

# EVENTS.

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# EVENTS.

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## Political.

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The Budget debate was short and sharp, the kind of a debate that there is some reason in. The leaders on both sides placed their views on the financial condition of the Country on record, and there the debate ended, as every debate should end. There was no tiresome rehashing by followers of the arguments of their leaders drawn out to the tiresome length of the speeches on the address in reply. It may be, as some say, that the members are reserving their wind for the redistribution debate; but whatever the cause, the briefness of the budget debate is a matter for which to be sincerely thankful.

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Hon. Mr. Foster, the ex-minister of finance, replied to Mr. Fielding. His speech was a splendid effort as indeed all Mr. Foster's speeches have come to be. They are vigorous, polished, convincing—that is as convincing as it is possible for them to be and remain the utterances of a party leader doing battle in the party interest. With a good deal of what Mr. Foster said I agree, and with a good deal more I do not agree, but I am compelled to admire every word of it for the splendid way in which it was put. As a criticism of the government it was weak—deplorably weak. The tenor of the whole speech, so far as criticism went was that the government had promised to do so and so and they had not done it. To condemn what they had done, however, was impossible for Mr. Foster. He could not condemn them without condemning himself, for the Fielding budget is a lineal descendant of the Foster budget, and the two look so much alike, that the father of one of them could not find it in his heart to use the other with anything but tender-

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ness. It was as if Mr. Fielding held Mr. Foster's son up before him to ward off the fire of the father. It was a desperate, an exasperating position, and Mr. Foster can scarcely be blamed for shooting wide of the mark. He was quite prepared to do violence to Mr. Fielding, but there was his own offspring barring the way. He had, therefore, to content himself with charging the minister with being a kidnapper, but he could not take vengeance on him for fear of injuring the child.

There is no man in public life in Canada to-day for whom I believe a greater respect than Sir Richard Cartwright, and I firmly believe that had he received the appointment in the Laurier Cabinet to which he is entitled, viz: the portfolio of Finance, that things would be vastly different. He said as much in his speech when he declared :

"And now I desire to return for a few moments to the tariff and here I may take the liberty of defining the position I hold myself on the subject. I have not pretended and I do not pretend now, that the present tariff is perfect or that it is a final tariff, but I say that, as compared with the tariff it superseded, it is an immense improvement."

Sir Richard evidently does not agree with the exponents of new Liberalism, Messrs. Fielding, Sifton & Co., who have declared that the tariff is settled, a dead issue, and that no changes need be looked for. It was the introduction of this outside element into the Laurier Cabinet, instead of choosing it within the House of Commons, that knocked all the Liberal promises into a cocked hat. Sir Richard, I believe, would have stuck closer to the policy of retrenchment which he used to preach. I am not a little surprised, therefore, to find him making a labored defence of the present "enormous" expenditure. Dealing with this subject he said :

"It was not true that the Liberal party opposed all outlay. It was opposed to useless outlays, but was never, in principle or practice, opposed to proper expenditure for proper ends and objects. If the opposition considered any vote extravagant he challenged a vote on that item. There was an underlying absurdity in the whole contention of extravagance, which required explanation. There were two ways in which the burdens of any country may be lessened, and the method to be followed depended wholly and entirely on the circumstances in which the country found itself. One way was to reduce the expenditure and that was always desirable when it could be done with advantage to the general weal. That was always necessary when a country was in a stationary or retrograde condition. The other mode, and as in a new country like this the better mode, was to endeavor to increase the population and increase the wealth of the country. It will cost Canada no more if she spends two or three million additional and has a couple of millions of extra population. On the contrary, it will cost Canada far less than if we were to succeed in reducing the present expenditure and reduce it by \$2,000,000 but lose 2,000,000 of additional population."

There is an argument that is at least suggestive. In the first place what expenditures are to be considered useless and what necessary? Until the line is drawn it will be very difficult to say

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at what point expenditure ceases to be economy and becomes extravagance. For instance, the government has been granting millions in railway subsidies, not a dollar of which ever gets back to the treasury. If this be an evidence of economy, then all the government has to do is to grant millions more to become the most economical government on earth. Sir Richard has, however, given us a basis to go upon. He places the cost of 2,000,000 of population at \$2,000,000—of course this is not right, because we know that they have paid as high as \$5 a head for a good many of them—but, then, let it go at Sir Richard's figures, and let us see what our population should be to-day. Under the Conservatives it was, in round numbers, 5,000,000, and Sir Richard justifies the increase in the expenditure since 1896, on the ground that our population has increased. He says 2,000,000 of additional population means \$2,000,000 of additional expense, therefore the \$10,000,000 of additional expenditure, if Sir Richard's excuse is to hold water for one instant, means that in the last three years Canada's population was increased by 10,000,000 souls, and is now at its high water mark, showing a total of 15,000,000. And yet John Charlton, Sir Richard's colleague on the Joint High Commission, and in the House of Commons, has been doing his level best to injure Canada's case by writing articles for American magazines, representing Canada to be a miserable little country of less than 6,000,000 of people, who have not a ghost of a show against the 77,000,000 who inhabit the United States. And here now is Sir Richard giving us figures to prove that we have a population of 15,000,000, or ought to have to meet the increased expenditure of his friends,

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A correspondent writes me this week as follows :

"It may be just as well to take all stories of party disaffection with a great deal of allowance, but perhaps the liberal leaders may wake up one day to a realization of the fact that, while they have been assiduously seeking to make their hold upon office firm and secure by adopting the policy of their opponents, they have been making it easy for dissatisfied followers to go over to the enemy without being chargeable with desertion of principle. When Mr. Sifton declares that the tariff is a dead issue and when Sir Wilfrid, Sir Richard, Sir Louis and Mr. Patterson—Mr. Tarte had no change to make—each, with infinite variety of phrasing and much word juggling, gives in his allegiance to the N. P. and makes recantation of old time free trade heresies, they break down the partition wall between Grit and Tory. By flying the enemy's flag and wearing his uniform an occasional outpost or even stronghold may be captured, but there is danger in the game. Leaders who masquerade in the enemy's uniform run some risk of being fired upon by their own troops. Then, once it shall become generally understood that there is no longer any difference between Grit and Tory, why should anyone who has not got, or has ceased to hope for, or has no wish for an office trouble himself to work for the party in power? Besides there are honest men—and, let the politicians think what they will, the honest men are in the majority—who, when they must make choice between two parties professing belief in the same

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policy, will prefer the party that adopted that policy from conviction rather than one that accepted it only when they feared that loss of office would follow its rejection.

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"A propos of political rumors, here's something I heard the other day. Two men were talking of the Hon. John Costigan and discussing a certain rumor that is going about concerning him. One spoke of him as a "representative Irishman." "He's nothing of the kind," said the other, "he's never agin the government."

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I give the following quotation from the Brantford Expositor, to show how the Liberal press views the Budget. It says:

"The best evidence of the correctness of Mr. Sifton's declaration that the tariff is no longer an issue between political parties in Canada is the brevity of the discussion in Parliament on the Budget. For many years past, the discussion of the Budget has been the chief event of the session, and has extended over many weeks. This year it was disposed of in two or three nights. A tariff seems at last to have been arrived at that closely approximates the requirements of the country."

Would not the Expositor have been nearer the mark if instead of saying that the tariff suits the country, it had said there was little discussion because the tariff suits the opposition, being practically a continuation of the tariff which they themselves had established? Whether or not the country is satisfied can not be known until the country has had an opportunity of expressing its views on the subject.

