gov-

ernment should not patent any lands on the bank of a lake or river to the water's edge, but should leave the beach and bank public property. We suggest this to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, and especially urge it with reference to New Ontario. There may be points where an exception to this rule is desirable; but let the rule be as we have stated.

We contend that the banks of the river should be common property, as well as the river. In London no docks interfere with this view. Go to England, and see how many rivers have beautiful banks, and we all know there is no more lovely walk than along the bank of a river. Sir Walter Scott gives expression to this sentiment when he says:

"By Yarrow's stream still let me stray,
Though none shall guide my feeble way;
Still let the breeze down Ettrick break,
Although it chill my withered cheek."

In the Old Country the banks of the rivers are often beautiful. Our own Springbank Park is in the right direction, and the same idea might be extended wherever it can be. Expert tree lovers would have in many places a free hand, and a chance to show what can be done. Shade trees on the streets require different treatment from what might be given them along the river bank and in the park. We pointed out in a former article where parks and playgrounds might be secured. Some of these are on the river bank, and paths and walks connecting all together until the whole of the banks of the river formed one continuous park and walk, would be worth the attention of those who would like to see London as beautiful as it can be made.

If you owned the whole city, what would you do with the banks of the river? Leave them as they are or beautify them? It is safe to answer they would be beautified. The taste displayed in the lawns and homes of London prove this. Take any of the best residences and grounds in London. Take the streets where the lawns are well kept, and all argue in favor of progress along the line indicated.

Ex-Mayor Essery and ex-City Engineer Tracy commenced the Springbank Park. Ex-Mayor Little did much to keep up the good work. Let it be continued, and let London be the handsomest city in Canada.

CANADIANS
GET A GREAT
RECEPTION.Entertained by Lord and Lady
Strathcona.The Heroes at the Imperial Institute
and St. Paul's Cathedral—
Off for Home.

London, Dec. 9. — Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, Canadian high commissioner in London, and Lady Strathcona, held a reception for the officers and men of the Canadian contingent in London, now on their way home from South Africa, at the Imperial Institute yesterday afternoon. The Earl of Aberdeen was present. In the evening Lord and Lady Tweedmouth gave a dinner in honor of the Canadian officers. The guests included Princess Louise, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Rosebery, the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, and the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen.

AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.
The reception at the Imperial Institute was a notable affair. Over a thousand invitations had been issued, and the great hall and adjoining galleries were thronged with Canadian residents of London, who had longed for an opportunity to welcome and honor the heroes of Paardeberg. Lord and Lady Strathcona received their guests at the head of the great staircase, and the Canadian soldiers had a foretaste among their own people of the welcome which awaits them across the Atlantic.

Among the visitors were Lady Aberdeen and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Parker. A circle was formed before the close of the reception, and a series of hearty speeches was delivered. Lord Strathcona undertook to express the satisfaction and pride felt by Canadians in England, over the gallantry of Col. Otter's men during the campaign, and singled out Lord Strathcona's conduct in equipping at his own expense a large body of mounted men as one

of the most notable events of the war. Col. Otter made a soldierly reply on behalf of the Canadian Regiment, and Lord Strathcona, after reading a dispatch of God-speed from Mr. Chamberlain, who had been detained by a cabinet meeting, proposed three cheers for the regiment. These were given heartily. The colonel then called upon his men to cheer for Lord Strathcona and Canada. Cheers followed like volleys of musketry, with a "tiger" like a lyddite shell at the end.

AT ST. PAUL'S.

London, Dec. 9.—The visiting contingent of the Royal Canadian Regiment attended service today at St. Paul's Cathedral, returning thence to Kensington Barracks, where they had an opportunity to meet the Earl of Aberdeen and the countess. Lord Aberdeen, in a felicitous address of farewell, said they had nobly fulfilled their mission, and he was sure they would be glad to get back to their own country and kin. He asked them to convey the greetings of Lady Aberdeen and himself to mutual friends in the Dominion.

SAILED ON SATURDAY.

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—It is reported that a cable has been received in this city stating that the Canadian soldiers who were announced to sail from South Africa on Dec. 2, sailed yesterday. The militia has not been notified, but expected an official notice at any time.

SINGS NO MORE.

Some Eight Hundred Songs Are Credited to
the Late Henry Russell.

London, Dec. 10.—Had Henry Russell, veteran composer of songs, lived until Christmas eve he would have been 88 years old. Now he will endure in memory in the undying words of "Cheer, Boys, Cheer." "A Life on the Ocean Wave," "There's a Good Time Coming, Boys," "Man the Lifeboat," and many others in a list of songs numbering more than 800.

His public career began four generations ago, when he made his debut in opera at the tender age of 8 years. As a singer and composer he rapidly gained fame, and his name became a household word in England and later among the music lovers in other lands. As a singer he broke down at Lancaster shortly after the civil war. Only once since then had he appeared in public. This was nine years ago, in Covent Garden Theater in this city. Sir Augustus Harris organized a benefit for him. It was memorable both as "Russell's night" and because of the brilliant audience which assembled to do honor to the aged composer.

