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### The Dominion of South Africa.

By a recent Act of the British Parliament the four British South African Provinces have been consolidated into one federation under the proper name of the "Union of South Africa," and yesterday Tord Gladstone, its first Governor-General, opened its first Parliament for the transaction of business. There could be no better time for a brief statement of facts calculated to make clear the significance of this event to Canada and the rest of the British Empire. It should not be forgotten that while the "Union" is its proper name it enjoys along with other self-governing portions of the Empire the common name of a "Dominion." The Provinces composing it are Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange River Colony, and the Transvaal, the former two having been British for nearly a century, while the latter two were Boer States until the close of the South African war of 1899-1902.

It is an interesting fact that the discovery of South Africa by the Portuguese was almost coincident in time with the discovery of America by the Spanish: the latter took place in 1492 and the former in 1495. The discovery of Canada took place in 1497 when Cabot visited some part of the shore of the mainland, probably Labrador. The trade of Europe with India by way of the Cape of Good Hope became important, but it was not till the middle of the seventeenth century that any attempt was made to establish a settlement. In 1652 the Dutch East India Company began one on the shore of Table Bay, northwest of the Cape, and the country was never subsequently abandoned. Dutch and Huguenot settlers to the number of twenty-seven thousand were there by the end of the century. The Cape Colony became British in 1806 during the Napoleonic wars, and British it has remained ever since. The recognition of its status as part of the Empire by European nations was deferred till the Treaty of Vienna in 1815.

The mixed Dutch and French population became known to the outside world under the name of "Boers," signifying "peasants"; more recently, with the Hollanders who had found their way to South Africa, they had been called "Afrikanders." With the restlessness of an able and vigorous race they believed in the legitimacy of slave-holding, they resented British administration on more grounds than one, and made a succession of "treks" or migration into the wilderness. The most important of these followed the abolition of slavery within the British dominions in 1833; a settlement was made at Natal, and when Great Britain declared it British territory the migration passed on into what afterwards became the Orange Free State and the Transvaal. The former, like Natal, was annexed by the British in 1848, but it was given up six years later, and its independence was formally recognized in 1854. It remained independent until 1899 when war between the Transvaal and Great Britain became inevitable, and, having cast its lot in with the larger Boer State, it shared with it in 1902 the common doom of sub-

jugation. Many of the Boers of the "great trek" of the later thirties passed across not merely the Orange River, but also its chief tributary, the Vaal River, and established the colony known as the "Transvaal" which extended as far north as the Limpopo. Its independence was recognized by Great Britain in 1852, but it was formally annexed in 1877, and its independence was again conceded in 1881, but with conditions attached. It is unnecessary to refer in detail to the South African war of 1899-1902, which resulted in the unconditional annexation of both Boer States to the British Empire.

For some years past the privilege of self-government has been enjoyed by the Boer colonies separately, just as by Cape Colony and Natal. The trend of local events, and especially the danger from native uprisings, prompted the statesmen of the different colonies to confer about the formation of a Union of South Africa. The terms of federation were considered and agreed on by delegates, and after their acceptance by the different colonies individually they were embodied in a British Act of Parliament. The Premier of the first Ministry of the Union is General Botha, who ten years ago was commander of the Boer forces of the Transvaal against the British. The wonderful change that has been brought about during the decade is the aspect of this subject most worthy of careful study by Canadians of all classes and ages. It is worthy of note that King Edward had planned a visit of the present King George, then Prince of Wales, to perform the function of opening the first Parliament which is to be opened today by Lord Gladstone.—Weekly Globe.

### Notice of Meeting.

The Semi-Annual Session of Carleton County Lodge L O A, will be held in the Orange Hall at Richmond Corner, on Thursday the 16th of June at 2.30 p.m. A Scarlet Chapter will be held in the evening. By order of the Executive of County Lodge.

A F LOCKHART, County Secretary.  
Woodstock, June 1st, 1910.

### Florenceville.

Mrs Sam Hamilton and daughter Marion, of Houlton, are visiting at Casper Caldwell's. Stephen Ross is very ill with La Grippe. Mrs J V Kearney and daughter Mary are on a trip to Fredericton.

Miss Annie L Peters of St John is spending a few weeks with her brother W S Peters.

Mr W W Boyer is very ill with diabetes. Fergusson McCain was absent on Friday and Saturday attending the funeral of Wm Estey, of Jacksonville, his brother-in-law.

Chas Bell has gone to Vancouver. He rented his fine 200 acre farm to Hiram Banks for three years.