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If there was any doubt before that Mr. John Charlton was not a fit and proper person to represent Canada on the International Conference, there can surely be none now. The Author of the article on the Joint High Commission in the current number of the North American Review is an enemy to this country, and an enemy of the most dangerous kind because he has the audacity to masquerade under the title of Canadian, while doing his level best to knife this country and discredit its conditions. Mr. Charlton, we are told is the author of that article, and if he is it is nothing less than an outrage that the protection of our rights and interests on this continent should even in the smallest degree be entrusted to him. A man who would call the growing sentiment of true Canadianism, which aims to keep Canada for Canadians "a spirit of jingoism, which has developed into a mild form of political insanity," is capable of cutting Canada's throat on any occasion, though his hiding his identity under a *nom de plume*, indicates that he would choose a dark night to do the job. After thus libelling the best sentiment that ever displayed itself in Canada, the writer goes on to say:

"As a practical outcome of this prevalent sentiment, the British Columbia Legislature has recently debarred American miners from the right to engage in placer mining in that province, although the matter of reciprocal mining rights is under consideration of the commission, and a piece of Legislation has

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gone upon the Statute Book of the Province of Ontario (61 Vic. chap. 9), which will ever remain a blot upon its legislative history and is the most unjustifiable legislative enactment probably, that has been placed upon the Statute Book of any American State, Saxon or Spanish, in the last generation. This is a law, passed in the session of 1897, which practically confiscates the property of a number of American lumbermen, having timber holdings in Ontario, to the extent of some three million acres. These lumbermen, having exhausted the available supply of pine in the State of Michigan, and having on their hands idle mills and salt blocks, made investments in Timber lands on the north shore of lake Huron for the purpose of transporting in rafts logs cut upon these lands to their Michigan mills."

Mr. John Charlton is one of those badly used lumbermen, and as was pointed out when he was appointed to a place on the joint High Commission, by reason of his vested interests in the United States, he was not a fit person to represent Canada. If he is the author of the above it is proof positive of his unfitness. Instead of being "unjustifiable" legislation, and a "blot," it is the best act, in the interests of Ontario, that has ever been passed by the province. If it could not be justified on any other grounds, the fact that the barbarous Alien Labor Law of the United States, shuts Canadians out of getting employment in these Michigan mills that cannot run except by the aid of Canada makes it not only a justifiable act, but one which was imperatively necessary in the interest of the people for whom the government of Ontario is acting. If, like the writer of the paragraph quoted above, they were acting in the interests of the United States to the detriment of Canada, it would be different.

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Then the writer, who calls himself "A Canadian Liberal," proceeds in the most deliberate way to discourage the investment of capital in Canada. He says the Americans who invested in the timber lands of Ontario "were made the victims of bad faith and were robbed by legislation of duly acquired property rights." That is a falsehood. They were robbed of nothing. Their timber lands and the timber on them are still theirs just as much as any Canadian's timber is his. After stating this falsehood, he goes on to say;—

"The natural inquiry on the part of the capitalist is, What security are we to suppose we shall possess, if we make investments in Canadian enterprises, while some crazy freak of lunatic legislation may at any time paralyze them by regulations and restrictions relating to the management of the properties we thus acquired'

The treatment of the lumbermen should not give rise to any such question as the above, for the simple reason that they did not invest one dollar in Canadian Enterprises. Every dollar they spent in Canada was spent merely for the purchase of saw material to feed their Michigan enterprise, and the move of such investors as the Michigan Timbermen who are driven out of Canada the better for Canada.

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Here are two of the closing paragraphs from the same article that will arouse in Canadians a desire to kick the rene-

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gade Canadian, for he calls himself a Canadian, who penned them. He writes:

The selfishness and greed that demand resort to export duties and prohibition of export may soon work great mischief, unless effectually checked. The Ontario Export Embargo Law is likely to be imitated in other Provinces by laws of a similar character, applicable not only to saw logs and round timber, but to pulp wood and other forest products. A demand for an export duty upon nickel ore has been sedulously agitated by a clique of speculators who, acting upon the belief that Canada alone can supply nickel ore, think it possible to secure a monopoly of refining nickel. A demand for an export duty upon lead ores in the interest of local smelters is made, and the apparent tendency of the aggressive jingo spirit in Canada at this juncture is to have export embargo and export duties extended over a wide range of natural products, forest and mineral, as rapidly as possible.

"Canada has many of the peculiarities of a spoiled child, and ventures upon many manifestations of these peculiarities, that would not be attempted but for trust in the protection of the Motherland. Many of its public men, and possibly a majority of its people, seem to lack all sense of proper proportion, when considering the adjustment of international conditions. The impossibility of the successful coercion of 75,000,000 of people by 5,000,000 is not understood. Foolish dreams of bringing the United States to terms by withholding saw-logs, nickel and other natural products, are indulged in. Our vagaries and our senseless impudence are a source of annoyance to English statesmen who look at times with ill-concealed disgust upon our actions."

This is a patriotic way for a Canadian to speak of his country truly, and if that Canadian happened to be a commissioner charged with making terms on the very things he is speaking about, what would be a suitable name for him? I am not up in French, but they tell me they have some exceedingly degrading epithets in that language. Perhaps you know one to suit the case. The English language does not supply the word. As far as the manhood of Canada is concerned, I am satisfied it will tell the 75,000,000 of Americans and English statesmen, like Joe Chamberlain, to go chase themselves, while Canada continues to enact laws to conserve her own interests, utterly regardless of any cut-throat traitors who may be within her borders, or selfish speculators without, itching to despoil her of the natural wealth with which a bounteous providence has endowed her Canada for Canadians.

THE POLITICIAN.

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"What do you think of the transportation question?"

"I think it would be quickly settled if the politicians were transported."

THE EXTREMIST.



## International.

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So far as Great Britain is concerned the sky seems to be clear and promising save for one little cloud on the southern horizon, which grows black and ominous. It rests over the Transvaal. Lord Salisbury has every reason to congratulate himself on the success which has waited on his efforts to steer the British bark of state through a series of stormy and perilous waters stretching over the last twelve months. In his dealings with Russia, France, Germany and China, he has exercised consummate judgment, based upon a firm but comprehensive grasp of the situation. So that to-day there appears no reason why there should not be peace—for a twelvemonth, at least. But you never can tell, and those who pretend to be able to forecast events are not to be trusted. As far as the general public is concerned, more profit is to be derived from a thorough consideration and proper appreciation of events that have come to pass, with a clear and specific purpose, such as the increase of the British forces at the Cape following on the petition of the Uitlanders to the Queen, and the decisive and firm action which the Colonial Secretary is said to have taken in the matter. All of which points to the fact that Kruger stands alone face to face with the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, his watchful and determined foe. It is believed, and there is ample ground for the assumption at any rate, that the former is willing, anxious, to effect a compromise which, while granting an equitable franchise to the aggrieved British Uitlanders, will secure the permanent independence of the Transvaal subject only to British paramountcy in South Africa. No doubt Lord Salisbury will insist on a peaceful solution of the question, if Kruger will make that possible; if he will not, then everything points to war.

