

London Advertiser.

(Established by JOHN CAMERON, in 1863.)

THE LEADING DAILY IN WESTERN ONTARIO

8,688 Sworn Average Daily Circulation for 1900.

Advertising and subscription rates furnished on application.

Address all communications to THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY (Limited), LONDON, ONTARIO.

London, Saturday, May 4.

Half Holidays and Citizen Soldiering.

The general commanding the Canadian militia has raised a question of considerable importance, when he suggests that employers of labor throughout the Dominion could greatly aid in rendering the defensive force of the country efficient by encouraging the observance of a Saturday half holiday in all employments where such a cessation from work is possible.

It is a fact, as pointed out by Gen. O'Grady Haly, that the volunteer movement has been greatly strengthened and popularized in the mother country because of the establishment of the Wednesday or Saturday half-holiday. The practice for many years in the United Kingdom has been for the factory hands, building trades, and all of the mechanical classes to have a half holiday on Saturday, summer and winter. It was deemed inexpedient, when the great purchasing masses were at play, and therefore had opportunity to visit the shopping centers, that the stores should be closed, and so an arrangement was reached for the establishment of a Wednesday half holiday, when all the shops, by mutual consent, in every enterprising center of population, are closed up.

The effect of this arrangement on the volunteer movement has been marked. The factory hands and mechanical workmen are generally members of the infantry corps, and as a consequence, all the battalion drills, marches out, and even brigade division drills, are performed on Saturday afternoons, hours being spent on each of a dozen Saturdays in the summer in perfecting the various companies in their work as soldiers. In many places, the store clerks almost to a man belong to the artillery branch of the service, and they in turn have their military education on Wednesday afternoons, the two branches of the volunteer service being thus much advantaged by the weekly half holiday.

We in Canada have a shorter summer than they have in Great Britain, but we question if any one would be the loser if the half holiday system were as steadfastly maintained as an institution as it is in the old land. In the early days, so anxious were the workers to have the half holiday that they gladly gave up fifteen minutes of their breakfast hour and a like period of their dinner hour on five days of the week to enable them to enjoy the half holiday. And now no one whether employer or employed, would ever think of abolishing the Saturday half holiday. As to the Wednesday half holiday, our city merchants can easily arrange, if they choose, to co-operate. Already, in several months of the year, enterprising dealers have shut up shop for half a day each week, and they certainly have not become poorer as a consequence. Were the half holiday shut-up to be made general, not only in London, but throughout the country, we are certain that no one would be the loser, and the military force, as the General believes, might be very much strengthened and popularized. The matter is worthy of serious consideration.

Types of Workers.

The other day, at Queen's Convocation, six gentlemen received academic honors from the Senate, and looking over the list one is struck by the variety of types, and may find in that a useful lesson. As a rule, such academic compliments are paid to men on the ground of scholarship or professional distinction. The scholar is sometimes a remarkable man, who stands in a sense alone, and whose distinction is largely personal. In other cases, the honor, while lighting upon a person, appeals to a whole class. The half dozen who on Wednesday last received such honors, represented the hard-working country pastor, in the person of one who had labored for fifty years in the same village; the church dignitary, a popular bishop, beginning his work in a diocese where he has been well and favorably received; the successful schoolmaster, a gentleman who was himself a graduate of Queen's, and has prepared many for an honorable career in his alma mater. Further, we have a Church of England clergyman, noted for thorough scholarship and catholicity of spirit; a Presbyterian minister, who has earned for himself a position of usefulness and distinction on the Pacific Coast; and last, but not least, a constitutional lawyer and distinguished politician, who is admired as much for his sterling strength of character as for his statesmanlike ability. Surely there are here specimens of several, if not of all, the types of workers that are needed in building up the varied life of the country.

The crops in Canada so far everywhere look excellent. With a bountiful harvest the future of the Dominion will be indeed rosy.

Britain's Trade.

The annual statement of the trade of Great Britain, which has just been made up, when compared with previous years, shows that there has been a steady expansion of the commerce of the United Kingdom, as will be seen from the following comparative statement of imports and exports:

	Imports.	Exports.
1897	£451,028,960	£234,219,703
1898	470,375,583	239,369,240
1899	485,055,583	329,324,658
1900	523,075,165	354,373,754

It will be observed that the exports from Great Britain are not nearly so large as the imports, and we sometimes hear the ill-instructed lament that there is an adverse balance of trade against the motherland. The fact is that the British people make enormous profit out of their shipping and out of investments abroad and they take pay in such foreign products as they find most profitable to import. Hence the disparity. But it is not a loss, but a positive gain to the British people to have much larger imports than exports.

