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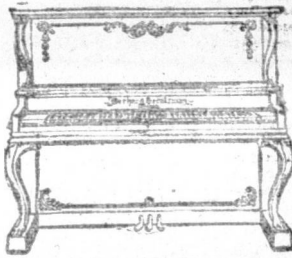
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## The Future of Canada--- What Is It To Be

One of the most notable articles which has appeared of recent years in reference to the future of Canada, appears in the current issue of "Queen's Quarterly," the magazine of Queen's University, Kingston. It is from the pen of Mr. John S. Ewart, K. C., of Ottawa, and is entitled "A Perplexed Imperialist," and is a reply to the now famous article published in the London Daily Mail by Professor Stephen Leacock, of McGill.

Mr. Ewart dismisses Mr. Leacock's "pleasantries" as mere personalities and then proceeds to discuss the question of Canadian independence in these words:

"Let us consider independence a little." Professor Leacock says: "Not thus our path, for 'we could not survive a decade.' Why should we die so soon, he does not say. And, inasmuch as in the world there are, and always have been, very many nations with populations less than six millions of an intelligent sort of people, the reason is not very apparent. Let us think of two points: (1) To what extent are we already independent? and (2) Is it possible (unless somebody very soon 'smokes the poor donkey') to keep us away from complete independence?"

Political independence is in the freedom of one state from subordination to another. Canadian political history is the relation of our rise from complete subordination to almost complete independence. Does anyone regret the elevation?

Does anyone yearn for the days when our affairs were managed from Downing street? when our taxes were imposed by Imperial officials? when the net profit of post office facilities (exceeding sometimes \$15,000 a year) were remitted to London?

For more than half our colonial life time our trade and commerce and manufacturers were regulated and thwarted by Imperial legislation. Does anyone propose that our freedom from such subordination should be surrendered?

Until 1849 our tariffs respected the traditional right of the British manufacturer to exploit the colonial markets. Since that date, and more particularly since 1879, we have had more regard for the Canadian than the British manufacturer, and our fiscal independence is now established and admitted. Is the loss of our former subordination deplored?

Not so long ago all commercial treaties were made for us—without even consultation with us. Now, no treaty binds Canada unless she assents to them; and Canada negotiates for tariff concessions as she pleases. Is independence in that respect regretted?

Formerly our Governor ordered out our militia, and did with them as he thought right. Now the militia are under our own control—although it is not always easy to convince Governors or British officers who happen to be in our service of that fact. Ought we to return to military subordination?

Until 1842 the administration of our Government was largely in the hands of our Governors and their appointees; and since then we have had occasional tiffs with their Excellencies upon that point. Upon the whole, however, they have ceased to try to govern us, and now our own men administer the affairs of our country. Is administrative independence to be given up?

There survive, no doubt, theories of the subordination of our Parliament to the Parliament of the United Kingdom; of the subordination of our executive to Downing street; of the supremacy of the War Office and the Foreign Office, and so on; but our independence is so well advanced that although, in a technical sense, we are not a nation, yet Canada has to-day (thank heaven and our own efforts) many more of the characteristics of a nation than of a colony. Are we really sorry for it?

Are we independent?

Canada as a nation. In some respects we still fall short; but Professor Leacock is right in his refusal to be called a "Colonial," and he might well join with Imperialists such as Mr. Balfour and Lord Milner in attributing to Canada that independence, that freedom from subordination, which are the principal characteristics of nationhood. That we still tolerate a merely nominal subordination, seems to be sufficient to blind the eyes of the professor to the fact that Canada is to-day mistress of her own destinies and can exercise that greatest right of independence—the right to do as she pleases.

Our independence then is almost complete. We have made it so, and probably no Canadian regrets what we have done. Professor Leacock at all events does not. Already in our virtual independence (recognized, already, as we given the name of a nation; already we meet in conference with our "sister nations" on a footing of complete equality—arguing and bargaining for our respective interests. Does anyone wish that instead of Imperial Conferences at which the Canadian Prime Minister should be the chief personage, we should return to the time of Governor Sir Francis Bond Head, Governor Lord Metcalfe, or even Governor Lord Dufferin? Does any Canadian propose to repudiate the language of the British Prime Minister at the recent conference?