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The general tone of the despatches from Manila indicates that the Filipinos are weakening and becoming disorganized, the Americans gaining ground and hope for a speedy termination of the war, while dissatisfaction and weariness on the part of the American volunteers increase. Various regiments are said to be badly exhausted by the campaign, and one of them, for instance the 1st Regiment Nebraska Volunteers has lost 225 men in killed and wounded. The American losses are by no means slight but those of the Filipinos have amounted to a wholesale slaughter. No official reports are obtainable and in the present chaotic condition of things it would be impossible to obtain anything like an accurate estimate of the wretched victims of this unnecessary and sanguinary struggle in the interests of humanity and American civilization. The latest returns, however, from May 1st 1898, to April 28th, 1899, fix the number of Filipinos killed at 6,190. With such a frightful carnage, is it to be wondered at that the papers are beginning to show the glaring heading, "American Atrocities"? It is possible that the expansionists may mistake this for "Armenian Atrocities," and there is no Gladstone to wake a slumbering world to recognize the injustice being perpetrated upon a brave people fighting for their undoubted rights

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and freedom. There are plenty of signs, however, that the best and humane portion of the American people are becoming utterly disgusted with the ruthless McKinley policy in the Philippines. It is equally clear that McKinley himself recognizes this fact and is becoming uneasy about the certain effects it is going to have upon his party at the next Presidential elections. Lately the Administration attempted to stop the circulation of the "Atkinson pamphlets" as treasonable publications, only with the result that they have been read by millions and have been the means of diverting public opinion, particularly in Chicago, into anti-expansionist channels, and of convening monster meetings which have condemned the government's Philippines policy in the most unqualified terms. Archbishop Spalding's speech in Chicago, a forceful and logical effort, was enthusiastically endorsed by the people of Chicago, notwithstanding that it was a plain, unvarnished and even bitter arraignment of the government's policy as a whole, and appeal to the American people to condemn it. And indeed, it is utterly impossible to square the government's action during the past year with the best traditions of the Republic. The wild outburst of savage fury against a weak nation, the annexation or conquest of Cuba and Porto Rico, the purchase of 10,000,000 of people against their will for 20,000,000 of dollars; the brutal war waged against the Filipinos, one and all, are enough to make Washington start from his grave and tear the flag of freedom from the Capitol. Unless the war in the Philippines is quickly brought to a conclusion, and the Filipinos established with a fair measure of home rule, the McKinley Administration is doomed. The sense of justice and the true instinct of the American people will revolt, it is revolting against the unwarrantable employment of brute force to enslave free peoples.

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Just at present the probabilities of the reassembling of the Joint High Commission and the possibility of it arriving at a settlement of a portion or of all the disputed questions, are the subject of much discussion. The British press on the whole is sanguine of a successful termination of the Commission's labors, the American press does not trouble very much about the matter, or is slightly hostile, the Canadian press is certainly not hopeful, though willing that the Commission, when it does meet again on August the 2nd, should not be hampered by any ill will shown towards its efforts. An Associated Press despatch from London purporting to emanate from the highest quarters, says :

"Negotiations have never been broken off nor endangered at any time since the adjournment of the Commission. If matters proceed as smoothly as they are at present doing here, Sir Julian Pauncefote's return to Washington will be signaled by the conclusion of a treaty embracing every question in dispute in a manner honorable and pleasing to the two countries."

Senator Fairbanks is reported as saying that the lumber and boundary questions were stumbling blocks in the way of negotiations in the spring, but he has a good deal of confidence in their adjustment before the next session of the Commission is over. Events subsequent to the adjournment of the Commission have proved that these two are burning and even dangerous

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questions and should if possible be settled, in the best interests of the United States and Canada. The Times expresses its hope as follows :—

“ Both the United States and Canada must understand that they cannot expect to have things entirely their own way. Our imperial part is rather advisory as regards both. Every narrowing of the area of controversy is to be welcomed as promoting good feeling which we are glad to note is displayed on both sides. Before the Commission reassembles public opinion in both countries will have been ascertained, and so far as we can gauge it promises to be favorable to many, if not all, of the questions in dispute.” This is a wise view to take of the matter, but it cannot be denied that there is a strong and determined feeling in Canada that these questions must be settled without the giving away of one foot of territory or of lumber without a just and proper equivalent being conceded by the United States. The statement, semi-official in character, that negotiations are to be deferred until the return of Sir Julian Pauncefote to Washington goes to prove that the Commission cannot meet on the 2nd of August, for the Ambassador's return to the United States was fixed for next autumn. This is the view of the situation taken at Washington.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain must have been mildly shocked by the many adverse comments made concerning his “ miserable contribution ” to the Pacific Cable Scheme. The London press has been unanimous in urging a reconsideration of the British Government's penurious position with regard to the terms on which the scheme should be aided. A paltry subsidy of £20,000 for twenty years, subject to conditions and only payable after the cable has been laid is a beautiful way of encouraging colonial development! The patriotic action of British Columbia in guaranteeing two-eighths of the cost apart from the Federal guarantee cannot be too highly commended, and is the best possible reply to the niggardly and unsympathetic course pursued by Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Chamberlain's colonial policy is not a popular one—at least with the colonies. Scarcely a month ago the Right Hon. gentleman was burnt in effigy—eye-glass, orchid and all—by the Jamaicans, and he could not complain if the people of Canada and the Australian colonies took a similar personal liberty with him. If Lord Salisbury wishes to retain the good will of the premier colonies he had better relegate his present Colonial Secretary to a post more in accord with that gentleman's feelings and aspirations, namely, British Secretary to the United States. Had it been the United States that wishes to lay the Pacific Cable, Mr. Chamberlain would have urged the acceptance of one half the cost—as it is—£20,000 a year for 20 years and imperial messages at half price! Such a “ dicker,” if the readers of EVENTS will excuse the term, is altogether unworthy of the dignity of the British government as it is unworthy of the acceptance of the loyal colonies of Canada and Australia. Better lay the cable, and charge the Imperial government full price for its messages. For my part it is difficult to understand Mr. Chamberlain's motive for such an unfriendly action towards those parts of her gracious Majesty's empire, whose welfare has been entrusted to him in a special

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manner. This is not the first time he has treated Canada at least with scant courtesy and consideration.

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It is impossible to keep track of the twistings and writhings of the Dreyfus Case which at present seems to be another name for French politics. Heads are being chopped off, politically speaking, every week; but they do not seem to get perceptibly nearer to a proper and definite solution of the question which has for so long a time kept French sentiment at fever heat. Altogether, however, things are going hard with the opponents of Dreyfus, who, it is asserted, is before long to be brought back to France. M. de Freycinet resigned the war portfolio, which has a tendency to become too heavy for any one man to bear, and preserve his own dignity and self-respect. The cause of M. de Freycinet's resignation was the result of a quarrel between the Foreign office presided over by M. Delcasse and the War office. Major Cuignet, a member of the War Office, had made too free with some letters which had been given to the *Petit Journal* in a mutilated condition that failed to do justice to the Foreign office. M. Delcasse demanded an apology and claims that M. de Freycinet resigned rather than make the required reparation. An order for pistols and coffee may be expected in the very near future. A casual observer fails to see how all this ameliorates the sad condition of the Prisoner of Devil's Island and for any fun to be derived from it, I would recommend the reader to read the French papers.

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That was a very pretty arrangement made by John Bull and the Russian Autocrat the other day to manage the affairs of China between them. It is said not to have recommended itself to the Dowager Empress, and it would go hard with either party to the contract could her Imperial Majesty's Lord High Bearer of the terrible "Sang Fand" sword run across him on a dark night. The Chinese government naturally though imprudently perhaps declares that the acknowledgment of the agreement as to spheres of influence in China lately arrived at by the aforesaid parties in no wise implies acquiescence, which must not, however, be interpreted as a resolution to resist Russian and British aggression. It is said that immediately after communicating the agreement, the Russia Minister, M. de Giers, demanded the right to build a railway connecting the Manchurian system with Peking. It looks as if Russia and Britain had combined, formed a trust so to speak, for the purpose of perpetrating the most gigantic "steal" of modern times.

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Mr. Cecil Rhodes has announced that he has abandoned his Cape to Cairo Railway Scheme, and gives as his reason the refusal of the Imperial government of a guarantee. It is the traditional policy of British governments to do as little as possible towards the assistance of the development and expansion of British colonies and that is probably the secret of the strength and virility which is so characteristic of these same colonies. They have to hoe their own row and work out their own salvation literally by the sweat of their brow,

## Our Toronto Letter.

OFFICE OF EVENTS,

34 VICTORIA ST.,

TORONTO, MAY 18TH.

