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The Feud of Centuries.

When the history of the twentieth century comes to be written, and events are seen in perspective, the Boer war and the Russian-Japanese war, which now loom so large, will be overshadowed by the Anglo-French agreement, which excites only a languid interest, outside of diplomatic circles. This one victory for peace may have greater results in shaping the destinies of nations than all the wars of the next hundred years. Its full meaning can be read only in the light of history. War was the normal relation between England and France for centuries down to the end of Napoleon's career. The causes were wholly European until the era of colonial expansion began. With the decline of Spanish ascendancy, Great Britain and France became the great colonizing powers and this clash of colonial ambitions has continued down to the present day. France's dream of empire in the new world was shattered on the Plains of Abraham. Her sale of Louisiana to the United States in 1802, which was virtually a surrender, followed as a matter of necessity, though sorely against Napoleon's will. He had visions of restoring French colonial power and shifted his designs from America to the Orient. His invasion of Egypt was intended to be a step toward the conquest of India, from which France had been driven by England, as from the northern half of this continent.

Shut out of Asia and America, France turned toward Africa. Her great chance came with the conquest of Algeria in 1832. Since then she has been steadily carving out a great colonial domain in the dark continent and has secured a lodgment in Indo-China, where her sway extends over an area of nearly 200,000 square miles. The collision of France and Britain in North America and India in the eighteenth century was transferred to Africa in the nineteenth. Egypt has been a bone of contention for twenty years, and the Fashoda incident brought the two nations to the verge of war. In their scramble for territory, they have jostled each other in the Sudan, in Nigeria, in Gambia, and in all parts of northern and middle Africa.

The partition of Africa among the European powers is now almost completed. The largest shares have fallen to France and Great Britain, and their boundaries meet everywhere north of the equator. The march of conquest has been halted; there is no more unclaimed land to fight for. Under these circumstances the statements of France and Great Britain, apparently at odds, are really the statements of a single policy. The world-wide relations of Great Britain and France, and decided to clear up the whole field of disputed issues. This involved a policy of compromise and mutual concession. On the part of Great Britain it required the sacrifice of considerable territory and the commercial advantages which this territory carried with it. But it has put an end to the colonial rivalry which began three centuries ago, and which has plunged the two countries into great and devastating wars. It is hoped that it will put an end to the hereditary enmity which was bequeathed by centuries of warfare before the colonial era began.

The outlines of the agreement have been published. Canadians are chiefly interested in the settlement of the treaty shore question in Newfoundland, by which France renounces all territorial rights in the island and retains merely the right of fishing on an equal footing with the British, along a portion of the coast. Perhaps more important for the maintenance of peace is the adjustment in Egypt and Morocco. Egypt was in a state of bankruptcy when the British occupation began, and severe restrictions were imposed upon the financial freedom of the Government in the interests of foreign creditors. These restrictions were justifiable then, but now that Egypt has become solvent and prosperous, there is no need for them and they seriously cripple the progress of the country. The revenues are far more than ample to meet the interest on the debt and the sinking fund, and the treasury is overflowing with money which the creditor powers will not allow to be used in developing the country. France now agrees to recognize the paramount position of Great Britain in Egypt and agrees to give the Egyptian Government (which in reality is Lord Cromer) a free hand in the disposal of its financial resources, so long as the punctual payment of the interest on the debt is assured. A fund of £5,500,000 lying idle in the coffers of Egypt will be handed over to the Egyptian Government to employ in whatever way conduces to the welfare of the people. These measures will require the consent of Austria, Germany, Russia and Italy, but the amount of debt they hold is quite insignificant, and it is believed

they will not offer opposition where Great Britain has the support of French diplomacy. Great Britain and France between them hold nearly the whole of the Egyptian debt.

Great Britain, in return for these concessions in Egypt agrees to recognize Morocco as being within the French sphere of influence. France's Algerian possession adjoins those of the Sultan of Morocco for several hundred miles and she has been compelled from time to time to undertake military operations at much cost to put down disturbances on the frontier arising among tribes which are beyond the Sultan's control. Life and property are unsafe in Morocco, and the natural resources undeveloped. In these circumstances Great Britain has deemed it wise to admit France's right to enforce order in Morocco, without annexing the country or subverting the Sultan's authority. British subjects are to trade freely in Morocco and enjoy equal privileges with the subjects of any other power, including France. British imports into the country amount to a considerable percentage of the whole, and it is expected that foreign trade will largely increase with improved government, a reform of the currency and cheaper land transport.

