



# TRUTH FOR THE PEOPLE

OLD SERIES—17TH YEAR.

TORONTO, ONT., AUGUST 1, 1885.

NEW SERIES—VOL. V. NO. 252.

## WHAT TRUTH SAYS.

The spontaneous burst of enthusiasm which swept over the country as a greeting to the volunteers as they marched home from the war, was a very cyclonic welcome. From Halifax to Winnipeg, every city, town or hamlet which four months ago sent forth its sons to suppress rebellion, received right royally the returning heroes. And in no instance was the reception given too flattering. It could not be made so, in view of the sacrifices made and the results accomplished. At the call of duty the noble fellows had laid aside their various avocations as citizens, and, donning the soldier's uniform, uncomplainingly exposed themselves to the difficulties and trials of the march and the perils of the field. But great as were the hardships through which they had passed, the heartiness and spontaneity of the welcome given by their fellow-citizens must have in a measure compensated for what had been endured. Toronto did herself honor in the manner which she greeted the different regiments which passed through the city on the way home. None were allowed to go on without being dined and feted, and the genuineness of the welcome was felt by all to whom it was extended. But in the reception given her own soldiers, the citizens surpassed even themselves. The arrangements were conceived and carried out with an elaborateness and completeness which has scarcely, if ever, been attempted in any city on the continent. The streets were transformed into avenues of fluttering flags and waving bunting. It is estimated that one hundred thousand people viewed the "sun-browned heroes" as they marched past. The cheering and shouts of welcome were enough to inspire a statue, and the man who failed to be affected by the scene must have been a confirmed stoic.

Referring to the late rebellion, the London (Eng.) *Times* remarks: "Few campaigns have given a more striking example of endurance, determination and promptitude than that which has just been brought to a close in the North-West." As the reports of the rebellion which the *Times* and other British papers received were hatched in Philadelphia, and were both unfriendly and untrue, the editor of the *Thunderer* in the above paragraph evidently told the truth by inspiration.

The devotees of fashion are now "enjoying" the discomforts of the crowded hotel at popular summer resorts. These people should receive our pity. Obligated by their severe mistresses to join the caravan which annually proceeds to the uncomfortable realms of some stifling summer hotel, they will be for the next six weeks enduring all the agonies which are involved in the making of four or five toilets a day, and the inevitable dyspepsia superinduced by boarding-house fare. Why do people continue the foolish practice of exchanging comfort for positive discomfort merely for the sake of being fashionable. If a woman wishes to display her good clothes she would, in most cases, create more of a sensation at home by exhibiting four or five

changes of attire per diem, and then there would not be nearly so much danger of being outdone by some one else, as the competition at home would not be so keen. Seriously does not common sense suggest that a few quiet weeks at an unfrequented but healthful wayside village would be infinitely more beneficial and recuperative than the practice which at present obtains of resorting to densely-thronged Saratogas or Cacounas. In the former case, too, the tourist would escape being fleeced by the hotel banditti which lie in wait for the caravan of travel, and be saved from the plague of physical torture and mental ennui which are among the afflictions suffered at all fashionable watering places.

General Grant's death on Thursday of last week, although hourly expected for some months, was yet a surprise to many. The struggle which the brave soldier had with the last great enemy was a prolonged one. For nine months the insidious and deadly disease, which had been hopeless from the first as to its ultimate issue, was borne by the sufferer with singular patience and fortitude. Now the hero of many victories has fought his last battle and been vanquished. The whole civilized world, after watching with intense interest and sympathy the progress of the fatal malady, will now unite in sorrow around his grave. The death of General Grant recalls to the memory the events and incidents of the great American rebellion in which he took so conspicuous a part, and where his brilliant military exploits made him famous. In the late General's political administration there was much that we would not like to see imitated—much that was unworthy of so personally pure a mind. The lustre of his fame as a warrior has been somewhat dimmed by some of his actions while President of the republic, but now that he is silent in death the sorrowing heart of the nation, regardless of color or party, will unite in paying homage to all that was pure, noble and good in the life of General Grant.