When speaking with a gentleman who is deeply and intelligently interested in the lumber trade the other day, he said that he found it difficult to understand the attitude of some of the United States lumbermen. We had been speaking of Mr. Charlton's article in the Canadian Monthly, and I had said something of the personal interest the member for North Norfolk and the Canadian High Commissioner had in bringing about the repeal of the Ontario Act prohibiting the export of saw-logs. My friend pointed out that several large American firms, amongst them the one in which Mr. Charlton is interested, had kept right on cutting logs during last winter just as if they were satisfied that the Ontario Act would never be put in operation. Even when the act was put in force, these firms seem not to have for a moment abandoned the expectation that in some way the law was to be burked. Even as late as April 22, a correspondent of the New York Lumber Trade Journal, writing from Bay City, Michigan, said that there was a belief that between that date and April 30th, the Ontario Act would be disallowed by the Dominion Government for fear of retaliation on the part of the United States. The correspondent went on to say that "the Michigan men who invested their money in Georgian Bay timber limits have not been idle in looking after their interests." Possibly, my friend suggested, Mr. Charlton's article and another which he is believed to have written for an American magazine, are some of the evidences of their activity. The correspondent of the Journal goes on, "It is well understood that, if the matter had not become involved in Canadian politics, the act of the Ontario legislature would have been disapproved months ago, but now that Uncle Sam manifests a disposition to take a hand in the proceedings, there is reason to believe that the Canadian government will find some way to have the Ontario Act made inoperative." Evidently, said my friend, the Michigan saw-mill men are hugging some such hope as this, but what they base it on, it is not so easy to discover. The matter has passed beyond the power of the Dominion government and even though Mr. Charlton and his Michigan friends could persuade the Dominion Cabinet to attempt to interfere they would be powerless. To be sure the courts may deny the power of the legislature to pass such an act, particularly to make it retroactive, but our Michigan friends need not delude themselves with the hope that the courts north of the line can be influenced as perhaps courts can elsewhere.

The Weekly Sun thinks that there is, just now, a splendid opportunity for the right kind of a man to enter politics. If he were "of the right sort" he "could now exert a powerful influence even though he had no following in Parliament, and no organized party in the country." These are the qualifications

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the Sun thinks such a man should have : much force of character, independent opinions and the courage to express them, a sound education, a complete knowledge of the country and a private income sufficient for all his needs.' The Sun thinks he might even have something more. He should owe his election to his constituency and not to one or other of the political parties and he should go into politics for the joy that would come from doing good work on ideal lines. Most of us will agree with the Sun, I imagine as to the desirability of having such a man enter our politics, but I very much fear that, however desirable it might be to have such an one throw himself heartily and enthusiastically into our politics, it would be rather difficult to find the man with all the qualities and qualifications demanded. Forceful men with independent opinions and courage to maintain them, though perhaps not as plentiful as one could wish, are not altogether uncommon. Usually such men are fairly educated and pretty well informed concerning the country. When the qualifications of independent means is insisted upon, however, the qualified list is sadly diminished, for it is a fact, which those may explain who can, that in our new country independent fortunes are not often found in possession of the kind of men the Sun is demanding. Then even should we find a man, financially independent, and yet possessed of force of character, intellectual courage, education and knowledge of affairs, I am afraid, that such a man would hardly be sufficiently attracted to our political life to joyfully bear with the oppositions and discouragements with which he would meet. Nor would the job of getting elected in any constituency in the face of the opposition of both parties be an easy one, for, may we not just as well admit it? I am afraid we would hardly recognise the Sun's ideal politician if he should offer himself. How should we know him? By his professions? It would be hard for him to make better ones than have been made by many a man who has sadly disappointed a constituency. I think I know one man—not unconnected with the Sun, by the way—who has all the qualifications demanded except, perhaps, one. He is forceful, independent, has the courage of his opinions, is a man of grand intellectual honesty, is possessed of a sufficient private income, has few if any superiors in educational attainments, has a wide and intelligent knowledge of the country, its capacities and its needs, is an elegant and forceful speaker and one of the best and most polished of English writers. In a word he has every qualification the Sun demands and many more all equally desirable, but he has given no sign that he has any liking for the struggle and strife of political life or that he would have any joy in the doing of work that all men in the political arena would do.

The Hamilton Times seems determined that it will keep the free trade flag "flying yet." The Fieldings and Lauriers may desert the standard; Sir Richard may turn his back on the colors; the voice of Patterson may fail; Landerkin and Casey may take refuge below and Lister and Mills aloft; even the Globe may falter and hold treasonable parley with the protectionist enemy, but the Times will abate not one jot or tittle of the faith handed down from Adam Smith through Ricardo and Bastiat and



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George Brown. Time was when the present editor went after strange gods, and when the lamp of his free trade faith burned dim, but that was in the day of callowness and youthful enthusiasm. Now, though he may school and constrain himself to support a free trade party that has abandoned free trade he will continue to denounce all protective import duties as iniquitous and export duties as the invention of some economic diabolos. Sir Richard may constrain himself to lie down in the same political trundle bed with the robber barons once the objects of his utter aversion and most envenomed invective, he may even bridle his tongue so that it shall no longer revile and anathematize them, but the Times will boom no increase, bend no knee and pour no libation in honor of the strange economic gods before whom its party and leaders are prostrating themselves and to whom they are making urgent offerings of past professions.

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There is evidently a tendency or drift within the Liberal party towards the imposition of export duties which the Times is seeking to stop if it may or retard if it can do no more. As yet no Liberal speaks of export duties as consciously and intentionally protective. They do not actually say retaliation, but they hint and suggest that the attitude and actions of the United States justify the imposition of such duties. Well history has a trick of repeating itself; most of us can remember when this was about exactly the attitude of the Conservative party with respect to the imposition of protective import duties. I can remember how, when the agitation began, some influential Conservative papers that have since become fervent protectionists, would only tolerate the proposed change from "sound economic principles" as a measure made excusable and necessary by the attitude of our southern neighbors. It would need a better memory than mine to recall the name of a single Conservative leader who, prior to the elections of 1878, ever distinctly and in terms advocated protection as a fixed and permanent policy. It is then unreasonable to expect that the present trend within the Liberal party towards the advocacy of protective import duties will develop into the adoption of a policy? Papers like the Times may continue to object, protest and lament, but the leaven is working.

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Hon. Mr. Ross' perfect school system continues to be criticized and the critics appear to be growiug bolder and more merciless. First Mr. Whitney declared that it did not ensure "any education worthy of the name." Then Bank manager Walker averred that it was inferior to the parish and dame schools of Great Britain and did not fit boys even for positions as junior bank clerks. Professor Robertson then took up his parable against the perfect system and the infallible minister. Now comes the Rev. Eabur Crummy and declares that the perfect system is inferior to the one that the half civilized Japs enjoy. All of this will convince the Minister not that there is any weakness or imperfection in his system but that there exists a base Tory conspiracy against it; a conspiracy in which lawyers, teachers, bankers, doctors, clergymen, editors and all manner of

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pestilent and unintelligent persons are engaged. It is the good fortune of Mr. Ross to be encased in a criticism proof armour of self-sufficiency, but it might be better for the interests of education—I mean real education not mere uniform cramming—if he were less sure that the sum of all that is worth knowing exactly equals the total of wisdom he has acquired.