The growth of the total trade of the United Kingdom in the past eight years has been striking. We give the comparative statement:

1894	£682,130,677
1895	702,522,065
1896	738,118,118
1897	745,203,078
1898	764,382,571
1899	814,755,710
1900	877,448,917

This is an increase of something like a thousand million dollars a year since 1893. It does not show that the mother country is going to the dogs, as Sir C. H. Tupper declared in the Dominion Parliament some time ago. There is life in the old lion yet!

President McKinley's Tour.

President McKinley is making a tour of the Southern States, and notwithstanding the fact that the Democratic party is strong in the South, is being tendered a very cordial reception. He is popular in the South even though the Southerners would not vote for him. It is an instance where the man transcends the office he holds. President McKinley has shown the ability to rise above party, as the chief magistrate of a great nation should, which fact is being recognized by reasonable people of almost all shades of political opinion. Some Canadians might copy the example of the Southerners in this respect and submerge party feeling in the interests of the public weal.

Another Side of It.

The recent financial operations in England of J. Pierpont Morgan, of New York, need not be looked at altogether from an alarmist point of view. If there is an immense amount of United States money now being invested in Great Britain, that is only a friendly return for the large amounts of British capital invested in the United States. Our wealthy neighbors have not been slow to make large investments in Canada, at Sault Ste. Marie, in the iron mines of Cape Breton, and in a score of places and enterprises. There is an international side to these interchanges of capital. They are incentives for peace; the financial ties, together with the frequent intermarriages between prominent persons in Britain and the United States, form an important nexus for these two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon people.

Present Religious Tendencies in India.

Dr. G. T. Ladd, of Yale University, writes in a most interesting and instructive manner in The American Journal of Theology for April. He is both a philosopher and a Biblical critic, and speaks from personal experience, as he has recently visited India for the purpose of lecturing and investigating. He points out that of such an immense country, with such multiform heterogeneous peoples, it is difficult to make general statements. In India, man may be seen in all stages of civilization or barbarism, the philologist can find all kinds of languages in all their stages. All forms of religion flourish. "Contrary to the impression that Buddhism is extinct in India, more than seven millions of its different sects are registered by the census of 1891. The religions of the Sikh and of the Christian number nearly the same, and under the title of 'Brahmanism,' which claims five-sevenths of the about 290,000,000 of inhabitants, everything by way of religious belief is covered, from the grossest idolatry and devil-worship to the most subtle philosophic pantheism or agnostic pessimism." Yet the investigator finds that "natives of India are intensely human—essentially the same men in all most important respects as you and I."

Dr. Ladd illustrates this by giving pictures of the varied types with whom he came in contact. He finds at work both an intense conservatism stiffer than we have in our own most rigid sects, and at the same time an opposite tendency to hair-splitting and schism. Religion in India, according to Dr. Ladd, does not produce a social life equal to what we have in Christian countries, but religion there makes itself felt in everything that concerns social life. Four tendencies are clearly discerned in the strange, seething mass of varied life.

1. A tendency on the part of younger educated Hindus to agnosticism or indifference. This has led some to say that India will ultimately be either agnostic or Catholic.

2. A weakening of priestly authority

and caste. Wealthy men may engage a "Brahman" to do their religious exercises for them, and at the same time treat him with contempt.

3. A tendency towards reconstruction and reform by those who are in sympathy with Christianity.

4. A tendency on the part of the very poor to become Christians for what they can get; these face poverty and misery that we cannot understand, and Hinduism is no "good news" for the millions of common people. The conclusion drawn by Dr. Ladd is that the establishment of self-supporting, self-respecting industrial Christian communities is of the highest importance; and "For the religious enlightenment of the more intelligent and educated of the Hindus in India it is not only useless, but also mischievous, to employ men who have not the very finest equipment of reflective thinking and scholarly culture." In other words, if we are to give to India, we must give of our best, and train the disciples to make the very best of themselves.

The Chatham Banner-News says even the dogs have decreased in that town. Lucky Chatham!

Can it be true, as the Presbyterian Review of Toronto, says, that gambling among women is increasing in that city at an alarming rate?

The propriety of having women to deal with those of her own sex has been recognized by the Hon. J. R. Stratton, in the appointment of a lady physician at the Victoria Asylum for Women of Cobourg.

The dishonest apple-packer will not in future pursue his nefarious business with impunity. He deserves no consideration. We are all willing to pay for our apples, but if we pay for good apples, we want to get them.

A writer in the London (England) Mail speaks of John Redmond, the Irish leader, as having the debating ability of O'Connell, and at the same time the less showy gifts of Parnell, such as forcefulness and restraint. Can Mr. Redmond live up to this eulogy?

