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Managing Director and Editor, **John Cameron**
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Sniffing the East Wind.

Our contemporary, the Free Press, is industriously "chewing the rag" in an attempt to minimize the fact that, in a generally Opposition riding, and with their strongest candidate, they had their majority cut down to 43, or less than one-half the late Mr. Hodgson's majority. As to the methods by which actual defeat was averted, the least said is soonest mended, but the better, as may yet be made manifest.

Reaction.

Since Sir Wilfrid Laurier came to power, there have been 45 bye-elections. The Opposition carried three.

"The Voice of the Hooligan."

Under this striking title, Mr. Robert Buchanan has contributed to the Contemporary Review a sharp criticism of Mr. Rudyard Kipling and all his works. This is certainly a bold thing to do, as Kipling is the literary idol of the hour. The thick and thin supporters of Kipling will probably dismiss the matter by declaring that the critic is a disappointed man whose fierce attack is prompted by jealousy; but unless we are prepared to maintain that in matters of literature and philosophy "the voice of the people is the voice of God," it will be wise to try to take both Mr. Kipling's writings and Mr. Buchanan's criticism in the same way, that is, on their merits.

The critic is evidently disturbed at the portentous popularity of the poet, and is convinced that it is not a good sign. Mr. Buchanan begins by stating that he is not a pessimist. He believes, on the whole, in the progress of humanity and thinks, in the long run, we of the Anglo-Saxon race are moving forward, but he is sure that in England just now there is a "back-wave," that in politics, literature and philosophy there is a perceptible "decadence." He gives facts in support of this view, but we are inclined to think and hope that his statement of the conditions of British society is somewhat exaggerated. The following passage shows his tone in treating the general situation: "Now that Mr. Gladstone has departed we possess no politician, with the single exception of Mr. Morley (whose honesty and sanity are unquestionable though he lacks, unfortunately, the demonic influence), who demands for the discussion of public affairs any conscientious and unselfish sanction whatever. We possess instead a thousand pertinacious counselors—cynics like Salisbury, or trimmers like Lord Rosebery, for whom no one in his heart of hearts feels the slightest respect. Our fashionable society is admittedly rotten, root and branch, so that not even the Queen's commanding influence can impart to it the faintest suggestion of purity or even decency." The paragraph shows the dark background which is sketched before Mr. Kipling is brought on the scene. The critic has a healthy horror of the slang which his subject uses so freely; but while admitting that there is some truth in his broad statement we cannot acquit it of exaggeration. Such exaggeration, if not carried too far, is a condition of effective preaching, and, therefore, we trust that these bold statements will not be simply pook-pooed but will be allowed to stimulate sober reflection.

In his comparative estimate of Kipling's words, Mr. Buchanan follows a line that can be accepted by the ardent admirers of that popular writer, that is, supposing the admirer to possess some power of literary judgment. For instance, we are told that the Indian tales have considerable merit; that in the "Jungle Book" he got near to a really imaginative presentment of fine material; that "On the Road to Mandalay" is the best of the ballads, possessing a real melody and a certain pathos; that "The Seven Seas" was a distinct advance on its predecessors, and in its opening "Song of the English" struck a note of distinct and absolute poetry. This, however, comes in a somewhat grudging tone of concession and the generally hostile effect of the essay is produced by bringing out boldly all that is coarse and disagreeable in the stories and songs. "The Recessional" is not mentioned, and on account of that noble little poem, to which recent events have given a deeper meaning, much will be forgiven to Mr. Kipling, even by thoughtful readers.