Bishop Howley of St. John's, Nfld., preached in St. Michael's Cathedral on Sunday evening and in the course of his sermon said something not quite correct concerning that much advertised personage Dr. Talmage. This is what this Bishop said: "Upon the spot where St. Paul preached to the Athenians, Talmage also stood up. What St. Paul did he could do. \* \* \* \* \* Mr. Talmage also went to Palestine, and visited the Jordan, where John the Baptist baptized the Son of God. There he had the presumption of dressing in the garb of an Arab, and making himself to resemble the Baptist as he thought. Thus he had the blasphemous audacity to baptize one of his followers. The climax of his presumption was yet to come. 'Because,' declared Mr. Talmage, 'I did not baptize this catechumen in the name of any sect or denomination; I did it in the name of the universal church.'"

Now the truth is that Mr. Talmage did go to Palestine and stopped at Athens on his way. As most people know his weekly sermons are syndicated and published in a number of newspapers. His "sermon on Mars Hill" was published in this way, "cabled at great expense" by the enterprising syndicate. In it he described the sensations which well nigh overpowered him as he "stood on the spot where Paul had stood." He told how his heart throbbed, how his tears flowed and how his soul was lifted up and so on, and so on. But unfortunately the steamer was behind time and he didn't reach Athens in time to preach the sermon, feel the sensation or the heart throbs, weep the tears or experience the uplifting of soul. The sermon had been left behind, type written, and was duly published however, and the good Bishop has been misled by it. Probably the baptizing scene in the Jordan had just as little foundation in fact, at any rate it too was written before the Doctor left America. I don't know that the truth puts Mr. Talmage in any better light than his sermons did, but this is one of the occasions on which justice requires that the true story shall be told.

The American nickel men are keeping up their bluff in the hope of frightening Canada out of the intention of putting export duties on nickel ore and matte. Mr. R. G. Leckie, who is their representative in Canada, has published a letter in the *Globe* in which he tells us that we are quite mistaken when we allow ourselves to believe that we have anything approaching a monopoly of the world's nickel production. He also assures us that the only effect of the imposition of export duties would be the closing down of the Canadian nickel mines, for in that case the American refiners would bring their nickel ores from New Caledonia.

Well hast thou framed, old man, thy strains.  
To please the hand that pays thy pains.

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But, like the lay to which the poet refers, his song is somewhat at variance with the truth. On Saturday Mr. S. J. Ritchie had a letter in the Globe in which Mr. Leckie's figures and alleged facts are completely and mercilessly riddled. Mr. Ritchie shows that a given quantity of Canadian nickel matte, because of the copper contained in it, is worth quite nineteen dollars more than a like quantity of New Caledonia matte. He also demonstrates that the refining of nickel can be done more economically at Sudbury than in New Jersey. The new mining paper here also has an article in reply to Mr. Leckie which seems to me to completely dispose of every one of his statements and contentions. Surely Mr. Leckie, or the gentlemen who employ him, must realize that it is vain to expect to carry their bluff through successfully when the other side has had a good look at his hand and know that he has nothing but a bob-tail flush.

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As the time set for the meeting of the convention of Roman Catholic Liberals draws nearer it is becoming evident that among those most immediately interested there are differences of opinion as to the advisability of holding the convention at all. The Kingston brethren are inclined to resent the calling of the convention as an insult or expression of want of confidence in Mr. Harty, and though the promoters of the movement disclaim any such thought or intention the Kingston view of the matter is becoming more generally believed. Mr. Costigan's public declaration of the abandonment of his party will, I imagine, strengthen the convention movement, for if it should turn out, as many believe, that his latest move is a part of a plan the end of which will be the landing of him in the Laurier Cabinet as, in an especial sense, the colleague of Mr. Tarte and Mr. Blair, there will be many Liberal Catholics who will bitterly resent it. And speaking of Mr. Costigan, I do not find that his political transformation has caused the excitement and perturbation he evidently expected and intended. The Liberals absolutely refuse to become enthusiastic over the new convert. Nor do they seem to be able to persuade themselves that their party is very much the gainer either in ability or respectability by reason of his coming into it. On the other hand the Conservatives are putting on no mourning and absolutely neglect to lament. The flopping of the least potential heeler in old St. John's ward would not have caused less excitement and consternation among them. There is a moral in a story I have read of the reflections of a mite and a scientist, which some politicians might ponder to advantage. The scientist had placed the mite under his microscope and as he gazed upon it declared that "rightly viewed" the mite was a fearful monster. The mite, on the other hand, as he gazed up through the glass, reflected that a man when seen rightly was no such terrible creature as the mite world had thought him.

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The reply of the new Archbishop to the address read to him at his reception is being favorably commented upon by all classes. That it was dignified, kindly, liberal and in excellent taste, is the general verdict. There was one passage in his reply which marks his grace as one given to fearlessly looking below the sur-

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face of things. "I cannot agree," he said, "with the saying 'the greatest good for the greatest number.'" Clearly he regards King majority as something less than an absolute monarch by divine right. Evidently he believes that majorities have no better right to do wrong than minorities have. I imagine he would hardly be disposed to concede the right of a majority, merely because it is a majority, to force its opinions and habits upon the minority. It is to be hoped that his grace's habit of looking below the surface of things, and of refusing to accept every glittering and much quoted phrase as true, will spread and become general. There are altogether too many who act as if the truth or falsity, the justice or injustice of a thing depends in some way upon the proportion of people who believe in and advocate it. It is this belief that is the impelling cause of the mischievous activity of the advocates of sumptuary laws.

The rumors of coming changes in the Ontario cabinet still fill the air. The talk now is that Mr. O. K. Fraser, of Brockville, is to be taken in when Mr. Harty goes out. Mr. Fraser has denied this, but the knowing ones insist that he will be before many moons. It is not likely that Mr. Conmee agrees with the general opinion that he is not a suitable piece of cabinet timber. He may resent his exclusion, but he has no following and will have to submit with what grace he can muster. I rather think Mr. Fraser would be acceptable to his co-religionists. He has the reputation of being a man of ability and a clean man. He was in the city last week and had an interview with Mr. Hardy but of course what passed between them has not been made public. Should Mr. Fraser consent, the next thing would be to find him a seat. Could Mr. Graham be induced to surrender Brockville? He has not been a conspicuously brilliant success in the legislature, and it is not likely that, politically, there is before him any future more brilliant than that of a reliable voter on the back benches. Not a very ornamental cog in the party machine, but one of those useful parts without which the machine could not be kept running successfully. But this may not be Mr. Graham's estimate of himself, nor may it agree with his forecasting of his probable political future. Few men are given to underestimating themselves or undervaluing their importance; least of all is your tenth rate back bench politician addicted to the sin of self depreciation.

THE LOOKER ON.

## Social.

The wisdom of the axiom, "feed the brute", has long been recognized by women who aim at securing a peaceful life at a moderate expense; but some of the more advanced women, bent upon obtaining the suffrage threaten to inaugurate the opposite policy, "starve the brute", in the hope of compelling him to assist them in their aims. These heartless creatures are of opinion that left dinnerless "the brute" would capitulate in less than a week. Would he? Let them just try it and see how it will work. There are enticements enough already for the hen-

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peaked ones, without adding compulsion to leave the home to their number. City life is not what it used to be, and men are altogether less dependent upon home influence for their happiness and comfort than they were say fifty years ago. Clubs—Social and others—hotels, restaurants and feeling places of every description have made the "lords of creation" supremely indifferent to the pleasures of the family table, presided over by a sour-faced woman and meagrely supplied with badly cooked victuals. There are male cooks a-plenty who know how to cook, and pretty girls galore who know how to serve a dinner with smiles for sauce and—and all for a quarter. No, No; my married sisters, it won't do. Get the suffrage by all means if you covet it; but don't be foolish enough to try such a worn-out policy as "starving the brute", either to gain the suffrage or any other concession. It won't pay; it never was a wise offensive policy, and modern conditions of living have taken all the snap out of it.

