

EVENTS

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Whole No. 286.

Unfounded Assertions.

A PORTION of the press seems to have gone a bit daft over Lord Dundonald. The Toronto Mail and Empire in its issue of Saturday July 23, makes the statement that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues undertook to disgrace Lord Dundonald in the Ottawa Journal, which very properly denounced the character of an article published in another evening paper, held that paper up to execration for saying that Lord Dundonald was a disgraced officer. The Toronto News, a Conservative paper, has a cartoon in its issue of the 21st inst. which represents a fight between the government and Lord Dundonald with the general in a very belligerent attitude, and the government looking sheepish and saying "don't want to fight it out." It is important that we should not get away from the facts of this interesting case, which has caused so much discussion both in and out of parliament. There is no fight between the government and Lord Dundonald. It is true that Lord Dundonald seems to enjoy a fight, but it takes two to make a fight. All that the government did was to remove one of their officials from

office because he committed a grave breach of discipline. Afterwards he gave the Minister of militia, his superior, a slap in the face by handing to a member of the Opposition a memorandum which he says he did not give to his own Minister lest it should be pigeon holed. For an officer to say that if he had a defence to make in regard to a matter that had become public and which was at the moment being discussed in parliament that document would be suppressed by one of the Ministers of the Crown, is to say something which stamps him as a man who either says more than he thinks, or does not stop to think. It is a rash, careless statement. This we say added to his original offence and made it necessary for the government to remove him from office. Now that is all the government did and, since, all they have done is to appoint Lord Aylmer as acting General Officer Commanding. There was no attempt whatever to humiliate or disgrace Lord Dundonald. The statement of the Mail and Empire is a fabrication. So far from it being true Sir Wilfrid Laurier placed the highest estimate on the charac-

ter, the talents, and the record of the General when he spoke from his place in parliament. These are the facts, but when a man goes into a political campaign facts are often distorted. Unfortunately the Conservative party saw in General Dundonald an opportunity to make some political capital against the government and they took advantage of it. Mr. R. L. Borden said that the Conservative party had not campaigned Lord Dundonald because he as leader of the party had not authorized or sanctioned anything of the kind. All we can say is that in that case Mr. Borden is not quite in touch with his party. It was seen in England as it was more clearly seen here, that the incident was being turned into political capital, Lord Dundonald said: "Oh! this is not political, it is a matter of the militia of the country and there should be no politics in that." Then he also said that his view of the matter

was the view adopted by the loyal people. Mr. Fisher and the government said on the floor of the House that their administration of the militia was not at all on party lines, and they pointed out that even the militia was in a sadly neglected state. The present government had largely increased the expenditure of the force. Lord Dundonald's charge of neglect was therefore untrue on the face of it. The militia seemed to be getting on well without Lord Dundonald, just as the force was established, built up, and equipped by other men. We are sorry to be deprived of the services of General Dundonald, but he cut off his own head and the proof of this is to be found in the fact that even the Opposition in parliament acknowledged that the General had committed an offence which made it impossible for the government to do other than dismiss him.



GEO. E. DRUMMOND
President Canadian Manufacturers' Association, recently honored by a public banquet in Montreal.

SOME men
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William a week
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Photo

On the Upper Ottawa.

SOME members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery took a trip up to Fort William a week ago the guests of Mr. Cris McCool, and Mr. C. A. McCool, M.P. Their

yacht and summer hotel at Fort William and everything at their command were put at the disposal of the party. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company trans-



A group on the veranda enjoying a smoke after breakfast.

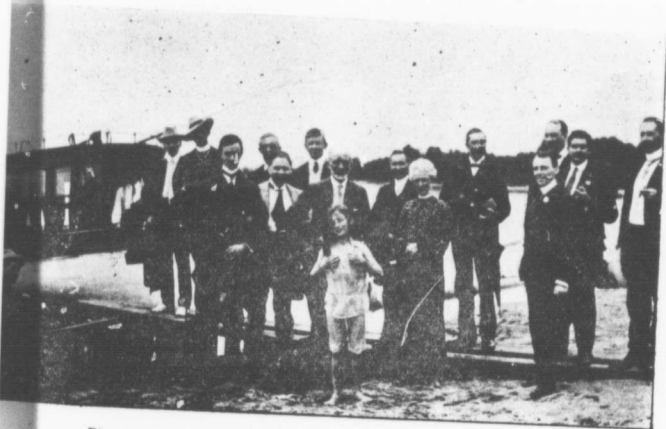
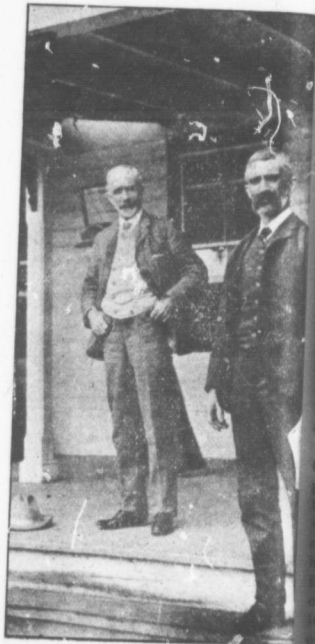