If we were making a plea for Kipling we could show that in the things that Mr. Buchanan admits to be good there is sufficient to make the fortune in the literary sense even of a great man. But our business is to call attention to this criticism, which maintains that Kipling is coarse, slangy, and often needlessly indecent; that he encourages a base jingoism and a spurious imperialism. While we are in full sympathy with the noble imperialism of Mr. Kipling's best pieces we are afraid that there is much truth in the indictment. There is too much drinking, swaggering and cursing in these pieces, this being not mere "incidental bits of local color," but the main theme of the story. Mr. Buchanan presses this charge home, and declares that many of the so-called ballads are only on a level with the lowest music hall effusions, and that they lack both true poetry and real humor. Space does not allow us to follow the critic into details, and to reproduce his denunciation of Kipling's latest book, which he regards as a piece of unmitigated vulgarity, more likely to hurt than to help the boys of this generation; but we must confess that he has made out a strong case at a

time when we are asked to invest in complete editions of Kipling's. We do not for one moment think that Kipling can safely be treated in the patronizing contemptuous style with which he is sometimes handled in this essay. The man over whose bedside the nations watched with such eagerness is not to be explained as a mere "fake," but the critic has certainly proved that in some of the elements of Kipling's popularity there is real danger. The works of this popular writer will stand very much winnowing, for it cannot be said that "he uttered nothing base." The complete editions at any rate, are not for boys and girls. The boys of his last book seem to be just as great prigs as those of many "Sunday school books," with this difference, that they are dirty, slangy and cruel as well. We must admit that Kipling is like human life in this, that the good and evil are closely intertwined, and in some cases it is difficult to separate the dross from the gold, but there is a great deal of the dross that a discerning public might easily cast away. There is something, moreover, in Mr. Buchanan's complaint that the public taste is vitiated by the coarse sensational literature of the day. This is a large and important theme, and we would like to treat it at greater length, but our present purpose is simply to report the nature of Mr. Buchanan's grave and sober protest against Kipling worship. We cannot regard with

unalloyed joy "The Absent-Minded Beggar" with its music hall frenzies even if the chorus "Pay, Pay, Pay," has been very effective. War is a thing for which the nation must pay in many ways, but we believe that it is to be avoided as much as possible, and, when inevitable, to be entered upon in the most serious mood. We believe that the British nation is sound at the core, and that it will bear with becoming dignity the chastening of misfortune, but we also believe that there is some room for the fear that the cause of universal peace has been put back by so much bragging boasting, and glorification of military splendor. We are learning now the other side of the picture, and while we would not make too much of that or talk as if loss of life was the greatest loss, we trust that any needful expansion of the Anglo-Saxon race, British or American, will not only be in the interests of a higher civilization, but will be carried forward in that dignified spirit which marked the life of our fathers in their best days. "The burden of Empire" is great enough in any case, and it can only be borne by a people who are conscious of being called to a high mission, and who seek modestly to discharge great duties. There is much in Kipling that ministers to this noble feeling, but there is also much which feeds the fever of the war spirit and produces broad-mouthed boasting that irritates our enemies without helping ourselves.

Cabled Comment.

On the Campaign in South Africa and Other Old World Topics--Opening of a General Campaign--Search for a Leakage of News.

Correspondent Knight Home From the War--Boers Abuse the Use of the White Flag--Mrs. Brown-Potter Gets Twenty Guineas for a Kiss and a Tambourine--Remarkable Boer Document--Mrs. Joubert at the Front.

London, Feb. 5.—As inaction at the front is wearisome to onlookers in newspaper offices, several military writers, with Charles Williams at their head, have announced that Gen. Buller has resumed active operations for the relief of Ladysmith. They assert that the British army was engaged with the enemy either Friday afternoon or Saturday, since Gen. Roberts had sent a definite order for the passage of the river. This may be true, since it is highly probable that a third attempt to rescue Ladysmith will be made with the least possible delay, but there is no official confirmation of the reports, which are of no value unless based upon a mysterious leakage from some high quarter. The discipline of the war office is rigorous. Press dispatches from Natal are meager, and consist mainly of conjectures formed on the coast respecting Gen. Buller's new plan of operations, and also of highly-colored reports of Boer losses in recent battles. These reports have been carried from Ladysmith by native runners. There are also vague rumors respecting the progress of a small flying column sent into Zululand for the purpose of checking Boer cattle raids. Gen. Roberts and Kitchener are clearly at work upon