The other features of the agreement may be summarized as follows:

- (a) A rectification of the eastern frontier of the colony of the Gambia, which will give to France an access to the navigable portion of that river.
- (b) The cession of a small group of islands known as the Iles de Los situated opposite to Kourou. These islands are of small extent and of no intrinsic value. Their geographical position, however, connects them closely with French Guinea and their possession by any power other than France might become a serious menace to that colony.
- (c) A modification of the boundary between the French and British possessions in Nigeria by the convention of the 14th June, 1898. The line then laid down has had the effect of compelling French convoys when proceeding from the French possession on the Niger to those in the neighborhood of Lake Chad, to follow a circuitous and waterless route, so inconvenient that they have been obliged to obtain permission to pass by a shorter and less inconvenient way through British territory. The new boundary will bring to France an accession of territory the importance of which is due mainly to the fact that it gives her the use of a direct route between the points mentioned.
- (d) An agreement defining the respective spheres of influence of the two countries in Siam and disclaiming all idea of annexing any Siamese territory.
- (e) Great Britain withdraws her objection to the customs tariff introduced by France in Madagascar, and France also regularizes the position of Great Britain in Zanzibar. Both powers also agree to settle their differences over the question of jurisdiction in the New Hebrides.

The Russians on the Yalu are ready to admit the Japs are pushing little fellows.

There will be no opening of navigation this year, labor troubles having tied up the lake traffic. This is another argument for the all-rail route.

Spring seems to have been left out of the procession of the seasons this year. The weather has gone from winter to summer at one jump.

The crown attorney in Toronto threatens to stop gambling at the Woodbine this year. He must have a grudge against the smart set there.

The attendance of young men at the funeral of Mr. A. B. Cox was a very striking tribute to the power of character. If there were more men like Cox in every community there would be less need for institutional work.

A SLY DIG.
 [Philadelphia Press.]
 "Since I had typhoid fever," said Miss Kreech, "I haven't been able to sing at all. I seem to have lost my voice entirely."
 "Typhoid is a queer disease," replied Miss Peppy. "I've often heard that if you recover from it it improves you in every way."

THE ONLY THING HE LACKS.
 [Sam Kiser.]
 Almost every man honestly believes that in addition to his own ability he could have the brass of his rival and earthly position would be too high for him to reach.

KING OF IRISH HEARTS.
 [Catholic Register.]
 When Edward VII. first set foot on Irish soil as king, it was to the people his right hand was extended. The customary armed guard having been pressed upon him he declined it with the now historic declaration that he needed no guards between him and the hearts of the Irish people. When he addressed the faculty of Trinity College, it was to the figures of Grattan and Burke he pointed with admiration, and when he appeared within the walls of the Catholic college of Maynooth his words likewise told of warm sympathy with the unquenchable aspiration of Irish nationhood. Go where he will through the green isle today, King Edward will meet none but welcoming faces, and he will also see in these faces high hope and anticipation of national recovery where his predecessors read very different emotions. Ireland will be completely happy one of these days with home rule realized under Edward as her king.

WELL OF ENGLISH UNDEFILED.
 [Ottawa Journal.]
 Apropos of what Senator Wark said, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier said, and Mr. R. L. Borden said, in connection with the recent presentation to Mr. Wark, did you notice how what each said was illuminated by passages of scripture? What beauty and dignity the

use of the English Bible can give to speech!

THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.
 [New York World.]
 If there is a government anywhere that stands as the type of efficiency, especially in the military line, it is that of Germany. Yet in explanation of the German disasters in South Africa we are told that the forces were so split up that when their commander landed he found himself without troops, that military supplies were held up by German customs officials who insisted on charging duty on them, and that stores indispensable at the front were left lying on the docks to be stolen because the officials took six out of every eight freight cars on the only railroad to send beer and wine to private dealers in the interior. If this is the way Germany handles the burdens of colonial empire it is hardly strange that some Americans feel reluctant to take them up.

JAPAN'S FEW PAUPERS.
 [London Chronicle.]
 The Japanese are never able to understand how it is that, though their population is about the same as ours, they have only 2,000 paupers while we have about 1,000,000. The difference is due to the Japanese attitude toward old age and pauperism. Most of their few paupers are children or elderly people whom earthquakes have deprived of their breadwinners. Old age is all but sacred in Japan.

A BRIGHT BOY'S CAREER.
 [Philadelphia Ledger.]
 Master Norbert Weiner, of Cambridge, Mass., who knew the alphabet at 18 months, German, French, Italian and French at 8, and at 9 found his chief diversion in Jodelite, expects to be ready to enter Harvard at 10. Master Norbert Weiner will probably enter heaven at 11.

A GRIM WOMAN.
 [Manchester Guardian.]
 The curious condition by which the late Miss F. P. Cobbe insisted in her will that her revival in the grave should be made impossible recalls a story told on good authority of another distinguished woman—Harriet Martineau. She was very dead, and once she was coaxed a famous surfer of the time, Mr. Tynley—who did her little or no good, but was extremely amiable to her. Men said that it was not his habit to waste graces upon his ordinary patients, and Miss Martineau was particularly gratified that he should make an exception in her favor. She expressed her pleasure in a characteristic fashion—by announcing, when she returned to her home at Ambleside, that she intended to bequeath her ears to Mr. Tynley.