Photo taken on the beach as party about to embark for home.

ported the party to Pembroke on Friday night, furnishing special accommodation and fast time which every person greatly appreciated. The spirit that gets into the air and reason of a swift train is a fast time. Fort William is in the county of Pontiac, and must not be confused with Fort William, Ont. It seems odd that the name of a well known railway terminus should be the same as this little hamlet on the shores of the Ottawa, and the explanation is that it was an old Hudson Bay post and people cling to the old names and are loth to relinquish them.

Right out from Pembroke the river expands into Allumette Lake, a beautiful expanse of water filled with pretty islands, and affording a sweep of the eye that fills the onlooker with gratification. The yacht proceeded through the Narrows, where the river resumes its natural course, and on past a wealth of verdant beauty. As each mile slipped by it seemed to increase in loveliness and in fact before the party returned they all fell in love with the beautiful Upper Ottawa. The Hotel Pontiac is a commodious summer hotel, accommodating, one would guess, more than one hundred guests. There are summer cottages on the islands opposite the hotel, and at times the beach of the river presents an animated appearance. There is great fishing at the mouth of Chalk river eight or nine miles above the hotel but the report came that the fish weren't biting and the disciples of Isaac Walton among the party had to travel along without any fish. There is a swell dancing hall in a separate building in addition to the hotel, and here, especially on Saturday evening, music and laughter rings out on the summer air. The chief charm of Fort William however is its quiet. It is a model family resort and very popular in Pembroke and Ottawa.

Mr. George Duncan the Agent at Ottawa was good enough to accompany the party and during the trip represented the well known custom of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, that when exercising hospitality it should be done well.



The genial hosts, Mr. C. A. McCool on the left, Mr. Chris. McCool on the right.

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The Attitude Towards Confederation.

SOMETHING which Sir Wilfrid Laurier is said to have said or written in 1868 being quoted in proof of his present opinion and tendencies. in the same way something which Mr. Gladstone said or wrote once would have been quoted against him to show that he was a Tory. In the same way Mr. Chamberlain could be convicted of being a radical and a Home Ruler whereas he is now a full-fledged Unionist and Imperialist. In the same way Sir George Cartier could have been convicted when he was a Minister of the Crown of being a rebel, and in the same way Sir John Abbott could have been shown when he was Prime Minister of Canada to be in favor of annexation in the United States. The opinion attributed to Mr. Wilfrid Laurier when he was 25 years of age was opposition to confederation. It is a curious thing that intelligent, bright, Canadian editors should, even for partisan purposes, represent themselves to the world as going to a young man who was not born at the date of which he speaks for information as to the political history at that time. The question of Confederation is still a question in the history of Canada and will remain so until its evolution reveals the advantages to the various members of the union. People in the central provinces or Ontario and Quebec do not all realize the feelings with which Confederation is regarded by some in those provinces which are most distant from Ottawa. Canada is still spoken of as a separate and distinct place in some parts of the Confederation, Old Canada being meant by this allusion, and in Manitoba and British Columbia people talk about the east and the people of the east as if they were almost a distinct and certainly an inferior

race, meaning the people of the old provinces of Ontario and Quebec. There is nevertheless at bottom a sound loyalty towards the Confederation in every province of the Dominion. A strong bond of union running from ocean to ocean is the British sentiment which pervades the Dominion. Any feeling which might have existed in the minds of a few that Canada as a separate entity was impossible has been dissipated. The propinquity of the United States has lost all its terrors, and what is more the conditions which were once hinted at by some leaders of public opinion in Canada to the effect that we were in a sense commercially dependent on the United States, that idea, too, has gone, and today Canada is standing up and looking the world in the face with a greater knowledge of her resources and a firm conviction of a great destiny. After thirty-five years experience of the work of Confederation most people are satisfied that some improvement could be made in the structure, but the majority of responsible public men still shrink from reopening a question which took a long time and many compromises and much discussion to settle. The attitude of one of the Fathers of Confederation has been recalled by the son of another of the Fathers of Confederation and that attitude has been ascribed to the present head of the Confederated Government.