Rev M H Manuel preached his inaugural sermon at Greenfield to a large congregation, from the text, "Behold a sower went forth to sow." The importance of good seed, the certainty of a harvest in accordance with the seed and a plea for sympathetic cooperation stood out prominently in his discourse.

D McGaffigan has improved his residence by extending the portico in front.

James Barter of Sparkle passed through the village on Sunday en route to his home. He had been to his old home at Avondale, attending the annual family reunion.

Left over from last week.

### An Amiable English Gentleman.

The New York Herald says: "The accepted picture of Prince George Frederick, of Wales, who becomes King of Great Britain by the death of Edward the Seventh, his father, is that of an amiable English gentleman who has lived forty-five years of a life that is said to have held little laughter.

He is a kind husband and father. Fishing, shooting, golf and billiards are his recreations, and the fact that he has spent most of his life at sea is given as the explanation of his never riding to hounds. He has a taste for farming, which he indulges in raising fancy fruits and vegetables. He appeared in his father's coronation on a horse of unexact gait and impeccable manners.

His life from early manhood to maturity was spent in England's navy, and time was when England acclaimed him with a touch of enthusiasm as her "sailor prince."

As a youth he was more popular than his brother, the Duke of Clarence, by whose death he became direct heir to the throne, but as Prince of Wales he has shone dimly in the public light, and is now praised principally on the score of his flawless respectability.

Mostly he has lived in private, and in conversation is said to show none of the light, swift thought or the adroit tact that were considered remarkable in his late father. He has been obliged to speak in public frequently, but seems only once to have been able to formulate a sentence that has lingered in the public mind.—Toronto World.

The aerial voyage made by Glenn Curtiss from Albany down the valley of the Hudson River to New York will always hold a red-letter place in the annals of aeronautics. A few months ago Mr. Wilbur Wright earned

### The Lord Our Pilot.

A brave ship sails upon the sea  
In paths it has not sailed before;  
The sails are set, the helm is free  
It hastens toward an unknown shore.

In sun and storm it plows the waves,  
It rides triumphant through the years,  
It rides o'er wrecks and deep sea graves,  
And they who sail, have they no fears?

When waves run high and storms are loud,  
And gloom of darkness covers all,  
Do angry sea and midnight shroud  
Their faces blanch, their hearts appal?

What ho! an answer from the prow  
Out ringing like a silver bell:  
"The Lord, our Pilot, knoweth how  
To guide aright, and all is well!"

In prosperous days or midst of strife,  
Lo, all is well for all who ride  
In any zone the sea of life  
With such a pilot for their guide.

But they who helpless thread the deep,  
With no such pilot at the helm,  
The heavenward course will fail to keep  
And wave and tempest overwhelm.