No member of the Tupper family was in evidence at the Opposition Parliamentary banquet the other night. Nor was anything said of any member of that family, nor of Hugh John Macdonald, hailed but six months ago as the lieutenant of the Conservative leader. How quickly some people are forgotten!

The Presbyterian Synod of Hamilton and London meets in London about this date next year. Rev. J. G. Stuart is one of the Conference programme committee. "Conference" days are generally ruined by having too many papers, too long speeches, and too much formality. Mr. Stuart and his committee ought to arrange things better for next year.

The Nebraska Independent must have been studying the London Free Press, when it says of the President, that "the world has never seen such a sneak and hypocrite as this man McKinley." The favorite verbal missile the Free Press hurls at the able Premier of a great Province is "humbug." Does the Free Press really think the vulgarities of epithet in which it so habitually indulges will do Mr. Ross any harm, or its own side any good?

Dr. Bryce, provincial health officer, recommends the appointment by local boards of health of an officer in each county, trained in the diagnosis of smallpox. The appointment should be made for six months. The ever-increasing movement of excursionists and visitors to the Pan-American Exhibition will, he thinks, make such a step a necessity for the public safety. Even from the point of view of mere economy, the value of such a step, he asserts, can be hardly estimated.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands has arranged with the Canadian Pacific Railway and Lumsden Steamboat Company to run a 15-day excursion to Temiskaming. The excursion, which is in the interests of the colonization of our northern territory begins on Tuesday, May 28th, when excursionists may take any C. P. R. train. Greatly reduced traveling rates may be had upon the presentation of a certificate from Thomas Southworth, director of colonization, Parliament buildings, Toronto.

Judge Ferguson's View.

[Brookville Recorder.] Mr. Justice Ferguson has a bit of a temper and occasionally he lets it fly. Once at Brookville he said several things about his private apartments, and at Ottawa the other day he remarked: "A county council is not fit to look after a court house, and never was. I hope an act will be passed taking control of the court house out of the hands of the council."

CURIOUS INSTANCES.

Galt Reformer: A strange freak of nature has occurred on the farm of A. Humphrey, Troy. Mr. Humphrey has a half-bred Jersey cow that gave birth to a fully developed calf about the middle of last November, 1900. The cow did well, and gave a good flow of milk for six or eight weeks, when she began to show signs of drying up. She was fed well and ate heartily, but still continued to milk for the animal's strange behavior. He, however, allowed her to dry up, as her milk was unwholesome. But he had scarcely done so when, to his surprise, the cow's udder again began to milk. On the 24th of April, 1901, to another fully developed calf. Mr. Humphrey would like to hear from other cattle men who have had a like experience.

Steward's Liniment Cures Burns, etc.

THE RUNNERS GRAY CO

The Drapery Section

SATURDAY EVENING BARGAINS

These goods deserve a little mention, and they get it. They also get special attention given them by our buyer, consequently our showing is large, varied and attractive. Art Lawns, Art Muslins, Silkolines, Scrims, Art Sateens, Cretonnes, Art Denims, etc., vie with each other in richness of display, and profusion. Housekeepers and others making the usual spring changes incident to housecleaning, are invited to a look through this section.

See our Art Muslins at.....5c, 8c, 10c and 12½c
See our Art Scrims at.....7c, 10c, 12½c and 15c
See our Art Sateens at.....12½c, 15c, 17c, 20c and 22c
See our Cretonnes at.....8c, 10c, 12½c and 15c
See our Silkolines at.....10c, 15c, 18c and 20c
See our Fancy Denims at.....15c, 20c and 25c

Millinery News

Right must be our styles, prices and methods, else so many would hardly favor us. Our one-price method, with patience and agreeableness to make any change in trimming to suit the customer and her purse, meets with commendation. Our Ready-to-Wear Hats are a special center of attraction this week. We show them in a great many styles, and below merely mention a few:

Ladies' and Misses' Ready-to-wear Hats, in fawn, red, green and brown rustic straw, with drapery of muslin de sole and fancy quill. Special at.....	\$1.00
Ladies' and Misses' Sailor Hats, in white, black and white rustic straw, velvet and a jaunty hat. Special at.....	25c
Ladies' and Misses' White Mackinaw Straw Sailors, with silk bands, light weight, worth in regular prices 50c. Our special price to clear.....	35c
Misses' Rustic Straw, in white only, with satin bands and roses in blue, red, white and black, edged with fancy straw. Special at.....	60c

Wash Goods

Wash Goods in great profusion. Without doubt the most fascinating display in the city. Words cannot convey the splendor of this exhibit.

