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LONDON CANADA.

JOHN CAMERON, President and

Managing Director.

God's in His heaven.

All's right with the world.

—Browning.

Provincial Voters' Lists.

Every person qualified should

have his name placed upon the

assessment rolls for the present year,

1897. These rolls will form the basis

of the voters' lists to be used at the

next provincial general elections. A

change will shortly also be made in

the Dominion Franchise Act, so as to

bring it in harmony with the principles

of good government, and it is additionally

advisable that the provincial

lists be well attended to. It is, therefore,

of the utmost importance that the

name of every voter friendly to the

Liberal cause should be entered on

the assessment rolls. All other franchises

conferred a vote for the Local

Legislature are merged in that of the

Manhood Franchise (M. F.). The

qualifications are: Residence in the

province for nine months and in the

particular municipality at the time of

the beginning of the assessment (Feb.

15), 21 years of age, and a British subject.

(a) Temporary absence as lumber-

man, mariner, fisherman or student at

an institution of learning in Canada,

shall not disentitle such person to be

entered on the voters' list. But no

student shall be entered on the list

where he attends school, etc., unless

he has no other place of residence

entitling him to vote.

(b) Enfranchised Indians may vote

without a property qualification, and

non-enfranchised Indians, not residing

among Indians or on an Indian reserve,

may vote if assessed for \$200

in cities and towns and \$100 in villages

and townships.

Many persons are quite indifferent

as to their names appearing on the

voters' list until too late; the Liberal

workers must look after these and

urge them to have their names entered

upon the roll. Not a few have

just come of age, or are nearly of

age (then, too, there are hired men

and others), who have never voted and

who may not be aware of their right

to vote, which was conferred upon

them by the Provincial Government.

The importance of having the names

of all these placed on the roll cannot

be over-estimated. A personal applica-

tion to the assessor (followed up, if

necessary, by an affidavit in the proper

form) will cause him to place all these

names on his roll. It is the duty of

an assessor to place on the roll all

persons qualified as voters without re-

quiring them to make any affidavit

whatever. A little effort to aid him

in making the lists as complete as

possible during the next few months

will save much trouble at a later

period.

Even the boys are talking Crow's

Nest. Can anyone tell us how the

famous pass to the Kootenay region

up to over double that sum. On Rus-

home road, for example, it is pointed

out that the local taxes are \$6.10, and

that added to the general tax of 15.10,

makes the total tax 43 mills on the

dollar. How would the average London-

er like to pay at that rate?

Three young French-Canadian girls,

who were on their way to Chicago to

take situations, were turned back by

United States officials at Detroit. It

is just as well for everyone in Canada

to understand that under a law now

in force in the United States no

Canadian worker can safely accept a

contract in Canada to work in the

States. If anyone wishes to be em-

ployed over the border, he or she must

go as a free agent, without an open

or implied contract, and with the ex-

press object of becoming a citizen.

Another Big Oil Field.

Petroleum oil experts will soon have

a new field for their energies. They

are to be found in Scotland, Aus-

tralia, Russia, India, Burma, China,

Australia, and in the neighboring Re-

public. Peru will now claim the ser-

vices of these clever Lampton county

experts. From that South American

country we have trustworthy informa-

tion to the effect that Peru is resolved

on becoming an active competitor in

the petroleum trade of the world. The

Peruvian oil fields are enormous in

area, occupying some 7,500 square

miles, and are almost as rich in their

deposits as those of Pennsylvania,

which consist of only 350 square miles.

The territory is being developed rapidly;

crude petroleum is now used ex-

clusively on the locomotives of all

Peruvian railroads, and with the in-

roduction of North American process-

es of refining and transportation, the

Peruvian product will speedily become

a powerful factor in the trade through-

out the world.

An Unwarranted Attack.

A cable correspondent has been guilty

of a bitter attack on Hon. Edward

Blake, M.P., as a parliamentarian. The

animus of the worthy bombardment is

to be found in the fact that Mr. Blake

refuses to be an extremist either in

language or in methods in the advoca-

cy of the cause of Irish self-govern-

ment. Mr. Blake knows that more is

to be gained by conciliatory, yet

firm, advocacy, than by blustering, ill-

tempered attacks on everyone who

falls to agree with a proposition laid

down. Too often those who resort to

the last-named tactics have been

given the ear of the cable correspond-

ents.