"We found ourselves, gentlemen, upon freedom and independence—that is the essence of the Imperial connection—freedom of action on the part of the individual states, freedom in their relations with each other, and with the Mother Country."

Lord Elgin said that he concurred in "The principle which the Prime Minister laid down, that is to say the free government and independence of the different governments which are parts of the empire."

And Mr. Asquith (Chancellor of the Exchequer, says: "The special feature of the British empire has been that it has combined, and succeeded in combining in a degree unknown in any other combination in history, a loyal and affectionate attachment between the centre and the parts of the empire, and between the various parts themselves, with complete practical independence."

Shall Subjection Remain? Are Canadians ashamed of this special feature of the British empire? Of all peoples on the face of the earth, are they the only ones who insist upon eternal independence upon somebody else? Canada's independence being virtually complete, the only other question is whether the form and appearance of subjection shall remain to all eternity? Shall we shall have a population larger than that of the British Isles; shall we nevertheless continue to ask London whether we may outrage our provincial subsidies? Already we think we know more than anybody else about our own affairs; shall we forever submit our proposed legislation to Downing street approval before making it law? Shall we eternally pretend that Downing street may veto it at any time within two years of its enactment? Shall we never, never, never rise to the dignity of acknowledged nationhood? Shall we forever be a colony, or somebody's "Dominion over the seas"—be something subordinate? Canada's history is the assertion of her right to independence. She has thrown off and repudiated all real interference with her will. Shall she forever be a colony, or somebody's "Dominion over the seas"? She would look better, I think, without it.

The effect of declared independence would mean (unless some sensible arrangement were made to avert it) some slight inconvenience or expense through the loss of the British Consular Service; but that loss would be richly requited by the loss of the British Diplomatic Service—from Oswald to Alverstone. We should have the same service as heretofore, namely none. We should be relieved from contribution to British wars, which in the past have cost us heavily. We should gain in self respect. We should be free from the colonial status which "impairs the mental vigor and narrows the outlook." And we should realize more clearly our defenceless, and take some serious steps to improve our fighting condition.

Our neglect in this respect has been due to our fancied security. Does not the British navy defend us? Every now and then we were made aware that the British navy did nothing of the sort; but our disinclination to spend money soon sent us back to the British navy idea. Were we legally independent, we should have to face instead of dodging it; we should have to formulate our policy and live up to it; and our policy might be (who can tell) that in exchange for the use of the British navy now and then, we should agree to some scheme of mutual defence. I say nothing as to what we should do with our independence. The present point is: Shall we do as we wish?

The British Empire is lacking in the most essential characteristics of an empire—not only is there no central control of its forces, but there is no agreement among the "sister nations" as to what is to be done in case of war. Canada will never put her forces beyond her own control. If they are to be used in Imperial wars, it will be because she so desires. Canada is to-day independent (that is, she may do as she likes) with reference to British wars. Does anyone wish it otherwise? Her obligations must come, if at all, by agreement—by alliance between sister nations. Canada's independence (her right to do as she likes) in this respect, too, must be recognized.

But Professor Leacock would say: "If this be our policy and plan, let us complete our teaching to our children. Let us inscribe it upon the walls of our schools, let us write it in brass upon our temples that for the navy which made us and defends us, we pay not a single penny, we spare not a single man. Let us add to it also, that the lesson may bear fruit, this 'shelter the orphans' of Canada now rampant in our day; that Canada by some reason of its remoteness from European sin and its proximity to American republicanism, is sheltered from that flail of war with which God tribulates the world, sheltered by the Monroe Doctrine, by President Roosevelt and his battleships, sheltered I know not how, but sheltered somehow so that we may forget the lean, eager patriotism and sacrifice of a people bred for war, and ply in peace the little craft of gain and greed."