In an address, recently at Winnipeg, Hon. Hugh J. Macdonald stated that Mr. Dorion and the party to which Sir Wilfrid Laurier belonged were strongly opposed to Confederation. It is to be presumed that Mr. Macdonald was making some political points at the time, but aside from this it is interesting to note that what he said

was quite true, with the qualification that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was then a student at college and a member of the Dorion school of politics. Mr. Dorion was opposed to the inclusion of the Maritime Provinces without first consulting the electors of that section. Mr. Dorion told parliament that there were three modes of obtaining the views of the people upon the question of Confederation, the most direct one would be after debating it in the House, to submit it to the people for their verdict. That would have been a plebiscite. The second was to dissolve the House and hold a general election. The third was to allow the Confederation resolutions to lie in suspense on the table of the House until by petitions and meetings they could learn the opinion of the public. Mr. Dorion's particular advice was to leave the measure for another year in order to ascertain in the meantime what the views and sentiments of the people actually were. He held that the people of the country did not understand the scheme; the bearing of many of the resolutions was in doubt. He dwelt particularly on the liabilities, and on the cost of the Intercolonial Railway. He preferred an elective to a nominative Upper Chamber.

Mr. Hugh J. Macdonald's statement also serves to recall the fact that Sir John A. Macdonald was in favor of a Legislative union and that Mr. Dorion discussed the claim made by Mr. A. T. Galt that the delegates all desired a legislative union but found that it could not be accomplished at once.

The opposition to Confederation which Mr. Wilfrid Laurier of 1886 is stated to have expressed was in an article in *Le Deffricheur*. If all the brilliant French-Canadian litterateurs who write for some

small college paper, or weekly, published perhaps, in the centre of an obscure paper were to be held responsible in their many years for all the opinions they express when going to college what a spectacle we would have. Mr. Beckles Willson is an Imperial Federationist who has been connected with Canadian, United States and English newspapers. The French Canadian people are opposed to Imperial Federation to a greater degree, perhaps, than the English speaking Canadians. Mr. Willson sees in Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his influence the personification of that hostility to Imperial Federation which everybody knows is growing stronger in Canada every day and which is shared by Charles Tupper and many other distinguished persons.

We wonder what the critical Mr. Willson would say if he learned that one eminent leader at that time, the Hon. Matthew Crooks Cameron, a Conservative, opposed the union from almost every point of view as an Upper Canadian representative and as a loyalist. Mr. Cameron declared strongly against the constitution because it changed without the constituencies having an opportunity of pronouncing upon it. Mr. Dorion like Mr. Cameron was in favor of consulting the people before the scheme of Confederation was consummated. Mr. Wilfrid Laurier was a member of the Dorion school he possibly shared the same views as did thousands of good Canadians at the time. We are afraid that Mr. Willson has been at distressing pains for nothing, and he might at least refrain from assailing with the grossest vulgarity a man who helped to sell his book a year ago by writing an introduction to it.

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The Audit Office.

IN connection with the Davis affair Mr. Aylesworth wrote a letter dated August 6th, 1902, which gives that officer some very good advice and which is well worthy reproducing, as follows:—

I cannot find from examining and considering the Audit Act, any indication that parliament intended your office to be superior to, or to exercise any supervision over, the various departments of the government, in so far as questioning the validity of their contracts is concerned, but there appears clear provision in the statute for bringing all such questions to the notice of parliament itself.

The legislation seems to afford a very complete scheme by which your department may be an efficient check upon expenditure, and by which parliament may be at once informed if anything unusual or irregular takes place. You have the power (and no doubt the duty) under Section 32 (c) of the Audit Act, to refuse your certificate if at anytime convinced that a cheque is applied for where 'the money is not justly due.' You are by section 33 expressly precluded from authorizing any payment unless upon due voucher that the work has been performed or materials supplied. By Section 10 of 31 Vic. chapter 7 (1888), you are, in reporting to the House, to call attention to every case in which cheques have been issued without your certificate, or in which a payment was 'in any way irregular.' Your duty accordingly, when not satisfied that money claimed is justly due, is to refuse to certify, and thereupon the Treasury Board becomes 'the judge of the sufficiency of your objection.'

But the statute has carefully provided that in all such cases the matter must come before parliament upon full report making it apparently by section 49 of the Audit Act, your personal duty to present such report if the Minister of Finance does not do so within the time prescribed by the statute.

Responsibility is by this means removed from you and made to rest upon the proper shoulders. The Treasury Board is responsible to parliament, and if parliament considers that in this matter or in any other matter upon which you may take a similar course, an improvident or improper contract has been entered into, the Minister who is responsible, or the Government, who will be held to account.

I do not think there is anything more to be done by you in such a matter, and I may add that with the views you entertain in regard to this particular account, I do not see how you could have done less than you have done in connection with it. I return herewith your departmental file of papers in connection with the claim.

