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British Politics. The statement that Lord Rosebery is likely to resume the leadership of the Liberal party is received with some surprise, since he has not taken a generally active part in the recent elections and his one intervention, in the interest of Captain Lambton of the Naval Brigade, did not save that candidate from defeat. Moreover as a pronounced Imperialist it would seem inevitable that the leadership of Lord Rosebery should antagonize the Radical wing of the Liberal party as well as the Irish Nationalists. However it is said that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader in the House of Commons, is willing to follow Lord Rosebery's lead, and that the leadership of the party has been offered him unconditionally through Mr. Herbert Gladstone, the chief Liberal whip. In this connection it is noted that, in a speech delivered a few days ago before the Christian Social Union, Lord Rosebery struck a note grateful to the ears of those with whom questions of internal social reforms are of far greater concern than questions of Imperial expansion. "Imperialism," his lordship declared, "depends on the integrity and heart of the Empire for its virtue. What is an empire unless it is pillared on an imperial race? The heart of the empire is Great Britain, and the heart of Great Britain is London. You cannot afford to let the source and centre of the empire decay or be poisoned, and this is what you are doing if you allow this imperial race to be vitiated and poisoned in the dens of crime and horror in which too many of them are reared at this moment." . . . It appears that Lord Salisbury finding the double load which he has been carrying, as Prime Minister and as Foreign Secretary, too great for his strength, has decided to lighten his labors by transferring the work of the Foreign Office to other hands. It is also announced that Lord Lansdowne, the present Minister of War, is to succeed Lord Salisbury as Foreign Secretary. Lord Lansdowne is a statesman of recognized ability, but his administration of the War Office has not been a strong one, and his appointment to the Foreign Office is not well received. He will be less likely, however, to pursue a course not entirely in harmony with the views of the Prime Minister than would such a man as Mr. Chamberlain, and with Lord Lansdowne as Foreign Secretary, the foreign policy of the Empire will doubtless continue as really Lord Salisbury's as it has been in the past. This consideration will doubtless go far to reconcile the nation to an appointment which otherwise would be far from popular.

London's Welcome to her Volunteers. During the past week England has been welcoming home again from South Africa some of her volunteer soldiers, and the welcome has been a most enthusiastic one. Hardly since the Queen's Jubilee had there been such a demonstration as that in connection with the march of the Volunteers from Hyde Park to St. Pauls on Tuesday last. There were twelve bands in the procession, says a London correspondent of an American paper, and "Soldiers of the Queen" was a favorite marching tune. The crowds took it up with great spirit, singing verse after verse lustily until the blare of the trumpets could hardly be heard for the volume of vocal accompaniment in many keys. The battery first came into view, with its own Maxims, the remaining guns which were brought into effective use at Lindley, Bethlehem and Erasmus Camp having been left behind for further service. The two companies of mounted infantry were next seen, and they had, as they deserved, the warmest welcome, for they had fought in as many as 44 battles and skirmishes. Their faces were bronzed from protracted service, and they looked like the seasoned veterans who had been scouting and skirmishing all the way from

Jacobsdal to Komati Poort. The infantry battalion came next, in two divisions, and they marched like men who had covered their thousandth mile in South Africa. Their khaki suits had been renewed, and they were not battle-stained and in tatters, but their workmanlike color contrasted strongly with the spic and span uniforms of the crack regiments of Guards and volunteers, presenting arms as they passed, and so also did their wiry figures and weather-beaten faces with the sleek and well-groomed soldiers lining up for them. The machine gun section followed the battalion. The enthusiasm was intense in Pall Mall and Trafalgar Square, where the open spaces were densely crowded, and Lord Wolseley, Lord Lansdowne, Sir Evelyn Wood, and other prominent spectators looked on from the War Office with pleased faces. There was a short thanksgiving service at St. Pauls, which is described as simple and impressive, with a ten minutes sermon by the Bishop of Stepney. The national anthem and "Now thank we all our God," were sung with fine effect, the soldiers and spectators joining with the utmost heartiness. Unfortunately it has to be added that the impressive and patriotic demonstrations of the day were followed by scenes of rowdiness and disorder at night.