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Judging from the limited dimensions of the clinging skirts which are surely invading petticoat kingdom a well-dressed, or rather a fashionably dressed, woman will soon be under the necessity of mincing her steps after the manner of Japanese belles. A fashion plate of an aesthetic gown makes the human figure it is supposed to cover and adorn show every line and suggests that its legs are tied together at the knees. Possibly this design is the out-come of some prudish man dress-maker who thought it was high time to put some restriction upon woman's freedom in dress, which coupled with her terrific independence when once she has taken the bit between her teeth, threatened disaster to his occupation and pocket. When will woman revolt—against the tyranny of fashion and costumers? Never, so long as they wear skirts. There is no hope of the sex working out its own emancipation until they have discarded these ancient badges of slavery and come out in standard masculine attire.

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Somebody wrote to the editor of the Montreal Star as follows: "Sir, will you kindly tell me how a well dressed lady can walk along our streets and keep her skirts from being ruined by the filth and dirt one meets at every turn?" The Editor of the Star did not tell her; possibly he hadn't time to tell her; neither have I. But the mistake fashionable women make is in imagining that the streets of a flourishing, busy city like Montreal will adapt themselves to the requirements of their skirts. Fashion, if it is practical, common-sense, considerate of cleanliness, that paragon of the virtues, and of a possible daintiness which always makes womanhood look angelic, should adopt itself to the requirements of the streets just as specifically as it does for the reception room or ball-room.

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Girls, have you a grandmother or—two? If so make an onslaught on her jewel-case. The very prettiest of girdles can be made up with a box of old style jewelry. Perhaps, the old lady wore ear-rings; perhaps, they were given to her by her dead husband and have been treasured for years, but that doesn't

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matter. They will look, you don't know how "fetching," dangling from your belt. Or dear, old Grannie—that is the way you must approach her—has a beautiful old cameo brooch, with a lock of brown hair stowed away at the back—never mind that!—it will make the dearest, quaintest clasp for your girdle. Take brooch and ear-rings and trinkets to your flinty-hearted jeweller, with a strip of your favorite ribbon and you will have a belt worth—grannie knows how much.

"Love, soliloquizes a woman of the world, "is such a delicate plant, finding a mistral or a bise in almost every air that blows. Poverty sends it flying out of the window. Riches rob the wedded pair of the home-centred interests that do so much to draw ordinary husband and wife together. Children often divert the affection of husband or wife into another channel; and the lack of children just as often brings estrangement. Idleness separates, and so does hard work. One knows not how to take that capricious thing that is called Love. It is a very chameleon, differing with the nature of each human creature that feels it, and taking its hue from his individuality. It is sometimes more than half vanity, for instance. But what boots it to analyze a sentiment that is never twice alike, any more than the human countenance?"

So that is love, is it? To a woman of the world. Shakespeare was only a young man when he wrote.

"Love comforteth like sunshine after rain;  
But Lust's effect is tempest after sun;  
Love's gentle spring doth always fresh remain;  
Lust's winter comes, e'er summer half be done.  
Love surfeits not; Lust like a glutton dies;  
Love is all truth; Lust full of forged lies."

I am glad I have read Shakespeare and not sorry to be a bachelor. Still the "woman of the world" and Shakespeare are at one on the subject of matrimony which seems to be what the "woman of the world" means by love; for Shakespeare hath said,

"Marriage is such a rabble rout  
That those that are out would fain get in  
And those that are in would fain get out."

This may be true also; but I cannot speak from experience. The argument is all on the side of the "woman of the world."

There does, however, seem to be some remnants of truth lingering about the policy of "feed the brute." It is said that society dames on "the other side" have hit upon a happy expedient to lure young men to dances. They have instituted what they call dinner party dances, whose primary object is to give young girls the pleasure of a dance, but which has to be secured by the preliminary of a good dinner. The guests of each dinner party are introduced to each other before dinner—young men to young girls, a slight acquaintance is established previous to the dance, which places things on a more friendly footing than is effected by ball room introductions. Much social diplomacy is required to secure anything like a reasonable number of young men at an ordinary dance.



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A society-up-to-date authority has issued a code of car-fare etiquette, the sum of which seems to be "Pay your own car-fare whenever you can, and that is-always."

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An American young lady sued a too ardent admirer for squeezing her hand so vehemently as to injure a bone, and what is more lamentable got substantial damages. The mulcted one happened to be a transatlantic cousin, and now comes the inquiry, how hard may a lover squeeze a girl's hand with impunity? I think it would be perfectly safe either not to squeeze at all or squeeze a more protected part of the fair one's anatomy. It should, however, be carefully borne in mind by the enthusiastic swain that it is a serious matter to break a bone even an artificial one.

THE SWELL.

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## Sectional Representation

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A convention of Roman Catholic liberals has been called and there is much speculation as to what will be the outcome of it. Beyond all question there is much satisfaction among liberals of the Roman Catholic faith on the score of their treatment by the party leaders. Recent rumors as to a possible change in the Laurier cabinet have intensified this feeling, and it is not unlikely that there will be some pretty plain speaking at the convention. I hear it said that Mr. Peter Ryan is one of those who resent some of the recent doing of the party leaders, but I am inclined to think that if there be any real foundation for this story, it is based upon what may have been said by Mr. Ryan's friends—who, by the way, are equally numerous in both parties and are confined to no one faith—for whatever may be his own feelings he is not the man to speak of them except directly and perhaps with much plainness and a good deal of emphasis, to the party leaders themselves. Yet should the occasion seem to him to demand it, he would not hesitate to speak out publicly, and then it would be in terms plain enough to be easily understood.

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A committee or delegation of "leading Roman Catholic Liberals" waited upon Mr. Harty and Mr. Hardy and gave their views as to who would be an acceptable successor to the Minister of Public Works in the event of the latter's retirement. The same committee or delegation is also said to have had an interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier upon the subject of Roman Catholic representation in the Dominion Cabinet. Though I have heard the name of those who are said to have been on the deputation I do not know who composed it nor even if the gentlemen whose names I have heard were certainly members of it. Nor do I know whose delegates or appointees the committee were or who clothed them with representative authority. Perhaps they approached the premiers as Mark Twain's pilgrims did the Czar of the Russias :

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"We are a handful of private citizens of Toronto calling upon you simply for recreation—and unostentatiously as becomes our unofficial state—and, therefore, we have no excuse for presenting ourselves before your premiership——"

If they did may we hope that neither of the premiers indulged in the language used by the sailor who represented the emperor when the affair was burlesqued on shipboard:

"Then what the devil did you come for?"

Mr. Hardy might, but Sir Wilfrid, though he might have thought unutterable things, would not forget his sunny ways.

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The World comments editorially upon these interviews and belabors the members of the delegation without naming them, for what it calls abusing the constitution by assuming to dictate as to the appointment of cabinet ministers. Speaking broadly, the World is perhaps right, Catholics as such no more than Presbyterians or Methodists or Baptists or Episcopalians as such, have no right, recognized by the constitution, to interfere with a premier's choice of his colleagues. But if this matter is to be argued it should be in the light of the fact, for which both political parties are alike responsible, that there has always been Catholic representation in Ontario and Dominion Cabinets. Neither party has seriously proposed that this practice shall be discontinued and until one does it may be looked upon as one of those extra constitutional facts which are nearly as potent and as firmly established as the provisions of the constitution itself. Surely then if Catholic Liberals are to be represented in Liberal cabinets and Catholic Conservatives in Conservative cabinets there is nothing unseemly in the Catholics of the two parties advising with their political leaders as to who will most fairly represent them. So far as is known this is all the delegation or committee has done.