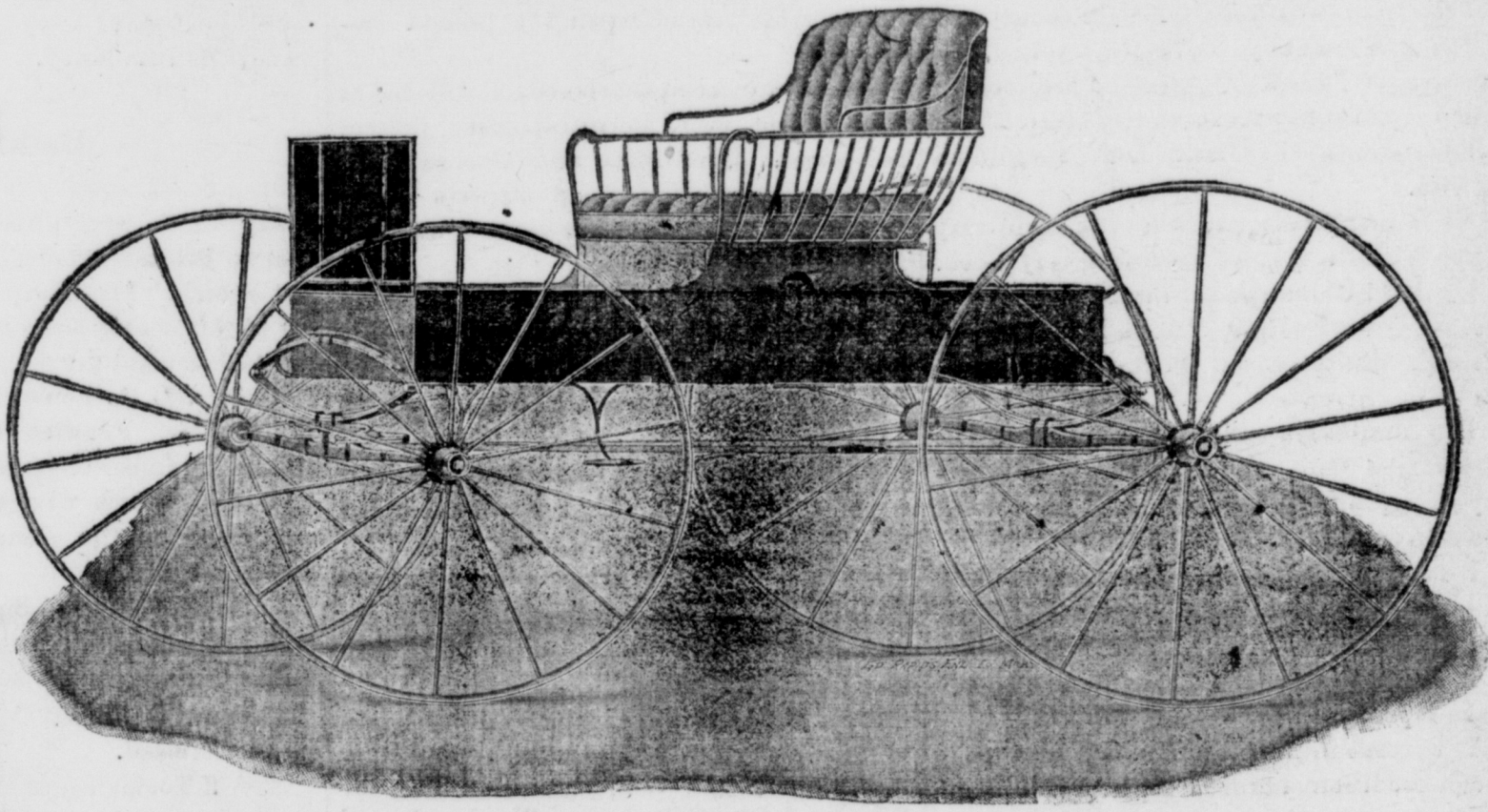
O Master of the wind and wave,  
We pray Thee, hear our earnest plea,  
Our lifelong guide be Thou, and save  
Our souls from perils of the sea.

### A DAILY THOUGHT.

Be on the lookout for mercies. The more we look for them, the more of them will we see. Blessings brighten when we count them. Out of the determination of the heart the eyes see. If you want to be gloomy there is gloom enough to keep you glum; if you want to be glad there's gleam enough to keep you glad. Say "Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and forget not all his benefits."—Maltbie D Babcock.

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**BALMAIN BROS.**

### Wood Carving

Ottawa, June 2nd—Probably the most wonderful example of wood carving of its kind that Canada can furnish is now at the Canadian archives building, where it is being restored preliminary to exhibiting it to the public. It takes the form of a complete model of Quebec City, as it was in 1800, is more than 300 square feet in area, and finished with most exquisite detail. Commenced in 1795, it took Jean Baptiste Duberger, its maker, about ten years to complete it. Duberger was employed in the Royal Engineers office, and was said to be self taught. The model was probably made for military purposes, being sent to Woolwich Arsenal, England, where it was kept until recently when it was returned to Canada.

### STRAWBERRY SHORT-CAKES.

One quart flour, one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder, one scant teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of butter, milk or water enough to make a dough soft enough to roll.

Roll out to an inch thick, cut with round cake cutter. As you place them in the pans to bake use two round portions for each person to be served, putting a little butter between each portion so they will come apart. Use two quarts of strawberries, some of them mashed. Serve with whipped cream.

A man was telling about an exciting experience in Russia. His sleigh was pursued over a frozen waste by a pack of at least a dozen famished wolves. He arose and shot the foremost one, and the others stopped to devour it. But they soon caught up with him, and he shot another, which was in turn devoured. This was repeated until the last famished wolf was almost upon him with yearning jaws, when—

"Say, pardner," broke in one of the listeners, "according to your reckoning that last famished wolf must have had the other 'leven inside of him."

"Well, come to think it over," said the story teller, "maybe he wasn't so famished after all."—Everybody's Magazine.

### For the Coronation

Ottawa, May 25.—The government will consider, before long on the report of the Militia Council, the matter of sending a contingent to the coronation of King George. There are already enquiries about the matter and from what can be learned, it may be that a composite regiment of probably six hundred men made up of cavalry, infantry, artillery and the Northwest Mounted Police will go. If the coronation is fixed for next summer, the Premier will in all likelihood go and at the same time attend the Imperial Conference which will reassemble then.

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