Yours truly,

A. B. AYLESWORTH.

If the audit office did not permit itself to pester and to act in a disproportionate way there would be less temptation to criticize the audit office. If one was disposed to do so, some very serious criticism of the audit office could be made. It is the only branch of public service whose accounts are not audited. We have always made the point that 'if the staff at the audit office devoted less time to doing things which it should not do, and used the time saved in that way to look closely after important matters legitimately within the sphere of that office, fewer mistakes would be made and the public advantage would be considerable. Let us see one or two things of a serious kind which the audit office has done. It has paid out \$30,000 too much in a transaction where the whole amount to be paid was \$75,000. This \$30,000 was returned and went back to the credit of the Receiver General. The audit office on another occasion paid out over \$9,000 in railway subsidy which the railway company returned with the remark that they had been already paid. Not to give any more examples these are sufficient to show that if the staff is overpressed with work, of the kind which the Montreal Gazette stated the other day had no thing to do with the work of auditing, it is liable to do something wrong, and one mistake involving \$30,000 would hardly be compensated for if the staff devoted itself to a multitude of small things for which that office had become rather famous.

EVENTS

Published Weekly.

ARNOTT J. MAGURN, Editor.

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SO far as Ottawa was concerned the Earl of Dundonald was in the end used as a basis of the most incendiary appeals, disguised it is true beneath expressions of loyalty and patriotism. But it is because of that very fact that the agitation was inflammatory and dangerous to the welfare of the people of Canada and to the empire. We were told by the Citizen next morning that patriots forgot party distinctions, and beneath the Union Jack (which was, by the way, not a Union Jack) conspicuously quoted from one of Lord Dundonald's incendiary speeches—"Men of Canada keep both hands on the Union Jack, I repeat, men of Canada keep both hands on the Union Jack". This is quite in keeping with another statement of Lord Dundonald that the loyal men in Canada were with him. "Well what does all this mean? Why is the Union Jack in danger? Because an officer of the British army infringed an important rule of discipline and was retired from a post that he has amply demonstrated he was unfit to keep? What has patriotism to do with that? Every person knows that the whole thing is a political agitation against the government of the day based on the fact that the leader of the government is of a race and creed different from the majority in this country, and all these things are appeals to passion and prejudice and cannot fail to do anything but harm. By the way, the Ottawa Citizen, the very day before printed an attack on Sir Wilfrid Laurier, one of the counts in the indictment being that he adopted the Union Jack as the appropriate flag to fly from the parliament buildings.

MR BECKLES WILLSON, who spells his name different from all the other Willsons, would have us presume that the extra L stands for a Lord.

IF Mr. Beckles Willson is not crazy he is simply insolent in penning what he termed an open letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, if the man is sane the concoction is merely vulgar impudence.

IT is much to be regretted that Canadian newspapers were found that would publish the madcap nonsense, drivel, and banality of Mr. Beckles Willson on Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the minister of militia. A person who is impudent towards a man who is practically the head of the Canadian people, and who states that the minister of militia should have a bullet in his carcass for something he said in parliament, if the good old days were still here, is either out of his mind or an individual of a very low type. This addiction to imperialism seems to have serious effects upon some people.

THE Toronto Star published last week a report that rival lines were endeavoring to secure control of the Canada Atlantic Railway. It was stated that the Grand Trunk were figuring on it in connection with their new transcontinental line. We have stated before, and we see no reason for changing that opinion, that from a national standpoint the government should sanction any agreement that may be possible whereby the Canada Atlantic may be utilized as a connecting link between the eastern terminus of the Canadian Northern system and the Canada Atlantic seaboard, it is the most reasonable connection, and if the government of Canada could do anything to forward it, the people of Canada would receive in return the speedy development of a through line. It cannot be seen too clearly that unless the Canadian Northern is given an eastern connection, there will be severe congestion in the west during the time of construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific. Clear headed members of the government realize this, and if there is any way of carrying it out immediately, the people of the west and of Ontario and Quebec will owe a debt of gratitude to the administration at Ottawa.

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ACCORDING to a cable report, the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, the Rt. Hon. Sir Henry Taschereau, who is at present in London, attributed to the Canadian despatches to the London Times a partisan color. It is very well known that the Times' Canadian service always admirable from the news point, emanates from a source strongly Conservative and not so much by what is stated as by what is omitted the service, in keen political matters may be open to the criticism made by the chief justice. It was only through a cable to the London Standard that the people in England learned of Lord Dundonald's breach of faith with the committee in charge of the administration in Toronto.