See our Donegal and French Fancy Dimities, at, per yard,.....12½c, 15c and 20c
See our Ariel and Linen Batistes, in all the new colorings, at, per yard.....25c
See our New Silk-Finished Foulards, in all the new colorings, at, per yard.....20c
See our 36-inch American Percales, fast colors, large assortment, at, per yard.....15c and 18c

COMICAL CORRIGAN

An Old-Fashioned Traveling Showman and Ventriloquist.

[New Orleans Times-Democrat.] "I suppose there are more queer ways in the show business than in any other vocation on earth," said an advance agent, chatting after the performance of a few nights ago. "I ran across one of the oddities recently," he continued, "in the person of a single-handed entertainer, who has been working a quiet little circuit of his own for the last twenty years, and is beginning to think about retiring on a snug fortune, yet I doubt whether you could find a soul in the city who ever heard of him. My discovery of the gentleman was due to a mislaid railroad schedule that forced me to try town in West Virginia. 'Looking around the office of the hotel, which was also dining-room, reading-room and smoking-room, I was surprised to see a handbill announcing that Comical Corrigan would give one of his well-known and justly popular entertainments at the brick church that evening. The poster went on to say that there was nothing about the show would include comic and sentimental ballads, imitations of wild beasts, ventriloquism, selections on fourteen separate and distinct musical instruments, a funny stump speech and refined jigs and wing dancing, the whole to conclude with an exhibition of prestidigitator or parlor magic."

"That sounded promising, so after supper I sauntered around to the brick church, which I found crowded to the doors. I managed to get a seat, however, and upon my word, I haven't enjoyed myself as much for years. I was transported back to boyhood's happy days, and for two solid hours I forgot I had a trouble on earth. Comical Corrigan turned out to be a plump, jolly person, with a flexible face and a jovial eye, and his entertainment was exactly what I remember seeing at our old town hall when I was a little shaver of 8 or 10—the same good old jokes, the same comical songs—I don't believe I missed a single boyhood favorite. In the ventriloquism selections he hailed out the two dolls I hadn't seen for 30 many years, perched them on his knees and began the well-remembered dialogue: 'Well, Sammy, how do you feel?' he asks. 'With my fingers,' squeaks Sammy, in falsetto. The Comical Corrigan whacked him over the head, and we all roared with laughter. When Mr. Corrigan announced that he would now recite a pathetic recitation by special request, I knew he would favor us with 'Curfew Shall Not Ring Tonight' before he opened his mouth, and when he fired from a pistol in his chaste recitation of prestidigitator, or parlor magic, I could hardly get mine off quick enough. I was so anxious to see that dear old trick done again."

"After it was all over I met Corrigan, and found him a first-rate fellow. He told me he had been doing that sort of thing ever since 1880—driving a team of mules, making friends of the church and fraternal order people, and gradually building up a clientele that was now as regular and steady as a clock. He sticks to small places, makes the rounds once a season, and

is welcomed everywhere as an old friend. He is under next to no expense, and if it rains on any given date he simply stays over and gives the show the next night. I thought of the trials and vexation of piloting a big company over the road," added the advance agent sadly, "and I envied him from the bottom of my heart."

OVER A BILLION DOLLARS

The Annual Drink Bill of the United States.

[From the Literary Digest.] The nation's annual bill for alcoholic liquors is estimated from the annual Statistical Abstract at \$1,172,498,445. The American Grocer (New York) estimates the bill for the year ending June 30, 1900, at \$1,172,498,445. Both seem to agree that it is over a billion dollars. As the Philadelphia Times observes, "If the American people would save their annual drink bill, they could establish a new trust every year without any water in its capital." The figures of the New Voice make the bill the largest in history, the year 1882 standing second with a bill of \$1,079,492,172. According to the American Grocer's figures, the per capita consumption of liquor (7.68 gallons) has been outdone only once, in the year 1882. The New Voice presents the following interesting comparison between the national drink bill and other large financial records:

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1900.

EXPENDITURE.