Mr. Russell had the common fate of the majority of his profession, fame being accompanied with little pecuniary reward; but he always laughed at this instead of bemoaning it. He

jocosely remarked once that, although his songs had made the fortune of several publishers, the average price he received for them was 10 shillings. To the early abolitionists in the United States Mr. Russell gave "The Slave," frequently and effectively heard across the ocean long before Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" had stirred American hatred of slavery to its depths.

A FAMILY JAR.

He found this dinner very cold;
He kicked with caustic vim;
And when he started in to scold
She made it hot for him.

Torturing
Disfiguring HumoursItching, Burning, and Scaly
Eruptions of the Skin and
Scalp with loss of Hair
Complete External and Internal
Treatment by CUTICURA

THE SET

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, CUTICURA Ointment to instantly allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring skin, scalp, and blood humours, rashes, itchings, and irritations, with loss of hair, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail.

Sold by all Colonial Chemists, POTTER, DUNCAN & CO.,
CAN. COAR., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.A Skin of Beauty Is a Joy Forever.
Dr. T. Felix Gouraud's Oriental Cream
or Magical Beautifier.

Removes tan, pimples, freckles, much past ches, rash and skin diseases, and every blemish on beauty, and defies dejection. It has stood the test of 62 years and is so harmless we taste it to be sure it is properly made. Accept no counterfeit of he hat ion (a patient: "As you ladies will use them I recommend 'Gouraud's Cream' as the least harmful of all the skin preparations. Also Poudre Subtile removes superfluous hair, without injury to the skin.

FIELD, T. HOPKINS, Prop., 37 Great Jones street, New York.
For sale by all druggists and Fancy Goods Dealers throughout the United States, Canada and Europe.

Grocery and Crockery
Department in
Basement.

THE RUNIANS, GRAY, CARRIE CO.

208, 210, 210½, 212 DUNDAS STREET, LONDON, ONT.

The New Idea
Patterns—10c

Special Unloading Sale for One Week

Mantle Department

Out of our immense stock of Mantles only 210 left. These have been given marching orders, and for the next few days our Mantle Section will be lively.
SEE THE UNDER-MENTIONED BARGAINS.

ALL JACKETS at \$4 50, \$5 25 and \$5 50, this season's goods, black, fawns and navys, smooth and rough cloths, FOR ONE WEEK YOUR CHOICE

\$3 90.

ALL JACKETS at \$3 35, \$3 50 and \$7, this season's goods, black, brown, navy and fawn, FOR ONE WEEK YOUR CHOICE

\$5 00.

ALL JACKETS at \$7 50, \$7 90 and \$8, this season's goods, fawn, black and mode shades, FOR ONE WEEK YOUR CHOICE

\$5 90.

ALL JACKETS at \$3 50 and \$10, this season's styles, in fawn and black, FOR ONE WEEK YOUR CHOICE

\$7 50.

ALL JACKETS at \$12, \$13 50 and \$15, this season's styles, black, fawn, navy and gray, FOR ONE WEEK YOUR CHOICE

\$10 00.

ALL JACKETS at \$20, \$22 50 and \$25, this season's styles, black, fawn and gray, FOR ONE WEEK YOUR CHOICE

\$15 00.

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT

Very mild, unseasonable weather. Stock too heavy. Sales not what we expected. Prices cut away down for one week. Here are particulars:

Men's Double-breasted Oxford Gray, Navy and Black Dress Overcoats, big value at \$10.

Cut Price, \$7 90

Men's Heavy Weight Brown Whipcord Overcoats, wide facings, regular price \$8 85.

Cut Price, \$5 45

Men's Navy, Black and Gray Dress Overcoats, this season's newest style, extra value at our regular price, \$10, one week only, big

Cut Price, \$8 50

Men's Fine Clay Twill Serge Suits, in navy and black, single and double-breasted, regular \$7 50.

Cut Price, \$5 95

Men's Heavy Weight All-wool Tweed Suits, double and single-breasted, regular \$8 50 and \$10.

Cut Price, \$6 00

Boys' Three-piece Suits, double and single-breasted, finest tweeds, new patterns, were \$5.

Cut Price, \$3 99

Children's Fancy Vestee Suits, all new styles, this season's novelties, regular \$4 and \$4 50.

Cut Price, \$3 00

Men's Heavy Weight Tweed Trousers, very neat new patterns, regular \$2 50 and \$2 75.

Cut Price, \$1 95

Everything in Clothing Cut in Price for One Week.

Blanket Section.

ALL WOOL BLANKET, \$2 18.—For one week we will offer an All-wool Heavy Blanket, lofty finish, soft and free from grease, for only, per pair,

\$2 18.

LARGE WHITE BLANKETS, \$2 38.—For one week only we will offer a 66x86 Wool Blanket, lofty finish, soft and inodorous, for only per pair,

\$2 38.