A GENERAL CAMPAIGN, and when operations are opened there will be activity all along the line. There is no definite information from any quarter, but there are hints that Gen. Tucker is carrying some battalions and batteries toward Modder River; that Gen. French had been in consultation with Gen. Kitchener and Kelly-Kenny; that Stormberg is nearly surrounded, and that a considerable force is massed at Belmont for a sudden movement toward the Orange River bridges behind Colenso. If any signs of activity do not prove anything else, the inference is clear that a single mind now directs the campaign from Cape Town, and that when there is news there will be a good deal of it from the various quarters. Gen. Buller's army, without doubt, will not remain idle, but will co-operate in a general movement, which will keep the Dutch forces occupied east, west and south. Meanwhile, there is a leakage of information.

LOOKING FOR THE LEAKAGE. The secret investigation into the leakage of information passing over the cable from South Africa, which was commenced six weeks ago, has just been completed. It was fully believed here that on a number of occasions news of British reverses were known in Europe long before the information reached the government. The war correspondents have repeatedly given what is considered good evidence in support of these arguments, and of the marvelous means of information said to be possessed by Dr. Leyds, the Boer agent in Europe, which enabled him to keep in the closest touch with Pretoria. But the inquiry just closed has demonstrated that in no instance has Dr. Leyds had the news in advance of the British government. He has had information, however, and has communicated it to the foreign press before it was given out here, notably the news of the abandonment of Spion Kop. The solution of the mystery is that there has been a treasonable leakage of news, and the traitor is located either on the Eastern Telegraph Company's staff or in the war office itself. For fully a month past the arrangement has been that as soon as Gen. Buller or Gen. Roberts sent a cable message of more than usual importance, the lines have been closed for a certain number of hours, sometimes 24, and even diplomatic dispatches have been kept back on the plea that some section of the cable route was interrupted. But despite these precautions, news has leaked. Now the investigation is concentrated upon the discovery of the exact point of leakage.

THE SITUATION CLEARER. London, Feb. 5.—To say the nation stood appalled at the tone

and substance of the earlier speeches of the official leaders of both parties in parliament does not go beyond the truth. Since then, however, has come relief from the most unexpected quarters. The situation has been distinctly cleared and the country has now grounds to hope that the cabinet means to act, not talk, and is thinking of work ahead rather than of self-exculpation. Thanks first to Mr. George Wyndham, under secretary of state for the war office, then to Mr. George J. Goschen, first lord of the admiralty, much of the gloom has been dispelled, and the nation is able to feel more comfortable on an essential point, that the deficiencies of organization have been fully recognized, and that the government is determined to remedy them. It is small wonder that the country is asking why, if a subordinate member of the government like Mr. Wyndham and Mr. Goschen, who though formerly an impassioned orator, of recent years has lost most of his forcefulness, are able to produce this tranquillizing effect, statements of more conspicuous position have failed to adopt the same tone of candor and good feeling.

Lord Salisbury and Mr. Balfour, distinctly prejudiced the cabinet and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Mr. James Bryce seriously damaged the Liberals by their apparent indifference to the most material currents of public sentiment. MINISTERS SEE THE SITUATION. Mr. Wyndham and Mr. Goschen, however, proved themselves in touch with national opinion, and as Mr. Goschen proceeded almost directly from a cabinet meeting to the house of commons, the country believes it is entitled to accept the resolute tones in which he spoke as a token that the ministers at length appreciate the situation as it affects the government and the country. Mr. Wyndham's speech immensely enhanced his parliamentary reputation and the chances of attaining full ministerial rank. He has been a soldier and a journalist and a railroad director and connected by relationship and otherwise with the best families in the country. With political training of a high order Mr. Wyndham has been able to command the gallery men leading Great Britain in the twentieth century. Mr. Goschen also rose to the occasion. He displayed some of his old time fire and aroused his hearers to attention by a gallantly when he charged Dr. Bryce, who declared the war was unjust and unnecessary, with "giving a brief to every enemy of England."