ONE of the most important books of the summer season will be the story of "The Six Years' Tragedy" of Mary, Queen of Scots, which Mr. Hewlett narrates in his new historical romance, *The Queen's Quair*. It begins with the "maid's adventure" of Mary's setting out to rule rough Scotland; it ends with her defeat and imprisonment at Lochleven. The book gives in the opening a vivid sense of the queen's gaiety and girlishness; but sombre colours are hinted from the first, for at the very opening, before her departure from France, Bothwell appears, and the fascination of his virility and calculated roughness is felt upon her. His figure gives unity to the story; the climax comes when he deserts on the battle field the woman who has sacrificed all for love of him. Mr. Hewlett shirks nothing. He paints Mary's ignominy as strongly as her triumphant charm; he shows her infatuation for the stupid Darnley; then, in the reaction bred by his sottish treachery, plunged into a madness of passion for the man who had first captivated her imagination. But at every point we are made to feel in Mary noble potentialities frightfully distorted by the wickedness of strong and cruel brains. All the mob of schemers who swarmed about her, chief among them her half-brother, Moray, victor in the last act, are presented with relentless vision. Among them move figures seen in charity, the loyal Mary Livingstone,

and true lovers among the Gordons. Much of the talking is done by two invented characters, pages respectively of Mary and Bothwell; Mary, indeed, is seen chiefly through the eyes of the boy, Baptiste des Essars, who loved her. Chastelard and Rizzio have little of Mr. Hewlett's sympathy; he gives a new reading of them, which, right or wrong, puts them in the atmosphere of strong life which pervades the whole book.

THE St. John Sun is puzzled to know what the statement of the Secretary of State for War means concerning Lord Dundonald, and the paper adds:—"In this country Lord Dundonald has certainly done nothing that concerns the Imperial War Office". The Secretary of State for War made himself very clear when he said that he "believed it undesirable for an officer to take part in public controversies", and the War Office desired Lord Dundonald to come home and be heard in his own defence. That is the charge made in the Imperial House of Commons, namely, that Lord Dundonald was guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer of the British army. It is true that for this breach of discipline at the outset Lord Dundonald has been punished by dismissal from the post he held at Ottawa, but that incident is closed and the government at London has no interest in it. What seems to have attracted their attention was the spectacle of an officer of the British army stumping the country as an agitator, and lending himself to the machinations of a political party. He was attempting to divide this country up into two parts, one labelled loyal and the other not labelled at all. "Taking all the circumstances this was dangerous work, and the British government lost no time in trying to call their officer to a sense of his duty."

AFTER eight weeks of idleness the men got back to work in the case of the Sydney iron strike. The company professes not to have been much injured by the closing down of the works for a few weeks, but it must be a serious thing for the men, who it is said, are not much if any improved in their position as a result of the strike.

THE issues in the Presidential campaign in the United States are shaping themselves quickly. The issue in a general way is stated to be conservative and constitutional government against radical and arbitrary government. It is also described as an issue between absolutism and free and democratic government. President Roosevelt is represented as an imperialist and as placing his chief reliance on a policy of force. The Parker party is substantially the Cleveland party, and represents in a large degree the great financial concerns of the United States. Writing in his paper, The Commoner, William Jennings Bryan declares his intention to support Parker, although "the triumph of the Wall Street element of the Democratic party denies the country any hope for relief on economic questions.

THE report of Mr. Chamberlain's tariff commission upon the iron and steel trust in the United Kingdom is decidedly protectionist in tone. The commission recommended the system of tariffs, the first with a low scale of duties, the second with a preferential scale and the third with a maximum scale. This three scale tariff is very similar to that outlined by Mr. Fielding in his last budget speech. Did he get his idea from Mr. Chamberlain's tariff commission of the iron and steel trade.

THE Orange Lodge actively bestirred itself to turn out a crowd at the demonstration which was worked up in Ottawa last Tuesday night on the occasion of Lord Dundonald's departure for England. The Orange lodge is an active wing of the Conservative party in Ontario and naturally did not remain quiet when what was regarded as a demonstration against the government was going on. The Conservative party in the House of Commons is practically an Ontario party, and one of the prominent leaders in the House is the Grand Sovereign of the Orange Lodge. A very large number of the Ontario members of the House are members of the Orange Order. They regard this as politically necessary. They

are usually careful not to bring out this fact in works or reference where it is not regarded as necessary. Their membership in the order is purely for home consumption. If the Conservative party as a whole are not averse to this sort of thing there can be no possible objection but then, you know, Dundonald demonstrations have no connection with politics. Perish the thought!