The Navy and Canada. What a curious jumble! Where does the professor get the idea that the British navy "made us"? Our growth has been rapid in proportion to the extent to which we have ousted Downing street, and then permitted to manage our own affairs. The navy has had no share in the making of us. And if the suggestion intended is that the British navy took very much mistaken. Our forefathers who used to live in the American colonies had much to do with that. The British army, too, had some share in it, but should we still pay tribute to the British army?

In what sense does the British navy defend us? Twice only in the history of British North America has the British navy taken any part for us or against us; and on both occasions it was against us—siding once, illegally, with the French against the Newfoundlanders, and siding again with the Americans against the British Columbia sealers.

"Defend us!" When and where? Not in the time of peace. And not in any war that we were in the slightest degree responsible for.

We have never had a war, although we have fought several (including two in Canada) which the United Kingdom got itself into. We have had indeed various quarrels with the United States but the British navy never helped us in one of them—British diplomacy always settled them for us, and usually by the easy process of concession of our rights.

"We pay not a single penny," for the British navy! Certainly not. Why should we? We get no abuse for failure to subscribe to the British army. Spending our money upon our own war preparations seems to escape condemnation, when applied to the navy. Hence, it is reprehensible in connection with war ships?

Some forty years ago Australia became anxious (with much reason) about naval defence. European powers were establishing themselves in the Indian Ocean, and she did not seek to divide up Australia as they succeeded afterwards in dividing New Guinea? Australia, too poor to provide for her own defence, in 1887 made a definite agreement with the United

Kingdom—so much money for so many ships, not to be removed from Australian waters. That was the commencement of what has been called subscriptions to the British navy. It was payment for contracted defence, and in no sense of subscription—the ships were provided and the money was paid.

Afterwards all the other self-governing colonies, except Canada agreed to send in their annual cheques, some of them upon written bargains, some of them upon mere understandings; and from 1897 until the present time there have never been wanting foolish people to deride Canada of her meanness.

The proceedings for the late colonial conference have changed the situation. Australia, realizing her mistake, has given notice of intention to continue her remittances; Cape Colony and Natal are ceasing payments; the New Zealand's arrangement falls with Australia's. This could easily have been foreseen; but what is now what is surprising is that the admiralty itself acknowledged conversion to the Canadian idea. Instead of the appeals to the colonies for contributions (of the conferences of 1897 and 1902) we have now the complete acceptance by the admiralty of the only true and practicable principle: that colonial money available for colonial defence shall be spent by the colonies themselves.

Most of us have felt little hurt at the ideas of the last ten years. They will now probably come to Canada, through Sir Charles Tupper, broke up the original Imperial Federation League (1884-1893) because of its insistence upon colonial subscriptions to the British navy. Canada has had to stand alone as against the admiralty and all the other colonies. She has never swerved. Behind Sir Wilfrid Laurier were both political parties. In this and various other contests in which the great principle of colonial self-government has been recently attacked, Sir Wilfrid has grandly guarded Canadian rights.

The Monroe Doctrine. Professor Leacock suggests that Canada ought to forego its geographical advantages (its remoteness from sin and its proximity to American republicanism), in his mode of expressing the idea), and the advantage which may be derived from the Monroe doctrine, and should become imperialistic—"aye, for the very danger of it."

For the same reason, I suppose, the United Kingdom should throw off, as far as possible, its island security; and tunnels and bridges (it is not for the very danger of it." With what envy ought John Bull to regard the geographical situation of Germany—"for the very danger of it."

"Sheltered by the Monroe Doctrine!" By one-half of the Monroe Doctrine the United States have been enabled to acquire territory, in both its continents, shall be exempt from annexation by foreign powers. European and Asiatic nations may quarrel and grab as they please in other parts of the world but these continents shall develop undisturbed, so far as possible, by outside interference. Were it not for this Monroe Doctrine, the old-world struggles for the balance of power, for markets, for mere territorial expansion, would long ere this have brought European nations face to face in America, in Africa and other parts of the world.