GOSCHEN ANNOUNCES BIG RELIEF. The whole tone of Mr. Goschen's measured language was reassuring, and showed the admiralty is keeping a good lookout ahead. There was no mistaking the significance of his intimations that the admiralty had been assiduously, yet undemonstratively engaged in perfecting naval arrangements to meet all contingencies. Mr. Goschen indulged in the usual reservations and qualifications, but the country reads between the lines a recognition of possible international dangers, and it is immensely relieved at Mr. Goschen's assurances that the country thus far has only put out its left arm, and that its right arm with all the muscles hardened is held in reserve for possible foreign interference in the war or an attempt to rob Great Britain of the fruits of victory.

SHOT IN THE MARKET SQUARE. The Standard, among its death notices today, prints the following:

"McLachlan—On Christmas Day, shot in market square, Harrisburgh, Orange Free State, South Africa, for refusing to fight against his own countrymen, John McLachlan, Jun., aged 29, eldest son of John McLachlan, of Wadsworth, and grandson of the late John McLachlan, of Lambeth."

The Spectator, commenting on the above, says that if the statement contained in the notice is true, "the whole English-speaking world should ring with denunciations of a crime so detestable." Especially, it adds, "should

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A Wrapperette Bargain at 7½c Yard

3,040 3-4 yards of Wrapperette, red and black, white and black, plaids, stripes and checks. 1,685 yards Fancy Wrapperettes, blues, browns, greens. The prices of these goods should be 12½c and 15c. We offer the lot on Wednesday morning and until sold, at per yard.....7½

Boys' Wool Hose.

178 pairs Boys' Ribbed Wool Hose, double heels, feet and toes, all sizes, our regular 40c line, at per pair.....24½

Ladies' Wool Vests.

Sale of Ladies' Vests this Week.
\$1 Ribbed Vests, sale price.....75c
75c Ribbed Vests, sale price.....62½
Drawers to match at same prices.

Ladies' Black Ribbed Tights.

\$1 Black Crescent Wool Tights.....85c
75c Black Crescent Wool Tights.....60c
50c Black Crescent Wool Tights.....40c

Children's Wool Underwear.

20 per cent reduction on all Children's sizes in Undervest this week.

1,000 Scribblers at 1c Each.

The Herald Scribbler, well bound, extra size, at each.....1c

A White Shirt Bargain at 31c Each.

600 Unlaundered White Shirts, all sizes. You have bought worse at 50c each. Tuesday morning at, each.....31c

Dressmakers, Attention!

6 pieces, 60 yards each, Gilbert Lining, fast black with fancy colored back; regular 25c a yard, to clear at.....15c
Taped Hooks and Eyes, in white, black, gray and brown, with steel front; regular 10c each, to clear at.....5c

Dress Goods Specials.

Black Dress Goods, in Priestley's satin, jacquard, otto-mans stripes, etc., also "Gold Medal" figured, all-wool goods; 44-inch regular price 75c, \$1, and \$1 25 a yard, to clear at, per yard.....59c
Colored German Velours, in seal, mid and light brown, green and castor shades, fine all-wool goods; worth 50c a yard, to clear at.....35c
19 pieces All-Wool Serge and Henrietta, in green, brown, gray, fawn and castor, 42 inches wide, and sold at 35c a yard, to clear at, per yard.....19c
20 pieces Wool Plaid and Silk Checked Tartans, 38 inches; regular price 50c and 60 a yard, to clear at, per yard.....35c
Heavy All-Wool Skirting Plaids; worth 75c, 90c and \$1 a yard, to clear at per yard.....60c

Ladies' Hsitrachan Jackets Reduced From

\$45 00 to.....\$38 50 \$30 00 to.....\$26 50
38 00 to.....31 50 28 00 to.....24 00
35 00 to.....29 50 25 00 to.....20 00

Corsets at 25c, 50c, 75c Pair.