The people of the United States owe General Grant a debt of gratitude for preserving the integrity of the union. During the war he inspired the people of the north with confidence, and by his own valor, perseverance and clever military tactics secured success to the national cause. And the nation acknowledged its obligations to him by twice making him President. Nor were the honors which he received restricted to those from his own people. His tour around the world was one continued triumph. Kings and queens did him homage, and he was everywhere received with the highest marks of distinction. The circumstances of his last illness are inexpressibly sad. Tortured by a malignant and painful disease, harassed by financial embarrassments resulting from misplaced confidence in dishonest men, the last months of his life have been bitter indeed. But rest has come at last, and the nation's hero and its greatest general has ceased to be. The *N. Y. Sun*, which was exceedingly bitter in its criticisms of the

deceased's political administration, speaks as follows, and shows how magnanimous it can be in the presence of death, "the great leveller":—"Thus another great and memorable figure in the later history of the republic—the most memorable, perhaps, excepting only Mr. Lincoln, among all those who performed their parts in the immortal contest for the preservation of the Union—passes away from among living men, and takes his place in the records of history. What an instructive story is presented in the chronicle of the life which is now ended! What lessons and what warnings! What encouragement for patriotism, for fidelity, for weariless defence of the great interests of mankind! And, above and beyond all, we see the Democratic Republic, greater than all her sons, surviving every danger, victorious over every foe, preserving the treasures of liberty and law, and maintaining alive and undimmed the hope and promise of Humanity."

It may not be known to the general public that there are at the present time four vacant seats in the Senate. This is a bad state of affairs, and we would urge upon Sir John Macdonald the importance of having the places filled as soon as possible. The business of the country must be suffering severely while the vacancies remain. If the Premier has no political friends to whom to give the seats, let him appoint four good Grits. There are several members of that party whose seats in Parliament are not very secure, and who could draw their sessional allowance with the utmost regularity, which is the one essential qualification of a successful Senator.

The disgraceful salary grab still continues to be the subject of much comment, though the two leading party papers of this city have ceased to refer to the matter. This is, of course, easily understood. Both parties are alike guilty of the steal, and, as there is honor even among thieves, they have sworn secrecy, and ignore the fact of its having taken place. The undue length of the session is a result of the idle waste of time for which both parties are responsible, and it is quite natural that the organs should try to forget the affair or seek to minimize its importance. But the salary grabbers of 1885 will be remembered and punished at next election.

The Russians are still advancing. Zulfi-kar is a point which, like Penjdeh, is in dispute, though claimed by the Ameer. Late despatches state that the Russians have occupied in force a position commanding Zulfi-kar. Russia's practice is to seize a disputed point in advance of the negotiations, believing that possession will clench her arguments as to why she should be allowed to possess it. A second military demonstration at the gates of Herat might not be by England considered to involve as much as it once did. Military experts agree that England would have every advantage in fighting in eastern Afghanistan, and would be seriously embarrassed in carrying on a campaign on the plains of Herat. Of course the

English Government would be greatly irritated by a further Russian advance towards Herat, but it might not result in a declaration of war.

The last Ontario health bulletin is suggestive as showing how the hot weather increases the average mortality in all cases of disease. The "heated term" which has suddenly overtaken us may be expected to continue with more or less severity for nearly two months yet. In view of this we wish to suggest a few precautions which everybody can observe in hot weather, and which too many foolishly neglect to the swelling of the lists of sunstrokes and exhaustion. There are signs that the use of fiery stimulants in hot weather is diminishing. This is encouraging, though the common error that cold beer will cool the body still prevails to a considerable extent. Drinks that promote free perspiration without heating the system—that is non-alcoholic drinks—are the only ones which are really wholesome at such times and this is becoming more generally understood every year.

Temperance in action is another antidote to heat exhaustion. Instead of rushing about business when the mercury is sporting in the nineties, people should work as methodically as possible, taking advantage of every opportunity to rest and cool off. Business men should refrain from worrying unnecessarily. Extreme mental tension will raise the temperature of the body more than the external atmosphere. The mind should be under control and not be allowed to become unduly perturbed. More work can be done in this way than in any other, and with less friction and fatigue. Cold bathing during the hot weather should be freely indulged in. Many a wretched night in the heated season might be avoided by even a sponge bath before retiring. A well-known physician says that the surest way to pass through the summer with unimpaired health is to eat and drink lightly and of non-nitrogenous food and non-alcoholic beverages, and to keep the mind from fretting over business matters. An agreeable temperament will resist the hottest weather, while people who give way to the petty troubles and trials of every day life expose themselves dangerously to the influences of the trying summer season.

When are we to get the true story of the fall of Khartoum? The most recent account says that the city was not taken by treachery, but that it fell by a sudden assault, the garrison being weak from hunger. General Gordon, it is stated, resisted desperately till his ammunition failed. The outcome of all the stories is the same, however; the General is dead and the city taken, whether by assault or treachery is now no great matter. The personal bravery of the sublime Gordon is made still more manifest by each account, and every recital but adds to the lustre of the fame which surrounds his name. Gordon's defence of Khartoum, and his heroic death, shows how mighty one man may be among millions.