It is a doctrine, extremely beneficial to Canada, one fit support of any time Canada ought to be ready at any time with her whole strength to aid the United States. If Germany were to try to get a foothold in Maine, or Japan to endeavor to establish itself in California, then Canada, I should say, should for her own safety, to the extent of her while power, uphold the Monroe Doctrine.

And why, in considering our international arrangements should we ignore the fact that we were assailed by European or Asiatic, we should have an ally close at hand? If there is anything derogatory in concurrence of interests, or anything shameful in mutual help in support of them?

Every month some British publicist discusses the European situation, argues as to the likelihood of support or antagonism, and proposes foreign policy based upon the known or assumed attitude of other powers. England has not thought it reprehensible to enter into a treaty with Japan with a view to the defence of their common interests in the East, or to arrange with France and Spain to maintain the present situation in the Mediterranean. Dismissing Canada's future, why must we omit international interests and considerations? We know that our territory

is safe from European and Asiatic aggression, partly because of ourselves and partly because of the declared policy of the United States. To keep Russia out of India, the United Kingdom does not disdain help from Japan, why should we be humiliated if, for its own interests (not for ours) the United States should refuse to permit Germany to occupy Nova Scotia? We should do the same for the United States were Maine attacked—not the danger of it," but for the safety of it. The professor will never persuade Canada to spend much time in looking for dangers.

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The investigations of Dr. Koch in Africa seem to indicate that there is a distinct connection between the presence of the malarial and that of the crocodiles, which abound in the infected region, the medium of conveyance being a fly, the glosina. The blood of crocodiles forms the chief nourishment of the glosina, which sucks the blood between the plates of the animal's hide. The extermination of the glosina is impossible, but the same end may be reached by destroying the crocodiles or by the removal of the bushes and undergrowth where the animals lurk.

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## Just Children, —If Royal

Miss Kitty Cheatham emerged from the pile of silken cushions which had been serving her as a variegated background at the sunny end of a huge divan, sat bolt upright and turned one of the most serious gazes in the repertoire of her big blue eyes full upon her visitor.

"And so," she said, "you want me to talk about children."

"Why, if you don't mind, it would be 'What do you mean by children?'" interrupted Miss Cheatham.

"Oh, I suppose any one under—"

"Ah I thought so," she said, "a shadow of scorn crept into the gaze and then a twinkle of amusement."

"Haven't you heard yet that some persons never were children no matter what they were 'under,' and that lots and lots of others will always be children whatever they may be over? Age has nothing at all to do with it."

"What has?" asked the visitor, meekly.

Another kaleidoscopic change was effected in the gaze. It was now one of pity.

"What has? Why, temperament, of course, and being one of the elect."

Having delivered herself of this explanation, Miss Cheatham again availed herself of the sustaining power of the cushions. She clasped her hands about her left knee and gazed searchingly into space, while silence reigned for nearly a second. Then she sighed contentedly.

She thought her that in dealing with the average mind illustration is more effective than analysis, and told about an old lady of 75 who seemed to her the very incarnation of childhood—a truly lovely old lady with a smooth pink face and baby blue eyes, an old lady who always had a beautiful time wherever she went and only played at being a grandmother because she was really a fairy godmother.

"Also I know," pursued the blue-eyed philosopher, "two or three full-fledged society women whose ages range from 9 to 12."

"I remember one little girl of 10 who was one of the members of a 'Hansel and Gretel' box party given last winter by a wealthy old bachelor."

"Isn't that wonderful, my dear?" he asked, turning to his beruffled and plumed young guest during the famous witch scene.

"The little maid yawned, hesitated a moment, and then murmured, 'Well, I think there's a trifle too much blue light on the stage, don't you? I like 'Sigfried' better than this opera.'"

"The six-year-old son of one of our Metropolitan singers on being asked how he liked America replied condescendingly: 'Oh, this is a very nice country, but I miss the humble cottage and hatched roof.'"

"The blue eyes were now pathetic, and the owner sighed. Then some dimples came into play, and the soft voiced sage crooned reflectively: 'There was a little girl and she had a little curl'—By the way, did you know that Longfellow wrote that for his own little girl?"