Ladies' Heavy Jean Corsets, cord filled, perfect fitting, all sizes, regular 39c, special per pair.....25c
Heavy Jean Corsets, French make, side steels riveted, girdle around waist, all sizes, special per pair.....50c
Short Waist Corsets, steel tipped filling, perfect fitting, special per pair.....75c
10c Corset Clamps, per pair.....5c

Flannelette Gowns Reduced.

\$1 50 Gowns now each.....\$1 10
\$1 Gowns now each.....75c
75c Gowns now each.....55c

Ribbons at 5c Per Yard.

10c and 15c Pure Silk Faille Cord Ribbons, shades of blue, pink, yellow and rose, on sale Tuesday, per yard.....5c

Staple Section--TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY.

Gray and White Wool Blankets at special reductions to clear; also Shaped Horse Blankets and Lap Rugs, at.....\$1 25, \$1 50, \$1 75, \$2 00
15 pieces 37-inch Heavy Flannelette, good bright color, worth today 14c a yard, very special, 10 yards for.....\$1 00

Checked Cotton Shirting at 10c.

10 pieces Best Canadian Check Shirting, standard price 12½c a yard, Tuesday and Wednesday.....10c
6 pieces only 32-inch Heavy Flannelette Shirting, dark color; regular price 10c a yard, for.....6½c
30 only Unbleached Table Cloths, border all round, heavy Scotch Linen, about 12 long; worth 75c each, for each 50c
17 only Unbleached Table Cloths, border all round, 8-4 size; worth \$1, to clear at, each.....75c
Balance of Belfast Half-Bleached Table Damask; worth 60c a yard, 3 patterns left, at.....35c
2 pieces only 66-inch Bleached Table Damask; regular selling price 75c a yard, Tuesday and Wednesday.....55c

Big Reductions in Ladies' Cloth Jackets

\$15 00 to \$25 00 Jackets for.....\$10 00
\$7 90 to \$25 00 Jackets for.....5 75
\$13 90 Jackets for.....8 50
\$4 50 Jackets for.....2 50

The Runians, Gray, Carrie, Co

208, 210, 210½, 212 Dundas Street, London.

Americans speak out on such a matter, for they showed the true way in their treatment of technical rebels and set an example to mankind." MRS. JOUBERT AT THE FRONT. The story that Mrs. Joubert is with Gen. Joubert at the front and personally providing for his table, does not surprise those who know that energetic woman. She went with him often in his campaigns against the natives. The old times in the laager, when, with other women, she melted lead for bullets for the men, have been recalled by Amsterdam acquaintances, who taking her through the War Effort museum, pointed out an ancient powder collection. Her only remark was: "Good to make bullets of."

THE MAINE. A dispatch has been received from Lady Randolph Churchill, who is on board the American hospital ship Maine, at Durban, saying the vessel will be stationed there for the present. The Maine was filling with wounded men, including members from the battle of Spion Kop. A telegram from the Morning Post says: "The Maine is of inestimable service to the authorities and a merciful blessing to the wounded who, after lying all night on the battle field, and weary of jolting in railways, at last find peace."

London, Feb. 5.—Edward P. Knight, the veteran war correspondent of the Morning Post, and who was wounded at the battle of Belmont, has returned minus an arm, and a physical wreck. He says Julian Ralph was also wounded at Belmont, being hit in the stomach by a piece of a shell, but not seriously hurt. This is the first news received in London that Ralph was wounded.

BOERS ABUSE THE WHITE FLAG. Mr. Knight says emphatically that the Boers abused the use of the white flag at Belmont shamefully.

"Just at the close of the battle," relates Mr. Knight, "a small party of Boers, making a last stand, hoisted the white flag. We marched forward and were fired on. I dropped with a bullet through my arm. The private next to me said grimly, 'All right, sir, I'll come back and see to you in a few minutes, when we've finished these gentlemen.' Then he went with the rest, and five minutes later, the last Boer having been bayoneted, Tommy came back, his bayonet dripping with the blood of the Boers he had killed, and promptly set to work to dress my wound."