Unworthy Jealousies. It is a profoundly regrettable thing that in this age of progress and advanced civilization there should be between England and France a revival of old jealousies and animosities which long ago should have been buried past all resurrection. A member of the British Government cannot, it seems, go on a holiday trip to Gibraltar and Malta but that he is suspected by Frenchmen of being actuated by some secret purpose to work injury to their country, and in England, we are told, there is a deep distrust of France and a feeling that England must always be on her guard against her. Such a paragraph as the following which we clip from an American Exchange is not pleasant reading:

"The French government has just mounted a huge Creusot gun at Calais as a set-off to the enormous harbor works that are in progress for the British Admiralty at Dover. It is said that the new gun has a range of twenty miles; and as the Straits of Dover at this point are only eighteen miles in width, the gun will, if it proves satisfactory, be able to drop its projectiles upon British soil. The English government have mounted some exceptionally powerful ordnance at Dover within the last month or two. Several guns that have been placed upon the forts there have a range varying from fifteen miles to eighteen miles, so that Dover practically sweeps the Channel at this point. Great activity is at present being displayed all along the south coast. New, heavier, and modern ordnance is rapidly supplanting the obsolete muzzle-loading weapons, while several new batteries are being constructed."

It is surely a sad commentary on the invincible depravity and moral stupidity of men and nations, that, in spite of the influence of all the long centuries of Christian civilization that are behind us, two foremost nations, like Britain and France, should be found watching each other with armed front and jealous eye, instead of cooperating with the united heart and aim for the highest welfare of their own people and of the world at large. How long shall Satan deceive the nations?

The Elections. The present week will be one of much political excitement both in this country and in the United States. Tuesday is expected to decide the question whether for the next four years the government of the United States shall continue in Republican hands or whether it shall be administered by the Democrat party, with William J. Bryan as President. It appears still, on the eve of the election, to be the consensus of outside opinion that the result will be to give President McKinley a second term, but the candidature of Bryan is no longer regarded as altogether a forlorn hope, and the possibility of his election is freely

admitted. While such an event would not effect the body politic to the point of revolution, it would certainly, if Mr. Bryan's ideas should be realized, have certain quite revolutionary effects in regard both to internal and external policy, so that the success of the Democrats would naturally cause a measure of uncertainty and apprehension both at home and abroad. In our own country if we believe what each party is saying, through the press and on the platform, of its own prospects, we must conclude that both will certainly win in the election of Wednesday, and if we believed what each party is saying of the other's prospects, we must conclude that neither one has the ghost of a chance of winning the election. On the same ground we should also conclude that neither party is in any sense worthy to be entrusted with the administration of affairs, and that if either party shall succeed in its purpose the results to the country will be terrible to contemplate. We hope that it may appear that there is some misapprehension in respect to these matters, otherwise it would seem that a dead-lock is imminent. Our own conviction is that though the composition and character of either party is far enough from being such as to leave nothing to be desired, yet neither is quite so bad as it is painted by the other. We rather think that the country would survive the success or the defeat of either party, and that among the public men of either there is sufficient ability and political virtue to secure to the country a fairly good administration of affairs, provided always that the government shall be helped to walk in the path of virtue by a strong and vigilant opposition.

The Men in Khaki. The S. S. Idaho, with its four hundred officers and men of the first Canadian contingent, returning from South Africa, reached Halifax at an early hour on Thursday morning last. With few exceptions the men were found to be in the enjoyment of excellent health and are very glad of course, after their long voyage and after all their toils and perils on the march and on the battlefield, to find themselves upon peaceful Canadian soil and among their home friends once more. During the year of their absence they had been an object of constant and profound interest to the people of Canada, quickening immensely the interest—otherwise very keen—which the country generally felt in the South African conflict. Thousands of eager, sympathetic hearts had noted their movements and experiences, glorying in their brave and soldierly conduct, rejoicing in their successes and the praise won by them from their commanders and companions in arms, and sorrowing for the brave lads who fell in battle or no less bravely died in the hospital. It was to be expected, therefore, that our soldier lads would receive a royal welcome home, and the reception accorded them on their landing in Halifax appears to have been enthusiastic past all precedent. The whole city was moved with the patriotic purpose to do honor to the men in khaki. Such also was the reception which St. John accorded to the men of the New Brunswick contingent who reached the city on Friday. All that the decoration of public and private buildings, long and elaborately decorated processions, with tremendous cheerings, the singing of patriotic songs and the delivery of patriotic speeches, with banquetings, pyrotechnical displays, etc., etc., could do, was done to express the popular gladness and enthusiasm at the home-coming of the boys in khaki. It is to be hoped that this popular enthusiasm will find practical expression in making adequate provision for the families of some who have fallen in the war, for those also who have been permanently disabled, and in securing positions under wholesome influences for those who will now be returning to peaceful avocations. It should be remembered that a soldier's life has its peculiar temptations and that these young men who have fought so bravely against the Boers may need help to overcome foes of a more insidious character.