Wm. d'Hertburne Washington, formerly

United States consul in this city, wrote

for the last issue of the New York

Sunday Journal an interesting com-

parison of Washington and McKin-

ley, the first and the latest choice

of the United States as chief magis-

trate. Mr. Washington is related to

George Washington in an extraordinary

way. He is the great-grandson of

Col. Wm. Augustine Washington, eldest

nephew of Gen. Washington. By an

intermarriage of first cousins, who

were the great-great-grandparents of

William d'Hertburne Washington, two

lines of Washington blood were united.

Betty Washington Lewis, wife of

Fielding Lewis, and sister of Gen.

Washington, is his great-great-grand-

mother. Nearly all Mr. Washington's

colonial ancestors were men of high

importance. Mr. Washington is a

hydraulic engineer of high standing,

and has been prominent in charitable

work. He was a member of the New

York State Tenement House Commit-

tee of 1894.

Peculiarities of Life in India.

Sir Edwin Arnold, in the current

number of the North American Re-

view, makes some remarkable state-

ments with regard to the ordinary so-

cial and civic manner of providing for

the pauper population in India. That

country, with a subject population of

300,000,000 and 70,000,000 or 80,000,000

more practically dependent, on Great

Britain, according to Sir Edwin, has

no poor law system, and the fact is

immeasurably creditable socially and

morally to the Hindu people. First of

all, says the famous investigator, "In-

dia is the home of the ideal-religious,

metaphysical, and domestic—to an ex-

tent which makes those ridiculous who

speak of her creeds as ignorant, or her

inhabitants as 'heathen.' You never

see any but the most wretched women

begging for alms there. Why? The

explanation proves how elevated, even

if mistaken, the average moral sense

is of the people. Every woman not

deformed, or an outcast, or insane—

at least in the higher castes—has been

betrothed at an early age to a boy,

whose household thenceforward adopts

her entirely. If the little husband

dies, before or during marriage, the

disaster is regarded universally as the

penalty for sins committed by the fe-

male in a previous life. The widow

must submit, and will submit, not

marrying again, but hoping, by pa-

tience, to regain her lord after death,

and his family will, until her demise,

loyally support her, for his sake. Prac-

tically, these views obtain all over the

land, and as every female child be-

comes betrothed all women are de-

terminately provided for. If the rash ardor

of certain crude reformers could have

its will, and after this, so as to pro-

mote the remarriage of Hindu wid-

ows, all those who became wives for

a second time would find neither of

the two allied families willing to sus-

tain a wife belonging in the next world

to two husbands, or to none at all.

Besides this, the sentiment of the Bhoo-

bund, or blood relationship, is all pow-

erful in the land, and never repudi-

ated. As also in Japan, where there are

no poor laws and no paupers, the ties

of kinship are everywhere acknowl-

ed, discharged, and repaid; and the

household cakes will be distributed to

all who put forth the claim of poverty,

hunger, and relationship. Add to all

this, that charity is not so much a

virtue, in India, as a habit, a religious

necessity, an indispensable passport to

further prosperous existence, and it

will be seen why India, in a most ten-

der and effective manner, fulfills the

law which Christians only, or princi-

pally, talk about."

This criticism by a leading English-

man is novel and somewhat severe,

and it will doubtless be objected to

by many people who, although object-

ing to child marriage and its incidental

evils, but Sir Edwin's views at least

show the other side of the question,

and account for the tenacity with

which so many of the Hindu people

clieve to their ancient ideas of what

the family relationship ought to be.

We observe, nevertheless, that when

India's millions are famine-stricken, it

is not to Hindu or Mohammedan na-

tionalities that they look for substan-

tial relief, but to the Christian com-

munities of Great Britain and America.

Cleveland's Veto.

Why He Would Not Sign the

Immigration Bill.

Message to Congress Showing Why He

Killed the Measure That Was

Specialty Offensive to

Canadians.

Washington,