Total exports of merchandise	\$1,394,452,063
Total receipts all railways of United States (1899)	1,335,048,379
Expenditures for liquor (1899)	1,172,498,445
Public debt, less cash in treasury	1,107,711,258
Total gold coin in treasury	1,034,334,444
Value total coal production of 35 a ton	985,644,585
Value total imports	849,941,184
Total farm value of corn crop (1899)	751,220,034
Value of all horses in the country	603,969,442
Total silver coin in treasury and circulation	514,812,106
Farm value total cotton crop (1899)	490,104,027
Value total wheat crop (1899)	351,990,000
World's production of gold (1899)	323,525,177
Value of oil production at ten cents a gallon	236,594,990
Total customs receipts	236,327,267
World's production of silver (1899)	216,239,109
Farm value public schools (1899)	197,281,602
Total paid for pensions (1899)	138,462,130
Total subsidiary coin in treasury and circulation	82,863,742
Farm value potato crop (1899)	80,311,570
Total receipts all telegraph lines	24,758,167

Corn Belt (Chicago) estimates that not less than 60,554 persons are engaged in the manufacture and sale of liquor in the United States, or about 1 to every 116 of the population. The New Orleans Pioneeer says of the American Grocer's estimate of the national drink bill and of the per capita consumption: "Enormous as is the annual drink bill of the nation, there would be no objection to it if nobody got more than seven gallons a year; but when it is taken into consideration that most of the millions of women and children, and many of the men, drink little or nothing, it will be seen what a vast quantity of it goes down the throats of the steady drinkers, and it is at the expense of a billion dollars, more money than can be collected without an effort of the imagination. What vast quantities of the earnings of labor have been diverted from the support of families to be swallowed up in the vortex of drink! The amount of misery and crime that has resulted from that vast consumption of intoxicating liquors is beyond computation."

While prohibitive legislation is proposed

From 7:30 to 10 o'clock we place on Sale at reduced prices the following special list. As announced heretofore these lines are positively not offered at these rates before hour mentioned.

80 yards Unbleached Sheet, 2 yards wide, regular price 15c. Saturday evening, only, per yard,.....

95 yds. Cottonade, molskin finish, good weight, regular price 15c. Saturday evening only, per yard,.....

12C 11C

4 dozen pairs Ladies' Tan and Black Lisle Thread Gloves, all sizes, for Bicycle wear, regular price 25c. Saturday evening, per pair,.....

25 Ladies' and Misses' Fancy Silk Parasols, assorted colors, regular price \$1. Saturday evening, each,.....

50C

Men's Cotton Underwear, 3 good weight, striped, ribbed, cuffs, our special 25c line. Saturday evening, each,.....

19C 37 1=2C

120 yards Japanese Mating, suitable for bedrooms and halls, regular close price, 12c. Saturday evening, per yard,.....

72 pairs Ladies' Hose, seamless feet, spliced sole, regular price 35c. Saturday evening, per pair,.....

10C 25C

175 yards Muslin, black ground, fancy aprons, and embroidered polka dots in colors, regular price 15c, 20c and 25c. Saturday, per yard,.....

10C 27C

Your choice of any \$2 and \$2.50 Ladies' Oxford Shoes in the store, from 7 to 10 o'clock Saturday evening, per pair,.....

\$1.50 10C

288 yds. Pongee Silks, in greens, blues, yellows, reds and mauves, regular price 25c. Saturday evening, per yd,.....

10C

less to check the drink waste, there is growing up in the business world a force that is more powerful than every-thing else to work a reform. It is the fact that in many branches of business drinking men are not tolerated. They cannot get employment if their condition is known, and they are discharged from service when their habits are discovered. In other branches of business drunkards receive no consideration whatever, and this state of feeling is steadily growing, because it is enforced by the strenuous demands of economy and good service. The day is going to come when no man who allows himself to get under the influence of intoxicating liquors will be able to find employment in any business."

THE KING OF CORN CURES

Is Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor, crowned by years of success, regal because unapproached and unapproachable, holding its sway in the medical world as no other remedy. Putnam's Painless Corn and Wart Extractor. Sold by all druggists, or sent by mail by N. C. Folsom & Co., Kingston, Ont., on receipt of 25 cents.

"Our first impressions," said the philosopher, "are always full of errors." "Naturally," replied the other, "but old Father Time is a very good proof-reader."

If your children moan and are restless during sleep, coupled with wakefulness, a loss of appetite, pale countenance, picking of the nose, etc., you may depend upon it that the primary cause of the trouble is worms. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator effectually removes these pests, at once relieving the little sufferers.

It has been truly said that dancing is the poetry of motion. At any rate much depends upon the feet in both poetry and dancing.

THERE IS NOT a more dangerous class of disorders than those which affect the breathing organs. Nullify this danger with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil—a pulmonary or acknowledged efficacy, cures lameness and soreness when applied externally, as well as swelled neck and crick in the back; and, as an inward remedy, possesses most substantial claims to public confidence.

To display a crest on stationery and plate in England costs each family a tax of a guinea a year. About 40,000 people pay it.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The signature of J. C. F. Folsom is on every bottle.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.

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