"She announced this intention," says James Fain, to whom we owe the story, "in the presence of the doctor, who told her that she was not to do so. But, my dear madam, you can't do this. It will make your legacy worthless." The fact was, in the interest of science, Miss Martineau had already left her head to the Phrenological Society. I asked her doctor to explain to me that. Oh, he said, 'she told me so herself; she has left ten pounds to her coadjutor to me for cutting it off!'"

Queries Answered.

HORTON.—A mother and son buy a house and let between them. Dead to mother, who makes a will leaving the house and lot between them. Dead to her son. Can he inherit the house and lot? The mother leaves no other property or money. Ans.—The daughter cannot claim any part of the property. The will is perfectly valid and the mother leaves no other property or money. Ans.—The daughter cannot claim any part of the property. The will is perfectly valid and the mother leaves no other property or money. Ans.—The daughter cannot claim any part of the property. The will is perfectly valid and the mother leaves no other property or money.

ALISA CRAIG.
 Alisa Craig, May 4.—Mrs. McAlpine, of London, is still a few days in Alisa Craig. Miss McLeod, St. Marys, spent Sunday with her sister.
 Miss B. Walker, of this place, was married to Mr. Charles H. Walker, of the Church rectory on Wednesday evening last.
 Last week death visited three homes in our village, namely: Mrs. Willie, aged 74 years, who leaves to mourn her loss four daughters, three sisters and one brother; Mrs. Lorimer, at the ripe old age of 86 years; her husband still survives her, and is 84 years of age. Mrs. Lorimer, aged 5 years. The families have the sympathy of the village in their sad bereavement. The funeral was held on Friday to Naim Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar, Detroit, attended the funeral of Mrs. Lorimer.
 Mr. and Mrs. Clotier left last week to live in Listowel. They have spent a year here, residing with their son, Mr. W. E. Clotier.
 Mr. J. Jones, Clarendon, spent Monday in Alisa Craig.

Notice.
 Feather Pillows and Mattresses cleaned and sterilized. New Feather Pillows in art tickings, and Cushions, Hair Mattresses, Wool Mattresses, Spring Mattresses, Iron and Brass Bedsteads. Feathers sold by the pound and by the ton. The Pillow and Mattress Manufacturers, 363 Richmond street north. Telephone 397.

IT IS GOOD FOR MAN AND BEAST.
 Not only is Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil of incomparable value in the household, but the farmer and stockman will find it very serviceable in the farmyard and on the cattle range, often saving the services of a veterinary surgeon. In injuries to stock, and in cases of cough and cold, it can be used with good effect.

HOLLOWAY'S CORN CURE is a specific for the removal of corns and bunions. We have seen many of its falling to remove even the worst kind. Heart disease and nervous prostration are almost unknown among the Japanese. This immunity is attributed to their equality and cheerfulness of the Japanese.

Monkey Brand Soap makes copper like gold, tin like silver, crockery like marble, and windows like crystal. Japanese soldiers are fed on rice, salted fish, dried seaweed and pickled pears—diet that is almost universal in Japan, except in the navy, where rations of meat are served. Soldiers are allowed milk when on campaigns, but rarely eat it.

To Quickly Cure Biliousness.
 Use Dr. Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut. They cleanse the stomach and bowels, assist the liver in removing bile, and cure thoroughly. Use only Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Price 25 cents.



To be a successful wife, to retain the love and admiration of her husband should be a woman's constant study. If she would be all that she may, she must guard well against the signs of ill health. Mrs. Brown tells her story for the benefit of all wives and mothers.

DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will make every mother well, strong, healthy and happy. I dragged through nine years of miserable existence, worn out with pain and weariness. I then noticed a statement of a woman troubled as I was; and the wonderful results she had had from your Vegetable Compound, and decided to try what it would do for me, and used it for three months. At the end of that time, I was a different woman, the neighbors remarked it, and my husband fell in love with me all over again. It seemed like a new existence. I had been suffering with inflammation and falling of the womb, but your medicine cured that, and built up my entire system, till I was indeed like a new woman. Sincerely yours, Mrs. CHAS. F. BROWN, 21 Cedar Terrace, Hot Springs, Ark., Vice President Mothers Club.—\$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.

SIGIRI FORTRESS
A PILLAR OF ROCK

Unique Refuge Built by Fear-Stricken Monarch.

THE CLIMB IS A DIZZY ONE

Effort Required to Reach the Top Is More Than Compensated For by the Scene It Reveals.

Kandy, Island of Ceylon, May 3.—The rock fortress of Sigiri is the unique thing in Ceylon, and except for the "honey-stone" in the air, and one once enchanted mesa in the southwestern territory, there are few things that quite compare with it. One sees the pillar of red rock from Dambou's cave temple approaches towering above ten miles of level, unbroken country. Even from that distance it would seem impossible to ascend it. The bare red rock rising