

BUTLER'S JOURNAL.

Devoted to
**NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE,
LITERATURE,
CURRENT NOTES and SOCIAL
GOSSIP.**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
**MARTIN BUTLER,
FREDERICTON, - - N. B.**

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
**BUTLER'S JOURNAL,
Box 333. Fredericton, N. B.**

**Subscription 35 Cts. a Year.
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THE JOURNAL is published on the
First Saturday of each month,
and all Communications, New Ads.
and changes of ads. should reach
us on the Tuesday previous to the
day of publication.

Subscriptions can be left with Samuel
Owen, Queen St., or sent by mail
either in silver or postage stamps.

FREDERICTON, JUNE, 1898.

GLADSTONE.

The Giant English oak who has stood the storms of 88 winters, who's strong arms reached out and succored the Democracy of the British Isles, and beneath whose sheltering branches, the poor and oppressed of every race found a calm and safe retreat, has at last fallen, in the fulness of years, and "with fruit meet for repentance." Gladstone was a Democrat heart and soul, he believed in the uplifting of the masses, and their welfare and enlightenment was his constant study. Although brought into close connection with "the higher classes" he saw nothing in their foolish and unjust assumptions of superiority and privilege over the masses, who bore the brunt of the battle and paid the taxes. This was shown by his persistent refusal to accept any title of nobility which has no warrant in natural law and which is as often found on the brow of a blackguard as that of a gentleman. A loyal subject of the Queen he was, as we all are, who kneel in respect to her true womanhood, which the investiture of a crown and sceptre does not enhance by one iota. He accepted the condi-

tions which circumstances imposed upon him but was true to his ideal to the last. How dwarfed beside him were such pigmies as Tennyson and Disraeli, who made opportunity their God, and regardless of the bitter cry that went up from the oppressed of the earth, folded their arms and basked in the sunshine of royal favor and the plaudits of a sycophantic crowd and a venal and unconscionable press.

But the greatest work with which his name is connected, was his services to Ireland. He found her sunk in desperation and despair, and attempted to lift her up from the miserable condition of serfdom in which her people had been plunged for centuries, and restore her to her rightful position as a self-governing and self-respecting nation. To this end he bent all the energies of his wonderful genius and powerful persuasion on the British people to acknowledge and atone for the wrongs of centuries. It was a herculean task, even for him, but he almost accomplished it. The British public, who are slow to move, and who had wrought evil from want of thought rather than from want of heart, at last were brought to acknowledge the justice of his accusations and attempt a tardy but sincere reparation for the wrongs of their sister Isle, which took shape in the Home Rule Bill, which only the power of an unrepresentative body, who are beyond the reach of the popular will, and callous in everything that does not concern them and their exceptional privileges, prevented from becoming law. To the last he was true to himself, the people, and the cause of humanity the world over, and his memory will long linger as a sweet savor in the hearts of all lovers of freedom.

A Railwayman's Story.

Mr. W. Franks, in charge of the Grand Trunk Engine Shops, Port Dover, Ont., says:—"Four boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills cured me of a very bad attack of Kidney Complaint and Lame Back."

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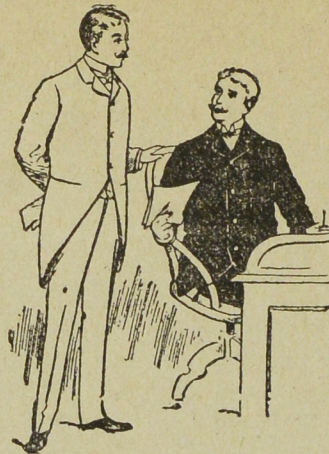
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