ILL-MANNERED REFUGEES. The transport Cheshire arrived at Southampton Friday, with 600 of the so-called refugees from the Transvaal aboard. All had their fares paid out of the lord mayor's fund, but according to the Daily Mail, only 10 were Englishmen entitled to charity. The rest were Jews of several nationalities. The Mail claims that the Jews behaved shamefully. When the Cheshire reached the docks they brushed women and children rudely aside, broke up the stampee cattle for the free refreshments served by the mayor of Southampton, and later seized all the good seats in the train, causing women

and children to stand. They put in the trip to London playing cards, using sovereigns for chips. The English refugees claim that the Jews prevented many destitute women and children from coming, and on the voyage became so unruly that the English had to form a police force, arm with clubs, put the ring leaders in irons, and threaten to hang the first man starting a rumour. Watch was kept night and day to prevent mutiny.

KAISER FOR CHARITY. A piquant incident closed the matinee in aid of yeomanry at the Lyric Theater, in Bath, Mrs. Brown-Potter, after reciting the "Absent-Minded Beggar," put up at auction the tambourine which she used in making the collection during the performance. The bidding stopped at 17 guineas. Mrs. Brown Potter announced that she would kiss the buyer if the price reached 20 guineas. The offer was immediately seized by Dhundjiboy Rommanji, a Parsee merchant, and the actress more than fulfilled her contract.

REMARKABLE BOER DOCUMENT. The papers published extracts from a remarkable document emanating from the office of the secretary of state at Pretoria, dated Dec. 16. The document comprises 10,000 words, and is counter-signed by Secretary of State Reitz. It seems specially written for the American public. It says: "We to a great extent depend on America and Europe for our foodstuffs, it would be criminal on the part of the great powers to suffer this little nation to perish by famine since the sword has failed. Since 1870 the president of the United States has acknowledged our republic as a sovereign state; Americans have flocked here in numbers. In every instance the aid of fellowship has been extended to them. Not a single case of disagreement is on record, but with the first war note of the oppressor we are informed that America is acting in league with the enemy. If our sister republic has no sympathy with us; if the boasted concession of Great Britain is to be preferred to sincerity and truth, we will no longer believe in the justice and integrity of the American nation, and her profession of Christianity we will consider empty sound." Secretary Reitz further says that the Boers have never abused the white flag, and that the British murdered women, children and American and German subjects at Derdepoort.

WORLD'S PEACE IN PERIL. Paris, which is normally in the throes of party strife, is hardly recognizable today, so devoid has it been of political excitement. This momentary absence of internal conflict has given the press and the political world a chance to concentrate attention upon the general European situation evolved from the crisis which the British Empire is now traversing. Diplomats are discussing nothing but the clouds which are hanging over Great Britain's horizon. Beneath the insubordination of Egyptian troops in Khartoum, as reported from Cairo, is dimly discerned the intriguing hand of an enemy of England. Unusual activity among the embassies is manifest, and the air is charged with a highly-strung condition of the nerves of every European chancellerie. The suspicious movements of Russia on the Persian and Afghan frontiers and her dispatch over sea of

important reinforcements of men and material to the Chinese frontier, is interpreted as an evil omen to the world's peace.

RUSSIA REACHING OUT. It can be said almost certainly that no surprise would be occasioned in diplomatic circles if the near future saw some act of aggression on the part of Russia towards the fulfillment of her dream of reaching the open sea through Persia. It is universally recognized that Russia never had a better moment than the present when she has the sympathy of France, and when the hands of her only redoubtable opponent—Great Britain—are tied in South Africa. The Paris press sees this reputed Russian design, and does not conceal its hearty approbation, not an inconsiderable portion of the press even urging the government to join hands with Russia despite the fact that it would mean ruin to the exposition.

JAPAN FEARS A TREATY. According to information published in Paris the Franco-American reciprocity treaty is arousing keen anxiety in Japanese commercial circles. The silk producers of Japan are especially alarmed, fearing the treaty may hit them hard. It is said the Japanese minister in Paris has been instructed to (Continued on Page 8.)

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