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Provincial or sectional representation in the cabinet is foreign to the constitution as is denominational representation, but he would be a bold, venturesome party leader who would risk injuring it when forming or re-arranging a cabinet. Theoretically a premier should choose his colleagues regardless of anything but character and fitness, and, provided the premier were a wise chooser, this would give us an ideal cabinet—while it lasted, which would probably be until parliament met. Sir Wilfrid Laurier went further a-field than any of his predecessors when choosing his cabinet, but it is doubtful whether the success which has attended his excursions from the beaten paths, will tempt his successor to imitate his example. And even he did not venture to ignore provincial or sectional considerations, however: regardless he may have been of the feelings and not unjust ambitions of the followers whose efforts more than his own abilities had raised him to power. Theories are well and ideals are excellent, but in this humdrum world, swayed as it is by human prejudices, party leaders must play the game with the implements at hand and cannot hope to be able to change the rules—even the unwise ones—at each innings.

THE MANIPULATOR.

## Unearned Increment.

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The offer of \$120,000 for the site of Knox church and the refusal of the congregation to accept it has given rise to much talk and some thought. Before the congregation had time to act upon the offer, the Westminster published an article in which the sale of the property and the removal of the church to a more eligible site in a residential district was deprecated. It took the ground that this would be a sort of abandoning a field which has a great and increasing need of church influence. Were Knox church to remove it would leave but two presbyterian churches "down town," and the Westminster seemed to regard this as something akin to treasonable desertion of a post of duty. Last week it returned to the subject, after the congregation had refused the offer, and urged that mere monetary considerations alone should not be permitted to influence the final decision as to selling the property. It does not appear, however, that any very lofty or altruistic sentiments swayed the congregation at the meeting, at least if one may judge by the speeches as reported in the city papers. The sale was urged and opposed purely on financial grounds. One party held that the offer was a good one and should be accepted; the other that the sum offered was too low and that "as a speculation" it would pay "to hold the property for another year." It was even urged that the company making the offer was so circumstanced that it must buy the property "whatever they pay for it." Considerations of duty, of Christian responsibility or of loyalty to Christian work do not appear to have been much in evidence. Concern for the "down town" heathen did not seem to sway either side greatly. The spirit that animated those who sold doves and changed money in the temple appears to have been in the ascendant. Perhaps an Ananias or Saphira, with their shrewd ways of making the most of real estate transactions, might not have felt lonesome or far from home, had they happened into the meeting. The pastor of Knox is a fervid believer in and exponent of the doctrine of premillennialism and the church itself is a sort of premillennial stronghold, but the spirit displayed at the meeting was more illustrative of a keen appreciation of the present reign of Mammon, than suggestive of an enthusiastic belief in the speedy commencement of the earthly reign of Him who had not where to lay His head, who never speculated in real estate nor practiced the making of close bargains.

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There is another aspect of this matter in which some people are inclined to consider it. They are asking, How did this property come to acquire the value now put upon it? What have the congregation of Knox church done to give this value to the site? Originally it came into the possession of the congregation as a free gift and its value at that time was probably not more than a few hundreds. The city has grown up around it and square feet have become more valuable than square acres were then. All this time the church has been free of taxation contributing nothing to the civic improvements which have so enor-

## EVENTS.

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mously increased the value of its property. As people think of this the meaning of the term "unearned increment" comes home to them with new force. One gentleman, when advocating the acceptance of the \$120,000 offer, said that it would enable the congregation to pay off all its indebtedness and "open the new church free of incumbrance, a position which no other church of any denomination occupies." Doubtless this gentleman and the entire congregation as well would strenuously oppose anything savoring of state aid to churches, and yet it is quite evident, by the statements made at the meeting, that Knox church has been state aided at the expense of the people of Toronto to the extent at least of the value of a church building and site. It is time that *mutatis mutandis*, the same thing may be said of other church property. It can also be said that many private persons as well as churches are in the enjoyment of "unearned increment." I am not saying that this ought not to be said, or that, being said, it would be anything less than altogether true. Nor am I contending that Knox church or any other church is just as much entitled to any "unearned increment" as any private individual is, I am only saying that this offer of \$120,000 has set some people thinking about the right and wrong of "unearned increment," and I venture to entertain the hope that they will keep on thinking and endeavor to get others to think. Perhaps after a while they may—to borrow a phrase from the single taxers—"see the cat."

THE TAXPAYER.

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## Anti-Expansion.

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"It becomes more apparent every day that the prevailing policy of expansion does not appeal to a large and ever increasing section of the American people. Recent events have brought even the administration to hesitate and pause in their reckless and headlong course of coercion, and there is no longer that cheerful, hopeful tone in the American press in general which was so conspicuous a few months ago, when all the world seemed to be ready to fall at the feet of McKinley and his victorious admirals and worship. Speaking of the Philippines question, the American Monthly Review of Reviews says, "The Philippine situation has continued to be the leading topic of serious discussion in this country, with no point of absolute unanimity except the fervent hope and prayer that the pending warfare between the United States troops and the natives may come to a speedy end. . . . We have some unfortunate losses of brave men, and the whole affair is painful and disheartening. None the less, it is not the proper time to find fault." I see no reason to change my opinion on this most unjustifiable war which the American Republic is still waging against a brave people, struggling according to their lights and slim means and with a measure of success utterly unexpected by their enemies for freedom and independence. Even victory or unconditional surrender on the part of the Filipinos can bring no glory and but little satisfaction

## EVENTS.

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to the American people when once the heated atmosphere, in which they have been for the past twelve months, has cooled down to the normal temperature of the nation. "The whole affair" must be "painful and disheartening" in the extreme. To add to McKinley's difficulties in dealing with the Filipinos is the growth, the rapid and tremendous growth of a feeling in all parts of the United States more and more opposed to the new-found policy of national expansion. According to a correspondent of the Mail and Empire the anti-expansion movement has spread to such an extent as to threaten the stability of the McKinley administration, which has taken action to stop the spread and circulation of certain "seditious" pamphlets written by one Edward Atkinson, being severe condemnations of the government's policy in the Philippines. The first pamphlet written in November last and addressed to the President, bears the glaring title of "The Cost of a National Crime," which pertinently reminds McKinley of that part of his message of April 11th, 1898, in which he said, "I speak not of forcible annexation, for that cannot be thought of; that by our code of morality would be criminal aggression." Comment is needless in view of this compulsion of McKinley to eat his own words. The second pamphlet is entitled "The Hell of War and its Penalties," and is also addressed to the President setting forth the diseases and demoralization which accompany a war carried on by northern men in the tropics. The third pamphlet bore the heading, "Criminal Aggression; By Whom Committed?" and reviews adversely one of President McKinley's speeches, introducing also some of the evidence and information brought out at the framing of the treaty of peace, touching on the American relations with Aguinaldo at the outbreak of the Spanish war and afterward. No wonder that President McKinley's nerves should be shaken by the sight of such grim and ghastly spectres stalking about his bed of nights, and hence he is out with an axe after the man who has had the audacity to hold up the looking glass to the reality. The worst of it is for McKinley that people have read these pamphlets and monster meetings have been held in Chicago and elsewhere, condemning unreservedly the ferocious policy of the government to pacify the Filipinos. In the meantime, in spite of much talk of submission the fighting still goes on in the Philippines and though vanquished the Filipinos seem to be able to fight again.

### THE WARRIOR.

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The Dowager Empress of China is reported to have appointed her Lord High Executioner in the person of Tsai Chi, the Prince of Tuan, upon whom she has bestowed the famous "Sang Fand" sword, which confers upon the possessor the awful privilege of beheading any person without appealing to the throne. The bestowal of it is understood to imply the right to remove any obnoxious persons from her majesty's path. It is quite evident that there is in China a greater and more to be dreaded personage than the great Li Hung.