ALLEGED fierce battles have been fought in the Japanese-Russian war, yet with the exception of the battle of Yalu, none have been witnessed by any correspondent. Scores of correspondents were sent out but none of them were permitted to go out of Japan, and there has been no more fighting in Japan than there has been in Canada. Two correspondents who arrived in Japan before war was declared managed to get into Corea and to evade the authorities long enough to see the battle of the Yalu and there they were ordered back, and the real facts of the present progress of the Japanese forces towards Port Arthur have yet to be learned. There have been official Russian despatches from the General acknowledging being driven back at points, and there is no doubt that the Japanese have not yet been stopped. The Vladivostok fleet was on Monday, July 25 bulletined as sunk, and the next day it was announced that the Vladivostok fleet was "sweeping the seas." The latter report is undoubtedly the correct one, as the squadron sunk an English schooner called the Knight Commander, sailing from New York and captured off the coast of China. The news of the capture of several English vessels has roused indignation and created excitement in England where any reprisals would be backed up by the whole country. Young England has been brought up for more than one generation on a steady diet of resentment against the Russian wile, and a national feeling was never more accurately expressed than by Kipling—"Make ye no truce with Adam-Zad, the bear that walks like a man."

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Labor in South Africa.

THE present demand for labor in South Africa is enormous. The maw of the Rand is insatiable. The mines are being developed in feverish haste. The magnates are straining every nerve to wring the Transvaal dry in half a generation. Two years ago Mr. John Hays Hammond estimated the life of the mines on any large scale of production, at twenty-five years. But if the plans of the Johannesburg financiers carry and the output is doubled and trebled for the next ten or fifteen years, South Africa will dazzle the world by a flood of gold that will sink California or the Klondike into insignificance. Then the bottom will drop out of the Transvaal and the Boer will pasture his sheep in the streets of Johannesburg. Before the war

90,000 natives were employed in the mines. Today the Government Labor Commission estimates that on the Witwatersrand alone 195,000 are required to work the stamps in operation or ready for erection, and that within the next five years an additional 200,000 will be called for. The Far Eastern and Far Western Rand can employ 100,000. Nor is this all. The normal demands of agriculture absorb 80,000 natives. In Johannesburg alone business and domestic services require 40,000. For railway construction, Sir Percy Girouard, the French-Canadian engineer at the head of the South African railway system, requisitions 40,000 men. Truly there should be no excuse for a tramp in South Africa.—Douglas Skelton in *The World To-day*.

Carrying Canned Civilization.

IT is quite evident that a great gathering of political and commercial forces is driving the United States from her former isolation into the cockpit of world politics. Her manufacturing trusts want foreign markets and the defence of a powerful fleet: the tariff interests favor a military and naval expenditure which makes against economy and requires high duties: the financial and investing classes wish to secure at the public expense protected areas of profitable exploitation outside of the present national limits; a more definite official class, military and civil, is forming itself by accretion from the wealthier and more educated groups in her Eastern States and will be a growing force for a pushful foreign policy. Moreover, as the protected and concentrated business interests find

their supremacy in politics and industry menaced by the boisterous clamor of "a rabble multitude" armed with an equal franchise, they will be more and more imperiled to divert the popular interest and passion into external activity. The Americans are a self-confident, restless, and patriotic people, and have been rightly designated as "eighty millions of the most warlike people in the world." To such a people the sensationalism of war and empire is a terrible temptation. To this must be added an extraordinary conviction, sedulously fostered by a fanatical clergy, and an hysterically sentimental Press, that it is the duty of America "to carry canned civilization to the heathen" (as one of their own statesmen put it), and that they are fully competent to perform this duty. The

notion that the citizens of New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Minneapolis, who seem impotent to secure for themselves even a modicum of reasonably honest and efficient management in their own municipalities, can instruct Filipinos and other

backward nations in the arts of good government is indeed grotesque in its absurdity. But this delusion as to their ability to do big things a long way off is a serious factor in the situation.—The (London) Outlook.



THE MODERN VERSION.

"I'm safe in such a fortress;
There is no way to take it."

"O ho!" exclaimed the Mongol,
"I'll find a way or make it!"

—Saturday Night.

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V. S. Negro Population.

THE number of negroes in the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii, and Porto Rico, is shown by the final bulletin of the Census Bureau to be 9,204,531, perhaps a larger number than is found in any other country outside of Africa.

The report indicates that between eleven and sixteen per cent. of the negro population have, or are believed by the enumerators to have, some degree of white blood. The centre of the negro population is in De Kalb County, Alabama, about four miles from the western boundary of Georgia, having moved thence from Dinwiddie County, Virginia, 476 miles northeast, since 1790. Almost ninety per cent. of the negroes in continental United States are in the Southern States, and three tenths of them are in Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama.

There was an increase among the negroes of 1,345,318 or eighteen per cent. in continental United States, but the rate of increase declined steadily through the nineteenth century. The death rate approximates thirty per cent while that of whites

under the same calculation is seventeen per cent. The district in which the proportion of negroes is greatest lies in the Mississippi alluvial region along both banks of the lower Mississippi, where five-eighths of the population is negro, the maximum being in Issaquena County, Mississippi, with more than fifteen negroes to each white person. Negroes form one-third of the population in the South, both in cities and in country districts, while in the North they are about one-fortieth of the city and one-sixtieth of the country population.