LARGE WOOL BLANKET, \$2 45.—For one week only we will offer a 66x86 Wool Blanket, soft finish and inodorous, for only, per pair,

\$2 45.

ALL-WOOL BLANKET, \$2 75.—For one week only we will offer the "Perfect" All-wool Blanket, size 68x74, lofty finish, soft and inodorous, for only, per pair,

\$2 75.

ALL-WOOL BLANKET, \$3 90.—For one week only we will offer a special line, All-wool Blankets, size 66x86, lofty finish, fine, soft and inodorous, for only, per pair,

\$3 90.

DRESS GOODS DEPARTMENT

One Hundred and Eighty-Three Pieces Dress Goods at 1-2 and 1-4 Off Regular Prices.

No. 1 Table, Choice 35c

20 pieces All-Wool Tweed, 44 inches wide, 50c
10 pieces Homespun Tweed, 54 inches wide, 75c
15 pieces Plain Homespun, 48 inches wide, 50c
15 pieces Plain Amazon, 44 inches wide, 50c

YOUR CHOICE THIS LOT, 35c.

Table No. 2, Choice 50c

13 pieces Camelhair Plaid, 44 inches, 90c
10 pieces Homespun Suiting, 54 inches, \$1 00
15 pieces Plain Cheviot Suiting, 46 inches, 75c
15 pieces Tweed Suiting, 40 inches, 75c

YOUR CHOICE THIS LOT, 50c.

No. 3 Table, Choice 75c

10 pieces Cheviot Suiting, 46 inches, 95c
10 pieces Home-pun Suiting, 54 inches, \$1 25
10 pieces Cheviot Suitings, 54 inches, \$1 00
15 pieces Cheviot, camelhair finish, \$1 00
15 pieces Broadcloth, two-tone effects, \$1 25

YOUR CHOICE THIS LOT, 75c.

SPECIALS FOR TUESDAY'S SELLING

Mantles

20 of Last Season's Ladies' Jackets, were \$3 50 to \$10 each. Special each \$1 95, \$2 50 and \$5 00

Handkerchiefs

25 Dozen Ladies' Fine White Embroidered Handkerchiefs, 25c value. Special, 2 for 25c

Ribbons

Pure Silk Ribbons, 2 to 4 inches wide, shades of pink, navy, royal heliotrope, brown, cardinal, regular price 15c to 25c. Special, per yard 10c

Ladies' Knit Underwear

Ladies' 30c Wool Vests and Drawers. Special price, each 20c

Flannel Waists

Ladies' French Flannel Waists, cream, cardinal, garnet and black, regular price \$2 75. Special, \$1 75

Children's Ulsters

Children's small size Ulsters and Jackets, were \$2 50 to \$4. Special, each \$1 00

Kid Gloves

Ladies' Fine French Kid Gloves, black and all shades, sizes 5½ to 7½, warranted \$1 gloves. Special, per pair 75c

Kid Gloves

Ladies' Kid Gloves, black, white, and all shades, sizes 5½ to 7½, regular price 75c. Special, per pair 59c

Boys' Hose

Boys' Heavy Wool, Ribbed Hose, sizes 8½, 9½, regular price 40c. Special, per pair 30c

Ladies' Gowns

Ladies' \$1 Flannelette Gowns, lace trimmed. Special 75c

Corsets

Ladies' Long Waist, Short Hip, 75c Corset. Special price 50c

Flannelettes

Special Line Fancy Flannelette, assorted colors, sprays, figures, etc., regular price 10c and 12½c; to clear 7½c

Reduced Prices Carpet Dept.

Any of our best 50c Tapestry Carpet for, 40c
Any of our best 65c Tapestry Carpet for, 52c
Any of our best 75c Tapestry Carpet for, 60c
Any of our best 90c Brussels Carpet for, 75c
Any of our best \$1 Brussels Carpet for, 82c
Any of our \$5 and \$6 Eider Comforters, \$4 50

Men's Furnishings

Men's Scotch Wool Underwear, in all sizes, heavy-weight ribbed shirts, double-breasted. Very special value 50c
Men's very fine and heavy-weight Underwear, new brown shade, fleeced with lambswool. Very special value 75c
Men's Kid Gloves and Mocha Lined Gloves, dome fasteners, and with gusset. Extra value \$1 00
Men's heavy-weight Unlaundered Shirts, four-ply bosoms, continuous facings. Special value 59c

3 Shoe Bargains for Saturday

Strictly High-Class Footwear.

Assorted lot Ladies' Lace and Button Boots, in all sizes, American makes, regular \$3 and \$3 50. Special value \$2 40
Ladies' Very Fine Kid Shoes, button and lace; also tan, high-cut, Lace Boots; regular \$2 50 to \$3. Very special value \$1 88
Fine Dongola Lace and Button Shoes, for ladies' fine wear, in all sizes, regular \$2. Special value \$1 48
200 Paris Ladies' First Quality 600 Rubbers, Granby make. Special \$1 25