The visitor didn't.

"Nearly all the best children's poems and songs have been written for particular little people—Kipling's, you know, and Riley's and Eugene Field's and Tennyson's. Tennyson's, of course, were in many instances composed at the special request of Queen Victoria. He got pounds and pounds for the Minnie and Winnie ones."

"Well," commented the visitor, "I suppose it's so difficult to amuse royal children that when one succeeds in accomplishing it he deserves a substantial reward."

At this point a miniature forefinger that was even more impressive than if it had been twice as big was brought into active play. The person at whom it was pointed felt immediately that she was the very essence of ignorance and stupidity, even though the blue eyes opposite were momentarily indulgent. "My dear, you are altogether mistaken. Royal children are brought up so much more simply than these that we are accustomed to seeing every day, they have so much less variety in their lives and so many more rules and regulations to observe that often the merest trifles delight them."

"The obvious readily appeals to them. In part it was the delight which some of King Edward's nieces took in two or three little animal songs that I sang for them that suggested to me the idea

of giving recitals especially for children."

"Princess Alice of Albany, Princess Ena of Battenberg, now the Queen of Spain, and Princess Beatrice of Sax-Coburg were tremendously interested several years ago in hearing how the camel got his hump. They all wore short frocks then, of the plainest possible cut and material, and thread gloves."

"Last July when I sang for the parish church in Whitechapel Princess Beatrice came down and opened the fete. It was the first time she had done anything of the kind, and she confided to me afterward when we were having supper with the rector and Miss Minnie Cochrane, one of the ladies in waiting, and other notables that she was nervous."

"I hope I did it properly," she said quite as apprehensively as a high school girl might have spoken of reading her graduation essay.

"Princess Alice of Albany is now Princess Alexander of Teck, and she did me the honor of presiding over my matinee of songs for children at St. Peter House (the Duke of Sutherland's historic town house) for the benefit of the Depford Fund of the Children's Guild. Her two-year-old baby is patron of one of the coté."

"A large proportion of the children in the audience were highnesses and lords and ladies and honorables. One of the little princesses shouted right out loud in the midst of my practising song: 'Why, they're just what my mother makes me do!'"

"No, it wouldn't do for me to tell you which one—it would be a clear case of lese majeste."

"The gun boy was there too. What! didn't I tell you about the gun boy? He is only a viscount, but he is very intimate with little pr—"

"The bell sounded a long imperative buzz, and Miss Cheatham sprang up hastily."

"I didn't realize it was so late!" she exclaimed. "It must be my accompanist."

"It wasn't the accompanist, however; it was a tall, thin dark man, who insisted on interviewing his hostess in the hall."

"She looked half annoyed and half amused as she came back to the divan."

"Oh, about the gun. This little boy, like so many other children, imagined every time he had some trifling illness that he was going to die and go to heaven."

"Among the pictures in his room was one of the Madonna and Child, of which he was specially fond."

"Mumver," he said one night at bedtime, 'I am very, very sick, and I feel I'm going to die, heaven, an' do you suppose that I took my gun the little Jesus would be frightened?'"

"If people would only postpone religious instruction until—"

"Then the bell rang again. This time it was the accompanist, and the visitor reluctantly took her departure."

"Miss Cheatham followed her to the elevator."

"Wait just a minute," she said. "I forgot to tell you about the darling Dickens kiddies. All the Dickens children are such treasures! This one came running in the house on day, crying: 'Oh, mamma, mamma, there's such a dear little black bird in the street.'"

"After careful questioning it was learned that the boy had seen a nun."

"Good-by; I could have told you about lots more children if it wasn't my practice hour."—N. Y. Sun.

All Things Have Their Uses. "Do you think you will give any musicals this winter?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox. "I like them. They give me a chance to keep still, instead of inviting criticisms of my grammar from mother and the girls."—Washington Star.

Gloves were first seen in England during the reign of Edward II.

An ostrich may be stripped of its plumage every eight months.

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