The largest number of negroes living in compact masses are found in certain urban counties, several of which lie outside the great cotton-growing States. The four each having over 75,000 negroes are: District of Columbia co-extensive with Washington; Shelby County, Tennessee, containing Memphis; Baltimore City, Maryland, and Orleans Parish, Louisiana, co-extensive with New Orleans.

Half the negroes in the United States are under nineteen years of age, this median age being four years below the whites.

What I Like.

An idle and frivolous summer jingle reprinted from an old newspaper by request.

My wants are modest, my tastes are few,
And yet I am fond of a thing or two—

A bit of sky,

Through the tree tops high

Glimmering breezily, brightly blue—

The smile of a girl with pearly teeth—

The flash of the foam—and the beer beneath—

The sandwich crunched at the noontide hour—

The breath of Jocasta's favorite flower—

The gurgling ice in the water jug—
The flutter and start

Of a little heart

Pressed close to mine in a hurried hug—

A nice smooth shave from my private mug

That the barber lends but eight or ten

Other men—

The perfume and bloom of the apple boughs—

The glint of the waves that the sea winds rouse—

A poem by Aldrich, or Dobson or Lang,
 Old fashioned and dainty as mignonette,
 The echo of songs that my first girl sang
 The trill of an air from "Olivette"—
 A mellow guitar with a string of blue—
 The tip of Catherine Lewis' shoe.

Poised half-way

Between the gallery and parquet—
 The Mascotte's murmuring "glou-glou-
 glou."—

A hickory fire in the winter time—
 The sound of the wind in the waving
 trees—

The jingling ring of a clever rhyme—
 A girl who knows just how far to tease—
 A little landscape by Bolton Jones,
 With the shine of the spring on sticks and
 stones—

The truffles of jet on the rich pate—

A spin on the whirring and wily wheel
 A skim o'er the snow in a swift small
 sleigh—

A turn in a jolly Virginia reel—

A good square meal,

At any season in any place—

A grand-stand seat at a roaring race—

A mossy couch near the brooklet's purl—

A GIRL—

Near by—yes, near and extremely by—

And I—

Why—

Bless your soul, your excellent soul,
 I really don't know, upon the whole,

If put to the test,

That isn't the thing I like the best.

V. HUGO DUSENBURY

Donvig's Life Saving Globe.

AN interesting experiment with Capt. Donvig's life-saving globe was recently conducted by that gentleman in Copenhagen in the presence of prominent naval authorities and others.

The experiment consisted of casting the globe from a 12-foot-high wharf into the sound; it sank but immediately recovered itself whereupon the portholes were thrown open, one of the occupants adjusting a sail and guiding the globe by means of a rudder.

The life-saving globe is a recent invention. The inventor received the idea from seeing a water tank afloat after a terrible wreck on a rocky coast, in which he lost his entire family.

The globe will accommodate sixteen persons.

The apparatus is described as follows:—The life-saving-globe is constructed of 3-16 inch steel plates and has the form of a globe from which a segment is cut off, the flat part forming the bottom, which is double, the outside one being 5-16 inch thick. It is furnished with the following outfit. A fender of 16-inch coil rope laid

around the largest part of the globe; anchor with 100 fathoms of 1½-inch steel wire rope; wooden grating on top of the inner bottom, straps and loose reindeer hair padding, provided for sixteen men, bilge-pump, closet bucket; rudder and tiller (of steel); sails and oars. Around the interior of the globe are a series of lockers, which serve as seats for the crew. In these lockers can be stored 14 cubic feet of provisions. In the space between the double bottom, 360 liters (148 gallons) of fresh water can be stored. Through the top of the globe a 12-inch ventilating pipe can be raised from the inside of the globe to the height of 5 feet above; and it can be lowered so that the top end is flush with the top of the globe. This pipe is fitted with cover and packing in the top for quick opening and closing for ventilation when at sea.

In the upper part of the globe man holes are fitted which can be opened and shut from within. The surroundings can be observed from the small glass lights fitted in the sides.—Consul Raymond R. Frazier in Daily Consular Reports, No. 1920.

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A House for the Holidays.

By R. E. VERNEDE.

"**T**HINKING of renting a house in the country for the holidays, are you?" said the Man Opposite. "Take my advice and go down and see it first."

"Do you think it a necessity?" I inquired.

"Absolute."

"Because I've just heard of one that sounds delightful," I continued. "The only drawback is that it's eight hours' off by the train. I simply haven't got time to go and look over it. Trenton's the nearest town."