## Nineteenth Century North Men.

A lusty young giant among the life insurance companies of Canada is the North American, whose entry into its new and beautiful home offices in Toronto, Ontario, is contemporary with the most prosperous year of its history.

The annual meeting of the North American Life, on the 2d inst., has added another milestone to those along the successful way this well managed Canadian financial institution is advancing. The leading features of the year's work are, that the new business of the North American exceeded that of any previous year, and the maintenance of the relatively large amount of net surplus to liabilities—such a ratio being one of the best tests by which to judge of the comparative merits of different companies.

These marked increases were made during the year: Premium income, 11.56 per cent; interest 13.11; insurance in force, 13.15; assets, 10.01; net surplus, 10.73; insurance reserve, 15.18.

Special attention is directed to the excellent character of the investments of the company. Of these 37 per cent are in first mortgage securities, nearly 20 per cent in debentures, nearly 14 per cent in stocks and bonds, and 6½ per cent in loans on policies, the balance consisting of cash in banks, and accrued interest, etc.; and although the assets had increased very largely, the outstanding and accrued interest had been very materially decreased, which is proof of the excellent character of the investments.

The North American Life, which is "A policyholders' company," does not derive its conspicuous success in development to chance, but clearly to the men who have from the first composed its directorate. These have been representative Canadians, distinguished in varied spheres of activity—men known far and wide for their ability and appreciated as worthy of every dependence for their honor and integrity. But the good fortune for which the North American Life is to be complimented comes in great part from having continuously since its start been under the management of able and experienced executive officers, Mr. William McCabe, LL. D., F. I. A., the managing director, so well known in actuarial circles, and Mr. L. Goldman, the secretary.

In the establishment and continuing prosperity of the North American Life, certain essential elements have ever been kept in view—that the company has not pushed for business beyond its capacity, that it has not pushed for business where such business could only be secured at a heavy outlay, and, best of all, knowing well that the solid basis upon which desirable business is to be had is the keeping in the field a force of men who will work from a spirit of freedom and not at the extremity of forceful methods, the terrors of over-pressure are an unknown quantity in the conduct of the company's field work.—Insurance Spectator, New York, Feb. 23rd, 1899.

The only Rudyard Kipling, has become so much ashamed of some of his earlier doggerel—which he no doubt thought very near perfection when he wrote it—that he is suing a New York publishing house for damages for reprinting the stuff. This would indicate that there is yet hope for Rudyard. A man never begins to improve until he discovers his faults. It will be a great satisfaction to many of his victims to know that he is himself feeling something of the agony they felt when he imposed the "ditties" upon them.



# THEY LIKE "EVENTS."

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## What Our Contemporaries Have to Say of Our Weekly Paper.

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"Events," Canada's latest—and best—addition to independent journalism.—Algoma Pioneer, Sault Ste. Marie.

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"Events," is the name of a bright and cleverly written paper published in Ottawa.—The Brockville Recorder.

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We have received a copy of "Events," a unique newspaper published in Ottawa. "Events" is a new departure in the art of journalism, and will no doubt receive generous support. Its contents consist of short and well written editorials dealing with the events of each week. It is independent politically, and handles the various questions ably.—Sturgeon Falls Advertiser.

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A brand new Canadian journal, which is called "Events," made its appearance to-day, and its first number is a credit to its publishers. It is very interesting, and contains a number of well written articles.—The Toronto News.

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"Events" is the name of a new journal issued from Ottawa and Toronto, with office of publication at the former place. As its name indicates it deals entirely with the events of each week from its own point of view, and it does this in an interesting and entertaining manner. . . . "Events" ought to do well in the land.—Daily Ontario, Belleville.

"It is ably edited in a pleasing and independent style, and is just what is wanted. Its leader in last week's issue is timely, and if "Events" continues as it has started it will be the means of doing much good."—The Perth Expositor.

"It is a gem in letter press and public opinion."—North Bay Times.

"The Politician" in Events, a spicy paper published at Ottawa, which has taken a front rank in Canadian journalism, writes as follows" says the Eganville Star, in quoting from this journal.

"A new publication has invaded newspaperdom, in the form of a weekly which comprehensively styles itself "Events." In form "Events" resembles the English "Saturdays." Its contents are wholly made up of short, crisp editorial paragraphs, discussing current events, and in this respect it is a unique publication so far as Eastern Canada is concerned.—The Globe, Toronto.

"Our excellent contemporary "Events," of Ottawa."—Orillia Packet.

"Events," that cleverly written up and truly independent journal.—"Arthur Enterprise."

"Events" is a new weekly published in magazine form, terse, fearless and anti-humbug; well printed, readable, and worth its price of subscription.—Annapolis Spectator, N.S.

A valuable and unique addition to Canadian journalism is "Events," a 20th century newspaper, as it styles itself, published at Ottawa and Toronto. It is sprightly and fearless, original in form and matter, and very candid in its political and other comments.—The Daily Record, Sydney, Cape Breton.

A wide-awake weekly has reached us from Ottawa which, under style of "Events," deals with matters and things in a straightforward, clean-cut fashion. No politician should be without it, for its political utterances, written by "The Politician," are to the point every time. He has a faculty for hitting the nail on the head and driving it right home, and the way he taps the crooked chaps in politics is truly refreshing. We welcome "Events" to our table, and wish the fullest power to its elbow.—The Signal, Goderich, Ont.

"A new and very peculiar paper called "Events" has appeared at Ottawa and is so well written and put together that hostile criticism is hushed. It reminds one in its style of the classical Tattler or the Spectator, for its language is faultless and its sentiment admirable."—The Independent, Brandon, Man.

The Events Publishing Company in bringing forth "Events" have brought into the journalistic field a "slashing" good weekly. It hits all sides of politics with a relentless hand, frequently making a bull's eye.—Daily Intelligencer, Belleville.

"Events," an Ottawa publication is commanding attention. Its criticisms are pointed and pungent enough and very independent. Politically there is no publication whose comments are more candid. If "The Politician" be a Liberal he is not at all sparing of his friends.—The Daily Whig, Kingston.

"I have just read from cover to cover the second issue of "Events," and am greatly pleased with it. You will allow me, as an old journalist myself, to warmly congratulate you upon what I consider an admirable departure in Canadian journalism."—Mr. A. H. Scaife, late editor of The Province, Vancouver, B.C.

"Events," a little weekly magazine published at Ottawa, seems to be the free lance of Canadian journalism. It is somewhat in the style of New York "Town Topics," and is edited with considerable ability, and joyously and freely raps both Conservative and Grit party over the knuckles. "Events" is always readable, whether the gentle reader agrees with its views or not. One of its great attractions is its intensely patriotic Canadianism.—Brockville Times.

An admirable weekly review has recently been launched in Ottawa. It is called "Events." In form it resembles the English Saturday journals. All the events of the week are discussed in terse, but pertinent and pungent paragraphs. He who keeps himself fully informed of the progress of the world will soon regard "Events" as one of his favorite papers.—The Burlington Record.

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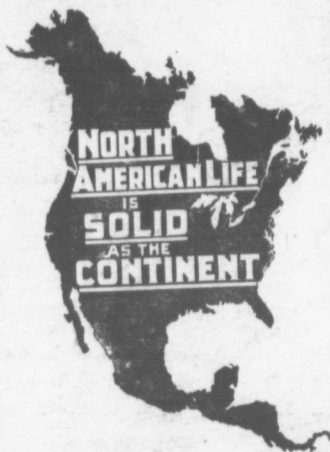
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