The Man Opposite looked up.

"What is the house called?"

"Providence Grange," I said in all innocence.

He went into a sudden roar of laughter. "O, Lord!" he said, wiping his eyes when he had finished. "I thought I'd stopped that man. Henry Gomple, Esq? Yes, that's the rogue. Got his advertisement with you? Read it out. I'd like to hear it again before I translate it to you."

He had another attack of laughter, while I read aloud the description of Providence Grange, which had taken my fancy.

"This lovely old country house, standing in its own grounds, amid moor and forest, contains three reception and seven bed and dressing rooms, besides hall and usual offices. Two miles from station, seven minutes' from the sea. Stabling for four horses. Excellent trout fishing in the neighborhood. Close to golf-links church and post office. Tenants entitled to the use of fruit and vegetable gardens. N. B.—Providence Grange, besides containing every modern attraction, is not without its historic associations. It was captured by

the Roundheads in the Civil War, and the Protector himself, passed a night under its roof. Rent, five guineas a week."

"That's it," said the Man Opposite. "And a bad night Oliver must have passed. How do I know? I passed a night there myself—five years ago. I was a fool like you; and I liked that advertisement too. Or, rather, my wife did. Not having a friend to warn us, we took it for a month without troubling to go and see it. I was rather doubtful to begin with, but Gomple sent us a photograph of the house taken from the south lawn, and that settled me."

"He sent me one taken from the west border," I put in.

"He would. Blurred, isn't it? The one he sent to us was. Couldn't see anything, in fact. But we argued that if he was willing to submit a photograph, there could scarcely be much wrong with it. That's Gomple's cunning. Well, we started off one fine day in July—servants, luggage, family, family's dolls, canary, cat, guinea pig—by the only train in the Jay, and we got to Trenton at dusk. Trenton's a poky little village on one of the branch lines that are all branch and no line. I think we arrived an hour late. I'd written to a job-master to have a wagonette to meet us, and we found a farm cart only. "What's the meaning of this?" I said to the fellow in charge. "Mawster said as 'e weren't going to send nothen finer'n this—not to take folks along that ther ditch," said the man sulkily. There was nothing to be done except to use it. We put the most necessary things and the children in and the rest of us walked. The man was quite right in calling the road a ditch. At

the end of an hour's wading my wife asked how far it was to Providence Grange? 'To wheer?' 'Providence Grange! Mean wheer Gomples lives, I s'pose? It's another ten minutes, I dessay.'

'We got there at the end of a quarter of an hour. It was quite dark, so we couldn't see the exterior of the house. The interior which an old woman showed us over with a candle, smelt like a churchyard and my wife wept. I sat down in one of three chairs in the dining room and two of its legs broke. 'We can't sleep in any of those bedrooms,' said my wife, 'and the servants say they won't.' 'Very well,' I said, 'you'd better get out the rugs and camp here for to-night. It's about eleven o'clock now.'

'The old woman had gone, but there was plenty of rats to keep us company. At 2 a.m. the cook and my wife's maid came into the drawing room in hysterics and gave notice. Our youngest child passed the night on my knees for fear it should be carried off by the rodents. I need not prolong the horrors of that night. Dawn came at last and revealed some of the gaps made by the Roundhead artillery during the Civil War; they had never been repaired. We hurried into the grounds; they consisted of a potato-patch the size of this room, three gooseberry bushes, which the birds had cleared long since, and a rim of scorched grass. The south lawn, in fact; the west border must be a recent addition. Our hopes of fruit and vegetables gone, we turned our atten-

tion to the tables. Four goats could not have roosted in the rained outhouse we discovered.

'Do you wish to examine the church or the post office?' I inquired of my wife.

'I want to go home,' she said. (I forgot to mention that Providence Grange stands on the dreariest waste you can imagine, and the man who drove us had mentioned that the sea was three miles away). 'This is the most horrible hole I have ever seen.'

'Very well,' I said. 'I will go and ask for the farm-cart to return. There is a train at eleven o'clock.'

'I understood that Henry Gomples, Esq., lived at a cottage in the neighbourhood; and, having provided myself with a stout sapling from the nearest hedge, I visited the cottage en route to the station.'

A smile of pleasant recollection played about the lips of the Man Opposite at this stage of his narrative. 'It's no good going to law in this kind of fraud, you know,' he wound up. 'But I'm surprised, I confess, that he has advertised Providence Grange again. He promised not to before I left.'

'And I suppose,' I said, 'there wasn't even excellent fishing in the neighbourhood.'

'There's always excellent trout-fishing in the neighborhood,' said the Man Opposite. 'But it's usually strictly preserved, you know. I didn't stop to see, as a matter of fact, I thought I might be had up for manslaughter if I missed the train.'

